

The Bigger Picture...

A. Timothy Brown

Give it up Fidel...

Fidel Castro is up to his old tricks again.

Testing of a new television station called TV Marti began last Tuesday. This station will beam "pro-capitalistic" TV shows like MTV videos, World Series tapes, and even old Kate and Allie shows. These programs are aimed at the little communist country of Cuba, one of the last bastions of that evil empire.

But there was a slight snag in the plot.

The Cuban authorities, obviously afraid of fellow countrymen finding out what is going on in the world, decided to jam the signal. Of course, just jamming TV Marti wasn't enough for Castro. He also jammed three domestic stations, "in case the subversives switched channels."

Castro threatened to retaliate beyond jamming, and did so a few days after by broadcasting a speech that interfered with almost every AM stations from Florida to Nashville. Castro justified this by stating that the TV Marti "threatens the sovereignty of Cuba."

So Castro believes that this is a pretext to an invasion. What if he is right? What if he isn't a paranoid dinosaur amongst a new breed of political thought? Is he just worried about being the next Ceausescu?

Well either way, let's put this into the bigger picture. It is readily apparent the Soviets have pulled the plug on Castro since he refuses to give way to reforms and since he is basically an idiot. This leaves Castro open and vulnerable to any form of attack, hence the idiotic idea of trying to jam the free flow of ideas, attempting to keep the populace in the dark to what is going on.

Since he has dammed the "river of ideas," this has no doubt stagnated an already unproductive economy, probably making him all the more paranoid.

On the other hand, the TV Marti could be a subversive plot ultimately controlled by the Bush administration, who wish to buy out a nice warm tropical island, creating a nice home for washed up politicians to retire to.

The station probably would be planting subliminal messages or practicing mass hypnosis through the TV shows to encourage the people to revolt and cause chaos. (Just beam them Saturday Night Live and they'll be revolting in no time!)

After the revolt is over and Castro is in exile, American corporations could walk in, buy up everything, and smoke those great Cuban cigars that everyone, including me, enjoys.

So, it all comes down to a paranoid leader who wants to remain in power eternally despite the pressures of outside influences and events taking place all over the world. C'mon Fidel, even the Mongolian autonomy is holding free elections. Let the people decide if they want you anymore, and let TV Marti do its job: to inform the Cubans about the joys of a capitalist society. And that's the bigger picture.

Workload cause for Jones' resignation

by Aaron Brown
Staff Writer

The ASG seems to have installed a revolving door in the president's office lately, with the resignation of two ASG presidents: Garrett Lytle and Tim Jones.

A slight controversy developed during the second resignation, in reference to the way Jones handled it. Rumors circulated that he had wanted to quit from the beginning, supposedly threatening the ASG staff after his first week, finally resulting in his off the wall way of handling matters.

Yet, I side with Mr. Jones.

He, himself, admits that he is not a politician, since he is honest, open and straightforward. He also denies the alleged rumors, which have been also denied by other members of ASG. During an impromptu meeting, Jones identified a greater problem in ASG which should be the focus, and not his resignation or actions.

The problem is not with Jones or Lytle,

but with how heavy the load is and how these students are compensated for the position.

The proof of this lies with Jones. His reason for resigning was because he could not maintain his current level of studies and his position. Jones echoed what Lytle said earlier that you either have to focus on your studies or ASG.

What is really ironic is that the ASG president receives a tuition waiver for the position as compensation, but because of the amount of effort put into ASG, one could in no way maintain above 15 credits a term. Is this adequate compensation for someone who runs a student body government?

Obviously, this is not good enough for quality leaders like Jones or Lytle (or Jim Titus former editor) who did an incredible job under the pressure cooker. Can Student Activities afford to lose people at this rate, or see another Taylor repeat of last

year? This is an absolute joke. A tuition waiver is no answer.

So, what should be done to help ASG presidents? First, the college needs to take a serious look at revising the compensation. The administration should try straight dollars, like maybe \$400 a term. Second, those other writers and students should get off the back of Jones and the others for their actions. They are all simply looking out for their best interests. And third, the load and strain should be lessened so these people can do what they set out to do: graduate from college.

