

# Wage earners greet income tax season

Once again many students, as well as full-time employees, are required to file their state and federal income taxes for wages earned in 1977.

According to Dale Potts, Public Affairs Officer, almost all employed students will be filing with the 1040A short form.

Short and Potts stressed that students should be aware of several things when filing their taxes. "Students should be aware of federal income credit," Potts said. This applies to people who earned less than \$8,000 in 1977 and are a dependent. This provides credit whether or not income deductions were made from wages.

"Childcare," Potts said, "provides deductions needed for childcare expenses, and applies to those engaged in school or who are working full-time. People working part-time do not qualify for tax credit," Potts added.

Another point Potts and Short stressed is that students should be aware of the various tax books available from the IRS. The "IRS Publication," "Tax Benefits for Americans (554)," "Tax

Benefits for Low Income Individuals (596)," and "Childcare (503)," are available to anyone who desires them and can be ordered directly by phoning the toll free number, 1-800-452-1996, or by using the coupon on the back of the tax page.

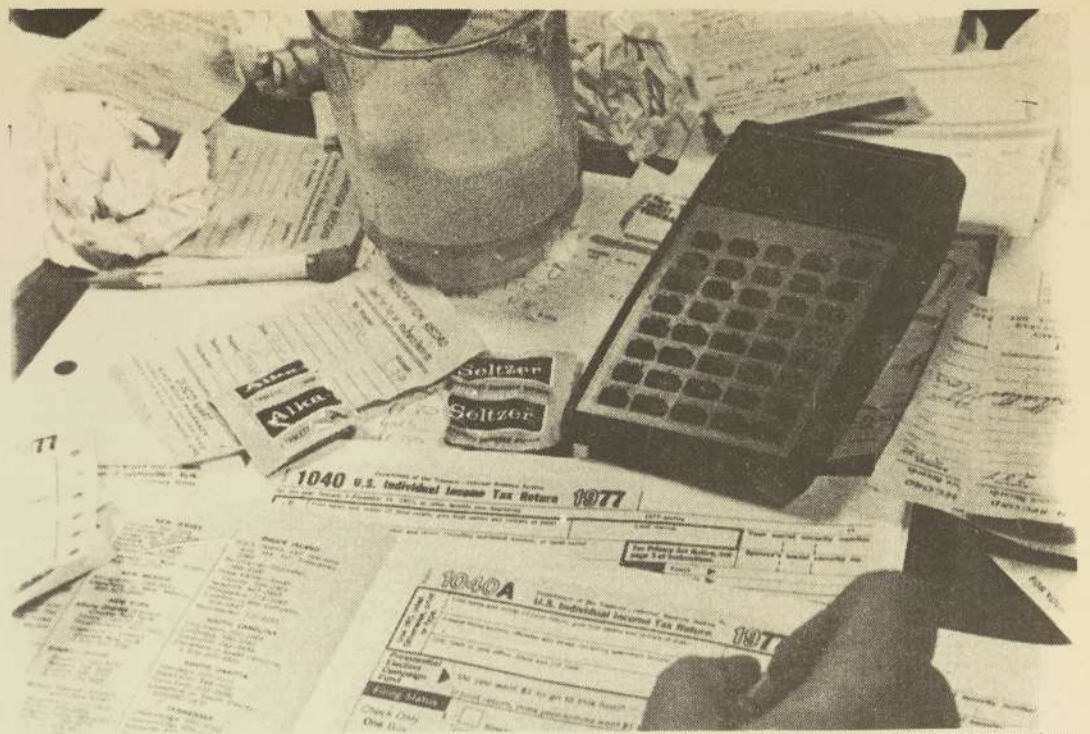
It is necessary to file an income tax return if earnings exceeded \$2,950 for singles, \$4,700 for marrieds, \$3,700 for singles over 65, and \$6,200 for marrieds over 65, Potts said.

Students, as well as the general public, having difficulties with their tax preparations are encouraged to contact the various tax offices located in Portland, Eugene and Salem, for assistance.

The services will be open from Jan. 3 through April 15, Short said.

Offices for joint assistance, (Federal and State), are located at 1220 S.W. Third Avenue, Portland; 595 Cottage Street, N.E. Salem; and 211 E. Seventh, Eugene.

The Portland toll free telephone number for information is 1-800-452-1980 and for tax publications and forms, 1-800-452-1996.



It's tax time again this year and for many it means lots of beer, cigarettes, late nights, Alka-Seltzer, and especially a lot of calculations. Some

save themselves the agony and take their worries and W-2's to the local tax office and let the professionals do it.

photo by Lorraine Stratton

## 'Women writers' class offered nights

Evening students at the College are being offered the chance to take a course previously only offered to day students.

