

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 Tuesday before publication. E-mail letters can be sent electronically to editor@cdnet.cod.edu.

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

All letters represent the views of their author.

CourierStaff

News

Jordan Glover
942-2153
news@cod.edu

Features

William Martin
942-2660
features@cod.edu

A&E

Bethany Duckworth
942-2713
arts@cod.edu

Sports

Jon Samples
942-2531
sports@cod.edu

Photography

Russell Augustine
942-3066
photo@cod.edu

Graphics

Jason Retuta
942-3113
graphics@cod.edu

Editor

Robert Bykowski
942-2683
editor@cod.edu

Advertising

Joanne Leone
942-3379
leonej@cod.edu

Adviser

Cathy Stablein
stablein@cod.edu

Fax

942-3747

College must close all-night SRC lounge

The college needs to shut down the 24-hour lounge. For a host of social and security issues, when the college closes at 11:30 p.m., the SRC 24-hour lounge needs to be shut down as well.

There is little reason for the lounge to remain open through the night, and leaving it open has brought a wide range of problems for the college, some they would admit to, some they wouldn't.

Throughout the night, the 24-hour lounge is being primarily used as an unofficial homeless shelter, an issue the college is aware of but afraid to address through policy.

While COD is so global, so diverse, so compassionate, it has done nothing for or about the slowly increasing homeless population on campus and within the 24-hour lounge.

Since the college refuses to address the situation before it becomes a major problem, the easiest solution is to close the 24-hour lounge.

From a security standpoint, it's a mess. The college has openly allowed non-students and non-employees to hang out in college facilities all hours of the night. Recent police reports have found instances of people pulling knives on each other, drinking and domestic battery in and around the 24-hour lounge.

Is that what the space is remaining open all through the night for? The only things the 24-hour lounge offers after closing time is Internet access, bathrooms and vending machines. Considering that this is a commuter college, there is little demand for the student body to need 24-hour facilities.

Social issues also abound. While the college is a "community" facility, lines have to be drawn somewhere. If aiding and helping the homeless population isn't the responsibility of the college, keeping the 24-hour lounge open at night is hypocritical, and the college needs to shut it

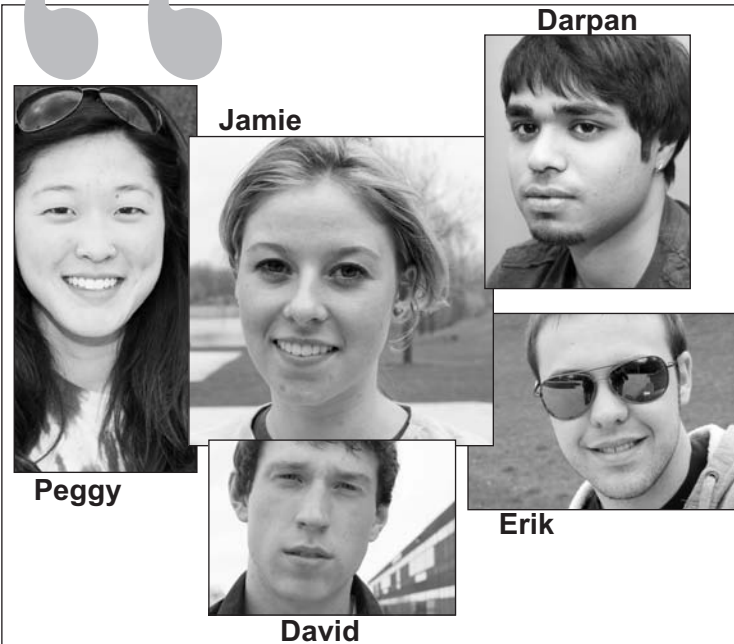
down.

On the other hand, if the college feels that it has a responsibility to help the less fortunate, keeping the lounge open all night for the homeless to use is a paltry effort on the part of the college. It could be doing more, if it feels it should.

To simplify a muddy situation, shut down the 24-hour lounge during the six hours a night the college considers itself to be closed. Ironically, while anyone can hang out in the lounge all-night while the college is closed, any parked vehicles will get ticketed.

Closing the 24-hour lounge at the end of the night is long overdue and very necessary.

Staff Editorial



"What are you going to spend your tax return on?"

Erik Loster, 19 *criminal justice, Downers Grove*
"I already spent it on bills; my phone and car bills."

