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Ban enforcement goes up in smoke

Mike Whitten

The Clackamas Print

You can see them; you can smell them. It's the smokers who still aren't using the designated smoking areas.

On Sept. 15, 2008, the school restricted smoking cigarettes on campus. According to Administrative Regulation 409-001 smoking tobacco is prohibited in the shelters placed around the campus and in the parking lots. And, non-smoke tobacco products are not to be used in any buildings or within 25 feet of building entrances. The penalty for not complying is a \$15 fine for the first offense, and \$30 for each subsequent offense.

This has not been enough to deter some students however, who can still frequently be seen walking around campus with a lit cigarette in their hand.

One anonymous student said he often will light up as he's walking across campus to the parking lot. He is considered a citable offense; you must be physically in the parking lot before you start smoking.

When asked if he had ever received a citation, the student said he had not, and didn't know of anyone else who had received one either.

To date, there have been zero citations handed out, according to campus safety officer Pete Kandratieff. He said that for the entire fall term, which was the first term with the new ban, the officers were instructed to only hand out warnings to violators, not citations. Students would only receive a citation if they were caught with their second offense.

Three warnings were given out during fall term, and now this is the first term that citations are being handed out for the first offense.

Kandratieff added the reason for so few citations is lack of safety officer manpower the campus needs to



Robert Crawford Clackamas Print

Student Josh Crabb smokes in one of the designated areas. Enforcing these zones has become a challenge.

catch many of the violators.

There is only one officer on duty on campus at a time. The morning officer patrols from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the night officer is on duty from 4:30 p.m. to 2

a.m. There are also a few cadets who patrol the campus from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m., but they are instructed for their own safety not to approach smoking violators. Instead, they are required to notify the on-duty officer.

It is also hard to actually catch someone in the act. Even if campus safety is notified of an offense, by the time the officer arrives on the scene, the violator will usually have already finished their cigarette or thrown it out.

Campus safety has also created a list for multiple offenders, so when they cite an offender, they will be able to look up how many citations they have previously received. That way, they know the correct amount to fine that particular person.

Currently, they have to go to the campus safety office to look this information up, but they are in the process of having laptops installed in the patrol cars, so they can look up records on site.

If students receive a citation, they are given the opportunity to appeal it, just like parking citations. They will be reviewed by the same committee that reviews traffic appeals, and they will be notified if the fine has been reduced or dropped.

When asked if the lack of citations being handed out would influence her decision to use the designated smoking areas, student Lucy Stirling said, "It's the least I can do, but I don't take (the smoking ban) seriously."

Part time staff member Paul Sandmeyer said, "Yeah I'll continue to use them. They were built for a purpose, and people should use them regardless of how well they are being monitored."

Dick Ashbaugh, the department chair for campus services who supervises campus safety, noted that he thinks, "The (smoking ban) program is going well."

And, Kandratieff also added that most students are abiding by the new rules, and that it really takes an equal effort from both the students and the authorities for something like this to really be a success.

Former veteran devotes energy and effort into new life

John Hurlburt

News Editor

I walked through DeJardin Hall, past noisy groups of students waiting for their class to start, and into the Student Center where my 2 p.m. class was. Casey Curry was sitting in a chair looking quite relaxed. She apologized for being late, and she said it was quite okay. She said she had been at school since 7:15 a.m. and this was the first chance she had to sit throughout the day.

While some may prefer a relaxed pace to pass through life at, Curry likes to blast through it like a missile with unlimited fuel.

A woman who has always worked hard in life just wanting to help oth-

ers, Curry's contributions often have been noticed by those around her.

"Casey is a wonderful co-worker. She is very helpful and polite," said her coworker Libby Gibson.

A member of the National Guard for 26 years, Curry has only recently left the military, and is now pursuing a business degree with a special interest in Training and Development that she gained while in Afghanistan. Although she doesn't have the "perfect" job chosen yet, she has a real idea of what she wants to do.

"I want to work for a company where I can develop training programs and teach them," Curry explained.

Curry's love for this type of work came about when she was put in charge of teaching a class about how to drive Up Armor Humvees

(UAH).

Before getting the Humvees, the military was using sports utility vehicles. However, when the need for Up Armor vehicles became apparent and Humvees started rolling into the expansive and rocky country, instructors were needed to train drivers on how to safely maneuver the new behemoths.

"When we started getting UAHS we had never driven them before," the mother and military woman said. "We went from three ton cars to 10 ton."

She first taught U.S. troops on the nuances of driving the new vehicles, but later taught more classes to instructors in the Afghan army, an experience she describes as initially scary.

She was the first woman to ever teach in the Afghan army's Maintenance and Driving program. After overcoming the initial fear, she grew into her new role and it became a highlight of her tour.

"I realized I was good at it and I loved it," Curry said.

Curry is not new to being a pioneering female. When she first joined the Guard, women had only been qualifying with weapons for a year. The transitional time seems like it would be fraught with sexism, but out of the six weeks of basic training, Curry said only during the two weeks that everyone was in the class room did sexism really present itself.

"It felt good to be part of a changing military," Curry reminisced.

The move to join the military seemed like nothing but a normal step to Curry, who for most of her life had

wanted to be a police officer.

"In my family someone was always in the Army," she said.

She has a cousin in the Air Force; her uncle was in the Navy, as was her father, who was stationed at Hickam Field, Hawaii when Pearl Harbor was attacked during World War II.

Now that she is out of the military, Curry is keeping herself busy by being a full time student, while at the same time earning her financial aid through work study. On top of it all, she is president of the Veterans Club on campus and an integral part of the Veterans Center.

The 47-year old veteran is a firm believer in the idea of, once a Guard member forever a Guard member, and even though she is busy and seemingly enjoying civilian life, a part of her wants to be back in the forces.

"Yeah, I'm retired," Curry said solemnly. "I miss it. I miss it a lot. There's a bond you build even just one weekend a month and I miss that."

Working with her boss, Veteran Services Coordinator Sharon Maggard, helping veteran students, as well as working with the Veterans Club and Center have helped to quench this longing, but even now, Curry doesn't know if her retirement from the guard is permanent or not.

Curry was born and raised in Oregon, and has always loved the state, but her pet peeve here is the rain, something she rarely had to put up with during her tour in Afghanistan. Her first winter back was a reminder of how rainy Oregon is.

"I was miserable, my dogs were



CURRY

miserable, the house was a mess," Curry said loathing the long, wet winters the valley brings.

Curry was raised in mostly Southern and Eastern Oregon, where she was always able to distinguish the four seasons, as opposed to Northwestern Oregon's seemingly two seasons, rainy and not so rainy.

Although the rain is an annoyance, the Vets Club president doesn't take Oregon for granted or anything else really. Her childhood, where her mother taught her lessons about living with less, and her tour in Afghanistan both taught her the importance of appreciating what you have, and the triviality of complaining about what you don't have.

The lessons she has learned, and her longing to help others, have made Curry a useful part of the Clackamas community, as well as an integral cog, in the advancing wheel of the schools veteran community.



Megan Shaw Clackamas Print

Casey Curry helps a student in the financial aid office. Curry, a Guard member of 26 years, is also highly active in the CC's veteran community.