This really needs a serious contemplation by the staff, administration, and students. Something is very wrong here, and unless it is corrected or investigated, the problem can only get worse. ASG has already lost two good people. Let's just hope that revolving door is given another whirl. I welcome any responses by the administration.

Parking at CCC could turn into nature hike

by Amber L. Cordry,
Mark A. Borrelli

It's 8:50 a.m.; ten minutes before your 9 a.m. Biology 103 class; the class you can't miss, or even be late to. You are searching for a choice parking space within walking distance to Pauling. Where do you end up? "The North Forty," more commonly referred to as the upper parking lot. So you park, hike in, and arrive late... again.

Those of us who are privileged enough to be on the newspaper staff are also forced to hike in when we have our own parking lot shared with the staff of Public Safety. Unfortunately, everyone has opted for these select parking spots and the only way to obtain one is to (a) camp overnight; (b) arrive at 6 a.m. and pray; (c) park illegally and get a ticket.

Doesn't it make sense that the people

who have classes or business in the trailers should have priority parking in the trailer parking lots? As it is parking at CCC is few and far between and more far between than few. If it gets any worse and parking gets even more expanded farther out, then Clackamas should offer a shuttle bus from far away parking spots to the near proximity of the campus.

Adjacent to the upper parking, it looks like enough room for another parking lot. What would we call that, "The North Eighty?" If this happens, you might be better off to just walk to school.

There is a reason why there are parking lots adjacent to Randall, Clairmont, Pauling, Community Center, Barlow, and even Trailers A and B. Those people who have the majority of classes in Barlow or Randall should park in their respective

areas behind Randall. Those people who reside mostly in McLoughlin or Randall should follow precedent and park in their areas. We, who spend incredible hours in Trailer B, or the staff of Trailer A should be able to facilitate our own area as well, the trailer parking area.

There is about as much chance of us getting reserved parking for our staff as an ASG president lasting a whole year. However, we, as well as the Trailer A staff, are entitled to our area, just as other students and staff are to their area. So, regardless of whether or not we park illegally, we fully intend to park somewhere in the trailer parking lot as long as we are on staff. If we are cited for our actions, oh well. Until justice is served and we are rewarded with our rightful parking area, we will rebel against any yellow curbs we see until a legal parking spot opens up.

AIDS awareness crucial for CCC students

by R. W. Jagodnik Jr.
Copy Editor

Spring is upon us! What a glorious time of the year to rejoice in the celebration of life! What a fitting time to discuss the life-taking disease AIDS.

During the Winter term this year, an AIDS Awareness Week was scheduled to bring the epidemic to the attention of the students at CCC, but, the agenda was canceled due to the snowy weather.

Unfortunately, the disease does not "cancel" for anything.

The Clackamas Print ran an informative editorial at that time addressing and discussing the issues and facts surrounding the AIDS epidemic. Luckily, the opportunity arises again this week, and much more timely, to write again about the tragic disease.

For the last two weeks, the "Today" bulletin has printed an introduction to the AIDS Awareness Week, inviting all students to read and take notice of the growing need to become literate about the effects of the epidemic. As the bulletin suggests, most college students are aware of the facts. Knowing the facts is not enough.

According to the US Center for Disease Control, the number one killer of college students by 1991 will be AIDS. This may sound like a propaganda scare tactic to dissuade college students from engaging in pre-marital sex or from using intravenous drugs or from receiving blood transfusions, but the statistics from other sources do not

support the accusation.

The important fact to remember here is that AIDS kills regardless of race, creed, or sexuality. This is a fact that most college students will forget when they are buried up to their ears in homework. This disease no longer infects "other people" like so many people would like to believe. These people are human beings trying desper-

ately to survive in a cruel, uninformed world.

Paranoia about the disease leads to ignorance; ignorance leads to death.

With spring in the air, death seems distant, but the facts say different. Get the facts this week. Learn about precautions to take to help prevent the spread of AIDS.

Clackamas Print

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