

communique'



Fear and loathing on GW's birthday

By Rick Obritschkewitsch
Of The Print

What was Sunday? Probably most of you said it was just another day. And George Washington probably rolled over in his grave, because it was the father of our country, our first president's, birthday. But then, who knows, maybe good old George doesn't even know when his birthday is anymore.

When I woke up last Monday (the day the U.S. officially celebrated as Washington's,

and in some cases Lincoln's Birthday combined) the voice coming from my clock radio told me that it was Sonny Bono's birthday, with no mention of Washington.

Not realizing what day the rest of the country was calling it, I went downstairs to get ready to go to school. To my surprise, my sister was not getting ready to go to work (at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife). She couldn't be getting off for Sonny Bono's birthday, could she, as she had

gotten off for Ground Hog's Day on Feb. 2 (Lincoln's celebrated birthday).

My grandma's birthday was on Feb. 22, the same day as Washington's used to be. Therefore, as I was growing up, it was easy for me to remember when it was because I just had to wait for Washington's Birthday to roll around.

My grandma died in 1979, but in the last years of her life it would get rather confusing whether we should celebrate

her birthday on the day that it really was, or when Washington's birthday was celebrated.

The musical chairs that the government is playing with the holidays is getting so confusing that on Inauguration Day (remember, Jan. 20? The 19th if people would be allowed to get off work for it), a woman on the bus I was riding to school asked the bus driver, "What are all the flags out today for?" But I guess there was a bit of an excuse for that one. It was also the day that the hostages were set free.

It would seem that if it is necessary for the holidays to change dates every year, that they could be made closer to the dates that they originated from. For instance, for this year, celebrating Lincoln's birthday on Feb. 13, and Washington's on the 20 or the 23, that way we would be closer to the original dates and we could still have a three-day weekend.

What would Washington say if he were alive today? He was the one who couldn't lie about chopping down the cherry tree. But yet, we're not celebrating his birthday on the true day that it is.

feedback Staff infection plagues schedule

To The Editor:

It is interesting to note how often "Staff" appears under the instructor column in the winter and spring term schedules. In comparing the staff and instructor's names, there were by far more instructor's names than the word "staff." Now, I realize how hard it must be to coordinate the teachers to the times they wish and to develop a schedule for each semester. And I commend the efforts of the people involved. However, I feel "staff" notices should be abolished.

For one, students have the right to know who the teacher will be in each class. Each teacher has a format he or she must follow; however, teachers have different methods of teaching. I feel the student has the right to be informed on the class instructor.

Another reason to abolish "staff" is I think it's not efficient enough. An example of this is the math lectures which have different instructors lecturing just about each session. Now, if it was already decided on who

would teach the sessions for each lecture, the teacher and the student would not have a conflict. The teachers would know the times they lecture and could budget their time more effectively, or use it anyway they want to.

There is the legal aspect of putting the names on the schedule. Once a commitment has been made by the teacher it is binding, and cannot be revoked unless circumstances deem it necessary from the teacher of the class. With no

"Staff" there would be no invisible teachers. The teacher would know the times and the place of where he or she is going to teach. And the student would not have that figment of imagination for a teacher. I don't think it should be a lottery for the student for who he or she gets as a teacher. The inability of not being able to choose a teacher, the inconvenience for the teacher and the student, no conflict, shows that "Staff" is antiquated and should be abolished.

Matt Johnson

'Edge of Max' backers view approbrium

Editor's note: A review is the opinion of one who is knowledgeable of the art in which he or she is reviewing. Generally, a good critic (such as Richard Greene) has a greater knowledge of music than the general public. That is what makes him a critic. If we had to print everything that the general public thought, no new insight would be given and the whole article would be a waste of time and space.

...But they made money

To The Editor:

There are important lessons to be learned in Mr. Greene's review of "The Edge of Max" ("Max Loses Edge" in Feb. 18 edition of "The Print").

The most important being the difference between constructive criticism and slander. In his review, Mr. Greene added many useless criticisms, i.e. "Some tunes were too obscure, others were too old," and he conveniently forgot many points in "The Edge's" favor, i.e. the fact that they drew a larger crowd than "Johnny and the Distractions."

To expand on my first point, who is to say that some tunes are too obscure to be played at a dance? If your record collection doesn't happen to include any albums from Derek and the Dominoes" does that mean that Eric Clapton is too obscure to be listened to? By the same token, although "Jumpin' Jack Flash" may be old standard, Peter Frampton was performing it on all three of his last American tours, Johnny

Winter still plays it in concert and the song receives a lot of air play on the radio. Does the fact that it was written 15 years ago disqualify it? No! It just proves its virtue as a timeless Rock and Roll hit.

The dance itself gained around \$250 profit for the ASG fund. This is the first dance this year that made it into the black. I think that we, as students, owe "The Edge" a great deal of thanks, not only for the money, but for the entertainment they provided us with three hours of danceable, enjoyable music at the dance and an hour of free music at noon that day. As a concerned student, I am enraged to think that the "official publication of the students of Clackamas Community College" treats performers like "The Edge of Max" so shabbily. The review DID NOT reflect the opinion of the general student body. Ask all the students who attended the dance is you think otherwise.

Sean Carlson

...But they were good and loud

To The Editor:

As a very dedicated fan of Rock-n-Roll, I would like to comment on R.W. Greene's review of "The Edge of Max" sighted in last week's edition of "The Print" ("Max Loses Edge").

I am not sure where Mr. Greene learned to Rock-n-Roll (if he ever did), but I have a hunch it may have been from the A.M. radio.

Although I can agree with some of his comments concerning The Edge, many were obviously not those of a Rocker.

The main reason The Edge of Max does not play "a hint of funk or soul" is because they are a ROCK band! This fact may be difficult for anyone into Disco (funk, soul...same type of thing) to come to terms with. A dance band that plays heavy metal music performs Rock-n-Roll! I cringe at the thought of Foreigner or Judas Priest ever playing or ever having played funk or soul (I think I am getting sick).

As for the band's selection of songs, I liked them—and it seems that some 250-plus people agreed with me. I think I even saw R.W. himself out there rockin' with the rest...Watch out—Rock is catching!

The Edge played loud. It

maybe was too loud for some, but not for me! No rock fan ever thinks rock music is played too loud. These type of tunes demand volume! Rock-n-Roll is supposed to be turned up!

I would also enjoy enlightening some to the fact that a crowd of 280 individuals showed up—more people than attended the "Johnny and the Distractions" CCC performance. The Edge did the noon gig for no pay, and only asked for \$300, or less, depending on what was made at the door. Anything above \$300 was profit for the ASG. For once (and only once since its history), the Student Government made some cash on a dance. This was due to the massive promo-

tion efforts of The Edge's Tom Simmons. It proved to be one of the most entertaining and profitable events the ASG has put on. The people got what they paid for—finally!

Taking into consideration that The Edge of Max has been solid for only four months, I think they put on a great show—they had the people rockin'!

I guess to sum up my view... "I know it's only Rock-n-Roll, but I like it..." Many of us even love it, and it will take a lot more than one R.W. Greene to stop a movement like that!

Sincerely,
Michele Miles
Rock-n-Roll fanatic

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