

Riots choke city of Cincinnati

Chaos and rioting choke Cincinnati, Ohio streets with citizens violently protesting the police shooting of an unarmed black man. Cincinnati Mayor Charles Luken has declared a state of emergency and announced a citywide curfew... according to CNN News. With this declaration I see the very fibers of our society unraveling with every window that's broken and every innocent bystander that is forced into the fray. Pandemonium is gripping the streets of Cincinnati and it's resonating throughout the country with the madness of what may be to come if we do not stop the anger that is flooding our streets with violence.

Since 1995, police have killed 15 African-American males during attempted arrests. The anger and pain have fed off each other ever since and it finally found a floodgate with the recent shooting of Thomas. Police have had to go up against more than 150 violent protesters flooding the streets with their frustrations and aggression since Thomas' death.

Normally, I would be one to agree that actions speak louder than words, but violence in any form is

not a positive means to an already sad situation. I believe what no one is taking into consideration is that every day police put their lives in danger for the good of the people and sometimes even the most routine traffic stop can turn deadly. We see it on the news and on real life TV Programming such as "COPS."

Make a statement, be heard.



Salena De La Cruz
Contributing Writer

We don't know firsthand what really happened. Thomas could very well have grabbed for something in his waistband and the only thing the officer could assume is that it was a gun. Unfortunately, his assumption was wrong and there was no gun. However, what would've happened if Thomas had a gun and the officer had not acted so quickly? There would probably be no riot for the death of a police officer. Why? Because there are certain risks involved in being a representative of the law. They are trained and their skills honed to take on those risks and when they act in accordance with their training,

we question their judgment. How is that fair? Granted, there are times when an innocent life has been taken with unnecessary use of force, but when unfortunate things like this happen, we need to ask questions, voice our opinions and find out the truth. The investigation is still pending and we, as citizens have already become judge, jury and executioner of the officer involved.

I'm sorry for Thomas because his life was cut short and I'm sorry for the pain his family has to endure, but I'm just as sorry for our country. What is this nation coming to when we can't even support the people in charge of protecting us? Thomas had 14 warrants out for failure to appear for misdemeanor traffic violations. Misdemeanors yes, but warrants nonetheless. According to ABC News and CNN he then led police on a chase that lasted several blocks. It ended in his death. According to reports by CNN and ABC, citizens stated that if you were a black male you ran from police because you were afraid of getting beat up by them. My assumption is that police would probably assume guilt when someone runs. Again, I'm aware of the several instances that caused concern, but when do we reach a compromise? When do

we say we've had enough violence whether from the people or police? Maybe there are those sworn to protect citizens who act irresponsibly resulting in undo harm to others. But there are dozens of others who only wish to help. Do we unjustly accuse one for the actions of others? Would it be fair if someone mistreated me because I was Mexican and they had a bad experience or heard of one done by a Mexican? No.

I know there are bad cops out there and unfortunately Cincinnati has had many instances to give them cause to be concerned, but could it be sad coincidence? Maybe, maybe not; however, rather than make false assumptions, Cincinnati needs to voice their concerns and get their questions answered. Unfortunately, when Mayor Luken attempted to address Thomas' death and the circumstances around it, violent protest broke out with people having to be physically removed from city hall. That is no way to find a solution to a problem.

I plead with Cincinnati and every city and community that has used violence. Stop the violence. Stop the hate. See what pain you create. Hopefully, a compromise can be reached to end the frustrations and fears in Cincinnati.

Letter to the Editor

From the librarian: 'In a show of really bad art, mine was the worst'

"Worst of show? What does that mean?" my mom asked.

I grinned. I knew the answer to this question. Frequently my mother asks me questions and I never discover the answer. She knows unanswered questions drive me crazy. You see, I'm a librarian. I get paid to answer questions. I usually don't get paid for my art.

But not this time. I'm not going crazy this time. My voice sneers, "It means, in a show of really bad art, mine was the worst. You see mom, it's kind of like saying, 'I live at the very end of the baddest street in town. I'm the worst!'"

My mother is puzzled. Mom finally says, "Why do good people do bad things - I mean why do good people do bad art?"

My mind reacts. Why do fools fall in love? Why do birds sing when you're around? Why did we move that Bojangle clock so far away from the bed?

Why am I thinking about silly love songs?

Because the answer is locked within them. Within our culture.

In 1478, Sandro Botticelli painted 'Birth of Venus' for Giovanni and Lorenzo dei Medici.

The image of Venus stepping out of the seashell has permeated our culture. Put a naked girl in a seashell and Boom! she's Venus.

In 1980, I deliberately set about duplicating that idea. I mean, if all we need is love, and Venus is the goddess of love, then hey, if I put a playboy centerfold in a abalone shell then I got one powerful mes-

sage of love.

For my Venus I chose that month's Playboy centerfold. Working from a common tenet of the fastfood industry, I deduced that if tits are good, then Biggie sized must be better. You gotta love Double Stuff Oreos!

Not everything on Aphrodite is Up-Sized. I have trouble drawing hands. But my clever right brain was up to the challenge: I'll hide those pesky digits. Aphrodite will be flipping her hair. Goddesses do that.

My goddess was born with a yellow rain slicker too. There are only a few clouds

in the sky - and they hardly look like a thunderstorm - but Aphrodite is pretty far out to sea. Perhaps she needs to get to shore fast before the storm hits. That's why the sea is breaking on the bow of the abalone shell. I used a

Rembrandtish technique of really globbing on the paint so the viewer could feel the beautiful cerulean blue water breaking against Aphrodite's sun-bleached shell.

Wow, now that says

LOVE

"Mom," I said. "Good People do bad art out of Love."

Terry Mackey
CCC Librarian



Terry Mackey, Librarian



Aphrodite, painted by Terry Mackey, was chosen as the 'worst of show' in The Bad Art Show held in the Pauling Gallery.

Student Poll

How do you feel about reality TV shows?



"They are way over-rated and generally overused."
Robert Locker



"I don't know anything about it."
Hamad Hamad



"I think they are absolutely marvelous and I watch them religiously."
Justin Michael Davis



"I like them; they're nice. The people work in a group. I would prefer them to finish as a group."
Rene' Nunez



"I don't have a TV right now. I don't watch reality shows. I have better things to do with my time."
Erin Adkisson

Poll compiled by Maggie Jirasek and Liesl Muggli

19600 S Molalla Ave. Oregon City, Oregon 97045
(503) 657-6958 fax 2509
cccprint@clackamas.cc.or.us

Editor-in-Chief:

Diana Scrivner (x2447)

Business Manager:

Daisy Bain (x2578)

Feature Editor:

Maggie Jirasek

A & E Editor:

Tam Oliver

Copy Editor:

Jenny Chavez

Sports Editor:

Frank Jordan

News Editor:

Sieve Nielsen

Photo Editor:

Mike Pollock

Staff:

Elena Boryska
Chris Lundgren
Liesl Muggli
Matt Shempert

Secretary:

JuAnne Gale

Advisor:

Linda Vogt (x2310)

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 student body, college administration, its faculty, or The Clackamas Print advertising products and services advertised in Clackamas Print are not necessarily endorsed by anyone associated with The Clackamas Print. The advertising rate is \$4.75 per column inch. The Clackamas Print is a weekly publication and is distributed every Wednesday except during Finals week. The Clackamas Print Copyright 2001.