

Smoking not the only tobacco problem on Clackamas campus

by Aaron Brown
Staff Writer

After three weeks of controversial topics, it is time for a change of pace...

Who on this campus, at one point or another, has stepped in a brown gob of gook or dodged a brown bullet, a projectile originating from some man's mouth?

This catastrophe nearly happened to me when I was walking to a class last Thursday. A 5'10" male was walking ahead of me and regurgitated some tobacco by-product. When he was verbally assaulted for his grotesque action, the words were barely understandable because of a big brown ball strategically placed between his front teeth and lower lip.

What is this wretched protruding thing? Is it a curse? I am not too sure, but some have said that protuberant is actually a small brown furry animal...

How many cups full of brown furry glop (no other word to describe it, except manure) littering the campus? It seems that these cups curse parts of the library, classrooms, the gym, but especially the game room, where this writer works. Everywhere that anyone turns, the curse plagues. (Even the mens' washroom)

Since I lack the "enlightening experience" of this particular tobacco product, the purpose does not really seem clear. In fact, why put any substance in your mouth

that causes the slurring of speech, drooling, spitting, and yes the "Big C" (cancer).

But no doubt, the problem is still there. So, what can be done about it? Well, if someone decides to flip a coin to start an anti-chew campaign, this would probably be the chain of events.

First off, legislation would be passed, creating specific places for the public "relieving" of the manure-like substance. Consequently, the spittoon industry would be in demand again. (Spittoons were the big brass items sitting in the corner of saloons in the old west that people spat into.)

Next, these areas would be reduced to one specific area (probably in the cafeteria). Then, banning of spitting indoors would take place, causing spitters to have a spit-in at Keyser's office. Then this newspaper would run too many stories and editorials about the spitting ban, leading up to the placement of more picnic benches outdoors as the final resolution.

Do we really want all of this to take place (again)? Nah, let those who wish to make a brown mess, make a brown mess, and avoid all of the controversy. "Spitters" will eventually have cancer and wish they hadn't used that gunk in round containers.

So whenever someone spits brown goop on your person, just remember that they will get it in the end.

Women have yet to gain control of financial affairs

by Grace Eagle Reed
Contributing Writer

In 1940, according to my mother, who is now 75 years old, women had a certain role to play. She was literally expected to give up her career, (She was a registered nurse, played classical piano, and sang light opera) to marry, have children which of course she did. Eleven years later she found herself divorced, homeless, seeking welfare from the system and in big trouble. The system let her down by turning her down on welfare, declaring her an unfit mother (She had no financial support to raise her children) placing us into foster homes. My mother ended up on the streets a 'bag lady' for ten years.

I am a woman of the 1990's and not a whole lot has changed! Some subtle things have changed of course since the 60's but not enough as the same thing that happened to my mother is still happening today and for mostly one reason LACK OF CONTROL OVER HER FINANCIAL AFFAIRS. The banks aren't there for you, the system isn't there with taxes and inflation as it is, there aren't a lot of choices. Even well educated women, my daughter being one of them, don't have a chance at the big money that will secure her future. She is working at a very low paying job while still trying to tack on more degrees thinking this will secure her future. I'm addressing this article to women

but it is a statistical fact the most people, families are 90 days away from bankruptcy! I know this to be true in my personal life as this is the dance I did until recently. I found a way out of the system and a way to financial security that almost seems to good to be true and I am willing to share this knowledge with other women, or anyone interested for that matter. I am particularly interested in addressing displaced homemakers and low income women and I need your stories.

I am doing Money and Stress seminars all over the state of Oregon, Los Angeles area, and am willing to come to your center, place, organization or wherever to share this information. For women economically depressed I give the information free. I am also doing a Television series on this and am looking for women who are willing to come onto my show with their stories.

I am a 45 year-old woman who is NOT willing to sit around until I am 65 while the same old game goes on. We women are strong and we can change the system to work for us and I believe it starts with that financial security we not only are looking for but deserve.

Grace Eagle Reed is an international stress management consultant and teacher and has taught stress management seminars for the past 10 years both in Europe and United States.

AIDS crisis plagued by misconceptions, lack of education

It's scary to think of how many people are unaware and uneducated about Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). This epidemic is taking the lives of hundreds of thousands of people in this country and millions of people around the world.

There are many misconceptions about AIDS and how it is transmitted. AIDS cannot be spread by casual contact. The main way the virus is spread is by having unsafe sex with an infected person, intravenous drug users sharing unsterile needles, or babies born by infected mothers. The AIDS virus is transmitted through bodily fluids, that is; blood, semen, or vaginal fluids.

AIDS cannot be spread by hand shaking, hugging, sharing telephones, coming in contact with dirty eating utensils or toilet seats, or kissing.

It is not AIDS that actually kills the infected person. AIDS is caused by Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). If the virus gets into the blood system it attacks the immune system and that allows other infections to enter the body, such as pneumonia and cancer, which eventually lead to the person's death.

Another misconception about AIDS is that it affects only the homosexual community, drug users, or prostitutes and their patrons. AIDS is not a prejudice disease. It affects everyone, including you, directly or indirectly.

There is no cure for the AIDS virus, but there are ways it can be prevented. This is where education is most important. The use of a condom is the best way of prevention. Since the virus is carried through semen, one sexual experience, without the use of a condom, with an infected person can spread AIDS. An HIV antibody blood test can let one know if the AIDS virus is present. Tests can be taken at your doctor's office or at the public health clinic.

Although there has been a lot of research on AIDS, and drugs are being tested, there is still a problem of availability of these drugs. The price of the medication is too high and pharmaceutical companies are not willing to drop the price to a reasonable level, or they will not release the drug because they are uncertain of the side effects. How will we ever know if they work unless we allow WILLING victims of the virus test them, and offer them at a reasonable price?

It is about time our society faces the facts about AIDS. The public needs to be educated about and not scared of this disease. By hiding it in the closet we will never find a cure, and without preventive education it will continue to spread.

For more information on AIDS call the AIDS Information line, 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 1-800-342-AIDS.

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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.

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