

EDITORIAL

Smokers need a place to light up

The signs are appearing all around campus: "No Smoking- Building Entrance." It's too bad that many kids, some of them underage, can be often seen smoking beside these very signs.

Many people are arguing that it is a violation of their rights to have to endure the cigarette smoke, but smokers argue that it violates their right to do as they please (i.e., smoke) in public areas.

The problem here is that the smokers smoke in the only covered areas on campus—right outside the doorways of our buildings. According to Plant Services, this is also the primary air intake for all of the buildings on campus, which means that all of the air that we breathe inside the buildings has first been filtered through a haze of cigarette smoke. And there is the problem, of course, that not many smokers use the sand urns that are placed around campus.

On the other hand, it's unfair to ask smokers to go out and brave the rain and wind to support their habit.

So where is the solution to this problem? Before Gregory Forum was opened, there was a "smoke shack," a covered area with heat lamps and a large number of sand urn ashtrays.

This would be a good crusade for Associated Student Government to champion—the reestablishment of a "smoke shack" on campus. ASG has done a great job bringing back our game room, instituting a textbook grant program, and planning student activities such as The Winter Festival.

The *Clackamas Print* urges you to contact ASG or college administrators in support of a place smokers can call their own.

U.S.: A lot to answer for

Our entanglement, over the last several years, in Iraq, to say nothing of other locations worldwide, should be cause for concern. Whether our Founders were Christian, Deist, Enlightenment Humanist, or venture capitalist, it is at least apparent that they built our nation on principles of morality and justice

In it, following an increasing escalation of Arab terrorist bombings in New York City, martial law is declared on Brooklyn, where most Arab immigrants in New York reside. The ensuing ethnic/religious persecution crescendos to a brutal climax by the movie's end.

One fellow moviegoer demonstrated his detachment by claiming the events of the movie "would never happen that way in real life." And yet the film is almost a mirror of our history—martial law was declared on Los Angeles, and American citizens of Japanese descent were herded into camps with little regard for their individual rights. It is a sure sign that a cautionary tale has failed in its object when the hearer dismisses it as a mere fantasy.

The events taking place in America in *The Siege* are similar to events that take place in other countries every day. And until these concepts become real to us, our guilt as citizens will remain. When lives are at stake, ignorance is no excuse.

Here may be a practical application for an Absolute Principle. To murder children is wrong—this much most people will agree on. But is this absolute, or is it merely relative: it applies to American children, but not to Iraqi?

These questions must be faced before we can seriously deal with issues of American foreign policy. For while we may have not pulled the triggers, as participants in the democratic rulership of this nation, we bear the responsibility.

A wise Man once asked, "What does it profit a man, if he gain the world, yet lose his soul?" This is a question we can ask of ourselves as a nation, as well as individuals. Does might really make right, or are there lines that we as rational, ethical people should not cross? I would pray for the latter. *I show you a more excellent way.*

THE ALTAR OF AN UNKNOWN GOD

JOEL P. SHERPERT
Copy Editor



we should not lightly abandon.

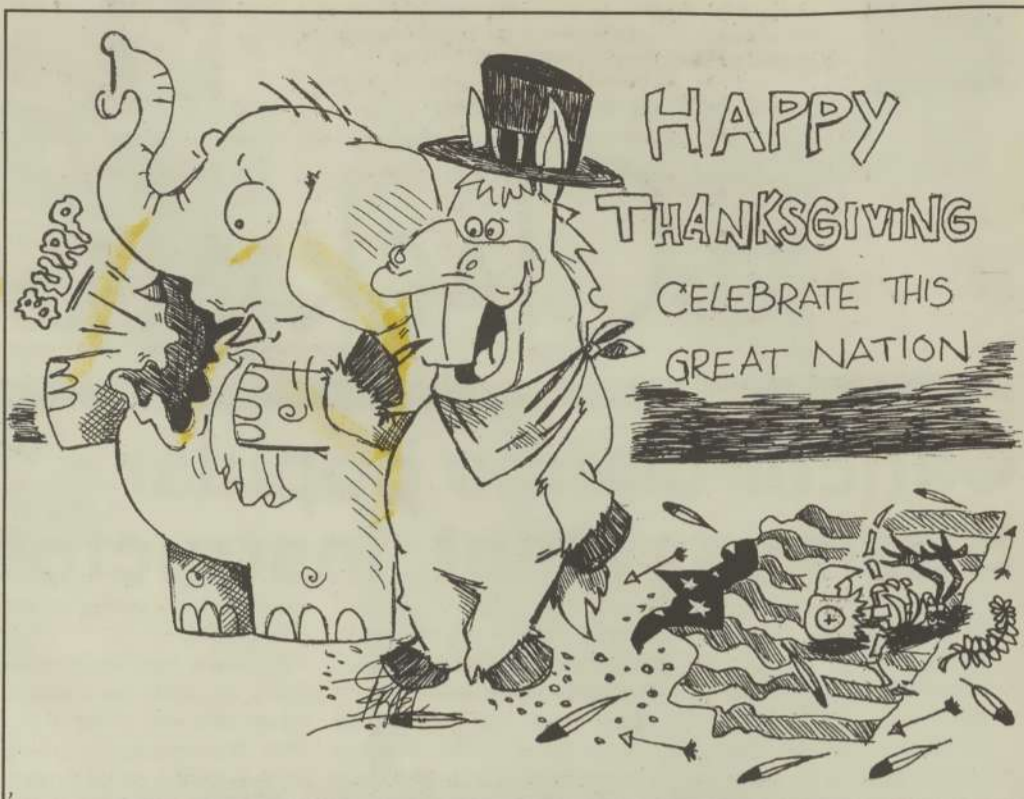
In the words of the 19th Century French philosopher, Alexis de Toqueville, "America is great because she is good, and when she ceases to be good she shall cease to be great."

