

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.

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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@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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Election to revive college spirits despite results

In a campaign election that was full of legal battles and controversy, it's time to let the dust settle and regain certainty in the renewed Board of Trustees – win, lose or draw.

Since October 2007, a mission of the college was to advance through team effort, and draw upon everyone's talents, works and creativity. New faces will revitalize our spirits and foster fresh opinions and expectations.

Trustees can make a positive impact on the college by holding open discussions among themselves at board meetings about decisions that demand a

vote from each trustee. This would help residents and college staff understand the depth of college matters and regain faith that trustees understand the matter of the issues and their importance. When the Board Chairman asks, "Discussion?" we are demanding it.

President Robert Breuder should adopt a more collaborative management style so administrators and deans don't have to wait for him to crack the whip before taking action.

The one-man-act of changing the college colors, remapping blueprints of the

College/Student Center and rearranging staff leaves people feeling powerless, fearful and manipulated.

Checks and balances are basic to democracy but rumors and gossip through the halls is rudimentary and reminiscent of teenage girls in high school. A professional manner of spreading official information should be established and encouraged.

Those who voice their concerns and opinions should not only be heard but also listened to.

By improving open discussion and creating a system of check and balances, encouraging an environment of respectful debate, the Board of Trustees will have a better reputation.

When the board's action takes precedence over student success or improving an academic environment, the college's reputation is tainted.

There are no winners or losers in this race because those who will not take a seat as trustee will remain powerful citizens.

With a total of 13 concerned citizens running as candidates in the board elections, it is obvious this college's reputation is on the line and important to the community.

Staff Editorial



Justin

Amanda

Matt

Meaghan

Dave

Have you ever felt intimidated to mention your political stance in front of an instructor?

Justin Joseph, 19 *undecided, Elmhurst*

"No, I haven't really talked to my instructors about politics."

Amanda Cooper, 18 *forensic science, Bensenville*

"No, all my instructors are pretty open-minded, even though we disagree sometimes, they're still cool about it."

Matt Roche, 20 *psychology, Elmhurst*

"No, but we need a new system for running things. All the systems need a revamp."

Dave Summers, 21 *undecided, Elmhurst*

"Yes, just because I don't know much about politics. I wouldn't be able to defend my points as well the instructors could."

Meaghan Sikes, 20 *biology, Naperville*

"No, I believe in what I believe and if an instructor doesn't agree, I just move on."

In Your Words

Does Facebook encourage predator dating?

PointCounterPoint

With the ever-evolving online social scene, it is easy to feel excited about fresh opportunities of meeting people with websites such as Facebook. But an important fact goes overlooked in the enthusiasm: countless unsavory people in the world, with less innocent intentions, lurk. The anonymity of Internet social networking makes a sexual predator's job easier.

Although comparatively more controlled than its "cousins" Myspace or LiveJournal, Facebook can still be considered a breeding ground for such predators. Facebook allows one to create a profile with personal information and allow certain people to join their social circle through "friend requests." While this provides interesting opportunities, it is also one of the greatest dangers. No contract

binding one to truth exists allows a freedom to invent any identity. An example being a recent story in the Sydney Morning Herald about a 36-year-old man claiming to be a modeling agent to lure local teenage girls into meeting offline. An application on Facebook finds potential "friends" in a network, but this can also mean a local predator has a

Yes

larger pool to pick victims. In Kelowna, British Columbia, 32-year-old Eric Morneau posed as a 22-year-old, allegedly using Facebook to claim 146 female victims under the age of sixteen. The Internet is a spectacular resource for connecting with the world. It cannot be stressed enough to be heavily guarded when pursuing personal relationships in such a deceptive forum as Facebook.

The Internet has helped expedite various forms of social interaction: work meetings, party invitations and luckily for those that are single—online dating. The online dating experience can be especially beneficial for those that have complicated and busy schedules. First of all, online dating through websites like Facebook offers a person the ability to pre-screen potential dates by evaluating their likes, hobbies and basic information. Why wait until that first dinner or movie to discover that you don't share the same appreciations in cuisine and cinematography?

Second, through instant messaging, private messages and wall-to-wall postings on Facebook, a person can get a feel for personality and sense

of humor, wit and intellect, all of which can help verify if a date interest has love potential. With so much background on a person, and multiple methods for verifying the potential for attraction, it has become easier to flag those that are worth the effort of the first date, and disqualify those that don't make the cut.

