

Parking lots suffer abuse

Katie Wilson

Co-Editor-in-Chief

And then the front half of my car fell off.

No one would believe me when I said it wasn't my fault. They just shook their heads, frowned and wondered if the price they were going to pay for their daughters' weddings. It probably would.

I threw the front of my car on to the backseat and dragged the whole mess home, down Highway 213, I-5 and I-5. It was a long day.

With every step I took, I cursed the Clackamas parking lots. It was raining. My feet were bleeding. It was very poetic. Actually, it wasn't raining.

As I struggled past the scenic viewpoint of the Oregon City paper mill belching smoke into the air, I came upon a wizened, old man - at first I think it was a man.

He said to me: "What happened to your car?"

"Why do you care?" I demanded.

"Back off. I have mice." And then,

feeling I had been rude, I said: "I was trying to park at the college, and then my car tripped over the giant tree roots in the Barlow lot, and a few days before, I almost fell into a Rook Hall pot hole. Fortunately, they've filled that canyon up."

Now, ultimately, I don't care about the torn-up parking lots. They keep my life interesting - will the tree roots tear off the bottom of my car, or will I be spared today? They give me something to complain about. They complete me. They are the wind beneath my wings. Yes, like the song.

But they are annoying: like spiders, or being late, or falling down the stairs in McLoughlin.

My car was not designed to be driven off-road, and if I wanted to get nostalgic and recreate the feel of driving down gravel country roads, I would find a gravel country road to drive down. There would be apple trees and everything. There would even be a homely lad named Lemuel or Bubba, leaning against a fence and chewing on a piece of hay.

I am not looking for this experience at Clackamas. It's just not some-

thing I feel I need in my life right now.

But I can't seem to avoid it.

The Barlow and Rook parking lots suffer from heavy and frequent use. Yes, the pot holes were recently filled in Rook, but the tree roots remain, and the road is so unevenly paved I feel like I'm driving up the sides of walls.

This hurts my soul ever so slightly. I'll survive, but I worry sometimes

about my car and its children and grandchildren, etc.

What's the solution? Spring Break, good weather and plenty of workers.

"We try to get to the [potholes] as we can," said Charlie Arata, operations manager in charge of engineering and maintenance here at the college. "There's nothing scheduled. Over Spring Break, we'll try and get to the Barlow pot holes."



Illustration by Katie Wilson Clackamas Print

How to survive an assassination attempt

Andrea Simpson

The Clackamas Print

Assassination is a practice dating back to the eighth century.

Throughout history, many important people have found themselves the target of an assassination attempt. Here are my tips for you to not become one of them.

You might want to stay away from people whose favorite book is *Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger.

When Mark David Chapman shot John Lennon, he was found with a copy of the book. Chapman claimed that it would explain his perspective and motivation. John Hinckley, Jr., who attempted to assassinate Former President Ronald Reagan in 1981, was also reported to have been obsessed with the book.

The main character of *Catcher in the Rye*, Holden Caulfield, is an introverted and confused adolescent who expresses hostility toward phoniness and the loss

of innocence often caused by American culture.

The moral of the story is that if you are a phony, watch out for withdrawn creepers.

The second way to avoid an assassination is to not become famous. It's easy. Millions of people don't become famous every day.

Presidents have the highest percentage of assassinations of any profession. Out of the 16 assassination attempts on former presidents, 12 have survived.

By far the most impressive was Theodore Roosevelt. He was shot while giving a speech after his presidency. A one-hundred-page speech folded over twice and the metal glasses case in Roosevelt's breast pocket slowed the bullet.

Roosevelt insisted on giving his speech with the bullet still lodged inside him - and he never had the bullet removed. That's hardcore.

The last and maybe most important way to survive an assassination is to keep a fall guy

near you at all times. If there is a good chance you may be assassinated, surround yourself with easily dispensable people.

Look at the famous assassinations. JFK didn't move behind Jackie fast enough. Lincoln had Mary Todd. Lennon had Yoko.

