

# communiqué'

## Rally at State Capitol did have some merit

Well, it has finally ended. After 37 days of debate the state legislature has come to a decision on how to balance Oregon's deficit.

The most important point about the balancing act that has been decided upon is that community colleges will not get struck with the 11 percent cuts that Gov. Atiyeh proposed.

So maybe the student rally in Salem did help to keep the ax from falling too hard on community colleges. True, the rally took place just as the record long legislative session was in its beginning stages. But seeing how things turned out, that was probably the best time for it.

The rally took place the third Monday of Winter term, January 18, right after

Atiyeh handed his budget proposal to the House of Representatives. The governor knew what was coming, and took off right after his state of the state address (which took place on the same day), as to avoid concerned college students.

Many of those who went to the rally including the College's ASG members were very pleased with the way things turned out. Now it is apparent that they did something, at least, to sway the legislature's decision. Perhaps without the student rally, this recently ended session would not have been record setting, since it caused the legislature to think of alternatives rather than just whacking away at community colleges.

So as was stated in previous editorials, the long wait was a positive sign, not just a prolonging of the agony. The legislature took its time, but it was thought out. No hasty decision, and that is what the community colleges wanted. All that was really needed was to let the legislature know what the students of the institutions felt about being on the hit list.

So, as it turned out, the legislature listened enough to find alternatives to massively cutting community colleges.

But now it is a big relief to finally get the session over with, knowing that community colleges will not have too many cuts, and we can get back normal life—just as finals approach.



# America's elderly deserve more care

The abuse of elderly people in America today is at astounding numbers. In a recent *Oregonian* article, it stated one million older people were being abused and the numbers were increasing as the economy worsens.

Much of the abuse to the elderly people is done by their own families. Because of money or being unable to take care of themselves, resentment may mount from both the old people and the family members.

money given to them to live, maybe the burden wouldn't be there and cases of abuse could be avoided.

There are some very helpful organizations to aid the elderly, but not nearly enough. If it wasn't for "Loaves and Fishes" and "Meals on

Wheels," many elderly people would not eat properly if at all. Medicare and insurance companies may help medically, but more is needed.

By Darla J. Weinberger

I feel that this is very shocking. Elderly people should be taken care of.

As well as physical abuse, elderly people are being financially abused, by getting low pensions and Social Security. Those who don't own their homes, don't live with their families, or live in nursing homes, are forced to live in run-down apartment complexes.

In another article it told how elderly people have been abandoned at hospitals after receiving emergency care.

Then where do they go? Nursing homes are very expensive and often pensions won't cover the cost.

Putting the burden on the families is wrong, too. You can't expect the children of the elderly to take time from their families and jobs to take care of their parents full-time.

If there were better services for the elderly and more

# Readers write

## Relieve loneliness with letters

To the Editor:

How many of you interested Clackamas Community College students of any sex, any age, any major, any religion care to correspond with me please for friendship, a gesture of good faith? I'm somewhat lonely and etc.

I stand 5'11", weigh 175 pounds, brown hair, blue eyes,

wear glasses and am the oldest of two sons. I'm a faithful Brother in Christ because Jesus is really in my heart. Jesus cares for all people.

I've many interests. My goals are to see all of Canada, share my Christian life, take office work for a career goal.

I'm on an extensive work training program at Pandora Industries doing counting and other jobs.

I've a brother, a cat, and my mother. My father died at

the age of 79 on May 12, 1979.

I hope some of you interested students will please take the time to write to me soon which's no joke, no put on. Please remember to write me at:

Yours truly,  
David Cohen  
35 East 40th Avenue  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
Canada V5W1L5

## Staff

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...or call us at ext. 309, 310. All letters must be signed, and preferably typed.

