

All signed letters to the editor should be 500 words or less and will be considered for publication if submitted by 1 pm the Friday prior to publication. Letters to the Editor are subject to editing. We reserve the right to not publish any letter.

## It's the end of the road

### A farewell to my car

The first car I ever owned, a little, silver blue colored Dodge Colt, has served me for over two years, until last week when it said good bye forever- in an odd way - by burning down to the ground.

I was never in a fire before. I was never even close to one. The only time I watched something burn was when I attempted to cook something. I burned toast, noodles, rice, and even water, but watching my car get toasted was quite different.

I was on my way to school and I was late as usual, but everything seemed to be fine. As I turned onto Clairmont drive and passed Clairmont Hall, I noticed a strange smell. I stopped at the stop sign and suddenly there was heavy smoke coming out of the hood. Wondering what was going on, I just sat there holding on to the steering wheel while watching the smoke get darker and darker. My other two passengers had already gotten out of the car when I heard someone yelling at me to get out. I opened the door, grabbed some of my belongings, and then I was out of there.

Everything went so fast. The next thing I remembered was that I was standing there watching my poor little car burst into flames. When the fire department finally arrived - about five



JASON LINGEL / Clackamas Print

Last Wednesday around 9a.m., Print Feature Editor Maggie Jirasek's car burst into flames at the stop sign on Clairmont Drive.

minutes later - my car was pretty much gone. The only

and even now, I still don't understand what exactly happened. One of the officers told me that something might have been wrong with the carburetor. To be truthful, I have to admit that I don't know anything about cars except where to put the oil. Now I realize how important it is to get your car

like me, with a burned-up car.

Thinking about it now, I realize it was just a piece of metal, and I'm really glad that nobody was harmed. Just imagine what would have happened if it had caught on fire somewhere in the parking lot where other cars could have been damaged. Well, I'm glad I got out of that car without being hurt. The only bad thing was that I smelled like a bonfire for the rest of the day.

parts that probably stayed unharmed were the back tires.

It was quite a scary experience,

checked once in a while and make sure that everything is all right. Otherwise you might end up just

### Follow the white rabbit



Maggie Jirasek  
Feature Editor

## ~Let them eat golden rice~

A cyclone in India killed 10,000 people. As an act of humanitarianism, the United States sent corn and soy meal to the demolished country. Many scientists cried foul, and accused the government of using the cyclone victims as "guinea pigs". Why? The grains sent over were from a new batch of genetically

giving away free seeds of "Golden Rice" to poor countries. The rice, containing bacteria and genes from daffodils, is supposed to be higher in Vitamin A. But is this kindness?

### Take a stand



Corinne Rupp  
Opinion Editor

modified crops. Some troubling questions are raised by this apparent act of kindness - is it better to starve than to eat genetically altered food that has not been tested? Last year, opponents of agricultural biotechnology begged Kenya to reject corn donated from the United States and Canada because it was genetically modified, even though a drought had hit the country hard and over five million people were starving. One biotech company is

Biotechnology critics are themselves being criticized. Until recently, the debate had been centered on the United States and anti-biotech Europe. These western cultures have little risk of mass starvation the way Africa or India does. Coming from wealthy countries where choice is available, these guys have a hard time convincing the emerging countries in question that biotechnology is wrong.

"To deny desperately hungry



people the means to control their futures by presuming to know what is best for them is not only paternalistic but morally wrong," said Hassan. Adamu, the former minister of agriculture for Nigeria.

So what's the big stink around genetically modified foods? Their detractors see the altered seed as being destructive to personal health, the environment, and the economy of developing nations. The biotech companies working on the new grain varieties often tout a "feed the world" philosophy to defend themselves. But if that is the case, why aren't they working on drought re-

sistant millet for substance farmers in Africa instead of herbicide resistant soybeans for farmers in the Midwest?

Making starving nations choose between unknown genetically modified crops or certain hunger and death is cruel. Giving away poison candy is not the way to feed the world. In this country, we already throw away tons of raw crops. Why not be truly humanitarian and give those to our less fortunate neighbors instead of casting off the potentially dangerous unknown on starving populations?

### Student Poll Five favorite musicians



1. R Kelly
2. Eagles
3. Dr. Dre
4. Snoop Doggy Dog
5. Tu Pac

Rachel Williams



1. Pantera
2. Metallica
3. Brotha Lynch
4. Alice 'n' Chains
5. Mechanic Head

Dusten Lunsford



1. Beatles
2. Chayane
3. Elvis Crisbo
4. Michael Jackson
5. Madonna

Katie Espinoza



1. Kotton Mouth Kings
2. E40
3. Luniz
4. Bone Thugs in Harmony
5. DMX

Matt Church



1. Ella Fitzgerald
2. The Four Freshmen
3. Artie Shaw
4. Frank Sinatra
5. Lucciano Pavoratti

Gene Mouser



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