

# EDITORIAL

## CourierPolicy

The Courier is published every Friday when classes are in session during the Fall and Spring Semesters, except for the first and last Friday of each Semester and the week of and the week after Spring Break as a public forum with content chosen by student editors. One copy free, additional copies available upon request.

Views expressed in editorials represent opinions of the majority of the Editorial Board, made up of all of the Courier editors.

The Courier does not knowingly accept advertisements that discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, handicapped status, veteran, or sexual orientation, nor does it knowingly print ads that violate any local, state or federal laws.

The Courier encourages all students, faculty, staff, administrators and community members to voice their opinions on all the topics concerning them both in and out of school.

Writers can express their views in a letter to Letters to the Editor. All correspondence and letters for publication must be typed and signed with the author's daytime phone number.

The editor-in-chief may withhold the author's name on request. Deliver all correspondence to SRC 1560 between regular office hours, or mail to the Courier, College of DuPage, 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn, Ill. 60137.

Letters also may be sent by e-mail. The subject heading to the e-mail message must read "Letter to the Editor." The writer's first and last names, street address, city, state and complete phone number with area code must be included for identity verification by the Courier. Deadline for letters meant for publication is noon Monday before publication. E-mail letters can be sent electronically to editor@codnet.cod.edu.

Letters are subject to editing for grammar, style, language, length and libel.

All letters represent the views of their author.

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## Helping Public Safety push through the cloud of smoke

Public Safety needs help. When asked about the difficulties of enforcing the Smoking/Non-Smoking regulations on campus, Public Safety Police Chief Mark Fazzini stated, "We need the help of staff, the student leadership, the Courier, and the whole student body to support our efforts."

That sounds fair. It is an issue that affects the entire college, and the denizens of College of DuPage should pitch in to help.

As our part, here are some suggestions from the Courier staff that could help improve the current situation.

### Red lines

Moraine Valley Community College outlines the areas in which someone can and cannot smoke by using red lines painted on the ground. It's a simple, effective visual aid that helps limit the potential for ambiguity.

### Universality

It's difficult to elicit the cooperation and participation of smokers when the rules change every five feet or so. It is not okay to smoke by some entrances, but okay to smoke by others. That's not efficient or effective.

According to Oakton Community College Police Chief Dennis Nolan, Oakton doesn't allow smoking by any entrance within the amount of feet that they have set.

That sets a universal standard.

### Signage

The "no-smoking" signs on the SRC doors are too small, do not include the amount of the fine, and are partially ripped in places. Additionally, there are no signs that really point out where people can smoke. It would not take much effort to make signs that are more prominent and direct.

### Placement of ashtrays

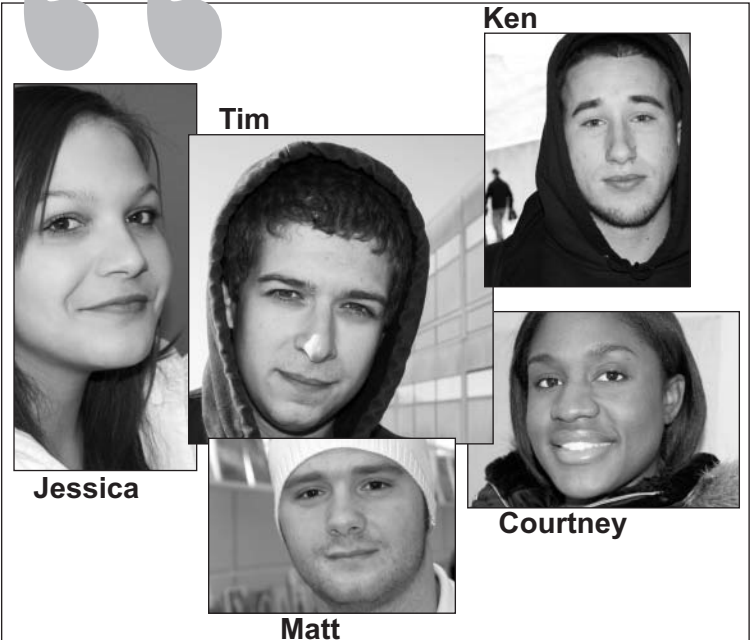
Place ashtrays only in areas where people can smoke. Currently, there are ashtrays placed well short of the twenty-five ft regulation, with many right up against the entrances.

