

# 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@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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## Money doesn't make the Honors Scholar

Students interested in Honors Scholar Program, just for the tuition reimbursement are missing the bread and butter of the program, enriched education. In order to increase the college's available cash balance, tuition waivers have been cut for students enrolling in the Honors Scholar Program and higher academic standards could be set. The worth of the program will not cease and students' involvement should not either.

The Honors Committee began in February with members selected by President Breuder. Their purpose was to make recommendations regarding the Honors Program to Breuder who would then choose whether to implement those recommendations or not. While the recommendation to cease all future tuition waivers has been implanted, other recommendations, such as increased scholarship opportunities are still in the process of review.

Nothing is set in stone as to how the HSP will function without the tuition waiver, such as the mandatory minimum ACT score of 25 or 3.5 GPA for incoming high school students or if more scholarships will be attainable as incentives of the program. The HSP tuition waiver was more than just tuition reimbursement; it was

an incentive for students in the Honors Scholar Program to maintain their GPA at 3.5 or higher, they work with a full time professor in a smaller class size with classmates that don't snooze or drool in their desks.

Students currently enrolled in the Honors Scholars Program holding less than 18 credits in honors courses will be grandfather-clocked into receiving a tuition waiver while they complete the program. But students ineligible of receiving a tuition waiver should not be deterred from enrolling. Students involved in the Scholars Program get more than recognition of taking honors courses they are merited as Honors Scholars on their transcripts and are rewarded with scholarships opportunities.

Honors Scholar students often transfer to highly selective universities such as Duke, University of Chicago, University of California at Berkeley, Northwestern, Georgetown, Notre Dame and University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign.

The Honors Committee reviewing the details of the GPA and ACT requirements, tuition waivers and scholarships are not recommending any changes that would undermine the quality of education that the Honors Program provides.

## Staff Editorial



## How would you escape from Somalian pirates?

**Patti Rozonkiewicz, 42** interior design, Woodridge  
"I would fight back and gain control."

**Kaylee Stefi-Negri, 18** fine arts, Brookfield  
"I would party with them, then become the one that wears an eye patch. Later I would become the captain's lover."

**Micheal McCormick, 20** undecided, La Grange Park  
"Fight them!"

**Sam Nowder, 20** interior design, Woodridge  
"I would Karate Chop his booty."

**Katherine Smith, 38** nursing, Aurora  
"Try to get them off my ship."

## In Your Words

## Should legislation ban non-native animals from purchase and breeding?

### PointCounterPoint

**M**any of household pets that are considered non-native could be harmful for the young children most of these pets are bought for. The exotic animals such as lizards and iguanas, common animals in pet stores, can pass salmonella to their handlers. Most of the people that own these animals are not zoo employees or biology experts. Some animals that have been classified as non-native are guinea pigs, ferrets, gerbils and hamsters.

Despite their popularity, these animals tend to be the ones that suffer. These tiny animals are easier to forget about and some starve due to lack of proper care. Take these tiny mammals out of their cages and they can roam into holes and crevices where they stay and die due to lack of food and water. Just because

these animals are smaller than common pets such as dogs and cats that doesn't mean they don't deserve the same amount of care. And a lot of these animals don't receive the proper care and are bought with out consideration. If one hamster dies they just buy another.

Torturing dogs and cats is considered animal cruelty. And so should starving and killing guinea pigs and ferrets.

To ban the sale of exotic and non-native animals would make it safer for the children and these pets are commonly bought then cared for intentionally or not, improperly. Because these animals are not as big and noticeable as other larger pets the damage done to them goes relatively unknown.

**C**urrently, non-native species being brought into the United States are assessed for any harm they may cause to humans, agriculture, horticulture or forestry and the continued survival of our wildlife resources. The Non-native Wildlife Invasion Prevention Act, introduced recently into Congress, will require that each non-native species be given a risk assessment to determine if they are likely to "cause economic or environmental harm or harm of other animal species' health or human health" anywhere in the United States. The exact definition of harm is not stated. Some non-native species that may be harmful in Michigan could thrive safely in Arizona and have for many years. They include

hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, ferrets, fish and parakeets. It will, instead, bring about the assessment of family pets and whether to continue to allow the species to be purchased in the United States. If they are found "harmful" in any way, owners will not be able to keep the animal unless they can prove that they purchased the animal prior to the passage of the law. The definition of a non-native species needs to be made first. Even dogs and horses are not all native to the United States.

Where will they draw the line? Although some species being brought in to this country are dangerous, the complete assessment of every non-native species could take years and a large amount of money.

**Yes**

**No**

Researched by Eli Rodriguez, Sports Editor

Researched by Maureen Mladucky, 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

## Dear Editor,

The EIC selection committee referred in the following letter denotes the committee in charge of selecting an Editor-in-chief for the following academic year. Jason Retuta, the former A&E Editor would have been on the committee had he not relinquished two days prior to the selection process.

The following would be my opinion expressed if I stayed on the EIC selection committee. In good conscience, I need to express my strong objection of Juan Garza not being hired; he does not deserve to be denied the Editor-in-chief position.

The very few instances that I've seen him come in late was to ensure the quality of the Courier the night before deadline. Whether inquiring the President or the average student, Juan has never missed an interview; he has never missed an editor's meeting.

This is a man that has come through countless of times for the Courier, embodying the best in journalistic integrity. Never considering his personal interests or even safety, he has enough skill and accuracy to become a great journalist and has learned enough to bring the Courier to Pace-maker level. Unbiased and thoroughly objective, he lives by the values for those he upholds to those he writes about: transparency, integrity and fair teamwork. Juan has been a tried and true comrade, without misplaced anger, and the maturity level to manage team conflict in an upfront and honest manner. He garners trust and respect by everyone he meets worthy of becoming EIC.

I believe in keeping the announcement of the EIC or anything about the Courier strictly confidential outside our circle. Nobody put me up to writing this. However, what I'm expressing is in defense not only for Juan's career, but for the best interest for the future of the newspaper: one without an editor with any concrete newsprint experience.

Juan is a journalist that is worthy of any professional news organization. It was an honor working with him; he is a model of what a good human being should be. And he tells it like it is. Stand up for him, as he always has for us.

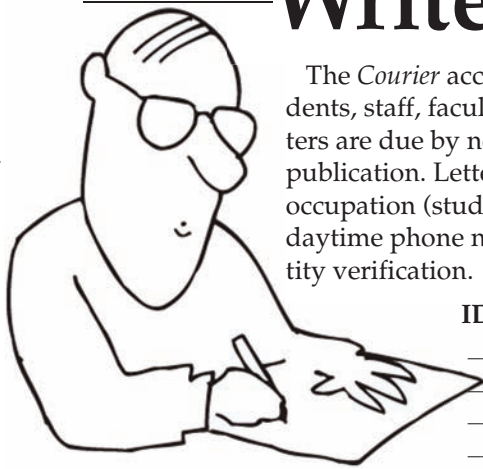
Jason Retuta  
Former A&E Editor

Editorial Cartoon



KOERPA  
OMAHA WORLD HERALD

## Write a Letter to the Editor



The Courier accepts letters to the editor from students, staff, faculty and community members. Letters are due by noon on the Tuesday prior to publication. Letters must include the authors name, occupation (student, staff or community member) daytime phone number and street address for identity verification.

IDEAS:

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Letters can be dropped off at the Courier office during regular business hours, mailed to the College of DuPage at 425 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 or e-mailed to editor@cod.edu.

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April 29, 10-1

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\*Transcript evaluations will be conducted during this visit.  
Please sign up for your session through the COD Advising Center.

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