

College Wi-Fi woes

Colleges shouldn't ban wireless Internet completely because of a few students who misuse it

Kyle Steele
The Clackamas Print

Wi-Fi shouldn't be banned in schools, but there should be rules and regulations to Wi-Fi use.

I've had many classes here at Clackamas where the teacher is giving a lecture, and behind me is an individual typing on their laptop during the lecture and interrupting everyone. They are looking up MySpace, sending their friends messages of such great importance as: "Dude, that message was so kewl." Or, "Check her out. She is very kewl," while spelling "cool" wrong.



Photo illustration by Kyle Steele Clackamas Print

Schools have already tried to ban Wi-Fi. For example, the University of Texas tried to in 2004, but gave in after students pointed to an FCC notice that allowed them to continue to run Wi-Fi in schools. But, this issue was more about Wi-Fi in the student dorms and not so much about during classes.

Schools should just look at altering rules and policies instead of punishing all students for something only a few students abuse.

Wi-Fi is a double-edged sword. It can help in the classroom to do research. It can also make cheating much easier by using devices that can connect to the Internet, such as Sony PSP.

During lectures, students on computers can distract the class and instructor. However, Wi-Fi isn't nearly as bad as someone listening to the radio during Jammin' 95.5's "The PlayHouse" very loudly during class.

I feel to combat any of the distractions during class the instructor must take initiative to stop the use of computer and music devices during the class. There are always breaks to use the Internet and listen to music.

However, instructors should remember that the Internet was created to help gather information. Information that was once looked up in a book can now be accessed through a quick search on the Internet.

While I feel that Wi-Fi should be regulated in the classroom, I do not believe that it should be banned in schools. Wi-Fi should be viewed as another tool that is just as important as pencil, paper or any other school supply.

It has a place in the classroom at the right times, just as long as students aren't downloading stuff during class that doesn't help the learning process.

It's time to put the Cheney shooting to rest, move on

Laura Cameron
Commentary Editor

OK, I get it. Dick Cheney shot a guy in the face. He went hunting and he mistook his friend for a quail.

Yes, Cheney didn't have the right license. Yes, he shot Harry Whittington in the face with a shotgun. And yes, I laughed at all the jokes that were made about the situation. John Stewart had some particularly hilarious bits.

But now let's shut up about it. Please.

A man was shot. That shouldn't be funny. Part of me shook my head and said "Shame, shame!" every time I laughed at a dramatic reenactment of the event involving "Duck Hunt."

Whittington even suffered a heart attack because of the bird shot imbedded in his chest. Serious injury should not be seen as comical.

Also, consider Cheney himself. He shot his friend in the face. That must have been a terrible moment for him.

Nobody with an ounce of decency in them could make a mistake like that and not feel like utter scum. In all the

coverage of this incident, many times did you hear me made at the Vice President expense? How many times did you hear someone express concern or compassion for Cheney?

Considering how badly I when I accidentally kicked my friend in the nuts, I can't imagine what Cheney must be going through right now.

I may not like his politics but I can still feel for him as a human being. Give him a break.

Lastly, don't we have more important things to be focusing on right now? Bush approved the sale of the management of some of our lands to an Arabic company. The NSA is still spying on American citizens. The terrible mismanagement of response to Hurricane Katrina is only just beginning to be fully comprehended, with the next hurricane season only five months from now.

So shut up about Cheney. No more Elmer Fudd jokes. No more "Cheney's Got a Song Parodies. No more "Duck Hunt."

There are much more important things to spend our energy on.

iPods: they're taking over the world

Derek Erickson
The Clackamas Print

Can you remember the record player? The crackles and scratches putting you to sleep as Pink Floyd hummed away on the needle ... yeah, me neither.

There is no doubting the venues in which we listen to music on-the-go are changing. MP3 players have busted on the scene, bringing options and variety to the portable music scene.

When file sharing programs bounced back from the Napster blow, music was abundant and everyone needed a place to store it.