### Enforcement of policy

When asked about the ashtrays right near the doors by the first floor SRC entrance, Operations stated that they did not move the ashtrays. If they did not, in their official capacity, move the ashtrays, that means they were moved in direct defiance of the policies put in place.

There is no guarantee that any of these suggestions will work or help, but as the college collectively brainstorms on the subject, it doesn't hurt to include the input from as many different groups on campus as possible.

## Staff Editorial



Jessica

Tim

Ken

Courtney

Matt

**"How much money are you planning on spending this Christmas, and who will you spend the most on?"**

**Courtney Boykins, 18** *undecided, Warrenville*  
"Maybe around \$200. I'll probably spend the most on my family because they're the most important people to me."

**Matt Petralia, 22** *education, Itasca*  
"I'll probably spend around \$400. I'll definitely spend the most on my family, because they'll spend the most on me."

**Jessica Ammons, 18** *undecided, Lombard*  
"I'll spend around \$500, but not on family, we don't exchange gifts. I'll spend the most on a close friend of mine because he would be mad if I didn't."

**Tim Connor, 20** *information technology, Downers Grove*  
"I'll definitely spend at least \$400 and I'll definitely spend the most on my girlfriend; I have the most invested in her."

**Ken Jacobs, 20** *general education, Naperville*  
"Probably around \$300 on family and friends. I'll spend more on friends because they take care of me more."

## In Your Words

## Merry Christmas or Happy Holidays?

### PointCounterPoint

**A** *Charlie Brown Holiday. A Holiday Story.* Holiday cookies. Holiday stockings. *The Grinch That Stole Holiday.* Dreaming of a white Holiday? Happy Holidays and have a Happy New Year!

'Tis the season to decorate my Holiday tree and do some Holiday shopping. So many people this year to buy Holiday gifts for.

There's just so much to do this Holiday. Office Holiday party coming up, and my girlfriend's family is having their Holiday party on Holiday Eve.

I need to wake up early the next morning and drive out to visit mom and dad on Holiday. Per usual, Dad will tell me he wants nothing for Holiday, so I'll have to figure it out on my own, and hopefully he'll enjoy his Holiday gift.

I gotta call the relatives across the land and wish

them a Merry Holiday as well. I also need to bring my godchild his Holiday gift, ask him what else he got for Holiday. It's the first time he's old enough to recognize that a banana isn't a suitable Holiday gift.

Ooh, almost forgot. Still need to go through all of the Holiday cards people have sent and write them back. I'm sure my uncle has taken another

Holiday photo to put in all of his Holiday cards that recap what his family has been up to all year.

Hopefully, I can write back to everyone without Holiday Carolers knocking on the door.

When it's all over, I just want to relax and watch a Holiday movie. I want to make sure I'm well rested for the day after Holiday, when it's time to return all of the Holiday gifts I didn't like.

It's just not the same, is it?

**T**here has been a backlash against people saying "Happy Holidays" by the more conservative elements of our society.

Somehow, by unfairly venerating their holiday above all others, we are diminishing the cultural legacy of this great nation.

This is absolute bunkum.

One of the greatest arguments of these reactionaries is that America is a country founded on Christian principles. This thinking conveniently ignores the many founders who were deist, agnostic, or atheist. None of those options are very Christian.

America has always been a nation composed of a broad spectrum of cultures and religious backgrounds. It only makes sense to act in as much of an inclusive manner as possible.

Americans have no reason

to give any group dominance in these seasons of joy, friendship and charity.

Isn't it more charitable, and in the thinking of some of the religious greats, to respect another?

I recall a quote along the lines of "love thy neighbor" from the Bible. It seems very loving to accept others of different beliefs and return their greeting, instead of snapping.

What does it cost someone to say "Happy Holidays" instead of running through "Merry Christmas", "Happy Hanukkah", "Happy Kwanza" and "Happy Saturnalia"? Why must people try to insert divisions in what should be a time of unity and togetherness?

Instead of trying to please a few crotchety people, jealous of their imaginary prerogatives, we should seek to include all people in our greetings this month, and at all times. Happy holidays!

