

opinion

Postage pot

The presidents council at Clackamas Community College has referred the matter of the CCC NORML chapter's mailing privileges to a committee. While the matter is being deliberated mailmeter privilege will be denied to NORML.

At this time, the administration seems to be taking the position that the club is guilty until proven innocent.

What the NORML club is guilty of is trying to change a law -- legislative reform. There is nothing wrong with that. It is a simple fact that laws are changed and revised all the time.

The administration is guilty of something far worse. They are guilty of repressing a group of concerned students. With all the talk about getting students involved it seems ironic that students getting involved are being, in effect, shouted down.

This issue may well be decided before the committee comes up with a solution. NORML will take their problem to the CCC Board of Education, according to Charlie Bennett, chapter president.

It is our hope that the board will see this matter in a different light.

As a club recognized and approved by the Associated Student Government, NORML should be afforded the privileges guaranteed to all such clubs.

Easy 'A'

A recent probe by a Cougar Print staff writer has shown that the average grade point average at Clackamas Community College is not so average after all. For the last four years, the majority of graduates have left CCC with at least a 3.00 GPA.

It is interesting to note if this increase in high grades is related in any way to the current trend of decreasing college enrollment or if these high figures reflect the possibility of smarter students.

Many collegiate administrators across the nation, eager to secure funding dollars, have developed glorified advertising campaigns which stress the importance of a college degree but fail to include statistics of disillusioned graduates, unemployed and sitting on hard-earned, expensive sheepskins.

Granted, these graduates have learned the hard way that their high grades may have been indicative of some ability but proved to be no guarantee of employment.

The purpose of an educational institution should be to prepare the student for the "real" world that must be faced.

If "grade inflation" is a reality, then the myth of high grades as a key to instant success is further distorted. A college education is not for everyone and as long as a student is able to "pay his dues and get his A's" his education is not acquired through learning -- it's bought.

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The Cougar Print, a member of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, aims to be a fair and impartial journalistic medium covering the campus community as thoroughly as possible. We encourage participation through letters, freelance articles and story ideas and suggestions. Deadlines are the Friday of the week prior to the Thursday publication date.



letters

No smoking

To the Editor:

It's time for CCC to get a non-smoking section in the center of campus. We are sick and tired of smelling, breathing and inhaling people's bad habits. If they want to smoke, they should be encouraged to smoke where it doesn't bother others, especially those who are trying to enjoy lunch and with every bite take a mouthful of smoke.

Kent
Nancy
Mike
Kali
Wayne S
Linda

Against NORML

To the Editor:

It has come to my attention that the Cougar Print has made a great deal of its print towards the NORML Club.

It is my opinion that any paper should endeavor to cover both sides of any issue. Several erroneous statements were made in the editorial section of the January 20 paper. Of prime concern is the statement that NORML is an independently financed organization. Refutation of this statement all we have to do is look back at the NORML sponsored dance. According to Brad Boyer the total cost of this dance was approximately \$300. According to Charlie Bennett only \$31 were collected at the gate. Realize, therefore, that the money was donated from ASG to the NORML Club. Realize, also, that ASG receives its budget from a combination of tuition, student fees, and local taxes. Hence, NORML is not an independently financed organization.

Another statement of fallacy was made in this article. That NORML does not advocate the usage of marijuana. This is a contradiction of this statement one must look at the leaflets distributed by NORML. At the top of this paper are the words, "The time you light up a joint. . ." This in itself represents the advocacy of using marijuana.

I have failed to see any literature by NORML presenting a logical argument for the repeal of state marijuana laws. Nor has Mr. Bennett shown inherent advantages or benefits in his statement. In light of these facts maybe the taxpayers of Clackamas County should re-evaluate how its money is being used.

Phillip J.
CCC

