Defend the defenseless

By Adam Shorey (staff writer)

September 11, 2001 is considered to be one of the most tragic days in the history of the United States. Almost 3,000 people lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington. Everybody remembers exactly where they were when they first heard the news, and there will always be memorials to those who lost their lives that tragic day.

Yet the number of innocent people who died that day falls short of the 3,700 lives that were quietly cut short by abortion today. Not to mention the 3,700 that died yesterday, and the day before.

Continued on page 2.

The war on women

By Andrew Wiley (staff writer)

“Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude…shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.”

After reading that passage it’s hard not to picture someone in chains, picking cotton, getting whipped for trying to escape, or any of the other heinous acts usually coinciding with American slavery. But, the next time you read it, try and picture someone else: a soon-to-be mother.

As soon as a woman gives birth, she is instantly thrust into a life of servitude. Some women welcome that servitude with
The suction-aspiration method, in which a sharply edged tube is inserted into the uterus to suck the baby into a jar. After the cervix is dilated, a plier-like instrument is inserted into the uterus and body parts are removed until only the head remains. The head is then crushed and removed. Until 2003, partial-birth abortion was allowed in cases when the pregnancy had surpassed 21 weeks. The baby was delivered feet first except for the head. The doctor would then use scissors to put a hole in the back of the head, where a suction catheter sucked out the child’s brain, causing it to collapse. Since this procedure was banned, doctors now opt to give a lethal injection before removing the lifeless body from the mother’s womb. These descriptions are not scare tactics or unnecessary gruesome details. They are the reality of abortion, and that reality paints a bleak picture of a culture that has legalized the killing of children.

The Supreme Court’s Roe versus Wade ruling legalized abortion in 1973 and has since been repeatedly upheld by the Court. But should abortion be an inherent constitutional right? The Alan Guttmacher Institute reports that since 1973 there have been more than 40,000,000 legal, documented abortions. These lives have been cut short at the end of a tube or a knife to be discarded like trash, and political and media “pro-choices” have carefully tutored the American public to accept this taking of life as a right to be defended. Yet, wasn’t it the “right to life,” rather than the removal of it, that our forefathers listed as an “unalienable right?”

Socially we have been groomed to talk about abortion as an issue of a woman’s privacy or right to “choose,” rather than an issue of a young child’s personhood. Dr. Michael Bauman, professor of Theology and Culture at Hillsdale College, has written about the verbal gymnastics that often swirl around this issue.

“By aborting fetuses rather than murdering babies our linguistic sleight of hand has hidden the real nature (murder) of our action and the real identity (baby) of our victim,” Bauman said. “We must tell [mothers] they are merely ‘terminating a pregnancy,’ …unlike abortion and murder, which seem to imply nasty things like blood and death, simply to terminate a pregnancy sounds as innocuous as ending a radio transmission…”

Many pro-abortion activists defend their position by referencing a few, relatively rare exceptions. “What about a woman who was raped,” has become the standard “gotcha” question.

However, the Alan Guttmacher Institute, which is associated with Planned Parenthood, did a broad study in 2004 on the question of why women get abortions. The study indicated that only 0.5 percent of the women surveyed indicated that they had been raped. The most popular reason for having an abortion was that the timing was wrong for a baby, which was the answer of 25 percent of the women in the study. The next most common responses were “can’t afford a baby” with 23 percent, and “have completed my child bearing” with 19 percent. As tragic as that may sound, it seems that the main cause of abortion is personal convenience.

When we get distracted by a small minority of situations we fail to see the tragedy that young lives are being slaughtered by the millions, and most of the time it essentially because the parents don’t feel like having a baby.

It’s true that many of the women who have abortions are in incredibly difficult or tragic situations. But this does not make the killing of a child any less appalling. Murder does not fix tragedy.

Abortion is not an issue of women’s rights, but rather a question about whether we value human life in the way we should. Do we view it as something valuable that should be defended and preserved, or do we view it as something to be discarded?

We live in a time where we could face jail time and six-figure fines for harming the egg of an eagle, yet we have clinics where any woman can legally kill her baby.

I suppose in one sense we are all “pro-choice.” When it comes to the issue of abortion we are all faced with the question of choosing life or death. I choose life.
open arms and relish the opportunity to care for a child. Others, however, want absolutely nothing to do with it. Whether it’s because of financial, family, or professional reasons, forcing a woman to be a parent is against her right as an American citizen.

In the groundbreaking Supreme Court decision of Roe versus Wade in 1973, it was decided that it would be unconstitutional to force a woman to continue an unwanted pregnancy. This decision has been supported by Presidents Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama.

According to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study, many unwanted pregnancies that don’t result in abortion result in higher abuse rates, higher crime rates, and much lower mother high school graduation rates.

One of, if not the main argument against abortion is that life begins at conception and abortion would therefore be murder. According to prochoice.org, 88 percent of abortions take place in the first trimester of pregnancy. During this period, the fetus could not live independent of the mother, and cannot be considered a separate human being due to its inability to survive.

Although most abortions take place in the first trimester, there are those that occur later in the pregnancy. Even though I do support a woman’s right to choose, if the pregnancy is in its later stages, there should be some restrictions on abortions. If the child could survive independently from the mother, abortions should not be permitted.

Another main argument against abortion is adoption. According to the anti-choice community, there are countless families anxiously awaiting babies to adopt, lining up for days and even traveling to other countries to do so.

According to americabar.org there are approximately 120,000 adoptions in the United States each year, with half being related adoptions, where the child is adopted by a family member.

According to the 1995 National Survey of Family Growth, there were approximately 500,000 women seeking adoption of a child. Of these 500,000 women, only about 232,000 were taking legitimate steps toward adoption and only 100,000 had even applied for adoption. Few other studies have been done on this subject since 1995.

If abortion was made illegal, there would most likely be an extreme boost to the number of children being placed for adoption which would result in more children not being adopted and living their life in short term foster care or even orphanages until they are of age to leave.

The war on women (continued from page 1)

Abortion care centers would be extremely over crowded which would require the construction of more of them. Seeing how foster care is funded through a welfare grant, the more children put into foster care the more tax dollars would have to be spent to properly fund it.

Stephen J. Duhner, a New York journalist, and Steven D. Levitt, an award winning economist, explore the connection between abortions and drops of crime rates in their book Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything, explaining that after the decision of Roe versus Wade, the rate of abortions rose, which in turn, made crime rates drop radically in the 1990s.