With at least 1 million Iraqis dead—250 a day—at the hands of U.N. sanctions against incoming food and medicine, we, the U.N.'s most influential member, have a lot to answer for. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, in response to Leslie Stahl's question of whether the death of half a million Iraqi children is justifiable, replied, "This is a very hard choice, but we think the price is worth it."

Yet how can Albright make this statement? It is not her price to pay; therefore it is not her decision to make. Would we be willing to ask the same question of an Iraqi peasant woman who is burying her infant? What would her answer be?

It is apparent that many Americans don't know, or perhaps even care. The events are simply not real to them; the casualties are mere numbers, not than flesh and blood people.

The moral numbing of America toward these overseas tragedies (and the danger this entails) was punctuated recently in the film, *The Siege*.



Darris' class "Life Changing"

I write this ode to the classes in Political Science - to be precise, to the P.S. class in U.S. Gov't- because I want to let everyone know what impact it has made in my life. Dean Darris is the teacher. He is

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

dedicated and always ready to answer his students' questions, both during and after class. He assists and directs students in their search for truth and excellence. The way he teaches is remarkable and of high academic level. He is extremely knowledgeable and very diligent in explaining the underlying causes and philosophies of current government, political spectrum, and economics. He stimulates questioning anything and everything; in short he teaches real academics and real thinking!

I grew up in a climate where discussions on socialism, economics,

social values and civil liberties were frequent and open. I learned to choose my own life values quite distinctly. Then during the next 20 some years, government and economy seemed to redefine its values and issues. Things became less clear to the "commoner." I still stuck to my basic beliefs, but I was no longer able to explain why. Real debate seemed to be difficult to initiate, especially in the USA.

This (P.S.) class opened my eyes (again). This time I am learning (I am still only a beginner) deeper concepts, deeper meanings to national and global politics and economics. I know now why I vote a certain way or why I support certain political concepts. It is a life changing experience. It is influencing my everyday life; the way I read the newspapers and watch the news, and the way I view the greater world. It might define or refine my next career steps and main decisions in life, too.

In conclusion I wish to highly recommend all political science classes given my Mr. Darris to stu-

dents and staff alike. It will possibly add deeper meaning to everything you know and do. You will finally come to understand why "News" is reported the way it is, why parties lose or gain votes, and why the value of your money depends on the actions of the Federal Reserve Board, etc. etc. Come sense a touch of world class academics on your own campus! You have a treasure in your midst.

Inger Easton

Educated in Europe, in The Netherlands
P.S. student (1st term)
Parent of a 3rd term PS Student

A note from the Print:
When you are submitting your letters to the editor, please provide a copy on a 3.5 in. diskette in a text file. Thank you for your cooperation!

THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

Editor in Chief:

Robert Schoenberg (x2576)

The Clackamas Print aims to report the news in an honest, unbiased, professional manner. The opinions expressed in The Clackamas Print do not necessarily reflect those of the student body, college administration, its faculty, or The Clackamas Print advertisers. Products and services advertised in The Clackamas Print are not necessarily endorsed by anyone associated with The Clackamas Print. The advertising rate is \$4.75 per column inch. All signed letters to the editor should be 300 words or less and will be considered for publication if submitted by 1 pm the Friday prior to publication. The Clackamas Print is a weekly publication and is distributed every Wednesday except during Finals week.

Feature + A&E Editor:

Jeremy Stallwood

Sports Editor:

John Thorburn

Business Manager:

Kristina Brooks
(x2578)

Copy Editor:

Joel P. Shempert

Photo Editor:

Timothy A. Bell

Advisor:

Linda Vogt
(x2310)

Secretary:

JoAnne Gale

Cartoonist:

Joel "Israel" Gunderson

Staff Writers:

Kara Alexis
Kevin Naumann
Angie Daschel
James Khosravi
Mandi Linstrom
Eric Eatherton
Brenda Olsen

Staff Photographers:

Toni McMichael
Amy Parrish

Graphic Design:

Karl Katzke

Advertising Design:

Megan Oldenstadt

Announcements:

Leah Chapin

19600 S. Molalla Ave. OREGON CITY, OREGON 97045
(503) 657-6958 EXT 2309 • CCCPRINT@CLACKAMAS.CC.OR.US