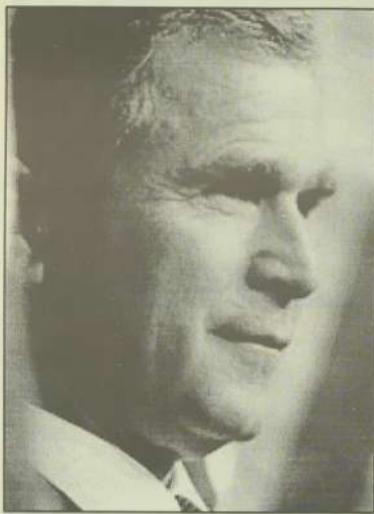


# Learn the leaders; inside the issues; voice your vote



**George W. Bush**

Republican

Born: July 6, 1946

Family: Wife and two children

Resides in: Austin, TX

## Issues

**For:** Distribution of school vouchers, expansion of charter schools, \$483 billion in tax cuts across all income brackets, marriage penalty tax relief.

**Against:** Abortion, gun control, gay rights, mandatory increased minimum wage, pollution standards, and universal health care coverage.

## The Facts: VOTE ✓ 2000

### Voting Facts to Remember

- **Presidential Primaries:** May 16, 2000
- **Where to register to vote:** DMV or ASG
- **Voter Registration deadline:** May 1
- **Applications for ASG positions due:** April 20
- **April 27 ASG nomination petitions are due**
- **May 8-10 ASG absentee ballots and on-line voting**
- **ASG Elections:** May 11 & 12 from 10:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.



**Al Gore**

Democratic

Born: March 31, 1948

Family: Wife and four children

Resides in: Carthage, TN

## Issues

**For:** Universal health care, saving social security, stricter pollution standards, gun control, abortion rights, gay rights, campaign-finance reform, marriage penalty tax relief, expansion of charter schools, creation of an education Reform Trust Fund.

**Against:** School vouchers, tax cuts for the wealthy.

## Don't vote just to vote

JOHN THORBURN

Editor-in-Chief

Everything you're about to read is true.

This 2000 campaign/election/voting year, don't go out and vote.

That is, don't go out and vote just to vote.

Don't go out and vote unless you know what it is you're making a decision on.

Two weeks ago, in my Local/State Government class, Dr. Dean Darris brought up a sad but true practice in America.

People say that as Americans we should be proud that we have the right to vote and we should exercise that right whenever possible. They never bother to say to go out and actually educate ourselves on what it is we're supposed to care about.

Why is it that we hold something so dear and special to us and actually spend virtually no time learning about what is going to change our lives?

We hold events like MTV's "Rock the Vote" and make it convenient to register citizens. Let me ask this: If you have to convince a person to register to vote in the first place, do you really want them voting? If people are so

apathetic about their rights, how does it make sense to give them more pull in your community?

Now, I have been guilty from time to time of being apathetic with my voting rights. But, I have never gone out and turned in my ballot just to say that I did.

The age-old saying is true—your vote does matter at every level.

But please, if you want it to matter, take the time to read about your ASG or presidential candidate. Don't just toss the ballot measure descriptions aside when you get them in the mail.

In 1998, Virginia Legislator Clifton A. Woodrum was quoted as saying, "The Declaration of Independence said that government derives its right from the consent of the governed. Without knowledge, there can be no consent."

This spring, the college is hoping that a bond will pass that will bring \$47 million for improving the campus for the students.

This is the perfect reason to do research on a measure. Make a decision about the college. Say yes to the Clackamas student of the future or say no. But don't do it unless you know what the hell you're talking about.

TO VOTE  
OR NOT  
TO  
VOTE,  
THAT IS  
THE REAL  
QUESTION.

## Does voting really matter?

SALENA DE LA CRUZ

Opinion Editor

Every year many people ask themselves why voting matters? Do we really have a say?

Oregon primaries will be held May 16 to determine new laws and elect new officials, including the president of the United States.

I don't think there is a real issue that needs to be concentrated on during these proceedings other than—just vote.

Every year many people (myself included), choose not to vote because they don't think their votes really matters. They do, maybe not in the way in which we think, but it gives a feeling of accomplishment knowing we are part of something that could very well make a huge impact on the country as a whole.

Now, if you are one of those people who throw away your mail-in ballot or never bothered to register, I ask you to reconsider. We all need to be part of the process of deciding what issues are most important to us.

This year I'm going to fill out my ballot and mail it in. I'd like a say about who will be running the country. I believe Al Gore to be the best candidate this year. Gore supports many civil

rights issues, including women's rights and gay rights.

On campus, the ASG elections will be coming up. I suggest you add your vote to the rest of ours.

Also, the voters will be asked in May to approve a \$47 million dollar bond to remodel and add to the college; in order for the measure to pass, 50 percent of registered voters must vote, and 50 percent of those must approve the bond.

We must educate ourselves on laws and people that have the ability to change the way our country works. This will help us to be a bigger and better part of what is so important for the future of our children and our children's children.

Be a part of something that really means something. The decisions you make on May 16 could affect us all forever.

I'm asking you as students and as Americans to care about the laws and leaders we choose for our schools and our country. If you are not registered, you can go to your local DMV (Department of Motor Vehicles) or the ASG office on campus. In the long run, your vote may not seem like it matters, but you'll have your say. **Vote 2000!**

Questions or comments e-mail [cccpri@clackamas.cc.or.us](mailto:cccpri@clackamas.cc.or.us) or drop by B-104.



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