According to Duhner and Levitt, the extreme decrease in crime during the 1990s can be directly attributed to the increase in abortions after the decision of Roe versus Wade.

They argue that many unwanted pregnancies result in the child becoming a criminal, due to the fact that usually the child is brought up in harsh environments with minimal resources. After abortion was made legal, these unwanted children were simply not around to commit the crimes. They suggest that males 18 to 24 years of age are most likely to commit crimes and statistics show that crime in the United States started to decline beginning in 1992, 19 years after the decision of Roe versus Wade.

Statistics also show that states that legalized abortion prior to the decision of Roe versus Wade started seeing a decline in crime before 1992 and states with high abortion rates show greater reductions in crime.

Finally, it has been argued by anti-choice supporters that abortions cause health risks for the mother. These risks involve a greater chance of future miscarriage, the risk of tubal pregnancies doubles, and an increase in pelvic inflammatory disease. They also suggest that abortions also cause intense psychological pain and stress.

 Abortions are extremely safe for the mother and pose virtually no future health problems which would inhibit her from future pregnancies. According to prochoice.org 97 percent of women who have adoptions report no problems.

The American Psychological Association found that women often feel extreme stress in the days and weeks leading up to an abortion, but afterwards rarely show any signs of post-abortion syndrome. Abortion of an unwanted child gives the woman the chance to have a child when she is ready – physically, mentally, and financially.

If unwanted pregnancies can be dealt with, without putting the life of the mother in jeopardy, it would be extremely irresponsible if the option were to be denied. Even after all of the statistics, that show just how much difficult things would be for both mother and child, are given, it boils down to the fact that it would be unconstitutional to infringe on a woman’s right to choose.

Contact Andrew Wiley at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu
So any relief Americans feel about the death of bin Laden _ and there is great relief _ must be tempered by the realization that his ideas live on, at least for now.

It’s hard to know just why bin Laden ran so far amok. He grew up as a member of a rich and powerful family in Saudi Arabia. That family and the Saudi government have disowned him.

But 15 of the 19 Sept. 11, 2001, hijackers were Saudis. That showed that bin Laden’s brand of religious nonsense achieved considerable popularity in his homeland.

Bin Laden’s al-Qaida terrorist network has suffered several body blows since U.S. and allied troops drove its protectors, the Taliban, out of Afghanistan, starting in late 2001.

Early in 2003, for instance, Western forces captured such bin Laden allies as Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, who planned the 9-11 attacks at bin Laden’s behest.

Mohammed’s arrest provided information about bin Laden and the rest of his religious thugs.

But al-Qaida is not dead. It has established cells, operatives and allies in dozens of countries and it continues to pursue its vile visions.

It’s not yet clear who will emerge as the network’s new leader, but whoever it is certainly will be committed to the grizzly goal bin Laden outlined in his 1998 religious ruling, “Kill Americans Everywhere.”

Bin Laden’s ability to escape for so long after the 9-11 attacks shows that his network of supporters and sympathizers has been wide. The bad news is they now may have a new martyr to inspire them.

Death of one evil man won't rid world of risks from extremism

Clearing the record

In the April 13 issue of The Communitarian, a photograph of the 2011 Phi Theta Kappa induction ceremony was incorrectly attributed to Assistant Professor Jennifer Conley. Godwin Lu was the photographer. The Communitarian staff apologizes for any confusion or misrepresentation that occurred.
Financial aid can be a key to success!

Full-time students tend to be more successful that part-time students.

Financial aid, even in the form of a modest loan, can help you enroll full-time, work fewer hours, and get through your program of studies quicker.

FACT: The #1 reason why so many students do not finish college is because they work too many hours while going to school and the stress becomes overwhelming.

Fran Cubberley, Vice President for Enrollment Management

How best to ride Septa to and from the Marple campus

Average 1,636 riders on Route 112 per day in March 2011.

Route 112 – Hourly express service
M-F 7:12am-11:12am to DCCC, 1:12pm-4:12pm
Local service via Lawrence Park – M-F 30 min 6:30-9:30am, hourly 9:10am-2:10pm, 30 min 2:10pm-4:40pm
Miss 112 from 69th Street? Take 120 (departs :30 after hour) to Newtown Street Road, transfer to 118

Miss 112 from DCCC or want to avoid the Lawrence Park routing? Take 118 to West Chester Pike, transfer to 104/120; or take 112 local to Media Line-WC Pike, transfer to 104/120.

Creighton Rabs, communication arts

To all aspiring teachers

Hello, this is Kelechi Ajunwa. I teach education courses here at DCCC.

Here is a little helpful advice I share with all my students in the courses I teach.

I would love to share this piece of advice with all aspiring teachers currently taking courses at DCCC.

Take advantage of any opportunity to teach and work with young children.

This includes volunteering to read at the local childcare center or serving as a tutor.

I highly recommend the Breakthrough Program (www.breakthroughcollaborative.org) as a place that will provide future teachers with the wonderful opportunity to teach middle school students while receiving a summer stipend.

Breakthrough is a national program, so you could use it as a way to travel to other cities in the United States and even in Hong Kong.

Remember: Having ample classroom experience is an excellent way to distinguish yourself in the competitive teaching market.

Sincerely,
Mr. Ajunwa

A fantasy world worth visiting

By Bill Baxter (staff writer)

The year was 2010 and the baseball season was in full swing. My team had gotten off to a rough start, but things appeared to be looking up.

My young pitchers were hitting their stride and looking great, and, after some key trades, I was finally getting some offensive production.

My fantasy had become my reality.

Fantasy baseball has been a part of my life for only two years now, but I was hooked as soon as I had drafted my first player: Joe Mauer with the tenth overall pick.

The thrill of victory and agony of defeat are all well and good, but the reason I love fantasy baseball might surprise you.

Fantasy baseball brings people together.

Even if you are not and never have been a "sports person" that's all right. I'm not either.

Being married has changed my life in many ways, but I was surprised to find that it has introduced me to the joys of sports.

As a child, sports competition never appeared to be looking up.

My brother-in-law to my mid 40s father-in-law and closer together, from my eager 8-year-old as his star pitcher has an off day. Or perhaps the joy of rubbing it in.

Either way, the ups and downs of the season are shared by all the competitors in the LRL and even though we all coveted the championship bragging rights, we still had fun playing together.

The league gave us all another reason to gather around the living room to discuss the happenings of the day. Which players have been hot lately, which players have been surprisingly useful and, of course, which players have been a major disappointment.

