

From the editor...

Being a student journalist at Clackamas Community College is not easy. You have to put up with long hours, often at the expense of other classes. You work hard to balance studying and class attendance with interviews and deadlines. Then when the paper finally comes out people only comment to you about it when something is wrong, if they say anything at all.

Sometimes the faculty, staff, and administrators of this college seem to forget that we are just learning about journalism and are not perfect. If we were perfect journalists we would be getting paid to work for some metropolitan daily and not be slaving away at a student newspaper.

Why all the griping? Well, writing about this in a column is easier than sending out a memo, and I feel some response is necessary in the wake of comments I have heard from faculty about The Clackamas Print. There are several points I would like to make about the function of this newspaper and how we interact with this campus.

First, we are NOT the public information office of the college, and are in no way connected to that office. Nancy Baker is the public information specialist. It is her job to see that the college is covered in the media. It is the media's prerogative, not obligation, to cover the college in any way it sees fit (in other words, to show an unbiased view of college events). The Clackamas Print is part of the media.

Secondly, the student staff of the paper, with small exception, has final say about what is contained in the paper and how that content is presented. Some of the last-minute editorial decisions that are made don't please everyone. Those who are displeased can apply for an editorial position and make their own decisions next year. News-worthiness is an editorial decision best made by those who write the news. If everyone knew what constituted news we wouldn't have a specialized class of journalists in this society.

To those who have complaints about myself, my staff, or the paper in general, my extension is 576. I would much rather have critics of the paper call me than yell at my reporters or skulk around behind our backs and bitch (in the President's Council, for example). But be forewarned: I have been bitched at by government-trained professionals, and I can yell as loud as the next person.

Enough complaining. I'm not trying to make any enemies, or anger the ones The Print already has. But it is hard to put out a paper every week, go to school full-time, and then bear the brunt of criticism. Constructive criticism is a rare commodity on this campus...

Gabor not deserving of previous criticism

Last week I wrote about Zsa Zsa Gabor and her run-in with the law for slapping a traffic officer, who was citing her. In my worst male-chauvinistic hubris, I said some things I now wish I hadn't.

Please forgive me, Zsa Zsa. It was wrong of me to be judgmental.

My change of heart came about while watching Zsa Zsa on the October 31st Donahue Show. She and Phil sat at a table on the stage before a large audience. Phil, in his best interrogatory manner, bravely tried to get a word or two in edgewise. Zsa Zsa, in her bright, garrulous manner, told her side of the story.

My hat is off to Zsa Zsa. She comported herself very well interfacing with the audience, which displayed a hate/love attitude toward her. Surprisingly, most of the hateful remarks were from women.

Ms. Gabor fielded the questions adroitly, sometimes using "stupid" in her answers. I agreed with her. The questions WERE stupid. When anyone praised her, she glowed with pleasure, thanking that person graciously and warmly.

About her marriages, Zsa Zsa said she was on good terms with all her husbands and denied getting alimony from any of them, saying she was perfectly capable of taking care of herself. She listed several enterprises to which she had lent her name. All of them were lucrative.

As the program progressed, the audience grew more vocal, heaping diatribes and compliments on her with equal intensity. Zsa

Zsa was unflappable and remained cool throughout.

Her attorney stood up in the audience to tell of her many charitable acts, mentioning the time, money and clothing she had donated to various causes. He was very convincing.

A hilarious incident occurred during the show when Victoria Jackson, a member of the "Saturday Night Live" group,

appeared on stage looking like Zsa Zsa's twin, talking in a broad Hungarian accent "ala Gabor," with plenty of "dahlinks" sprinkled around. Zsa cracked up. It was a masterful plant. The audience loved it. Donahue beamed.

When the show was over, my feelings for Zsa Zsa were positive.

It was clear the officer, the court and the press had blown the incident way out of proportion. I thought, anyone of us could have the same experience, any day.

Now I have a great deal of admiration for the little lady. I shall look forward to reading about her time spent with homeless women, that part of her sentence for which she showed considerable enthusiasm. She'll brighten their days, I know.

Coincidental to all this, I saw her in an old movie on Channel 9 later that same day. She performed rather well. There she was, that same gorgeous young lady I saw on a warm July 1946 afternoon on Madison Avenue, New York, walking arm in arm with her mother, Jolie, and her two sisters, Magda and Eva.

Keep on talking, Zsa Zsa. I, for one, will be listening.

The Laugh Clinic

Joseph Patrick Lee

Bell's death has affected basketball team

Two weeks ago Raymond Bell, a member of the basketball team, was shot in downtown Portland. How has his death affected the team?

This was Bell's first year on the team. He was projected to have a large impact on the success of the team.

While all the team was stunned and most attended his funeral, the team members didn't know him very well as they would have if he was a returning teammate--although some had formed new friendships with him.

Of course the people who are hurting the most emotionally right now are Bell's family. His missing from the line-up will effect the team longer than the emotional side. This doesn't mean the team

is a bunch of cold-hearted people. But as life must go on so must the basketball season.

The team doesn't have to mourn his death during the whole season should remember how they felt upon learning the news. He was young and just starting to put his life in focus. He is not missing from the lineup because he moved. He is dead and won't be able to play ever again.

A scene similar to this but on a larger scale has been played out in the San Francisco/Oakland area. People started questioning how important was the hyped-up world series baseball game compared to the death and destruction in the area.

The importance of the game was thought about. The Series was

played out to its conclusion and most thought that it was the right thing to do as people began getting back into the normal swing of things. Baseball for the players was their job and their life.

While no one expects the Clackamas basketball team not to

play, everyone should remember where sports fits into the scheme of life. It is in no way a life or death situation (although at times people treat it that way). It has a place. It just depends at that particular time whether it is first, fifth or one hundredth on the list of priorities.

Missing Links by Paul Henry



"Believe it or not...every day for the last fifteen years I've milked all 1200 cows by hand."

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Clackamas Print welcomes Letters to the Editor. Such letters must be signed or will not be printed. Letters must not exceed 300 words and should be typewritten or neatly printed. Letters can be turned in to the Clackamas Print offices in Trailer B north of Randall Hall. The Clackamas Print reserves the right to edit Letters to the Editor for grammar, obscenities and libelous material. Letters to the Editor must be turned in Friday in order to be printed in the following Wednesday's edition.

Clackamas Print

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