No

And with the higher number of friends a person has, the higher number of potential dates a person can be exposed to, therefore increasing and facilitating a successful match with a life partner. For those worried about predator dating, all they need is a little street smarts to keep them out of potentially dangerous situations that could occur even if you had met the person the old school way.

Researched by Molly Hess, Correspondent

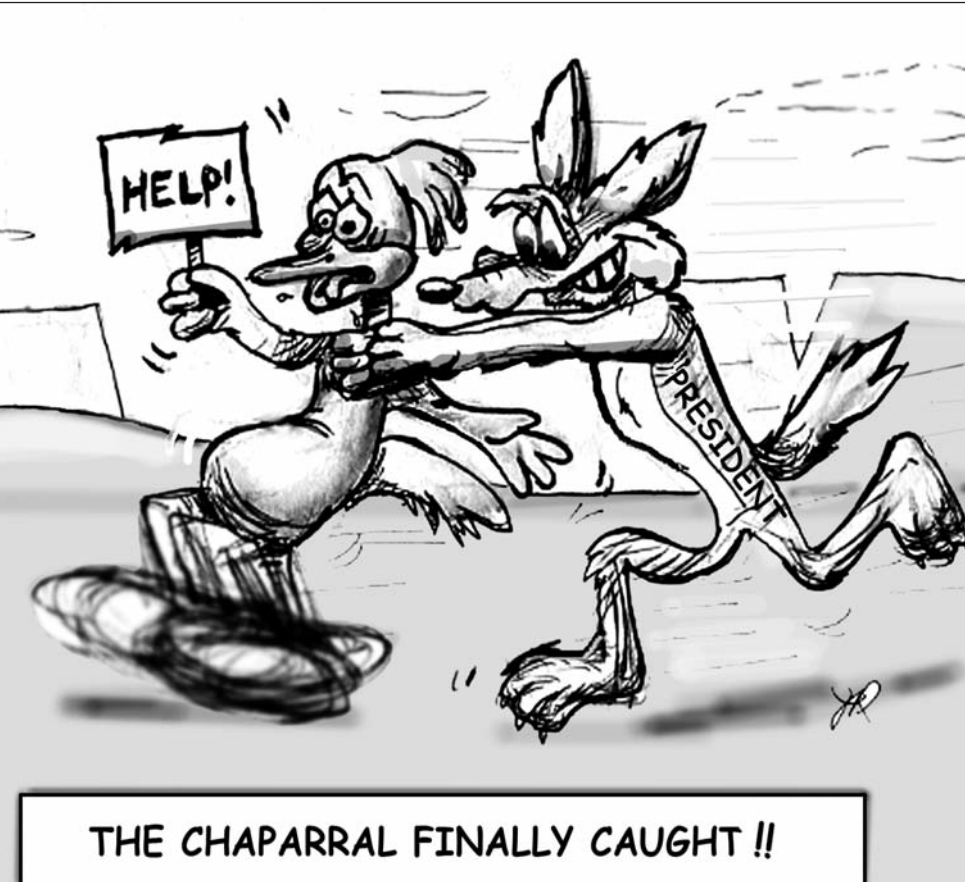
Researched by Juan Garza, News Editor

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

Jason Retuta



Dear Editor,

First, let me commend you, President Breuder, for taking decisive action in a necessary area: standardization.

I fully agree with you that it is vitally important for the logo, font and other identifying elements of the college to be set forth in a style manual that indicates what they look like, how they should be used, in what colors they should be used (particularly on what background colors), and so forth.

I worked for as a graphic designer in Namco Bandai's marketing department for many years (before they were Namco Bandai, admittedly), and I cannot adequately convey the importance of standards in marketing and promotion.

However, while I fully support getting those standards put into place, I do question the wisdom of your change to our school colors. First, if your reasons for making this change are because you dislike the yellow/gold being used because it looks like "a baby that's under the weather," and because you feel that the school colors should be vibrant, I would question the choice of "graphite gray" as a vibrant color. In fact, the choice sounds extremely drab.

