

Cultural center offers aid

By Happie Thacker
Of The Print

For persons, both Indian and non-Indian, who are seeking a greater cultural awareness, Anpo (Dawn) offers some help.

Anpo is a Native American cultural awareness center located on the Clackamas River near Carver.

"It's mainly for the purpose of giving our people self identity and a good self-image," said De Vere East Man, director of Anpo.

"The white man doesn't have a culture," he said, "but a society or self-destructive system because there is no culture."

According to East Man, this lack of culture is one of the main causes of problems such as alcoholism, unemployment and drug abuse among both Indians and non-Indians.

"These people have problems because they are not aware they are a culture and that they are not whole," said East Man. "The spiritual side of a man needs food to survive. People come here because they need something --they're searching for something."

Through practices such as the sweat-lodge ceremony, dancing, discussion groups and instruction in Indian culture, Anpo helps individuals in the treatment of their particular problem.

After becoming involved with Anpo, individuals "have a better understanding of changes out there (in white society). When they run into a problem they can call upon their creator and ask for wisdom or power to deal with problems," East Man said.

Through an affiliation with such groups as the Urban Indian Center, Anpo is also able to provide employment, medical referrals and temporary housing, and the center itself is available for community activities.

East Man, who was raised on a reservation in South Dakota, is concerned about the problems

white society causes for Indian youngsters.

He feels that boarding schools are indoctrination centers and only teach a child to hate his own "Indianess" thus hating himself.

East Man is involved with the Chemawa Indian school near Salem and goes there periodically to talk to the students and "tell them they're different."

Counselors at the school also bring students out to participate in sweat-lodge ceremonies and other aspects of Anpo life.

The Sweat-lodge is perhaps the focal point of the cultural center.

Also called a purification lodge, it is used to purify the bodies and souls of those who use it.

There are two lodges, one for men and one for women. Inside everyone sits in a circle and "communicates with the creator," according to East Man.

This circle of people creates a living example of the Indian circle philosophy that the past is the future, the future is the past and the past is coming, said East Man.

The sweat-lodge ceremonies are open to anyone who is sincerely interested, East Man said. They are generally held every Friday, weather permitting and are followed by singing, drum music and dancing.



Photos by Brian Snow

The sweat-lodge ceremony is an important part of the cultural teachings at Anpo, the Native American Cultural Center on the Clackamas River near Carver.



Bird skull perched atop flagpole at Anpo.

Vocational talks plagued by jargon

Jargon and vagueness dominated the Vocational Education Planning Workshop held Jan. 17 in Salem, according to Don Bixler, associated Student Government vice president and a student representative from the College at the workshop.

"It was very interesting and very confusing," said Bixler, "It was like being a patient with a terminal illness with 10 doctors around your bed talking in jargon with you trying to understand what they're saying."

Bixler attended the conference along with Dale Holland, ASG senator, and two members of the College's administration, Pat Lantz division chairperson for health, P.E. and human services and Judy Thomas, coordinator of occupational therapy.

As student representatives however, Bixler felt that he and Holland didn't have as much voice as they should have had.

"I thought it would be more open discussion to really sit down and hash the rough spots over in the vocational education field and come up with ideas to change it and set new goals," said Bixler.

Instead, we discussed a worksheet consisting of 17 different ideas and had to write down whether we agreed, disagreed or were unsure about the ideas, he said.

"Deciding what they wanted was really hard because the working was so vague," he said. "We were divided into groups of people to discuss these ideas. The representative from the State Board of Education, who was in our group, already had his mind made up."



Don Bixler

... Student representative up and didn't give the rest of us a chance to say anything. The participants in the workshop, approximately 125 members of various school boards, instructors and about 10 students, also reworded proposals in order to make them more specific.

"We changed some of the wording that was too vague and narrowed it down to certain categories," said Bixler.

"All in all, to me this was part of the process of the bureaucratic system that has to be gone through so that when they go to the legislature for funding they can say we spent one day going over proposals and making recommendations."

"I'm not sure how it will affect the College by itself or how it will affect vocational education, but there were some good recommendations," he said.

One of these recommendations was to use existing facilities within school districts and bus students to them rather than building new facilities that the individual schools might not be able to afford.

