

## Americans should think about rights

In America people are always criticizing the government and their way of life. People are always complaining that the political system does not work, and that the constitution is useless.

These people are failing to see one thing, the good side of the constitution. Look at the Bill of Rights, for instance. It allows all people in America freedom of religion, freedom of the press, and most important the freedom of speech.

If we were in Russia and a person said something negative about the government, or distributed pamphlets criticizing the political beliefs of their leader they would be packing up their bags for Siberia.

In America we can say what ever we please, as long as it is true, and it does not harm another person in a wrongful way.

People really do not seem to realize our rights in this country when they are busy complaining about how terrible it is.

The next time it is necessary to complain about our way of life, first look at what we have, and then take the opportunity to exercise the right of free speech. That is how we can change what is wrong with our country. But also realize what rights we do have, and appreciate them, and the fact that you will not be sent to New Jersey for insulting the government.

-MKT-

Letter to the editor:

## Woods gives thanks to Crossover help

I would like to thank all the people who gave their time and efforts into the Clackamas Crossover Volleyball Tournament. We had eight volleyball teams from Oregon and Washington on our campus and we received many compliments from coaches, teams, and officials as to the quality and organization of the tournament. Altogether we needed over 150 people to help and we never came up short. There are some very special people that attend Clackamas, that is for sure. Thank you. In particular, I would like to thank Kathy

Strickler, who served as tournament director; Mary Grait, the tournament athletic trainer; and Bruce Toney, who helped clean up and seemed to be always there to help. Thank you! I am very proud to be a part of this school.

Kathie Woods  
Volleyball Coach



"The Print" welcomes readers to express their views by writing letters to the editor. All letters should be typewritten and submitted to Student Publications in Trailer B by 5p.m. Friday before publication.



## On the lighter side

by Stephani Veff  
Opinion/Copy Editor



## How the column topic got away

As the weeks wear on, I am beginning to find it a bit difficult to come up with a new column topic each week. I know, some of you are thinking, "There are a million topics to write about, there shouldn't be any problem at all." If you are thinking this, then you have probably never had to deal with writing against a deadline while holding down three jobs and originally 19 credit hours (I'm dropping to 16 hours in order to maintain some of my sanity).

Sure, there are a lot of topics to write about, but I can never be sure that the majority of you will enjoy and be entertained by what is written. I know that it's impossible to please everyone, but I would like to hope that at least a few of you out there read this column and get something out of it.

Last year I wrote a column entitled "Parents - What a concept." It was a column in which I dealt only with the subject of parents and how they handle their children. The amazing thing about this is that it was actually easier to write about that

limited topic than it is to write this column with its wide range of topics!

This week, I had planned to write about a football game I was supposed to go to last Friday night, but our staff rafting trip ran longer than expected and I ended up missing the game. This I didn't mind so much though because the team I was going to go watch, my alma mater Madison High School in Portland, lost to Benson for the first time in three years.

If Madison had been able to pull another win out of its hat, I would have wanted to be there to see the faces of the Benson rooters - the ones who didn't think Madison could win last year or the year before to become league champs. As you can see (when it comes to football) the top rivals of the PIL are Madison and Benson, and while we couldn't take the championship this year, it won't be long before we have it back. Watch out Techmen!

Well, enough of that. I tend to get carried away when I talk about Madison. My next topic

was going to be the rafting trip itself since it ruined my first topic, but our dear Design/Sports Editor, Chris, had the idea too and got his column typed into the computer before I could barely put the idea into motion.

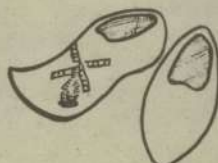
I could very easily have written a column on the trip from the woman's point-of-view, but it wouldn't have been nice to make the Design/Sports Editor look bad when I'm merely the Opinion/Copy Editor, right Chris? Besides I wouldn't want to bore you with more talk about a fabulous trip, when you weren't able to go with us. Now, that wouldn't be fair, would it?

So I thought that since I really didn't have a topic, I wouldn't try to fool you by making one up and dashing off a column that probably would have made less sense than this one, and instead I would just tell you the truth and hope that you would understand. I thank you if you did understand, and if you didn't, maybe you could suggest a topic for next week. Until then....



## Wooden shoe like to know?

by Heleen Veenstra  
Editor



## Pronunciation proves painstaking

Pronunciation and remembering words can be kind of difficult sometimes. All people taking a foreign language can relate to this very well.

In the beginning I really had a hard time with the words "nerd" and "weird." First of all, I didn't know the meaning, but after I figured that out, I ran into the pronunciation problem.

In Dutch we pronounce the "r" different than the English and Americans do. We have a kind of a rolling "r." So, "nerd" and "weird" were pretty hard to say, but it got really bad when I had to say both in a sentence like, "that's a real weird nerd."

The same problems occurred with "curl" and "girl." After saying "curly girl" for about 20 times in a row I ended up with stuff like, "gurlly girl," "cirly

gurl," "cruly gril," and so on. I'm sure you get the message now, so I don't think I need to go into more detail.

Thermometer, three, throughout, and orthodontist never have been my favorite words either. They are kinda complicated and tongue breaking to say. But one thing I can say without any problems that many Americans can't, is aluminum. Quite impressive, don't you think?

Anyway, I know I'm not the only one with these problems. It is already hard enough to remember the vocabulary of a language, and then you have to learn how to properly speak the language too!

Learning the vocab is, in my eyes, the worst part of learning a new language. Some stupidities

arise from which the following is an example.

I was involved in some kind of conversation, and I wanted to say the word "remember." But what happened, I didn't remember the word "remember."

I tell ya, the word "remember" is absolutely the worst word to forget! I tried to explain that I couldn't remember the word "remember," and that sure was hard. I challenge you to try to explain to somebody that you don't remember "remember." Not very easy!

But oh well, it's a sure thing that everybody who speaks more than one language (and maybe even people who only speak one language) has problems like that. It's not always fun and easy to learn a new language, but it's sure worth the challenge!!



## The Print

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