Jamie Rinek, 22 *general studies, Aurora*
"I spent it on bills and Easter presents."

David Shea, 18 *mechanical eng., LaGrange*
"I'm probably going to buy some stocks or some sort of assets."

Peggy Chang, 19 *general ed., Lisle*
"Food and cigarettes probably, the essentials."

Darpan Dabe, 20 *respiratory therapy, Carol Stream*
"I'm going to buy some electronics for my computer."

In Your Words

Should NBC have released photos and videos mailed to them by the Virginia Tech killer?

PointCounterPoint

The pain suffered by Virginia Tech and the rest of the country is indeed beyond measure.

Before Cho Seung-Hui even mailed his tapes the country was already hurt and looking for answers, answers to why someone would commit such a heinous crime.

Whether the public makes Seung-Hui a martyr or a cartoon character acting as an idea, it is the public's right to do so.

It is not NBC's job to direct the thinking, interpretation or understanding for the public.

These videos contain security information that the public needs to know, that the public has a right to know, that the public wants to know.

While some will argue that the release of the tapes glorifies the killer, in turn creating a slew of copycats seeking their moment in history, the release is fundamental for people to start to gain some

understanding about the tragic event.

Imagine NBC not releasing the tapes. Over thirty people dead, no real motive amiss all the speculation, everyone wondering why a person would shoot two full boxes of ammo into bystanders and many wondering what could happen next.

Then, if people got wind that NBC was withholding information there would be uproar.

It's one thing for the government not to release all the details, security policies and all, but for a media outlet to make the country suffer by not giving them information would result in that outlet losing all respect from the population.

Information is a healing, it becomes the only way to move forward after such a happening. It also makes the public more aware of human capabilities and the thought process leading to tragic events.

Yes

No

He was a depressed, suicidal, coward of a man, whose hatred towards himself and everyone around him became manifested in a violent shooting spree that left 32 innocent college students dead.

The first of his victims were shot at 7 a.m. before a two hour gap allowed him project his psychosis in several different mediums.

The worst of these was a two-minute video that allowed Cho Seung-Hui - in rambling hatred - to give his own reasons why he committed a violent rampage on the campus of Virginia Tech.

In what seems like an attempt to draw ratings - or to feed the hunger of a blood thirsty American society - the NBC news network decided to air the footage sent to them by the Norris hall murderer.

In complete disregard for the victims of the shooting, NBC posted image after

image of Seung-Hui and aired his hate filled rhetoric on prime time news broadcasts.

As the families and friends of the victims were in the wake of dealing with the tragedy, they had to deal with seeing the image many of the victims saw before they died - a desperate gun toting killer in army fatigues.

What's worst is many were barraged with footage of an insane killer's manifesto.

An almost two-minute long video of incoherent descriptive ramblings of the almost imaginary sounding pain Seung-Hui has had to deal with.

Not only was NBC unsympathetic to the victims of the shooting but in showing a killers message, they gave potential assassins an idol.

A martyr if you will, who bridged the gap between social reject and mass murderer.

Releasing the footage was absolutely terrible.

Researched by William Martin, Features Editor

Researched by Jon Samples, Sports 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

Editorial Cartoon by Jason Reuta



Be heard.

Write a letter to the editor.

Send an email to: editor@cod.edu

Or, stop by our office in SRC 1560

On Our Web

We are slowly approaching the end of the school year. Looking forward, in what areas does COD need to improve?

Send us an email by Tuesday, May 1 to editor@cod.edu.

You can also answer the question by clicking the link on our website at www.cod.edu/courier

Notice

Two more issues left

The final issue of the Courier will come out on May 11, so time is running out to submit story ideas or letters to the editor. For more information, please contact the Courier at 942-2683, or send an email to editor@cod.edu

The following is a poem submitted by College of DuPage English Professor Jason Snart on the topic of Virginia Tech Between Here and There

I lived in daily fear lest the monster whom I had created should perpetrate some new wickedness.

-Mary Shelley, Frankenstein

The sharp moment of a bullet's split second through the door, and the pulse of blood from the heart, to the body, to the world outside that had made it. A moment too soon for any cold language, blown in the chaos of spiraling snow on a wind driven day in Virginia.

An immense silence—this could never be filled—it will be filled by tomorrow, as we're imposing an order between here and there, the elevator, the stair. Between first stories and second, monsters inside and out, to the third, and the fourth, and then back on themselves, we imagine a way between here and there. Courageous and scared, we are left to give witness. We are the authors of all the small histories that will need to be kept.

