

Book store has capitalized on students long enough

by Troy Blackledge
The Print Staff

We as students of this community college have all, at one time or another, fallen prey to the obscene prices the bookstore charges for books and materials necessary to succeed at this school. The Clackamas Bookstore has capitalized on students' needs long enough!

We've paid our way; we needn't be victimized by unscrupulous profiteers. The time has come for our community to come together and utilize the alternative, the Bookmart, sponsored by student government.

The Bookmart's goal is to give students another avenue through which they may buy and sell books. It's simple, safe and gives student consumers the ability to get more for their money by dealing through a non-profit middle-man, the student government.

Student government hopes to achieve this goal with a straightforward approach. Students wishing to buy or sell a book come down to Student Activities and simply fill out a card, (green to buy, yellow to sell) with name, phone number, social security number and what the patron wishes to buy or sell. These books are then stored in the Student Activities Office until purchases are made.

Student officers compile the info cards and make the connection between buyers and sellers. Classified ads will also run weekly by category in this fine newspaper to enlighten the populace to new deals down at the Bookmart.

Like I stated earlier, the Bookmart is a non-profit service designed to meet students' needs. As with any grass-roots program, the Bookmart requires the involvement of the student body in order to function to potential. Let's face it, not many of us that attend here are rich and more than one of us have problems affording necessary books each term.

Do you have textbooks or novels collecting dust under your beds, in your garages waiting to be packed up into the attic? Come on down! Give yourself a chance to make some money selling those needed books; give yourself a break from the high prices and the limited use one normally gets from their texts. In short, the student government demands a change for YOU, the consumer, by creating this institution. Regardless, your books are necessary to the smooth functioning of your service. If you have any questions, or books for that matter, please contact ASG at the Student Activities Office.

Wouldn't it be nice if...

■ Hearing the name Tonya Harding is growing old

by Dwight Walker
The Print Staff

We see her name on TV, we hear her name on the radio, we read her name in the paper. In fact I won't even say her name, because we all know who she is. It would be nice not to be blitzed with her face and to have her name not be the first thing we hear in the morning. Wouldn't it be nice to go one whole day without any mention of this woman?

Is she capable of doing something like this? I don't know, but until there's some hard evidence to prove so, don't say her name. There are more important things to talk about, like rise of tuition, maybe, instead of the bodyguard's supposed counter-es-

pionage activities. And who cares if she's back on the ice. Most people didn't care before and don't care now.

So give us a break from this woman. We are tired of her. I mean how often can we have something shoved down our throats? I think we've reached that point. People are screaming at the mention of her name. Doesn't that tell you something?

If not for her, then for our own sake -- to give us a chance to maintain our sanity. You know, sanity ... something that's been totally lost in this whole scandal. I mean, the media has named it "Skategate". If that isn't a sure sign of human reasoning lost, I don't know what is.

Oregon pride still resides in God's backyard

by Paul Valencia
The Print Editorial Staff

Tonya, Bob and Lon.
"Skate Gate," "hands off" and the OCA.

The Nancy Kerrigan assault case, our senator's odd behavior and the Oregon Citizens' Alliance war on homosexuals have all made national news in the past year or so. And for most Oregonians, it is not something to be proud of. But for people to say they are "embarrassed" about living in Oregon is going to an extreme.

Sure, there have been some Oregonians who have shown immoral, stupid or criminal behaviors, but that does not mean you have to be grouped with them, unless you agree with what they are doing or do some of the things they are doing.

Take the Kerrigan case, for instance. I have played sports all my life and I have always been taught that it is nice to beat your opponent in competition, not beat up the competition before the event. That's probably on page one of the sportsman's rule book. Just because some of Harding's pals assaulted Kerrigan doesn't mean I have to be embarrassed about being from Oregon.

And what about Bob? Here's a guy, from Oregon, who obviously never was taught how to treat a woman with respect. I'm from Oregon, but I don't try to fondle and kiss my classmates. In the morning, I say hello, I don't jump them.

Let's look at this argument on a national level. After a hurricane hits Florida, several looters show up and ransack stores. I am not embarrassed to be an American. I am mad as hell at the people who are doing

it, but, instead of being embarrassed, I take pride in the thousands of more noble people who resist the temptation of "free loot" and actually help in a time of crisis.

Being embarrassed about being from Oregon just because of Tonya or Bob is like being embarrassed about being a student at Clackamas Community College because one student cheated on a final exam.