I grant that graphite gray, as presented in the Pantone Matching System (PMS) might have a sheen to it that makes it look very nice, but just as your problem with the existing PMS gold color, any color that has an effect associated with it will translate ONLY in production with the specific PMS color. To add to that, there will be a difference in whether that color is coated or uncoated, and upon what stock it is used. In short, graphite gray will, in most situations used by the college, simply come off as gray.

The alternative, and one I do hope you will still consider, is to choose a Pantone color in a shade of yellow or yellow-orange that is near the existing school color, but which you feel is more appropriate. Then, in the forthcoming style guide, indicate the appropriate PMS colors, the CMYK values of those colors for non-Pantone printing situations, and the RGB colors for web and screen use. But please, leave the color similar to what we are already accustomed to.

As a student of Bolingbrook High School who was around when the Valley View School District considered renaming both that school and its sister school (Romeoville High School) to Valley View North and Valley View South – and in course, potentially taking school color

and mascot with the name – I can tell you that many students and alumni are steeped in tradition, and a change for the sake of change tosses that tradition to the wind.

I implore you: modernize the colors; modernize the Chaparral. Do not change the school colors so that we are no longer associated to the colors that we have always known, and do not change the mascot simply because no one knows what a Chaparral is. The Chaparral is unique. If we were to become the Trojans, the Warriors, the Pirates, the Raiders or any one of dozens of other overused mascots, our uniqueness would be diminished. If we become something as equally distant as the Chaparral, then the point in changing will have been made moot.

Maybe pride in the College of DuPage is not something normally espoused by its students. I, however, always speak with pride about the College of DuPage. I have had the opportunity to experience many great organizations and groups, including the Student Leadership Council, the Forensics Team, the Honors Scholars program and much, much more. I can assure you having pride in the College of DuPage is not something I am alone in. On the Forensics Team, we speak often of the long history of the program, and upholding the long-standing tradition of the College of DuPage. That tradition includes our school colors and our mascot.

Please, President Breuder, reconsider your course of actions, and do not make change just to make change. There is a history and tradition that you have only recently become a part of. Give it a chance to thrive before you change it. If there is a lack of pride in COD, it is a fault of all of ours collectively as students, instructors and administration; changing our school colors and our school mascot will not change that.

Standardize the logos, the fonts, the colors and then use them for what they are meant to be used for: promotion of the College of DuPage, its organizations, its classes, its students, its faculty, its facilities. Maybe then, as we draw more people in, and make people more aware of the wondrous community that is the College of DuPage, maybe then we will see pride in our school increase.

*Jim Snyder
Bolingbrook, IL
Proud Student of the College of DuPage*

This letter is in response to the current debate over the College of DuPage's nickname and colors. I am a former COD student-athlete and also a parent of a current COD student-athlete, as well as a District 502 taxpayer. I strongly urge President Breuder and the college administration to reconsider the change of the current college colors of Forest Green and Gold to Forest Green and Graphite Gray and to retain the Chaparrals nickname and logo.

I understand the need and desire to pursue a new identity and to strive for a better community college, but due to the following two reasons I believe this avenue is not the correct road to travel to accomplish this goal. One of the reasons is economics. This would be a very expensive project. If there are funds available to accomplish this, then they should be put into other more worthwhile endeavors. One idea is stadium lights for all the athletic fields. Currently, the tennis courts are the only lighted sports facility. Granted, lights would be an enormous cost but having an all lighted sports complex would be a greater image factor for the college than changing the colors and nickname.

The second reason is tradition. What is really wrong with the Chaparrals name? Nothing. In fact it is just what we need- an unusual, if not unique name that helps us stand out in the crowd, a

name that some people may not know the definition of but recognizes it when mentioned.

I have so many fine memories of my two athletic years at DuPage. The Green and Gold Chaparrals name and logo that adorned my uniform as well as my teammates uniforms are embedded into my life's history. I was filled with pride representing these colors and name. Now, when I witness my son compete as a Chaparral, I again feel that pride flow through my blood. Even though that pride will always be with me, I think it will be somewhat diminished, knowing the history of these colors and name will conclude.