One of the changes that needs to be made, according to Bixler, is a re-structuring of the availability to any interested student of vocational education facilities.

"This is where the College started climbing the ladder because we had a program for blind students in machine shop before anyone else, I believe," he said.

Clackamas Community College

Counseling center offers mental health aid

Mental health counseling is a new service available to students and faculty at the College.

Rick Weiss, an employee of the Clackamas County Mental Health Clinic, is available for counseling on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the College counseling center.

"I'm available to talk with people about concerns and issues they would like to talk about to a person from the Mental Health Clinic," Weiss said.

Weiss, a graduate student in the School of Social Work at Portland State University (PSU), is finishing his masters degree practicum at the clinic.

"I'm a resource person," Weiss said. "I stretch the boundaries of the clinic by going into the community rather than having them come to me."

"Social workers are different than psychiatrists. There is a dif-



Rick Weiss
... Mental Health Counselor

ferent focus on what we do," he said. "I'm interested in the linkages between people and people; people and the environment; and people and the community."

Weiss is available to talk about personal counseling issues, mental health, community resources and also faculty consultation on an issue.

Mental health, parenting, Transactional Analysis for teenagers, and consultation are just some of the classes Weiss has taught as well as running training workshops.

Besides Weiss' job at the Mental Health Clinic, he is currently on the staff of Lutheran Family Services. Previously, he was assistant director for Parrott Creek Boys Ranch.

"I've been a resource person, working in lots of different settings for 14 years," Weiss said.

Appointments to see Weiss may be made by contacting the College counseling center.

Student exhibits chess prowess

By Scott Starnes
Of The Print

Richard Becker, an engineering student here at the College, is also a championship chess player who competes in various tournaments and chess opens playing on the expert level.

Becker, who has played chess since he was four or five, began playing seriously when he was a freshman at Benson High School. "I was involved in a chess club at Benson," said Becker, "but I was really inspired with the game after playing in the OMSI (Oregon Museum of Science and Industry) tournament," he said.

"The next year, our family moved to Oregon City where I finished my high school education," Becker said. "While at Oregon City I found that they were pro-chess and ranked as one of the best chess teams in the state. My experiences from playing

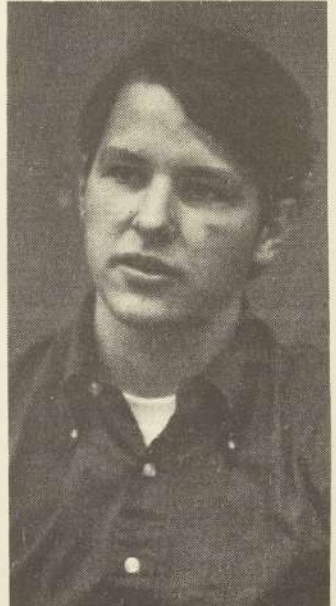
at Oregon City led to my competition seriousness' Becker added.

Becker has played approximately 60 rated chess games in his career. "A rated game," according to Becker, "is a game where each player is designated a rating prescribed by the chess federation. The rating was a mathematical formula devised by a Harvard professor some 20 years ago. The rating, in effect, signifies how good you really are in terms of your ability to play chess."

Anywhere from a 2000 to 2200 rating separates the amateur from the expert, he added. Becker sports a rating somewhere in between these figures.

Becker said that the average length of time for a single chess match is usually around four-and-one-half hours or 45 to 50 moves. Some matches last much longer, but they appear less frequently, Becker said.

Becker's plans for the immed-



Richard Becker
Junior Tourney Chess Champ

iate future are to accept the invitation to the Oregon Chess Championship which is being held at Portland State University rather than fly to Montana and attend the ACU-I regionals.

"Another player, including myself, were accepted to the tournament in Montana, but I declined because I'd rather play with the bigwigs who will be attending the Oregon Chess Championship," Becker said.

Becker's greatest excitement occurred when he captured first place in the Oregon Junior Championship. "The victory enabled me to be a participant in either the ACU-I tournament or the Oregon Chess Championship," he said.

"Other than playing chess, I enjoy athletics" Becker said. "I like to jog a lot when I can find some spare time from school."

Becker resides in Oregon City and is currently taking 19 credit hours at the College.