What would happen if a 10-year veteran instructor at the college was indicted on several counts of sexual harassment and racial discrimination? Would every other instructor feel embarrassed to be part of this higher-learning institution? Of course not, because the other instructors are proud of being a member of this college and that they would never do such a thing.

If you, yourself, are a good individual and a great citizen, you can take pride in being an Oregonian no matter what somebody else does.

There is no reason to be embarrassed about living in Oregon. In fact, there are dozens of reasons to be proud of our state.

If you live in this area, you are an hour away from the breathtaking sight of Mt. Hood and only an hour and a half from one of the most beautiful coasts in the world. I'd venture to guess that this is God's backyard. In our state, "Keep Oregon Green" is more than a slogan; it's a way of life.

Speaking of a way of life, the way we live is getting national attention. Sure, it may not be on "Hard Copy," but people are noticing Oregon in a good light, not in the spotlight.

Last year, Oregon's population grew at more than double the national rate. And according to

an article in the Feb. 4 edition of the Statesman Journal (Salem), people are moving to Oregon at such an alarming rate because of family and livability.

That's right, family. Even if a family from California may not agree with the OCA, they can still come to Oregon to get away from the sickening crime, pollution and traffic of Los Angeles, for example. And they don't have to be embarrassed about the OCA if they teach their children to respect all walks of life.

Another key to the livability factor in the Portland area is getting national attention, as well. Tri-Met's light rail, MAX, is an example to all cities of similar size that mass transit can work.

Tri-Met has been given praise from the national government for its insight on the future. Today, Tri-Met is building a new MAX line that will reach out to Hillsboro. In the years to come, there could be a line that goes north to Vancouver and south to Oregon City.

Another piece of pride in Oregon is our universities and colleges that people come to from around the world to study.

I know there are still some of you out there that will continue to feel embarrassed about living in Oregon.

Hey, if it is so embarrassing for you, Interstate 5 runs both ways. And I understand California has a lot of property for sale in the Los Angeles area right now. Of course, most of the property is fix-it-yourself, but since you will be out of the "embarrassing" spotlight of Oregon, you'll be able to concentrate.

To those who still believe in Oregon Pride, don't back down. You're protecting God's property.

Anti-abortionists should respect rights of fellow human beings

by Tyson Morrow
The Print Editorial Staff

The freedom to choose abortion is an expression of equal rights, fairness and justice. Abortion is a safe, healthy procedure which is a necessary part of making society a better place for all. And if we ever go back to a time when abortion is not freely available, it would be the most gigantic step backward in the history of civil rights.

On Jan. 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court, led by Harry Blackmun, held that the Texas criminal abortion statutes prohibiting abortions at any stage of pregnancy are unconstitutional. The Supreme Court also found that the word "person" as used in the 14th Amendment does not include the unborn, and that constitutional right of privacy is broad enough to encompass a woman's decision whether or not to terminate a pregnancy.

The pro-life movement has become more and more adamant in their attacks on a woman's right of privacy, resulting in harassment of patients, doctors, and in the worst situations, the murder

of abortion-performing physicians and the bombing of abortion clinics.

A question often posed by pro-life organizations, "When does life begin?" is not really relevant, because even if life were to begin at conception, the fetus is a part of the woman's body until it is born. Sure it is alive, but so are cancerous tumors ... and no one is lobbying to save the life of a group of cancer cells. You may not see this as a valid comparison, but a fetus, like a tumor, can be harmful to the mother, and cannot live on

one disputes that. But so are the unfertilized eggs and sperm. The fetus is a potential human being, not an actual one; think of it as a blueprint, not a house. The unborn isn't a person with meaningful life. It's only inches in size, and in the first trimester, has no thought process.

Even if the unborn are viable human beings, they have fewer rights than the woman. No one should be expected to donate her body as a life-support system for someone else.

Every woman should

The pro-life movement has become more and more adamant in their attacks on a woman's rights of privacy, resulting in harassment of patients, doctors, and in the worst situations...murder

its own outside of the woman's body. The fetus is a part of a pregnant woman's body, and if she chooses to remove it, it is nothing more than if she chose to have her appendix or tonsils removed.

The fetus is alive. No

have control over her own body. Reproductive freedom is a basic right for all women.

If you're against abortion, my advice to you is -- don't have one. But don't try to take the rights of your fellow human being. Respect their privacy.

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