The LRL brought the family even closer together, from my eager 8-year-old brother to my mid 40s father-in-law and everyone in between.

Shared activities like fantasy baseball can be fun for almost everyone in a family or group of friends. It is the kind of friendly competition that sparks conversation and interaction, which is something regrettable missing from many families today.

Contact Bill Baxter at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

Perennial fantasy baseball asset Albert Pujols hits a home run in a game against the Washington Nationals. Photograph by Harry E. Walker

Mr. Ajunwa
At the fork in the road, make a left

By Robert Tierney
(staff writer)

In 2012, the masses will take to the streets, make a stand against the wrath of forces that are seemingly beyond their control and once every last man and woman of courage has done all that they can, wait for the end. December 21st? No, October 2nd.

While I think disaster scenarios are mostly hype to sell some books and movie tickets, the world as we know it will end in 2012... or at least change. Like the elephant that represents their party, Republicans have been so noisy and cumbersome since Obama took office and more so since their victories in 2010, that it will be hard for voters to forget when they step into the ballots.

In 2012 there will be a variety of elections spanning from local all the way through the federal, with the presidential office at stake. It is being debated whether or not there will be a party turnover at the federal level like there was in 2010 when Republicans took control of the House of Representatives and captured a few extra seats in the Senate.

While there is some dissatisfaction with the current state of America, a turnover in power would be detrimental to the union as all of the effort put into the current administrations legislation will be put to waste. I believe, therefore, the people should wait for the flower to grow before digging it out and planting something else.

Current dissatisfaction with the U.S. government is largely based upon the economy. Where Republicans believe in a free market in which businesses determine the direction for growth, Democrats have the philosophy that regulating business actions is beneficial for the people.

The economic crises, from which we are still recovering, was caused by the policies of deregulation begun in the Reagan years and continued by George W. Bush according to Dr. Walter E. Williams, professor emeritus at the Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington and Bryan Jones, J.J. Pickle Chair of Congressional Studies in the Department of Government at the University of Texas at Austin during a guest appearance on KUOW.org, whose mission it is to create and serve an informed public.

Following economic downturn, the response from democrats has been the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which, amongst other things, “To promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.”

My opponents may say that this act is just typical over-regulatory behavior from Democrats; however, if a policy of de-regulation did not work through two Republican administrations then fair regulation that keeps the common people’s interests in mind deserves a shot.

The economic crisis has also spawned a debate over health care.

Recently, in an attempt to reduce national debt, Republican leaders have proposed curtailing funding for the Medicare and Medicaid programs. However, President Obama has promised his budget will cut healthcare spending, without taking from Medicare or Medicaid, and according to a report by the Congressional Budget Office, it will reduce the national deficit by $130 billion.

Healthcare can be a touchy issue for many as everyone would like affordable healthcare but are skeptical of government controlling the system. According to a Gallup poll in March, American support of the Affordable Care Act was 46 percent.

Whatever the cause may be for the underwhelming support, the healthcare law is beneficial. Proof can be found in provisions in section 2301 that prohibits insurance providers from placing limits on coverage terms or revoking coverage completely in any case other than when information is falsified.

Additionally, tax credits for the cost of health insurance would be based upon household income, according to section 1001.

All of these and many other provisions are important to us, but some Republicans such as Pennsylvania’s newly elected Senator, Pat Toomey, have voted to repeal the law.

Critics may claim that the provision of the Affordable Care Law that requires Americans who can afford it to maintain basic health insurance coverage is unconstitutional. However, in 3 out of 5 total federal court cases, the provision was ruled as constitutional, according to the United States Department of Justice website.

Its constitutionality was also defended during a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing Feb 2 by Senator Al Franken, D-Minn.

"We need to move past baseless challenges to the constitutionality of health care reform," said Franken, "and refocus our attention on what really matters: implementing a law which is already helping Minnesota families and creating jobs."

Health care isn’t the only issue in the modern age where a decision on policy can be a decision in life or death. In this modern age, wherein terrorism has become common, it is important that the political party in power has some accomplishment in combating these threats.

Democrats voted on and were able to pass the National Defense Authorization Act which supports the strategy of strengthening partnerships with key nations in fighting the recruitment and fundraising of terrorist cells.

So when it comes time to elect your leaders, who will write and defend laws on your behalf for the next four years, remember whose positions and policies, benefit you the most.

Contact Robert Tierney at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

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So when it comes time to elect your leaders, who will write and defend laws on your behalf for the next four years, remember whose positions and policies, benefit you the most.

Contact Robert Tierney at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu
The race is on

By Adam Shorey (staff writer)

Ready or not, election season is upon us. President Barack Obama has already started his re-election campaign, and the Republicans are sure to counter with a candidate of their own.

Once again we will be inundated by commercials propping up one candidate and tearing down the other. The question still remains, what will define this campaign season? The Democrats can no longer blame George W. Bush for everything and are back-pedaling after Obama’s “savior” status failed to live up to its billing.

But, Republicans, despite a large swell in support, appear to lack an obviously compelling candidate to step up and challenge the incumbent.

Rest assured, challengers will arise in the coming months and the spin machines will be in full force as each party attempts to define what this election will be about.

With huge issues such as health care concerns, a multi-front war, and a massively struggling economy, it may be difficult to see a way forward. There is an answer, however.

Let’s look at some of the issues.

After seizing control in 2008 the Democrats wasted no time trying to address the struggling economy and the health care crisis. Both need attention, but the Democrats followed their time-honored tradition of trying to spend their way out of problems.

Numbers released on the National Treasury Department’s website at the end of 2010 indicated that the national debt has increased by $3 trillion in the two years of the Obama administration. That’s an increase of over 25%.

Even with this astronomical spending, the success of these bank bailouts and “stimulus” plans has been debatable to say the least. Even if the spending had effectively restored the economy, the bailouts still would have been based on imaginary money that we do not have, and will never have the ability to pay back.

We are printing money to mask problems, which, in turn, devalues our dollar and puts our role as the world’s economic leader in jeopardy.

As for foreign affairs, Obama came into office with promises flying in every direction. Arbitrary deadlines were set for pulling out of Iraq and closing Guantanamo Bay, but have since passed. We now find ourselves with wars on three fronts instead of one.

Obama has shown a lack of knowledge and decisiveness when it comes to foreign policy. Despite being willing to say anything to get elected, once presented with the facts of the situation Obama has done nothing to fulfill those promises.

