

Finance committee offers solutions

A rate-based serial levy has been introduced by the Long Range Finance Study Committee in an effort to replace the annual income tax which the College has been paying in previous years, said Dr. Don Hakanson, president of the College.

The rate-based serial levy would raise \$1.60 for every \$1,000 worth of property owned in Clackamas County, Hakanson said.

The proposed levy will collect sufficient operating and building funds over a period of three years instead of every year as has been done in preceding years, Hakanson said. The serial levy will grant more money in the long run for the College each year because property value will increase from year to year, he said.

Hakanson said that if the proposed serial levy does pass, it will save the College thousands of dollars annually by eliminating costly budget elections. The serial levy will only require one budget election every three years, Hakanson said.

The proposed levy of \$1.60 per

thousand dollars of property has been carefully realized by contractors and board members and virtually all possible inflationary actions in the near future have been taken under consideration, Hakanson said.

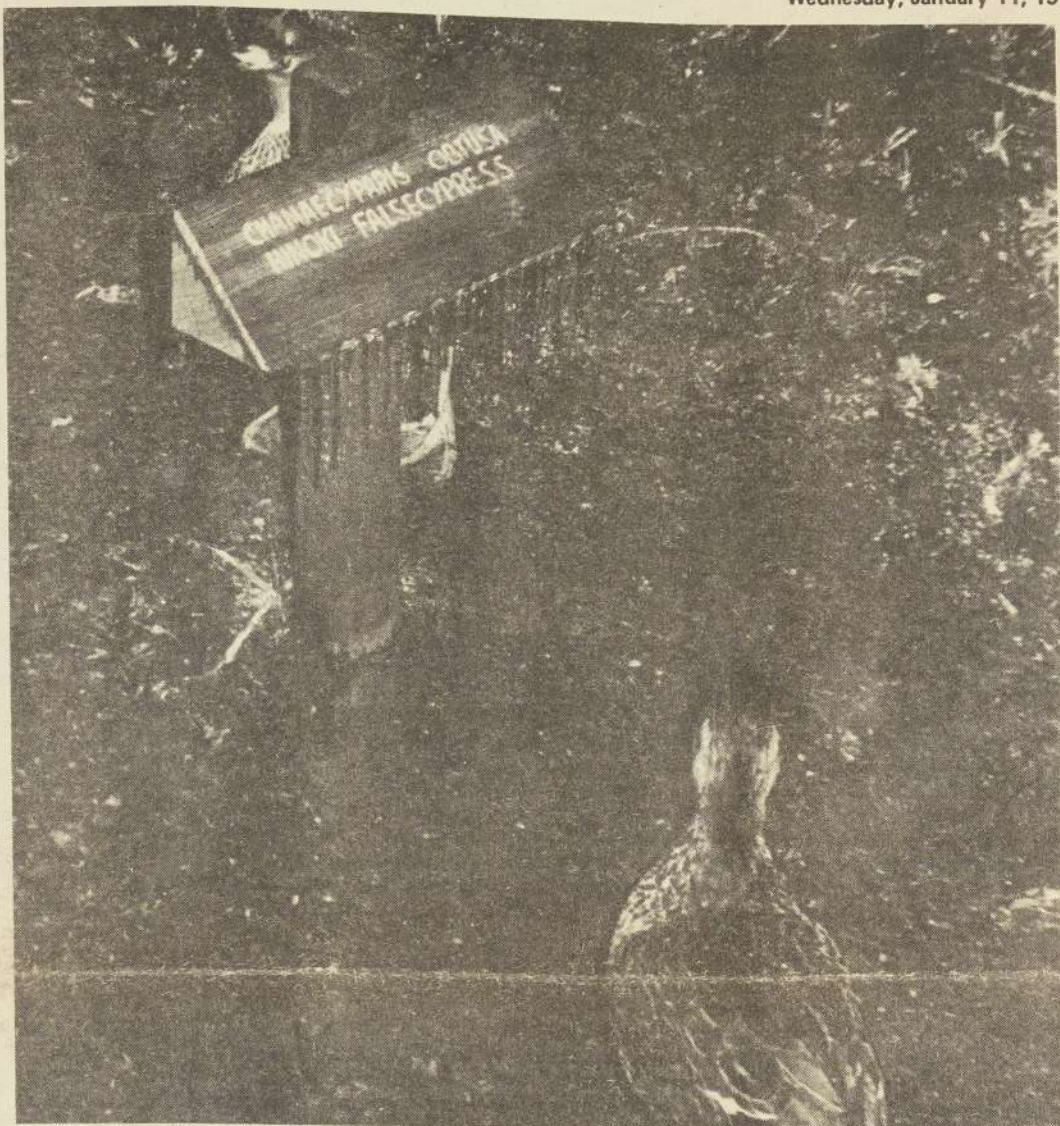
"So, at this time, we feel the \$1.60 will be a sufficient amount to ask for," he said.

