

We brought it on ourselves

Maras
Clackamas Print

been just two weeks since W. Bush was declared the winner of one of the most heated elections in history. The provisional results have been counted, the exit polls analyzed by confused pundits from Alaska to Florida, and the air in America stinks of a lost. However, through all of this there is one good point.

In 2000, Bush lost the popular vote giving him the label of an "improbable" president. This time he had every choice and every chance he made, not that this is a surprise, such criticism of a president is necessary for a healthy democracy, but more importantly it made more damaging—it made every member of the American political system. Now, by a very slim margin (one of the smallest in history), Bush has finally won the popular vote.

It is painful as it is to admit, this is probably a good thing for America, despite the fact that I

personally believe an ear of corn would do a better job at running the country than George has. Having an illegitimate president is damaging to a Democracy—that is, it adds to the damage that the president himself does, which depends on who you talk to, is quite a bit in this case.

This, however, is a double-edged sword. The other edge, even more razor sharp, is that now George feels like he has a mandate from the American people, or as he put it, he feels he has political capital, which he now intends to spend. I'd hardly call winning with a 51 per cent majority a mandate ... an improvement from less than half in 2000, yes, but a mandate?

It shouldn't be surprising that the president who believes he was sent by God to be our fearless leader feels this way, which is why it is important that the scrutiny continue. Remember, I said it was a good thing that he won the pop-

ular vote for the good of the American system, not that we need to roll over and take it from him.

That is something which should never be done, whether the president be Bush, Kerry, or even



Internet Cartoon

(don't read this next part if you're drinking anything, or your liquid of choice may go spewing fourth from your nose) Lyndon LaRouche.

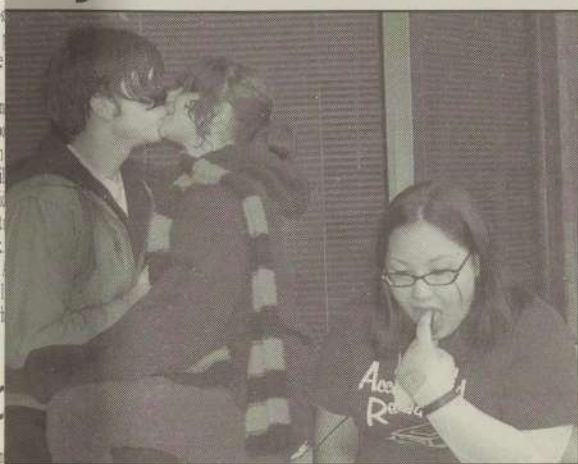
We must also keep in mind that this election does not mean that the last four years have been

"legitimate" by these same standards, only that now he has finally been elected by the majority (assuming he really did win, but that conspiracy theory will have to wait for now).

In addition, it may be that some legitimacy is restored to the system by this, but that does not mean that there is no room for change—far from it. We must not stop striving for change and perfection, and let the problems with even this election prove as a learning experience ... we had four years to fix it before and we did nothing; let's not sit by and do nothing again.

So in closing, it may be a good thing that at this time he could manage to win the popular vote (or do a better job of stealing the election), but we mustn't let that make us lose sight of our goals, and the future which we want for ourselves, whether we're liberal wieners or right-wing nutjobs.

Hurry! Get the hose!



Brie Daykin Clackamas Print

Burnett shows her disgust as Derek Erickson and Vert bring bedroom antics to a public forum.

nda Polopolus
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is a beautiful thing; it's a feeling that makes life while. Displaying your significant other is normal, but there is a fine line between appropriate and inappropriate behavior. Could public displays of affection get out of control Clackamas? There have been reports of couples doing more than hugging and kissing on our campus grounds. Scenes of graphic scenes of love have been cited all over our campus, specifically in the hallway, the unity center, and even in the front entrance by the terminal.

When asked for her thoughts on the matter, 19-year-old Nicky

Clegg had a clear definition of what's acceptable behavior at school—and in public for that matter. Disgusted, she stated, "Holding hands—fine. Hugging—okay. Kisses—alright. Making out—stop right there, you're done. Do it at home!"