In fact since Obama used the demonization of George W. Bush to get elected, President Bush in any way...

In 2012 we need a politician who knows how to navigate an increasingly tumultuous foreign landscape, one who understands that money doesn’t grow on trees, or in the national mint.

In the last three years, the Democrats have shown no ability to address any of these pressing issues, even with heavy control of both houses for the first two years. Debt has soared and the number of wars has increased. As government increases, freedom decreases.

Obviously, it’s time for another “change” in Washington.

Contact Adam Shorey at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu
Apple's iOS reigns supreme

By Bill Baxter
(staff writer)

Mobile tech devices are becoming ubiquitous. With the recent surge in popularity of cell phones, laptops, netbooks, e-readers and, most recently, tablet computers, you could probably count on one hand the number of people you know without at least one of these devices.

Cell phones and tablet computers run on software called an operating system (OS) that defines the entire user experience.

Right now there are two companies that supply the operating systems for the majority of cell phones: Apple Inc and Google. According to data compiled by the Nielsen Company, the two companies supply the operating systems for 56 percent of the smartphones in the United States.

Given the choice of the two, Apple is the way to go.

As you have no doubt heard, Apple’s iOS mobile operating system has skyrocketed in popularity by powering blockbuster devices like the iPhone and iPad. Google has enjoyed similar success, albeit in a much different fashion with its Android OS.

In terms of user interface, the basic functions of an OS and how intuitive it is for the user, Apple has crafted a masterpiece.

The “home screen” shows your native and downloaded applications, along with a personalized wallpaper image. The iPhone has one hardware button on its face, that, when pressed, brings you back to the home screen.

Simply put, the user needs no instruction booklet to explain how to use an iPhone or iPad.

To access an application, just tap the app’s icon and it starts. No complications, no button combinations, no rabbit holes and yours truly is not the only consumer out there to have noticed the iOS’s ease of use.

Preston Gralla a reviewer for computerworld.com writes, “For simplicity, elegance and beautiful design, iOS has no peer.”

The absence of buttons coupled with a well-designed touchscreen, simplifies the use of a device to the point where it can be called, according to Apple CEO Steve Jobs, “magical.”

Eye-rolling slogans aside, the experience of using an iPad or iPhone can be indescribable to someone who has never held one, a fact that Apple constantly emphasizes in their commercials and stores.

If you’ve seen an iPhone or iPad commercial followed by an Android TV spot, you would notice that they are as different as white is from black.

Apple’s commercials are normally a close-up of the device on a white background being interacted with by various hands and fingers. The product is meant to be touched.

Android commercials are set on a black or dark background with a giant robot hand manipulating a phone with breakneck speed. No humans in sight.

To be fair, there are Android commercials set in “real life,” but they generally end with an ordinary person being turned into a robot just by using the device. Cue ominous red, robot-eye overlaid with creepy droid voice.

Who wants to be possessed by a robotic overlord? I’ll take my “magical” device any day of the week.

Judging by the numbers, the consumer market agrees with me. When the first generation iPad launched, Apple sold 3 million in the first 80 days, according to an Apple press release, and the iPad 2 isn’t far behind.

No Android-based tablet has come close to sales numbers of that magnitude.

But, the truth is, the core philosophies behind these products are what makes Apple a better choice for more people.

People don’t want to have to read through a technical manual and have a built in adjustment period just to use a mobile device. People want the experience to be easy and seamless.

People want to interact with the information on the phone or tablet while minimizing the “middle man” that is the device itself.

That is the magic of iOS.

Apple has built this operating system and the corresponding hardware components to be easy and fun to use while maintaining a high level of functionality, which is, frankly, all most people care about.

Every year J.D. Power and Associates polls smartphone and traditional cell phone users asking them to rate their level of satisfaction with their device. The study in 2010 yielded the following results:

“For a fifth consecutive time, Apple ranks highest amongst manufacturers of smartphones in customer satisfaction with a score of 795 (out of 1000) and performs particularly well in ease of operation, operating system, features and physical design.”

Android fans will argue that Apple is a controlling company that limits their devices to only the applications that they approve, or that Apple refuses to allow Adobe Flash, a common Internet code used in videos and games, on their devices.

While this is true, it all comes back to the point of satisfaction with their device. The study is, frankly, all most people care about.

The average user is not concerned with “true multitasking” or a completely free market application store. People want the iPhone or iPad because it can do their tasks to them, make their life easier.

Am I glad that there are companies making competing products out there?

Absolutely. There are people out there who love Android or BlackBerry and that is fine by me. I can certainly respect a different device if it meets my standards of form and function.

My point is, Apple makes products for everyone, regardless of their level of technological know-how.

Contact Bill Baxter at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu
Why Google’s Android is a great OS

By Ariel Senko (staff writer)

According to projections by the research firm, IDC, by the end of 2011, Google’s Android operating system platform will have 40 percent of the global market of mobile devices, and the platform of Apple’s operating system, iOS, will have less than 16 percent of the market.

Surprised? Don’t be.

More and more companies, and more and more people, continue to invest in devices that run on Android and Android applications, or software programs, since Google and the other members of the Open-Handset Alliance unveiled Android in 2007.

Android’s mascot in its advertising campaigns may be a droid, but its proponents often cite the desire to be able to download applications for their handset and/or tablet at will as the reason why they have abandoned devices running Apple’s operating system, iOS, in favor of Android devices.

To date, users of Apple devices are barred from downloading applications that aren’t sourced from Apple’s own Appstore, which sells software programs to use on its devices at its discretion, usually for $.99 to $9.99. (Some apps are free.) Apple has refused to vend independent developers’ apps based on considerations such as app content involving explicit sexuality.

Google’s Android Market offers more than 200 thousand software applications for free, and does not reject independent developers’ apps.

The Android operating system was created as an open and open-source software platform under an Apache license. The Android philosophy is about freedom and choice. “The purpose of Android is to promote openness in the mobile world,” according to Google, Inc., “[and] to make sure that there would always be an open platform available for carriers, original equipment manufacturers, and developers to use to make their innovative ideas a reality.”

As a result, mobile companies around the world are able to adapt aspects of Google’s operating system to make it suitable for use in their mobile devices, and numerous companies have marketed devices that run Android, which accounts for Google’s continuing mobile marketing success.

Champions of Apple’s products say that Apple devices’ user interface is more user-friendly, and that its apps run more smoothly than Androids’, because Apple’s operating system is designed to interact specifically with the hardware in Apple’s devices, while Android is being adopted in devices that were originally designed to use a different operating system.

