

Sour session

There was a board meeting Wednesday, Jan. 12. There was also a boredom meeting Wednesday, Jan. 12. There is more than a play on words involved here.

According to the agenda for the board meeting, starting time was 7:45 p.m. The meeting started after 8 p.m.

The meeting went on for about half an hour. At that point the board went into an executive session. Executive sessions are for board members and the press only and the press is not allowed to tell what happens in the meetings.

The regular board meeting started up again after 10 p.m. The executive session had lasted more than an hour and a half.

The question that we have is why have an executive session in the middle of a board meeting? If people want to see the board at work they're going to be very disappointed if they have to wait for the board to get through an executive session.

The board was questioned on this point when they got back from the session. They said that they had had a discussion on this very point while in session.

We say talk is cheap. They should start planning to have executive sessions before the meeting starts or after the meeting is over.

The board also set Jan. 17 to meet with the Citizen's Committee for Development of Environmental Education Centers in Clackamas County during last week's meeting. The members said that meeting at that time would not be a problem.

However, three out of seven board members showed up Jan. 17 to meet with the committee. We recognize the fact that board members aren't paid, but it seems to us that as elected officials they have a duty to do what they say they will do.

We openly encourage news tips from all areas of the college, as well as the community. Our location makes it very difficult to be on top of things that happen at the spur of the moment.

We know there are gripes that the college community has, but we seldom get feedback from people with problems.

If anybody out there has a complaint about something at the college we would appreciate letters to the editor. If the complaints are about the paper so be it.

If we can dish out complaints we certainly should be able and willing to handle criticism.

Remember, we are only a phone call away. Anybody with an interesting story idea can call ext. 259 or 278.

Stamped out

The Clackamas Community College chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) recently had its mailmeter privileges withdrawn by the Clackamas Community College administration because of "adverse publicity."

Though that decision is under consideration by the CCC Board of Education, and may be reversed by the time this appears in print, the issue serves to raise a poignant question: Why no college support for NORML?

The withdrawal of mailing privileges (which have always been paid for with NORML funds) grew out of concern by members of the community regarding the use of tax dollars for NORML's operation. This seems a logical concern.

NORML has sent more than 500 letters in its campaign for community involvement. Two of these letters were returned, voicing vehement objection to the use of tax monies in subsidy of marijuana.

It is, of course, a fact that tax monies do not finance NORML. The club is financed by what funds can be raised through activities (dances) and donations.

It is also a fact that NORML does not advocate the usage of marijuana. It advocates the repeal of ambiguous laws at the state and national level.

In response to the irate comments, NORML President Charlie Bennett mailed follow-up letters (with hand affixed postage) to explain these facts.

One hopes that in the future, NORML's correspondence will contain the information that NORML is an independently financed club.

The question here is: When and where does the administration say, "NORML has a right to be here!"?

It is sometimes insufficient to be merely "non-aggressive." Even tyranny may sometimes be less dangerous than apathy. Neither compliments morality.

Newsless noses

The subject of this editorial is the Cougar Print, and the reason a Cougar Print exists.

The Cougar Print is first and foremost a newspaper. The purpose of the newspaper is to make the students, staff and administration aware of things that are happening or have happened at Clackamas Community College.

To accomplish this objective we need the support of the students, staff and administration. We don't get enough help from any of these areas.

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