And to those who would argue that a life partner isn't "easily dispensable," look at the ladies. JFK was already seeing other women,

so he didn't need Jackie, Mary Todd was mentally insane, and Yoko was ... well, Yoko, so that would have been doing everyone a favor by sparing us from ever having to hear her voice again.

Assassinations don't happen every day, but when they do, you don't want to be on the receiving end. If you take these tips into consideration, you hopefully never will.

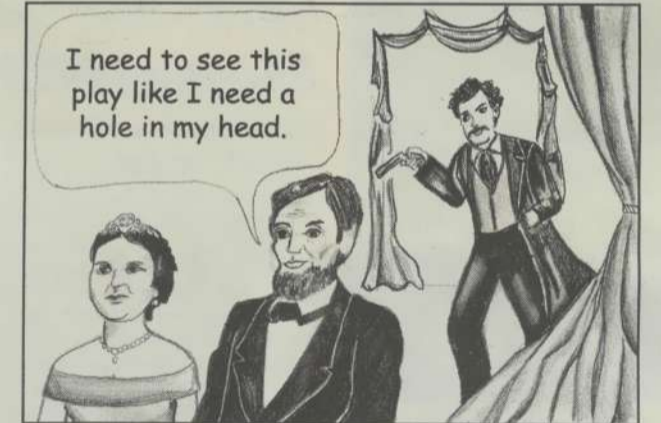


Illustration by Andrea Simpson Clackamas Print

Letter to the editor: People have opinions

Dear Editor,

The article on John Edward confirms that some people are closed-minded. I would have enjoyed being presented with facts on both positions to make up my own mind, rather than the libelous slant of the journalist.

There are always two sides to every issue, and if the journalist was concerned with presenting both sides, we would be in a position to judge what we believed on a fair representation of the facts. I believe there are many, like me, who believe that the finite world is only one reality, and that things beyond our understanding are in the infinite reality that some of us believe and live in.

The article didn't change my opinion of John Edward. It moti-

vated me to write letters (which I rarely do) to the editor in charge, urging those who have first-hand knowledge of the experience with John Edward to speak out, rather than depend on the opinions of the journalist, which may only be shared by uninformed or inexperienced people.

Vicki High, Student

To send a letter to the editor, e-mail it to chiefed@clackamas.edu, or drop it off at **The Print** office, Roger Rook 135. Please include your name.



Dr. Kim,

Is it morally right for the justice system to decide when it's legal to kill, and who should be able to claim insanity? It's okay to kill in a time of war, and it's considered heroic, but it's not okay to kill in self-defense?

Dr. Kim, if it is okay to kill sometimes but not others, how are we supposed to know what's right with a judicial system like this?

Thanks.
Criminal Justice Student

Dear Criminal Justice Student:

In my professional opinion, it is not okay to kill. If you have to stop and ask yourself if killing is the moral thing to do - it's not.

There have been laws in place to punish homicide dating back before Jesus roamed the Earth. In all cultures, across all eras, people have had a strong negative reaction to murder and death.

Some people believe it is an evolutionary tactic to ensure the survival of our species. Some people believe that God gives us the innate ability to know right from wrong.

In either case, adverse reactions to pain and injury seem to be universal. When we see blood, we panic, and when we watch someone sustain a powerful blow, we wince.

Our criminal justice system may be flawed, but it aims at achieving a fair verdict with all factors considered. What happens to murderers is best left to the discretion of the court because moral philosophy varies from individual to individual.

Whether it is right or wrong to take someone's life in a particular situation cannot be left up to the individual. Some people just don't know better. Even if the killer has all the right intentions, we can't feel safe and function as a society if there is no set system to sanction heinous acts.

If you stick with the Criminal Justice program as your major, maybe you can contribute to finding new ways to improve our legal system. I know the world can be frustrating. Try to create a positive change. And please don't kill anyone. (Although I do have this list...)

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