However, Google and Android developers have gracefully sidestepped the possibility of incompatibilities by implementing an Android Compatibility Program in which all device builders are required to participate during the process of making Android-friendly devices.

Many mobile companies that have developed Android phones are introducing tablets that will run the newly introduced Android 3.0 and will be competing with Apple’s iPad 2 and iOS 4 when they come out later this year.

So far, Android applications have fared better in the transition from handset to tablet. Consumers who use both iOS and Android devices have complained that Apple app icons lose resolution as application images simply stretch to fill the larger screens of tablets, but praise Android’s apps for keeping icons’ original resolutions, and instead increasing the space between apps’ visual elements. Android tablet users also happily report that they have increased space in Android’s widget menu, which runs along the top of the screen of Android devices.

Even if Android’s products are a little behind Apple’s in terms of functionality, Android devices, which are already close in price to those of Apple devices, will drop in price as more choices are added to the market this year. Add to that all of Android’s free applications, and you can be sure that Android devices are a better product for your money.

Contact Ariel Senko at communitarian@mail.decc.edu

Guest essay: The real meaning of morality

By Jean Diament

In response to the federal Government not longer defending ‘The Defense of Marriage Act’, Jeffrey T. Kuhner wrote the article, ‘Obama’s Homosexual America’ published in the Washington Times, on February 24, 2011. Kuhner argues the demise of our country and its mores begins with the homosexual rights movement. Kuhner states that equality for our fellow citizens, neighbors, and family members who simply have a different sexual preference than what some consider ‘normal’ is an ‘attack on traditional America’. We should protect our country by allowing all citizens to exercise their freedoms rather than acting on fear for what may happen if we accept others who may seem different. Homosexuals are people, citizens of America, differing only in the gender of people they are attracted too. Kuhner’s argument is flawed because it would be unconstitutional and immoral to discriminate against such citizens.

Kuhner first demonstrates his ignorance for morality with the tone he sets in this article. He uses a common ‘violent’ theme among his word choice throughout the article; it directs people to relate the idea of same-sex marriage to war. For example, Kuhner writes, “The most destructive aspect is this revolution against traditional morality” (Italics added). He uses negative word choice in order to subconsciously induce the reader to associate the current issue with a gruesome battle for freedom. His use of words such as “attack”, “surrender”, “firewall”, “revolution”, and “assault” are all very graphic words to use in an issue opposing the union of two people who love each other. Although Kuhner tries to trick the reader into thinking he is fighting against the ‘attack on traditional America,’ he is doing the complete opposite. He is fighting to take away the rights of a portion of the citizens of America; as Americans we cannot allow this unconstitutional, immoral idea to go on any longer.

We cannot allow Kuhner’s unconstitutional idea that homosexuals and heterosexuals are born unequal to go on any longer. He associates homosexuals with criminal behavior. First of all, homosexual is a term used to describe the feeling of love towards a person of your same gender. I have trouble connecting the definition of a relationship between two people as criminal or violent. Kuhner disagrees, “that all forms of sexual behavior are morally equal,” He insists, “They are not. The homosexual lobby is trying to mainstream perversion and vice—to put homosexuality on an equal plane with heterosexuality.” When hearing

Continued on page 11.
Cybersex

Ain’t nothing like the real thing

By Ariel Senko (staff writer)

Contemporary college culture supports students who—looking to have unique sexual encounters without first having to woo a potential partner—engage in casual sex with other like-minded people.

Surveys of college students suggest that “hook-ups” are just one way that students are forgoing romantic relationships as too time-consuming, but maintaining an active sex life. Students also turn to cybersex for virtual, no-strings-attached sexual encounters.

Cybersex is defined by the Miriam-Webster Collegiate Dictionary as “online sex-oriented conversations and exchanges.” Cybersex media include chat rooms, virtual reality sites, and webcams.

Cybersex may seem like a relatively risk-free act compared to hooking up, but make no mistake—virtual sex acts can have real-life consequences.

First of all, college students are more susceptible to compulsive cybersex use than members of any other profession, according to a study completed in 2000 titled, “Cybersex participants, abusers, and compulsives: New findings and implications.” Compulsive individuals spend so much time online that they neglect their relationships, jobs, school, or other obligations, the study says.

According to research from the 2004 study, “Online sexual activity: An examination of potentially problematic behaviors,” just 11 hours a week of “Internet pornographic behavior” (which often falls under “cybersex” definitions) is enough to lead to intrapersonal and interpersonal problems in financial, legal, occupational, and recreational areas of users’ lives.

Though relationships may not be a priority for people while they are in school, it’s safe to say that most plan to commit to a relationship eventually, and expect that sex will be a part of that relationship.

According to a study published in 1999 called, “Sexuality on the internet: From sexual exploration to pathological expression,” prolonged use of cybersex as a means of achieving sexual satisfaction can undermine an individual’s ability to maintain satisfying sexual relationships with real partners. The inability to fully enjoy a partner’s company will add stress to any relationship.

Dr. Jennifer P. Schneider, an expert in addictive sexual disorders, conducted a survey of 94 people whose partners were compulsive cybersex users. Participants in the survey reported feeling betrayed, rejected, ashamed, jealous, and angry, as well as loss of self-esteem in response to their partner’s cybersex use, and more than 20 percent of the survey participants reported ending their relationship because of their partner’s cybersex use.

And, let’s be honest—physical sex with another person simply has greater potential for pleasure than any form of cybersex. Cybersex is short on stimulation: chat rooms offer arousing ideas through text, other sites offer visuals, but often no audio. Webcams offer visual and audible stimulation. However, no form of cybersex provides the wonderful (assuming your partner is a conscientious one) tactile sensation of another person’s skin against yours.

In fact, physical intimacy is a key factor in sexual enjoyment and health, and absent from cybersex. Dr. SMART Brody, a clinical psychologist who teaches at the University of the West of Scotland, writes in his own clinical research that the body’s production of the hormone prolactin, which indicates sexual satiety, is 400 percent greater following penile-vaginal (PV) orgasm than following an orgasm produced by masturbation.

Risk of contracting STDs during sex (and of pregnancy) is reduced when condoms are used correctly and consistently, according to the Centers of Disease Control, and they can be found for free from a variety of public and health institutions. In fact, DCCC’s health center offers them.

College students already spend hours a week on networking sites, YouTube and, presumably, completing coursework—the last thing they need is to add to their time on the computer.

