

From the editor...

Garett Lytle's resignation came as a shock Monday; the move was totally unexpected. It's too bad that a person who has done so much to improve the image of ASG will be leaving.

When Lytle took over at the end of last year, ASG had a bad reputation. Its relationship with most of the college was poor, due mainly to the questionable performance of former President Faith Taylor. Taylor was involved in several controversies that cast some doubt on her ability to act as president, and severely damaged the image of ASG.

But Lytle changed all that. He brought respect and competence to the ASG presidency. I think he sells himself short when he calls himself merely a "manager." Lytle was and is a leader.

The Print also had problems with Lytle's predecessor. There were several occasions last year when Taylor "lost her cool" with members of the Print's staff. But so far there have been no problems in the relationship between the Print and Lytle's administration. In fact, Lytle saw to it that there was a distinct cooperation between the two student groups.

I don't fault Lytle for resigning. Being involved in a student organization eats up a lot of time, and often those involved find themselves making sacrifices for the organization (just ask my guitar instructor how many of his Tuesday classes I missed last term in order to get this paper out).

The one consolation in this whole affair is that Tim Jones is a competent replacement for Lytle. He knows ASG; this is his second year in student government. And Jones is a leader in his own right, albeit in his own particular style. He should do well in filling Lytle's vacant post.

Jones shouldn't have many worries. Lytle laid the groundwork for much of what ASG is planning to do the rest of the year. All Jones has to do is keep everyone on track and everything should fall into place. I might have worried if Jones was taking over for Faith Taylor, but not for Garett Lytle. Lytle's leadership will leave its mark on ASG for some time to come.

It is unfortunate that this college is losing perhaps the best ASG president it has ever had, but life goes on.

I wish Garett Lytle the best of luck with whatever he chooses to do, and I believe that a leader of his caliber will be a success in any endeavor he undertakes.

County needs clear policy on MLK Day

The celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday yesterday at Clackamas was simply atrocious. Not only that, but the majority of Clackamites seemed divided on to celebrate the holiday. The rest of Oregon was also divided on how to approach the holiday. How divided? Four of the sixteen community colleges were closed, while the others remained open for business. Those who remained open, like Lane Community College, had elaborate celebrations to commemorate King's birthday.

What we have here is a problem. Should Clackamas follow the four communities colleges and close, or "observe" the holiday while continuing classes. It seems to have come down to politics. The consensus (relayed by a certain ASG advisor) is that the associations have both had the holiday on the bargaining table, but each side says the other won't take it. The truth is that the Board of Education could declare a holiday at the college, but the faculty would have to be paid for the day off. Who was it that said that money makes the world go round?

The other approach is what the ASG valiantly tried to do in a last minute, thrown together way. For those who missed out on the "incredible" experience, an Amnesty International tape was shown, cake was brought in, and books on King and other related topics were set up. Don't get this wrong, the ASG tried to do a good thing, but it is not good enough.

What we need to realize is that the problem is not with either closing or opening the school, but with racism itself. Maybe the reason for the lack of understanding on the part of the non-black population. For example, New Hampshire does not even recognize King's birthday as a holiday. Not only is this a problem, but the fact that my generation (20s and under) do not seem to know the first thing about racism, or Malcolm X, or what the black people went through. Though their rights were supposedly guaranteed in the Constitution, the blacks were told, as writer Turner Brown Jr. put it, "Black is when folks say you've got to earn the rights the Constitution guaranteed you already had."

We, today, have still not es-

caped the problems of racial tension. The Cable News Network's show Crossfire showed how there is a growing faction of white supremacists in the nation, who recently have resorted to mail-bombing various officials who happen to be black. Jimmy the Greek, a former CBS football commentator, made inflammatory remarks about blacks on the air. We have not totally gotten over racial tension, and maybe we never will, but one thing is for sure, ignorance breeds fear. It is out of ignorance that supremacists seem to hate the black population. Maybe we need to stop emphasizing W.A.S.P (White Anglo Saxon Protestant) history and inject some black culture into schooling, like the rap group Boogie Down Productions preaches for. Why should we still view history and subjects from a different point of view than the traditional W.A.S.P standards.

Instead of waffling over finances, amount of holidays, or even if the school should be closed, why not keep it open? Why not have one day of learning about subjects from a black perspective? We should spend some time plan-

ning King's birthday plans, invite black leaders in the community or in the nation to speak about what King fought and lost his life for. Maybe teacher should be encouraged to teach us about black culture in their respective subjects, so students can learn about Malcolm X or Vernon Johns. Maybe we should just do what King hoped for by educating ourselves about other and their freedom. Let's hope for, as King said in his "I Have a Dream" speech:

"...when we allow freedom ring-when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city-we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, "Free at last! Free at last! Thank God almighty, we are free at last!"

We should take full advantage of a day like King's birthday to do what he spent his life trying to achieve, an understanding of black culture by the caucasian culture as to the rights and freedoms of the black population.

Campus Views

Do you think the U.S. invasion of Panama was justified?



Rick Salve: Yes, I do think the U.S. was justified intervening in Panama. The U.S. knew Noriega was a drug trafficker and provided a haven for drug smugglers. The U.S. has the right to intervene to get a criminal no matter what country he or she is in.



Jim Edgington: I suppose if anyone could justify this sort of action Noriega could. But I strongly feel that "armed force in the name of freedom" is a contradiction in terms.



Len Frhetch: I think we had to take control of the situation. I think the U.S. has to stand up and be tough every now and then. If the U.S. government says they are going to crack down on drugs then they should go to the top and that's what they did.

Missing Links

by Paul Henry



Clackamas Print

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a*	13.24	18.11	-4.34	-13.80	9.82	-33.43	34.26	11.81	48.55	-0.40	-0.60	-0.75	-1.06	-1.19	-1.07
b*	15.07	18.72	-22.29	22.85	-24.49	-0.35	59.60	-46.07	18.51	1.13	0.23	0.21	0.43	0.28	0.19
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