Nicky couldn't have said it better; it's fine to show the world that you love and belong to someone, just don't make love to them in front of everyone—it's not as beautiful to us as it might be to you. If you're reading this article, and don't really know what I'm talking about, maybe you should take a second and try to define the difference between love and lust. If this task seems to be a challenge for you, I have some discouraging news: you are the topic of my article; my apologies. With this said, a note to all you public love-makers: keep it clean; we don't want to see it!

TV loses credit for ratings

Jeff Sorenson
The Clackamas Print

Reporters for some of the biggest news organizations in the world today have let unethical political bias and pointless reactionary debates destroy their journalistic credibility, and it needs to stop.

"The Daily Show" host Jon Stewart recently was invited to sit in as the guest for CNN's political show "Crossfire."

"It's not so much that it's bad," Stewart said of the show to the eyes of both its hosts without cracking a smile, "it's that it's hurting America. So I wanted to come here today to tell you guys to stop. Stop hurting America."



STEWART Internet Photo

And he's right. Some of the biggest names in news have become some of the biggest hacks in the public eye all for the sake of politics and ratings.

No longer can we count on people like CNN's Wolf Blitzer, Tucker Carlson, or Paul Begala to bring us the news without asking some kind of annoying "hard-hitting" question. Never again can we trust CBS' now infamous Dan Rather or that ridiculous Fox News who refers to their broadcast as "fair and balanced" reporting.

Now, little mistakes or mishaps can occasionally occur. Take Geraldo Rivera, for instance. Giving away American soldiers' positions on CNN's international satellite feed could be considered a mistake. Costly though it may be, he's not entirely unforgivable, right?

Then there is Bill O'Reilly's temper that can get a little out of control. So much so, in fact, that "shut up" has become his new catch

phrase. I'm sure his publicist had a field day with that once he/she got over the initial heart attack.

The fact is it's hard to separate what's truth from what's bull crap anymore, and so I've collected a list of ways to tell if the member of the broadcast news media is lying.

1. Overstated friendliness – The liar will want you to like them so that you'll want to believe them.
2. Talking fast – This is common among news broadcasters who lie, especially when it's so easy for them to blame it on their producers telling them to "move it along." Don't be fooled, they're still lying.
3. Crossing of arms/legs.

This, according to weeno.com, is a protective instinct. They don't sit behind desks to look more professional. They do it to hide the truth.

4. No Eye Contact – They're in the television. This means they can't see you, and therefore can't make eye contact. They're all liars.

If we can't trust the media to bring us fair, unbiased news, then we as a country should look to other sources for our information. Ratings are how the television people know whether or not people watch certain shows, so maybe we need to turn off the television when these biased news programs try to poison our minds with propaganda. Otherwise the news organizations, as Stewart jokingly suggested on CNN, just might have to take their cues on integrity from Comedy Central, a network, might I add, where the only news program is preceded by a half hour of "puppets making crank phone calls."

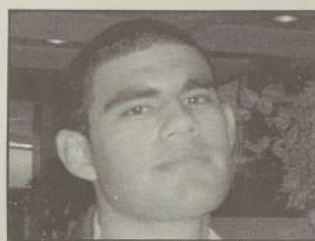
STUDENT POLL:

Why should we give you \$5?



"Because I can't afford coffee."

Gram Seaders



"Cause I'm Latino, tall, dark and handsome."

Maycol Runera



"Because I'm poor and starving."

Josie Southwick



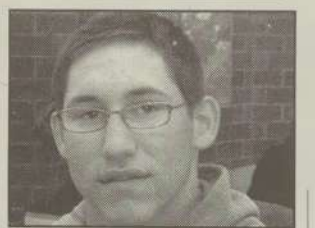
"Just look at me!"

CJ Giarsmells



"Because four dollars is too little and six dollars is too much."

Jillian Hill



"Fuel's not free, man."

Tom Fleckenstein

The Print Rocks!

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Still makin' the news