And, remember, in the words of Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell’s 1968 hit single, there “Ain’t Nothing Like the Real Thing,” baby.

Contact Ariel Senko at commununitarian@mail.dccc.edu
**Sticky Keyboards**

By Joseph Van Dusen  
(staff writer)

The reality of “hooking up” for college students is a dangerous one. Getting your rocks off online is just one way to avoid that sexual minefield.

In a 2007 study of college men and women, The Department of Justice (DOJ) found that 26 percent of female seniors and six percent of males “reported experiencing attempted or completed sexual assault since entering college.” The DOJ states that the majority of these attacks occurred after the victim voluntarily consumed drugs or alcohol.

Nobody has ever been raped by their computer.

Furthermore, a 2009 study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention declares, “Estimates suggest that even though young people aged 15–24 years represent only 25 percent of the sexually experienced population, they acquire nearly half of all new STDs.”

You can have as much sex as you want online and the only virus you might get will be on your hard drive.

Finally, The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy reports that 61 percent of women who have children after enrolling in community college do not finish their degree. This dropout rate is 65 percent higher than women who do not have children. Last time I checked, computers can’t reproduce either.

Some critics of cyberspace focus on the negative aspects. They point to addicts and claim cyberspace diminishes one’s ability to create and maintain real and healthy relationships.

“Cybersex addiction is the compulsive use of Internet pornography, adult chat rooms, or adult fantasy role-play sites,” bloggs Catherine McClall, a licensed marriage and family therapist. “Cyber-porn has a drug-like effect on the body and mind. Soon the user can’t control his or her use, is aroused only by images and interactions on the screen, and natural sexual responsiveness is reduced.”

Sounds horrifying.

The fact is people with addictive personalities can become addicted to anything from stamp collecting to masturbation. There were sex addicts long before there were cybersex addicts.

There will always be people who spiral out of control, weirdos who spend 12 hours a day in sex-chat rooms, sweating and grunting into a webcam until they ultimately end up curled in ball, crying on their bathroom floor.

But these people are the exception, not the rule.

Most people are fully capable of separating fantasy from reality and maintaining a healthy balance of the two. In a 2009 poll taken by MSNBC of 9,177 men and women, 92 percent reported spending fewer than 11 hours a week engaged in sexual activity on the Internet.

This hardly looks like an epidemic of sex-crazed degenerates when you consider that the average American watches four hours of television each day. Maybe somebody should focus on the health and behavioral risks of watching “The Jersey Shore.”

Advocates of cybersex believe online sexual encounters can be very satisfying. “Cybersex, like real-life sex, can be a wonderful thing—full of pleasure, skill, and sexual self-expression,” writes Bonnie Ruberg in the Village Voice.

Besides, 11 hours at a computer can’t possibly be as dangerous as trolling the bars and party scenes looking for somebody to fulfill your sexual needs.

Critics may say that cybersex is creepy or unhealthy, but I would say it pales in comparison to how creepy and unhealthy it is to have herpes or AIDS.

And if that’s not scary enough, consider the perverts who obviously can’t control their sexual urges. Just imagine if all those creeps put down their keyboards and stepped into the daylight.

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**Guest essay**

(continued from page 5)

the word vice, I immediately think of criminal acts such as: involvement in a drug cartel, or a pimp in a prostitution ring, none of which I would ever associate with a relationship between two innocent people regardless of whom they happen to fall in love with. Apparently unaware of the 1996 amendment, Kuhner has taken the law into his own hands and calls it criminal to be different, and that those people are most certainly not born equal.

Fortunately, Kuhner is not the voice behind the law, and homosexuals are born equal in America. Kuhner offends all citizens of the United States, regardless of their sexual orientation, by comparing homosexuals to society’s deviants. Kuhner insists that if we grant homosexuals the right to be married, “...it would unleash the floodgates. Polygamy, ‘transgender’ unions, bestiality, pedophilia—all forms of deviant sexual behavior could claim discrimination.”

Kuhner’s comparison of homosexuals to bestiality (relationship between a human and an animal) and pedophilia (an adult’s relationship with a child) is pathetic. He is degrading the human who may seem different to many of us because we cannot relate to his sexual preference; however, it does not make this human wrong. Therefore, it most certainly cannot be compared to an adult taking advantage of a child, or an adult who wants to engage in sexual activity with an animal. These acts are illegal.

Homosexuality is not illegal. To neglect acknowledgement of these civil rights by grouping homosexuals with social deviants is unconstitutional.

Considering homosexuality is legal in America, denying these civil rights is illegal and immoral. Kuhner defends his ‘moral agenda’ by claiming homosexuality and the choice to create a union is not a given ‘civil right.’ Kuhner ‘warns’ his readers, “marriage is not a ‘civil right.’” First of all, our ‘civil rights’ are exactly why same-sex marriage should be legal. As cited from Cornell University Law School, “Examples of civil rights are freedom of speech, press, and assembly; the right to vote; freedom from involuntary servitude; and the right to equality in public places. Discrimination occurs when the civil rights of an individual are denied or interfered with because of their membership in a particular group or class” (Italics added). To break it down, homosexuals are a particular group in our society. Now, every human is born equal, and this particular group is being denied the right to join in matrimony. For instance, if our government denied a group of citizens who follow Islam the right to worship on private property two blocks from Ground Zero, or if our government were to forbid Christians to protest outside of planned parenthoods, Americans would be outraged. The homosexual population is no different; therefore, the members of this particular group should not be treated any differently. By limiting the meaning of marriage to strictly a heterosexual relationship is unlawful and morally wrong.

Kuhner ignorantly suggests that maintaining the meaning of marriage as some people see it (only for heterosexuals) is the most important issue of our times. Kuhner believes, “the purpose of DOMA [Defense of Marriage Act] is to act as a firewall against the most revolutionary social-engineering experiment of our time: redefining marriage.” Kuhner is quick to forget that marriage was not always an equal partnership between a man and a woman. If his true intentions are to preserve the original meaning of marriage, then he must believe the groom should work strictly with the woman’s father in arranging the affair. This would only occur after working out the dowry owed to the father of the bride. Most of us may have forgotten marriage was originally a business arrangement between two men. The definition of marriage has evolved through the years, and in a positive way. Women are no longer considered property once married; instead, they
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NFL collective bargaining war rages on

By Andrew Rose (staff writer)

Back in March, the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) between the NFL team owners and the players union expired. Without agreeing upon a new CBA, there will not be an NFL season next year.

