

# Athletic Study Committee

## ears finish

# the print

Clackamas Community College

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Athletic Study Committee decided at its 2 meeting that it has received input to begin finalizing a final report on College athletics. At their next meeting, Nov. 15, committee members will make their individual presentations and then will formulate a recommendation at their Nov. 30 meeting to be presented to the CCC Board of Education. The board gave the committee the task of reviewing all aspects of the existing college program, its benefits to the citizens of the college district, students and the college to compare the program with that of other community colleges and to make recommendations to the board about the College's athletic programs. At their first meeting the committee decided to consult the college staff, students and members of the community at large for their opinion whether or not the College should continue to participate in intercollegiate

At their last meeting committee members heard reports from Chuck Adams, athletic director; Ernie Whisenant, department chair of metal fabrication; Dave McNabb, community relations officer; Buck Monroe, basketball and cross-country coach; and Hap Thacker, editor of The Print.

Members presented material informing the committee on the hours assigned to coaching and on estimated expenses in coaching fall sports.

Gary Gehrman, football coach, Buck Monroe, cross-country coach, and Mary Rupp, volleyball coach, have no additional coaching assignments. Of the other teacher/coaches, all teach at least 72 hours per term and some teaching as many as 288 hours, according to Adams figures.

Information was also given the committee regarding the seemingly contradictory figures for the cost of the football program. Whisenant, athletic director, had previously stated that the cost of the program was \$16,733 as opposed to Bill Ryan, director of college services, who gave a figure of \$200,000.

Whisenant's figure only shows actual expenditures for supplies—uniforms, balls, tape, etc. Ryan's figures also include costs for insurance, coaching salaries, and tuition waivers.

Whisenant, who has been with the College for eight years, said that he feels that the athletic program has always presented a problem at election time.

"I have heard from many taxpayers that they don't feel football is necessary," Whisenant said. "Some staff members also feel that way but they aren't against P.E., intercollegiate and coaches."

Whisenant felt that there was most opposition to intercollegiate football but much of the complaints against the program come from people who are uninformed about the cost of it.

"We decide to continue with the present program. I think we should educate the community and be clear about the exact cost," he said. "We should let them know

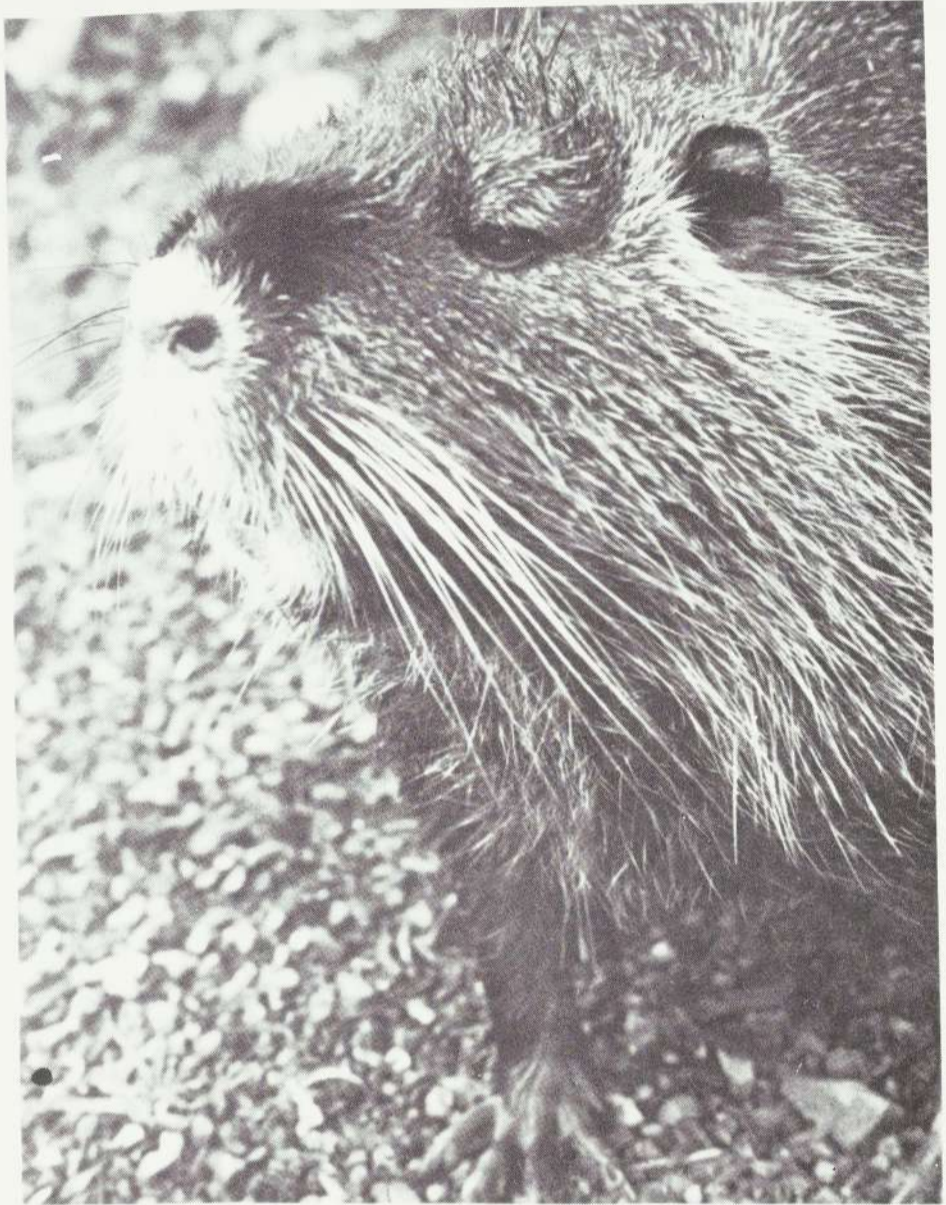


Photo by Brian Snook

This local denizen of the John Inskeep Environmental Learning Center seems to be a bit perplexed at this strange phenomenon surrounding his home early Tuesday morning as temperatures dropped to freezing and fog and frost shrouded the area. Many students were caught in the nipping cold.

they aren't mortgaging their homes to pay for football."

McNabb then spoke to the committee about what the community relations office does to inform the community about the college.

"We sent out 46,410 press releases to metropolitan newspapers, radio stations, TV stations and local newspapers last year," McNabb said.

We also hired a full-time staff member to publicize student activities, McNabb said. He was originally supposed to send out 50 percent of his releases to promote athletics but that has been changed to 75 percent for all student activities and 25 percent for athletics.

Thacker explained that The Print attempts to report sports in an unbiased fashion with two to three pages devoted to sports in every issue.

She also said that the paper would not refuse to print stories that put the College's intercollegiate teams in a bad light if they

had performed poorly.

"Our reporters report what happens, if it's bad, we report that it was bad. If it's good we say that, too," Thacker said. "As a training lab for professional journalists, we cannot print just the good stuff and ignore the bad."

Monroe, who has been a coach for 28 years and a head coach in football, basketball and track said that if the present athletic program is kept it should be supported by everyone including the board, faculty, administration and students.

Monroe said that he felt student athletes were good or better students, and said that he checked on his students regularly.

When asked about the cross-country team standings he replied that there are a number of excellent in-district students and that Clackamas County is strong enough to satisfy the recruiting needs of his program.

Almost all of his cross-country student athletes have gone on to four year schools, Monroe said.

CLACKAMAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE ARCHIVES

