

Should the minimum wage be raised from the current \$3.35?



Photos by Julie Church

"No, because if it were raised, businesses would have to cut employees hours and wouldn't be able to employ as many people, therefore keeping production costs at the same level, and at the same time raising the level of unemployment." - Joe Tupper -

"Yes!! Because inflation is going up, therefore minimum wage should also. No one can live off minimum wage, even at 40 hours a week." - Mark Fischer -

"I think that the minimum wage should be raised, because you can't live on \$3.35 an hour." - (left) Dawn Mathison, (right) Cyndi Quillin -

"Hell yes! Cause with the prices now adays, it's hard to get by. And when you work a lot of hours you can have a bigger smile when you get your paycheck. And it helps you pay your bills. - Glen Warren Behmer -

Student Opinions

Persian Gulf stirring up to be another Vietnam

Last month I wrote an article in a humorous context concerning our ballyhoo in the Persian gulf. Well, it's not so funny anymore. We're sinking deeper and deeper into an oily quicksand.

My mixed metaphor is intentional and could easily become a reality for a draft-age male when he awakens one morning, rifle at his side, elbow-high in sand, perhaps in the shadow of a dazzling desert sunrise, and prepares for another day of bloodshed in the name of oil interests.

Oh, how fast history can repeat itself!

The parallels between the Persian Gulf situation and Vietnam are striking:

- Like Vietnam, we are inching into it one hit and retaliation at a time.

- Like Vietnam, we cannot fight with full force but must half-step because we're not certain who we want our enemy to be - after all, our allies buy oil from Iran and we sell them arms.

- Like Vietnam, we're charging in with a cavalry of hi-technology that is not only unsuited to the environment, but leaves us dangerously vulnerable to adroit hit and run guerilla tactics.

Just as the North Vietnamese would lure U.S. tank convoys into soft, marshy areas then grenade them as they sank in the jungle mire, so Iran's little wooden, mine-dropping boats - whose basic design hasn't changed since Marco Polo's time - continue plaguing our lumbering naval vessels.

- Most importantly, like Vietnam, we are psychologically unprepared to deal with an enemy whose religious mindset is radically different than ours.

The Vietnamese differed because reincarnation is one of their principal beliefs. This enabled them to slaughter entire villages in good conscience - in order to freak out Americans - because they believed the souls of the butchered would incarnate into other bodies in no time.

The Iranians differ because they believe they will go to the paradise of Allah if they die in battle - even if it's a kamakaze-style death.

The 257 marines who were killed in Beirut by a suicide mission are only a taste of what a fanatical, desperate people will do when they have nothing to lose but an abject life, everything to gain in the hereafter, and no better way to debilitate a superpower which keeps entrenching itself deeper in their affairs.

Yet what's most frightening is not the similarities with Vietnam, but the difference. Our excuse for involvement in Southeast Asia was the domino theory of communism - one which increasing evidence shows was nothing but a facade that hid the real motive: continued war profits for the military-industrial-complex.

But whereas we were suckered into Vietnam by lies, this time it's by good old, capitalistic honesty - we must keep our oil out of the wrong hands while bolstering a gradually declining economy with a war.

Nobody's naive enough to go for the same song and dance played during Vietnam, but they might go for a more straight forward one.

For those of you who entertain a desert Rambo fantasy, plug in this tidbit of reality: picture yourself in a 110 degree stifling sun, wearing a chemical suit and a gas mask you can barely breathe in, no sleep for five days, no food for three days, no place to defecate except on yourself because you can't expose yourself to the contaminated air, bullets flying everywhere, buddies dying, home is over 7000 miles away; then ask yourself why you haven't written to your congressman yet.

Letters to the Editor

Friend missed

I was disappointed to learn of the death of College Board member William Gregory. In the short time that I worked with Bill he was always open and easy to work with. He had a very real and sincere concern for students and I appreciated his service on our behalf.

The students of this college have suffered a great loss with Bill's passing. He worked tirelessly in his service to the college and the students it served. I will miss him.

The person who replaces Bill will have the benefit of a truly outstanding predecessor.

Submitted by Neale Frothingham, ASG President.

Learn Spanish

In 1982 the Spanish Club at CCC was formed due to student interest. Since then North American students and native speaking Spanish students have learned through various activities such as studying the Spanish and English languages together, monthly social meetings (potlucks, etc.), monthly business meetings (guest speakers on foreign cultures and job opportunities, work shops, etc.), and various fund raising activities for the club and charities.

The first meeting will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 30 in CC101. This meeting will serve as a time to get acquainted with one another and to define the club's goals for the year. You don't have to be a current Spanish student, you just need a desire to learn about the Spanish culture and it's peoples. For more information please contact Jamie (Diego) Ross, the Spanish Club President, at 281-2101.

Get the facts straight on AIDS

In Oregon AIDS cases are doubling every eight months, making it imperative that Oregonians know the facts about this fatal disease. The state of Oregon has taken action to let the public know what the facts are, but it's difficult to say whether the public will listen or not.

Most likely three things will happen: 1. Oregonians will listen to the facts and take the necessary precautions. 2. Oregonians will listen to the facts take what they want from them and take their chances. 3. Oregonians will ignore the facts and take ridiculous precautions against the spread of AIDS.

Already many Oregonians are misinformed and taking what they think are precautions. These so-called precautions range from people thinking that casual contact or donating blood can give them the AIDS virus. The only ways that AIDS can be spread is through sexual contact, sharing infected hypodermic needles, and through blood spills.

Oregonians need to get the facts straight. There is such a thing as being too cautious, but if the facts are known there is no reason that people should become paranoid about getting AIDS.

So get the facts, and use them. It may be a matter of life or death.



"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.

The Print

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