Sundays and Mondays in the winter and autumn will feel like Sundays and Mondays in the spring and summer. You and your buddies will gather to draft your Canadian Football League fantasy football teams, praying that it will be as fun as the NFL.

Most importantly, there will be no reports of Brett Favre mulling a comeback.

A collective bargaining agreement is a contract negotiated between owners and employees. Several points are brought up for discussion during negotiations until both sides agree that the contract satisfies their needs.

A number of proposals must be agreed to in negotiations. Topics include money, rule and schedule changes.

Specifically, the owners and the players union have had a hard time agreeing on a fair way to split the NFL's revenue, which is estimated to be around $9 billion per season.

This past CBA roughly split the NFL's revenue 50-50. According to NFLLabor.com, the proposal owners made to the players on March 11 would have paid players $19-20 billion in cash and benefits over the next four seasons.

This deal sounds great for players when you consider the NFL's $9 billion revenue and a 50-50 split revenue would mean a $2 billion increase in pay for players.

However, according to Forbes magazine, all revenue increased 43 percent from 2005 to 2009. If the revenue were to increase another 43 percent from 2011 through 2014 that would be a $3.87 billion increase per year and $51.48 billion in total revenue through the four years. That would add up to more than $30 billion in lost revenue for the players over the four proposed years.

Some players just want to forget about the money issues and play football. “Money ain't nothing,” said Antonio Cromartie corner back for the New York Jets. “Money can be here and gone. Us players, we want to go out and play football. It’s something we’ve been doing and we love it and enjoy it. It’s our livelihood.”

An increase to an 18-game schedule is also another topic that has been negotiated between the two sides. Team owners are really pushing for this to be accepted, as this would give them two more games to gain revenue.

But, this proposal would not be beneficial to the players. If a player plays in the league for nine years, they would play an additional 18 games over their career, taking one season in an 18-game schedule away from the player.

The average career length for an NFL player is 3.5 years according to Businessweek.com. That statistic is sure to decline with the approval of an 18-game season, not to mention two additional opportunities to get injured.

In the 2010 season alone 352 players were placed on injured reserve. Throughout the current 16-game season, players injuries average out to 22 players a week, meaning the two games 18-game schedule would add an additional 44 players to the injured reserve list.

It almost seems as if the owners are using their own financial stability to strong-arm the players into making a deal. Without a new CBA, the players will not be paid and, unfortunately, there will be financial issues for the players, who did not budget their money well.

Philadelphia Eagles defensive end Brandon Graham told phillysportsdaily.com that teammates have asked to borrow money from him. “I’ll be like, ‘What are you going to do with it, other than blow it?’” said Graham. “I don’t want to be bugging with guys on my team because they owe me money.”

There are 1,696 players spanning 32 teams, and these players are the essential reason for revenue generation for the owners. People are not attending games to see the owner, or buying the jersey of their favorite general manager.

Without the players, the game would not exist.

Contact Andrew Rose at commuter@commtuarian@mail.dccc.edu

Local baseball manager honored for 40 years of coaching athletes at DCCC

(Media, PA) The Alumni Association and Athletics Office of Delaware County Community College will recognize Coach Paul Motta for his 40 years of service to the College's baseball team. The event is scheduled for Sunday, May 1, 2011 at the Maple Campus immediately following the final home game that begins at noon.

Coach Motta began his coaching career at the College in the spring of 1971 and has coached the Phantoms to nine conference championships including a 16-0 undefeated season in 2010, the first in conference history. He has coached fifteen players to minor league assignments and a former player, Todd Rizzo, went on to the major leagues, eventually playing for the Chicago White Sox in 1998. Coach is widely regarded as one of the all-time greats on the baseball field, but more importantly, he has dedicated his life to help shape young lives whenever the opportunity presents itself.

Alumni, family and friends are invited to attend the ceremony on the field for what is sure to be a memorable event for all involved. For more information or to register for this presentation, please call Doug Ferguson, Director of Alumni Programs at (610) 339-7399 or send an email to dferguson@dccc.edu

“Delaware County Community College invites all alumni to participate in our Alumni Association and join us for our many programs and events. It is the best way to keep in touch with your classmates, stay informed about the College, learn about our services, and support the College. Alumni members can help make a difference for the many students who turn to the College for a high-quality education that is both accessible and affordable. Your contribution through the College’s Educational Foundation may fund a scholarship, support a program, equip a classroom or laboratory, or create cutting-edge facilities that enhance learning.”

Contact Andrew Rose at commuter@commtuarian@mail.dccc.edu

Articulture poster causes controversy

By Bill Goldhahn (staff writer)

In a corner on the first floor of the STEM building sits a dumpster which also serves as a coffin. Most students walk by and don’t pay any attention. But some are curious and look inside.

This work of art called “Dumpster Coffin” is part of the Articulture exhibit at the DCCC Maple campus. The exhibit is a biennial arts festival which runs from March 30 to April 27.

According to a DCCC press release, “this year’s festival is presented to cultivate performances by featured artists of both regional and international reputation.”

Recently, three lithographs (posters) that were part of the exhibit were vandalized. Lithographs that read “Satan is happy with your progress,” were torn down and spat upon, said Caitlin Flaherty, managing director of Articulture.

“[Vandalism] occurred a couple of days before the exhibition actually opened officially,” Flaherty said.

Two other lithographs remain undamaged: “Los Angeles was a riot, I laughed, think, or even admire the creativity up there to make anyone who passes by laugh, think, or even admire the creativity of the artist, George Horner.”

“If it was just an art poster, [students] should have left it alone,” said Paige Peters, 18, a liberal arts major.

“I’m sure anyone who puts effort into a paper or a piece of art here at DCCC would never appreciate his or her work being torn up or spat upon. How would you feel if your teacher ripped your paper up and spat on it? Not good right?”

Although the culprits who tore these lithographs down were not found, and may never be found, this should be a lesson for us here at DCCC. We need to respect art, and appreciate the work and personal beliefs of students at the college.

Contact Bill Goldhahn at commuter@commtuarian@mail.dccc.edu
Legal on working papers only

By Robert Tierney

Outsiders have invaded our country and begun taking our jobs, changing our economy and affecting our way of life.

The solution? Start a program that makes it okay.

Illegal immigration, the unlawful entry into our country by foreigners, typically from our southern borders with Mexico, is not so much a problem of principle but of sheer numbers.