If the college does decide to follow through with changes, I hope that the entire COD community gets the opportunity to choose, in some capacity, the new name and colors. Everyone, including the board of trustees, administration, staff, students, athletes, coaches, community members and taxpayers should be involved. I strongly urge all college personnel involved with this decision, especially the administration and the Student Leadership Council to thoroughly think this through and not rush to any decision. I hope we will continue to see the Forest Green and Gold Chaparrals in the permanent future of the College of DuPage. Go Chaparrals! Beep! Beep!

*John Dispensa III
Alumnus Student-Athlete and
Current Parent of COD
Student-Athlete*

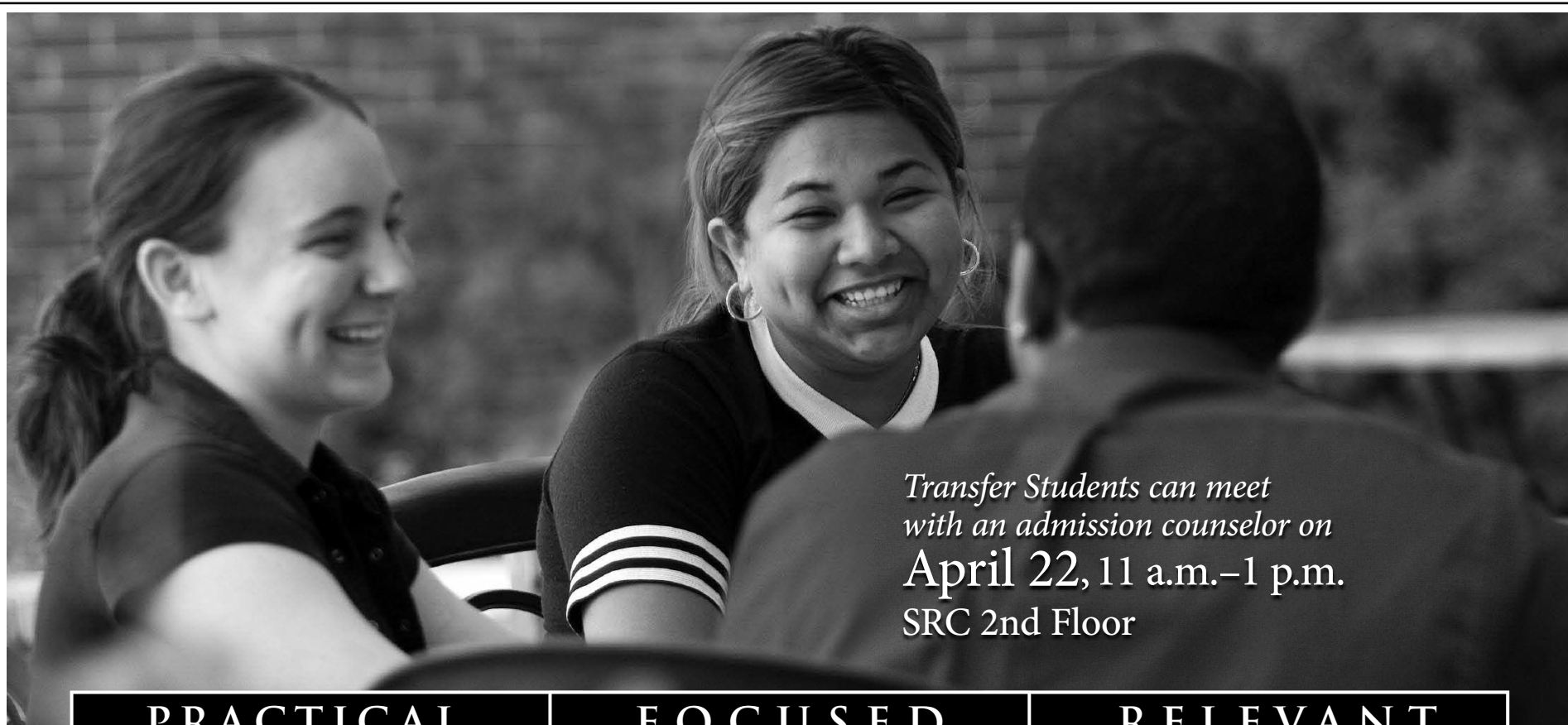
Write a letter to the editor.

Send an email to:
editor@cod.edu

Or, stop by our office in SRC 1560.

Be heard.

*Please call Shannon Torii,
Editor-in-Chief at (630)
942-2683 with any questions.*



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