

Student teacher enjoys spotlight in French class

LEXI WELP

Staff Reporter

From cooking, to working out, to flying on the Concorde and meeting a rock star, these are a few memorable things about Stephen Cookson, student teacher in French class. He also loves working with teens and likes theatre, plus he appreciates a great sense of humor.

Cooperating teacher: Rhonda Case

College Attending: Portland State University

Interest: Card making, cooking, playing the piano, and gardening

Were he is going to school: "I am attending



Stephen Cookson who is currently attending Portland State is a student teacher for Madame Rhonda Case in French classes. Cookson loves to cook and make cards for his friends.

Photo by Cole Fiala

Portland State University at this time and I am working on my Masters in Education."

Inspiration to become a teacher: His mom was a teacher so that was a big influence. He loves school and when he teaches he feels like he can stay there forever. When he was a teacher aide, his professor threw him into a lesson teaching students, and he loved it instantly.

Teaching experience: Besides student teaching at West Linn, he also teaches part time at the Northwest Academy, a college prep school which requires a language. He tutors children and teaches adults French. ("So their kids don't pass

them up.")

Hobbies: After school he sometimes enjoys making nice cards to give to friends or family. He loves to cook and likes to play the piano. He likes to work out at the gym or outside. He also works on his lesson plans after school. "I love cooking desserts; anything with chocolate." For card making, he finds his supplies at a craft store. "I have found that card making among teachers is not uncommon." He never sells his cards, it's only a hobby.

What his bad day looks like: The hardest part of his day is the lesson plan. He would like to fit so much more into his lesson but sometimes it is really hard

with 29 students and often a little over an hour of class. Besides that, he thinks it is a lot of fun to teach French.

His family: "I have four older sisters and one younger brother. They live all around the world. One of my older sisters lives in Switzerland." He is single, but has two sweet cats that live with him: Chloe and Dauphine.

The one thing he wants people to know: Has been on the Concorde and actually met the drummer of the band YES. "We were kind of lucky to get a flight on the Concorde for \$700. The constant service was great. The food was awesome."

Intern brings passion to counseling

LAUREN LEVINE

Co-Editor-in-Chief

Ever since she was a teenager, Julie Abel has known that she wanted to work in high schools. After student teaching at Wilsonville High School, she discovered her passion for counseling and wants to make a difference in students' lives.

Cooperating teacher: Michelle Olson

College attended: She received her Bachelors of Science in Sociology from Portland State University and is currently getting her

Masters in School Counseling at George Fox University.

Interests: She enjoys coaching cheerleading at Tualatin High School and has been on the Portland Trailblazers stunt team for the last six years.

Why West Linn: She really liked teaching at Wilsonville High School so she requested to stay in the district, plus it is closer to where she lives.

Why counseling: While she really enjoys working with high school students and making a difference, she didn't really enjoy standing up in front of 30 kids in a classroom. "I like to be more

one-on-one."

First day: Her first day on the job was the first day of school. "The staff and students are really welcoming."

Over the summer: She spent her summer coaching cheerleading and taking summer classes.

Hobbies: Her hobbies include scrapbooking, baking and staying in shape.

Best attribute: "I think I'm approachable and I have a lot of energy and I like working with this age group."

First year teacher shows natural math ability

MARY SCOFIELD

Staff Reporter

With both parents being math professors, David Ely grew up surrounded by math. Not surprisingly, he ended up being hired as a new math teacher at West Linn following student teaching here last year.

Position: Geometry, Discrete Mathematics

Education: Undergraduate degree from Lewis & Clark, Masters degree from Portland State University

Number of years teaching: First year, also coaching Freshman boys basketball

Wanted to teach math: Ely believes that teaching is fun. "I enjoy working with young people because they have their whole futures ahead of them and they can do or be anything." Both of his parents are math professors and math sort of came natural to him. I never liked it when I was younger." As he grew older

he found it was a subject he wanted to pursue. "If I was to teach any other subject it would be chemistry."



Math teacher David Ely has been around math since he was a child. He enjoys working with students and is excited about the new school year.

Photo by Cole Fiala

First day: "I had a fun first day. I wasn't nervous, I was excited to be here. I graduated from West Linn so I have pride in this school."

Hobbies: After school he likes to play basketball and tennis. He also likes to watch football, especially

homeland mourning our losses.

Will the government follow through and start the construction soon? This question has indefinitely been haunting everyone's mind. Without a doubt, only time will tell. The recent news of rebuilding seems to have more substance, planning, and vision. I only hope that this promise won't fall through like so many of the others that came before it.

Ohio State and he loves to read. He has a huge DVD collection, and he likes to watch science fiction movies, like "Lord of the Rings." Ely also loves reading

Summer vacation: Over the summer he worked on getting his teaching degree, so he hasn't really had a summer to just relax. "I do want to travel to Rome though." Many summers he goes back to Ohio to see family.

Why students need math: "Students often ask me why they need math. Math is essential for anyone who wants to do advanced science, engineering or many other things. Even those who don't use math directly outside of high school, doing math trains your mind to be a better problem solver and everyone will have to face and deal with problems in their lives."

Other random things: His favorite color is red and he prefers dogs over cats. He believes in the "golden rule", so that we can all get along.



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