The number of illegal immigrants residing in the U.S. has been estimated to be over 10 million since 2008, according to a study by the Congressional Research Service published in 2010. Legal on working papers only

The obvious problem with the Guest Worker Program is illegals taking away jobs from American citizens.

My critics say jobs are not truly taken away, since illegals gain employment through industries most Americans find undesirable. This could be the case in times of economic boom when the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics doesn’t place the national unemployment rate at 8.8 percent.

However, in these harsh times it is a shame that unemployed citizens cannot support their families and a disgrace that homelessness is allowed to continue.

Another problem that will continue to exist even when the Guest Worker Program is implemented is illegal immi-

bers of our society. They do not cause a threat to the education of your children. They do not steal what you

What is at stake is the maintenance of a functioning society. We

sets out a set of rules to live by, in order to maintain a functioning society. We

The meaning of marriage is a very impor-

your family lives their lives. Then the

point is simple. Accept that the two men

are equal. They do not interfere with the

society’s valuable institution of marriage.

immoral and un-American to not promote

our chances of living healthfully. They

would take over the Unemployment Program, which uses federal dollars that come from our taxes.

Speaking of taxes, it’s important to remember that even if these people

move to merely, they are considered equal. Here we are faced once again with the option to cultivate the

institutions, and once again it will only improve the definition of marriage. While the meaning of marriage is a very impor-

grant’s effects on the economy.

Whether legally allowed to work here or not, immigrants taking the jobs of citizens force more of our residents into the Unemployment Program, which uses federal dollars that come from our taxes.

unlawful employment of illegal aliens to

them up and send them back. It has

My opponents might think that I do not care that the condition of these people’s livelihood is poor in their home country. But that implies that the Guest Worker Program is the only viable option and my opposition is to foreign people attaining a better livelihood.

The truth is, instead of inviting foreigners as guest workers to improve their livelihood, some exchange should be done between American and Hispanic govern-

According to the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force, “Immigration has ... played a major role in the rise and prolifera-

And if the governments do not communicate and prove to be inefficient, it is in the hands of the people to force change in their leadership and demand the results they deserve.

Let’s not feed the problem like a bad addiction, but instead cure the depen-

Guest essay (continued from page 11)

are considered equal. Here we are faced once again with the option to cultivate the

institutions, and once again it will only improve the definition of marriage. While the meaning of marriage is a very impor-

issue, it most certainly is not the most ‘revolutionary’ of our times. It would be immoral and un-American to not promote a chance at once again improving this society’s valuable institution of marriage.

We are lucky to be Americans, and have the chance on enjoying equality. It is our responsibility as Americans to make sure everyone who lives here is able to enjoy it as well. Our constitution sets out a set of rules to live by, in order to

are immorally breaking these rules by refusing to allow homosexuals the right to marry. Embracing an alternative view point is simple. Accept that the two men’

their health, prosperity, and education) rather than trying to deprive the two men living next door of sharing the same beau-

their chance at once again improving this one life-

Questions may be directed to the editor at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

Name: Jean H. Diament

Major: liberal arts
On a hot summer work day, Teodoro Gutierrez and his crew were out in the fields picking grapes. After several hours of hard work, it was finally time for a break. The foreman provided his workers with some water, but, to Gutierrez’ dismay, in the glass are brown flakes of dirt. So he asked the foreman for more suitable drinking water. Rather than provide cleaner water, the foreman threw away the dirty water and left the workers with no water for the rest of the sweltering day.

According to United Farm Workers of America (UFWA) website, this treatment isn’t unusual for many of the migrant workers who take part in the United States Guest Worker Program. In fact, according to the organization, abuse is commonplace. Many U.S. citizens are angered by illegal immigrants who are able to find work when U.S. citizens face an unemployment rate of more than 8.8 percent.

According to the U.S. Department of State website, around 44 percent of Mexico’s population lives below the poverty line. Thus for many Mexican families, taking advantage of the Guest Worker Program is their only option. Despite popular opinion, the Guest Worker Program is beneficial for both Mexican and American citizens. The fact is, the Guest Worker Program allows Mexican citizens to fill low-paying positions that are difficult to fill, such as crop picking, yard work and construction.

Illegal immigrants typically earn significantly less than minimum wage. In an article written by the Center for Immigration Studies, illegal immigrants, on average, bring in a total of $18,952 per year. That is less than half the U.S. citizen’s average salary per year. Although this is not an ideal situation for the immigrants, the business that employs them can take the money saved from the immigrant’s low pay and expand their business. An expansion of business could lead to more exporting of the business’ goods, resulting in a boost in economy.

Another way Americans benefit from the work of illegal immigrants is through the price of goods. Since immigrant workers are paid less than American citizens, the employers of the immigrants can charge less for their products and still make a profit.

In 1962, Cesar Chavez founded the UFWA, now the largest farm workers union in the nation. Last year they launched the Take Our Jobs campaign. The campaign offered and continues to offer the jobs that illegal immigrants have to U.S. citizens. According to Arturo Rodriguez, union president of the UFWA, the campaign was designed to prove that immigrants are not actually taking jobs that Americans would want.

"Only a few dozen have really followed through with the [application] process," Rodriguez told Aaron Smith of CNN. Rodriguez added most applicants lose interest when they realize the working conditions and low wages.

Illegal immigrants should be admired for their work ethic. To support their family they work long hours for little pay. This is the kind of determination that should inspire people to do their best to support their own family. In America, Americans should not take their own job or financial situation for granted.

Opponents say immigrants drain our health care system. The Kaiser foundation, a non-profit organization that focuses on major health care issues in the United States, released a fact sheet in 2003 about immigrants and health care. In the fact sheet, it states: “Even though non-citizens are more likely to be without a usual source of care…they are less likely to go to emergency rooms than citizens.”

People should start welcoming the immigrants into our country. They are bigger part of our lives than we realize. Americans should be thankful for the opportunities that are at our disposal.

Between 13 and 17 percent of United States citizens live below the poverty line. Mexico has twice the number of people below the poverty line, and these people have fewer chances to improve their status than we do. When Mexican citizens are given the opportunity to come to America to earn money for their family, who may be worse off than we are, we get angry at them for taking our jobs. But, should we really be angry with the immigrants that are here to make money, or the employers that exploit them?

Contact Andrew Rose at communitarian@mail.dccc.edu

"Despite popular opinion, the Guest Worker Program is beneficial for both Mexican and American citizens."

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