They counted the bodies; we are the counters to desperation and violence:

Now, when you are ready, raise up into the radiant halo of kindness, of beauty and friendship, to descend, again, as we must, into the everyday moment. Here and there could be blood on the sidewalks. Together we rescue grace from the monstrous, and memory from tragedy.

Jason Snart
Associate Professor of English

Sound of Music

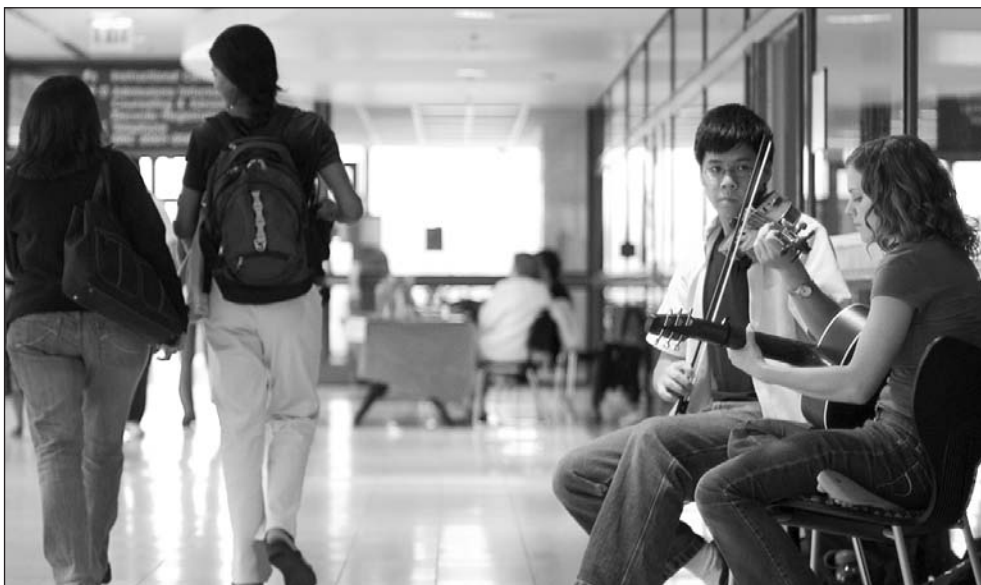


Photo by Russell Augustine

Student Weien Wang looks at fellow student Deborah Latimer as they perform together Tuesday in the upper SRC walkway. Wang played violin while Latimer played guitar.

Letters to the Editor

Candidate thankful for support

Iwould like to thank all of the people who supported my candidacy for the College of DuPage Board of Trustees, especially the College of DuPage Faculty Association, the College of DuPage Adjuncts Association, the Courier, and the Daily Herald. It was a close election, with the outcome resting on slightly more than one vote per precinct.

It has been a rewarding experience meeting the truly

outstanding and caring members of the faculty, staff, and student body. One measure of institutional excellence is the dedication of the various constituencies to creation of a learning environment that fosters student success. My conversations with students, faculty, staff, and administration provide evidence that great dedication exists within those constituencies.

I congratulate the new trustees on their election to the board, and hope that they will work hard on behalf of the constituencies and fulfill promises to advocate for open and transparent operations of

the board, as well as to maintain C.O.D. as an affordable institution, and hope that the issues cited by former Trustee Herron will be addressed in the near future.

In addition, I extend my best wishes to students for future academic success and commend the faculty, staff, and administration for their service to the community as a valuable educational resource. I regret that I will not be serving you on the board and will miss getting to know you better.

Kim Savage
Darien, IL

Student appreciates Public Safety

Ihave been going to the College of DuPage since the beginning of the spring semester.

Since this is a community college and everyone drives, there is a lot of traffic in the morning.

As everyone who is reading this knows there are some drivers out there that are not very good at driving.

Well, one day I was driving to school in the morning, and a car came speeding past me

and swerved in front of me right before the entrance.

This upset me and I said to myself, 'I hope this person gets a ticket.'

Just as I said that, the COD police were all over it.

As soon as the person sped into the lot, they got pulled over. I would like to thank the COD police for doing a good job.

Mike Weisensee
Addison, IL

Report a crime, accident or suspicious activity to Public Safety 24 hours a day by calling 942-2000.