This is when the iPod first came out, just another MP3 player amongst the rest. It had a program for the Apple computer called iTunes and was very expensive. Other companies still thrived in the competitive market of MP3 players.

But over time things changed, iTunes moved to the PC and made paying \$1 for songs seem ... almost cool. People hypnotically slapped down cash to get their songs the legal way. I watched in awe, clutching my Rio "Cali" close, enjoying the freedom from consumer pressure.

Then it happened, the iPod Shuffle smashed onto the scene. It came with a \$99 price tag and the ability to ... randomize? That's right, you can randomize your songs so that you don't know what the hell's "comin' at ya" next.

This is when the commercials

started pouring in. Every musical flavor of the week, bolstered by a few classics, either had a song for the commercials or had their silhouette dancing about like they didn't just pay \$99 for spontaneity.

Everyone is catering to this new trend. Online media is available in "podcasts," a clever play on the word broadcast that is available for download to one's iPod. iPods can now play videos as well and there seems to be nothing left for them to accomplish. How about robots that can dance to all of your favorite iPod tunes?

Please welcome IZ.

IZ connects to your iPod and moves and grooves in a spooky animatronic way to anything you plug into it. It is one of the many

accessories displayed at iPod-church.com. They also sell iPod lockdown security devices, cases, earphones and an assortment of attachable and portable speakers.

With all of the available accessories, the apparent monopoly and the amounts of suckered customers, iPod is looking like its going to very quickly take over the world. I just hope that they start offering iPod implantation surgeries - maybe then the iPod will be small enough.



Photo illustration by E. E. West Clackamas Print

Letter to the editor

Dear Clackamas Print,

I was just standing in line at Cafe Cougar, waiting to pay for what turned out to be absurdly salty chicken noodle soup, when I overheard one of your staff talking about the pressure the *Print* staff was under to get the next issue out. It reminded me that I've been meaning to write you and tell you all how much I appreciate what you're doing.

I was on sabbatical last fall, so when I came back in January, you all had hit your stride, and I was really struck by how much different, and better, the paper seemed. This year's team really seems to have something special. You're taking risks and putting out a paper that has genuine style and personality. Since I'm sure you're taking some flak for that, I just wanted to make sure you know there are also a lot of us out there cheering you on.

Thanks, and keep up the good work!

Dave Mount
English Instructor

The Clackamas Print welcomes any and all reader input. Please send letters to chiefed@clackamas.edu. All letters must include the writer's name and contact information if you wish to remain anonymous, please request as such in your letter, and the editorial staff will consider printing on a case-by-case basis.

The Clackamas Print

19600 S. Molalla Ave.
Oregon City, OR 97045
(503) 657-6958 ex. 2309

The Clackamas Print is a weekly student publication and is distributed every Wednesday except finals week.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: Ben Maras
COPY EDITORS: Katie Weinberg, E. E. West
NEWS EDITOR: Katie Wilson
COMMENTARY EDITOR: Laura Cameron
FEATURE EDITOR: C.J. Ciaramella
SPORTS EDITOR: Mike Guidice
A&E EDITOR: Jadon Triplett
PHOTO EDITOR: Jeff Sorensen
AD MANAGER: Sam Krause

AD ASSISTANT: Megan Cline
STAFF WRITERS: Courtney O'Byrne, Alexander Case, Derek Erickson, Justin Goe, Elizabeth Hitz, Frank Jordan, Mike Kimberling, Megan Koler, Adam J. Manley, Matthew Olson, Joe Piazzisi, Kim Schiewe, Tayo Stalnaker, Kyle Steele, David Stark

PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS: Megan Koler, Tayo Stalnaker, Adam J. Manley, Brandon Huddleston, Kraig Hansen
PHOTOGRAPHERS: Adam J. Manley, Harriet Strothers
DEPARTMENT ADVISOR: Linda Vogt
DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT: Pat Lichen

GOALS: The Clackamas Print aims to report the news in an honest, unbiased, professional manner. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the student body, college administration, its faculty or *The Print*. E-mail comments to chiefed@clackamas.edu.