"Introduction to Women Writers,"

a class focusing on greater awareness of literature by women writers will be held for 10 weeks, beginning Jan. 5 from 7 to 10 p.m.

As a special feature of the course, students will read some literature from local writers, including Portland science fiction and fantasy author Ursula Le Guin, (winner of the Nebula Prize for Science Fiction); Vancouver, Wash., poet Mary Barnard; and Victoria Howard, a native America storyteller from the Clackamas tribe.

Instructor Anita Helle has written about women artists and writers for Willamette Week, Encore, a

Magazine of the Arts, and the San Francisco Review of Books.

"Examined closely, the legacy of women writers is unexpectedly rich and diverse," Helle said.

"The trouble is that many standard anthologies of American and English literature have included only one or two representative female figures from a given period or genre: Emily Dickinson speaks for the American Renaissance, for example; and Elizabeth Barrett Browning for the English Victorians.

"Many important women writers have simply been overlooked," she said.

## Student health insurance offered; application deadline January 13

Accident-prone students, or those who desire accident coverage for any on-campus mishap, are being advised to take advantage of the low-cost accident insurance policy being made available during registration.

This accident insurance policy will, for \$5 per term, cover almost anything that occurs on campus. On-campus accidents will not be covered by the school for students who do not have this insurance coverage.

"If a student is involved in high-risk areas in terms of campus activities such as welding, auto body, horseback riding or classes that take them out on field trips such as geology, the accident insurance, at \$5 per term is a nominal amount," said Bonnie Hartley,

college nurse. "Especially considering that if they fall and break a leg or sprain an ankle it offers up to \$5,000 coverage."

Also being offered is a combination accident and medical plan that covers hospital and medical expenses for students and their families.

Primarily designed for students who are living away from home and who are not covered by any other insurance, this combination policy also offers a \$5,000 major medical plan.

"The amount of hospital room and board coverage is approximately 80 percent of the basic cost for up to 30 days," Hartley said.

For one quarter a student can be covered for \$23.86, a student

and one dependent for \$54.91, and with two or more dependents the cost is \$76.41.

Students who sign up now for three terms not only receive reduced rates of \$71.58, \$164.73, and \$229.42 respectively, they are also covered during the summer and quarter breaks at no additional charge.

"If they (students) were to get insurance from one of the conventional sources," Hartley said, "they could conceivably expect to pay twice as much as what our school insurance costs."

The last day to sign up for this insurance during winter quarter is Friday, Jan. 13. For more information contact B. Hartley, ext. 250 or pick up a brochure in the student activities office.

## RSVP awarded federal funds

The Clackamas County Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) has been awarded federal funding for the sixth consecutive year, according to Judy Smith, director of the program which is located at the College.

The \$32,166 in funds is part of a continuation grant from the federal government which comprises only part of the total budget for RSVP. The grant was presented by ACTION, a federal agency for volunteer service.

Smith said the amount of the federal grant is always the same and that RSVP receives funds from three other sources. The College provides space and funds for the senior citizen agency. Various agencies within Clackamas County also provide monies for operation of the program.

An additional money source for RSVP is through various fundraising events throughout the year, Smith said. RSVP sponsored a talent show - Holiday Capers - in December which netted the organization over \$800. The talent event featured senior citizens in the entertainment acts.

"We hope this will become an annual event to raise \$2,000 to RSVP has volunteers placed in offices, libraries and hospitals; working with children in public schools; helping in nursing homes and community action service centers. Volunteers also provide trans-\$3,000 each year for us," Smith said.

According to Smith, 425 volunteers are expected to contribute

72,150 hours of their time, skills and knowledge to non-profit organizations in the county in 1978. portation in the county, help to deliver meals to shut-ins, work with the Loaves and Fishes program and sew and mend for various agencies. Many senior citizens also serve on advisory councils and steering committees for several agencies in the county, Smith said.

## ELC sponsors sing-a-long

The West Linn Inn, located on the West Linn side of the Oregon City bridge, is the setting for a benefit sing-a-long Saturday, Jan. 14, 8 p.m. to midnight.

The sing-a-long, sponsored by the Association for Environmental Education Centers in Clackamas County, a private non-profit group concerned with the promotion of optimum use of resources, is a benefit for completion of the John Inskip Environmental Learning Center located at the College.

"The proceeds from the sing-a-

long will go towards a pavillion at the site," said Danny Carlile, special projects coordinator. "The pavillion will provide meeting space for community groups and will house an information and referral center concerned with environmental topics."

Entertainment will include song leaders, piano music and a barber-shop quartet.

Tickets are \$5 and include the cost of beer and sausage. Tickets may be purchased at the door, the Student Activities office.



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Wednesday, January 11, 1978