Researched by Robert Bykowski, Editor-in-Chief

Researched by Graham Milldrum, Graphics Editor

PointCounterPoint topics are selected, researched and written by the staff of the Courier and aim to reflect differing opinions on the same subject. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the author.

# OPINION

## Way Back When

A look back at COD as covered by the *Courier*

### This week 39 years ago

A page two story highlights a new field of education for suburban women—Secretarial Services, and informs readers that age is of no concern—young mothers and working girls are mixed with grandmothers, high school graduates and a nun in classes that feature typing. Future classes intended to offer training on office equipment such as keeping machines and calculators.

Meanwhile, a short blurb in the news section reminded students that they must obey the fire alarm drills at Lyons Township High School, an early COD “branch” location. While high school students evacuated during the fire drill, COD students did not.

### This week 30 years ago

College of DuPage radio station WDCB finally received

and installed their 290 ft tall radio tower. The station hoped to be on air shortly after the start of the 1977 winter quarter.

While the radio tower was going up, a precursor to InYourWords asked students to name their favorite television show. Two students named “Baretta”, while one vote went to “The Good, The Bad and The Ugly”, “Happy Days”, and “Sixty Minutes.”

The same questioned posed thirty years later found two students who don’t watch television, two students who voted for Chicago Bears games, and one student who voted for “Lost.”

### This week 20 years ago

Smoking was a hot topic this week twenty years ago, as the Smoking/Non-Smoking Committee’s recommendation was for the prohibition of smoking in all campus buildings with the exception of areas designated by “smoking permitted” signage.

Bob Peters, chairman of the Smoking/Non-Smoking committee was quoted as saying “In all cases the right of a non-smoker to protect his or her health and comfort will take precedence over an individual’s right to smoke.”

Twenty years later, smoking is banned indoors on campus, and the administration is wrestling with what to do about smoking outside.

### This week 10 years ago

The police report for 1996 found the theft of a gas cap and \$4 worth of gas siphoned from the car, which wouldn’t get today’s criminals very far. Additionally, a computer mouse was stolen, and the person reported outlined that in order to take the mouse, the person would have had to ‘slide the central processing unit out of the shelf in order to unjack the mouse.’

## Notice

### Editors needed

The Courier is looking for a Graphics editor and a Features editor for the Spring Semester 2007, starting in January.

If you are interested, please contact the Courier at 942-2683, send an email to editor@cod.edu, or stop by the Courier office located in SRC 1560.

Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### PictureImPerfect



#### The Problem:

In the cold weather, smokers huddle close to the entrance doors, disobeying the marked signs that set non-smoking parameters. Additionally, ashtrays sit too close to the doors.

#### The Solution:

Enforce the existing smoking policies and make non-smoking signs more prominent with the penalty for smoking listed on the sign.

### On Our Web

In the event of severe weather, how would you find out if the school was opened or closed?

#### Correction

In the editorial for the December 1 issue the fine for smoking was listed as \$75. It should have been listed as \$15.

## NOMINATION FORM



**Nominations Due to the Academic Affairs Office, Building BA by Fri., Feb. 2, 2007**

#### ADDITIONAL NOMINATION FORMS AVAILABLE AT:

- Academic Affairs (BA)
- Library Circulation Desk
- Fine & Applied Arts Office (AC160)
- Student Activities (SRC1800)
- Regional Centers
- Student Affairs Office (IC2115)
- M Building 163
- Information Desk (SRC South Hallway)
- Academic Division Offices (IC1028, IC2026, IC3028, IC3098)

## College of DuPage Outstanding Faculty Award 2006-2007

**Students**, take a few minutes to nominate your most outstanding full-time teacher, counselor or librarian. Your candidate should be someone who **challenges** students to ask more of themselves, **prepares** students to make life choices, **improves** students’ skills for employment and/or success in academic endeavors, **motivates** students to be active, concerned citizens both in their community and in school.

### MY NOMINATION FOR THE FACULTY MERIT AWARD IS:

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)  
Please tell us why you consider this faculty member to be outstanding. It is an honor for faculty to be nominated for this award. In addition to a monetary award, the winner receives recognition at the state level. You may attach a separate sheet of paper.

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NOMINATED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ (Your Name)

**For more information: Call the Academic Affairs Office at 630-942-2690.**