As the tax base stands right now for the College, \$1.25 for every \$1,000 of property is needed to

meet operational costs, Hakanson said. The extra 35 cents has been designated for proposed building costs of the science wing, welding and auto body facilities.

If the proposed serial levy does pass the board tonight, it will be up for public election some time this spring -- probably in March or April, Hakanson said.

If the rate-base serial levy should pass the public election in the spring, construction of the science building and other proposed building sites should begin some time in 1979, according to Don Fisher, facilities development and planning officer at the College.



While a sudden ice storm hit Clackamas and surrounding counties and forced closure of the schools, the local denizens of the ecology pond

held their own school and were caught running around learning the names of the local fauna.

photo by Brian Snook

Dawn weather watch extends school vacation

By Happie Thacker
Of The Print

While many students were still asleep in their warm beds, blissfully unaware of the freezing rains and icy roads that delayed the opening of the College by a day Jan. 3, Dr. Ronald Kaiser, dean of instruction, was trying to decide whether or not to start classes.

"Although I consult with Marv Weiss, (dean of community services and community education) I have the primary responsibility," Kaiser said. "The paramount concern is for the safety of students and staff members -- not only for them to get here safely but to get them home safely also."

Since the Clackamas Community College district encompasses all of Clackamas County, except Lake Oswego and Sandy, Kaiser must be concerned about the road conditions throughout the county, not just those close to the college.

"I have people spotted throughout the county," Kaiser said, "in Molalla Lake Oswego Heights, Gladstone and Estacada. These people are early risers and generally start calling me with reports about 4:30 or 5 a.m."

Kaiser's weather-watch actually begins the night before when he listens to weather reports and tries to decide if there is a possibility of bad weather.

If there appears to be any cause for worry he calls the county sheriff's office, the North Clackamas Early Bird School Bus Dispatch and the weather service the next morning at about 5 a.m. to check on road conditions. He then has time to make a decision before people in outlying areas start leaving for school.

"I try to gather all the information I can about weather conditions," Kaiser said, "but the acid test comes when I step out my front door. I have concrete steps and if I can't get down them I know it's bad."

Kaiser, who lives in Beaver Creek, then tries to drive around the area and down to the college to check on road conditions there.

"Once the determination is made to close the school, we make a call to the Portland services that contact about 10 other radio stations," Kaiser said.

"We usually make the decision by 5:40 a.m. and it takes awhile to get it on the radio, but by 6:30 it's on the air."

Then Kaiser or Weiss comes to the school and puts the message on the code-a-phone by 6:30 for those who call in seeking information.

Kaiser will also close the college in the middle of the day if weather conditions deteriorate after students arrive. Students in the buildings will be notified, notices placed on the entrances to

the buildings, and again announcements will be called into radio stations in the area.

These unplanned holidays have only happened two or three times in the three years this program has been in operation.

Before the decision was made to close school completely they tried such things as telling the students to stay home (while faculty and administration were supposed to report in for work) or delaying classes an hour or two.

Neither of these plans was very successful, according to Kaiser, since weather conditions didn't generally improve enough during the day to warrant starting classes and it wasn't fair to require the staff to risk driving on dangerous roads.

"The staff still gets paid if they can't get here because of the weather," Kaiser said. "It wouldn't be fair to punish them for something they have no control over."

"The main thing is that we keep it so that people don't get injured trying to get here, it's just not that important and regardless of whether or not the college is closed, students and faculty are urged to use their own good judgment about coming in and not to take risks."

