

# Opinion

## Surrogate motherhood draws a fine line

Surrogate motherhood. This has been a topic of debate since the much talked about case of "Baby M" during recent months and has become the concern of many state government officials. These government officials feel that they should outlaw what they call "selling" babies.

Oregon Senator Larry Hill has proposed a measure known as Senate Bill 456 which would make contracts for surrogate mothering illegal. Even so, this bill would not make surrogate motherhood a crime, only the payment of money or the giving of something of value in exchange for a woman's agreement to conceive, bear and give up any rights to a child will be illegal. The crossing of this fine line can bring a maximum \$100,000 fine and five years in prison.

Some people may ask how a woman can be a surrogate mother and not cross this line. The answer is quite simple, a woman can agree to help a couple who cannot produce their own, natural offspring because Senate Bill 456 gives a surrogate mother the right to decide at the time of birth whether to keep or give up the baby.

There is no profit incentive in this kind of surrogate mothering, but some thought should be given to an agreement by which expenses (medical treatment, lost time from work, etc.) could be reimbursed by the couple seeking the services of a surrogate mother.

Surrogate mothering has become another alternative for childless couples and while it should not be banned completely caution should be taken to insure that it does not become a type of baby "selling".



## Change to semester system a sign of progression

Although the change to a semester system by four year colleges is not supposed to take place until 1990, it is important that the proposal be looked into now. It is especially important for community colleges to look into the proposal because they must make a decision as to whether or not they wish to change to the new system.

There are many good reasons to change to the new system: fewer registration periods, more opportunities to study subjects in depth, and easier transferrability for students who wish to go on to a four year college are just a few. A disadvantage to changing the system might be the need to redevelop all of the courses in order to make them fit into a semester curriculum.

While many students feel that a change in the system will make it more difficult to accumulate credits toward graduation or to transfer, in actuality it should become easier with four year colleges using the same system. Other students feel that the change will benefit them and prepare them for the system when they transfer to a four year school.

It is true that the changes will take some getting used to if the proposal is adopted by Clackamas Community College, but change is a sign of progression and the College is one of progress, which makes the decision only obvious.

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## Letter from the President

An Open Letter to Students on the College Work-Study Program:

I recently received a student letter expressing deep concern about the recent cuts in the College Work-Study program. I appreciate this opportunity to respond to that letter.

Cuts in financial aid awards are not made unless absolutely necessary. Students on College Work-Study and other types of financial aid need the money or they would not receive it. We know that you are on very tight budgets, and that any cuts create problems for you. However the simple fact is that we had no choice. If College Work-Study earnings had continued at the same rate for the rest of the year, we would have spent \$45,000 more than we have.

The college receives a specific amount of College Work-Study money each year. We don't want to end the year with money left over when there are always more needy students than the money we have. So over-awards are necessary to allow for students who do not enroll, who leave before the end of the school year, who are not able to work, or who prefer to work off-campus. Generally we do a good job of predicting the amount of over-awards. However this year our predictions were off, because a higher percentage of students used their awards this year. Almost twice as many students used College Work-Study in Fall 1986 as in Fall 1985.

We regret the fact that the College Work-Study cuts were necessary. We hoped that the first cut (no work over Christmas break or Spring break) would be enough, but it wasn't. These cuts are the minimum needed to balance the College Work-Study budget.

I know that the Financial Aid Office and the Career Development and Placement Center will do everything they can to help you solve any financial problems, you have. Please contact them. They can help you explore other options, such as exchanging part or all of your Work-Study eligibility for a Guaranteed Student Loan, or obtaining a non-Work-Study job on or off campus.

You have my assurance that the college will continue to do everything possible to provide financial aid to students who need it, and to avoid mid-year award cuts. Thank you for your cooperation and patience.

Sincerely,  
John S. Keyser  
President

## Domestic Issues:

### The Weight Game



by Tammy Swartzendruber  
Staff Writer

Yesterday I awoke with a sense of well being. Today was the day. I had found a diet in a woman's magazine and now I was going to try it. Hurriedly I leafed through the pages of the magazine. There it was Day one. Let's see, I was allowed a half cup of cottage cheese and one fruit. Eagerly I set the table using my best dishes. Somewhere I had heard that it's easier to diet if you make your meals look more attractive, so I carefully arranged lettuce leaves around the cottage cheese. I cut the fruit into dainty pieces. Then I went to call my daughter. She took one look at the white curds lying in their leafy beds and began to cry, "Where's my Nerds. I want my cereal."

"Honey," I said calmly, "Nerd cereal is full of sugar and preservatives. It's not good for you."

"Waaaa, I want cereal!" Not wanting to start this beautiful day with a scene, I gave her some cereal. I sang as I did the dishes. Just think next month this time I would be skinny. I spent the morning pouring over fashion magazines, planning my wardrobe.

Lunch time rolled around. I made myself a nice little salad. Once again my daughter set up a wail so I fixed her a hot dog. For some reason those hot dogs smelled better than I remembered them smelling before. "That's funny," I thought. "I don't even like hot

dogs." "The more I thought about those hot dogs the more I wanted one. Finally I gave in. After all what harm would one hot dog do me? Of course I'd need a little ketchup with it and that would have some sugar, but heavens, it would be less sugar than I usually ate. So I reasoned with myself until, to my horror, I had eaten three hot dogs!

That afternoon was terrible. I had to take the laundry into town and I could barely resist the tempting array of candy bars and chips in the vending machines. After we got home my daughter wanted to help me make chocolate chip cookies, so I agreed. It seemed like such a "motherish-daughterish" thing to do. Besides that I wouldn't eat very many. One cookie with a glass of milk shouldn't hurt. Needless to say I ate four cookies and drank two glasses of milk!

Fixing a nutritious meal that evening wasn't quite as fun as was that morning; nevertheless, I ate a piece of fish and a few string beans. For a bedtime snack I had just one more cookie.

The next morning I jumped on the scale. I hadn't lost a pound, was angry and upset. I hadn't lost a pound. Why couldn't somebody put out a diet that really worked? That morning I had pancakes for breakfast. After breakfast I gathered up all my fashion magazines and threw them in the stove. I mean, after all summer is still three months away. I'll have plenty of time to diet later.

## The Print

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