

# With college funding Iranian students face problems

By Kelly Laughlin  
Of The Print

The banks are now closed in Iran, as are most businesses, both as protest to the new civilian government, and as the wish of newly returned religious leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

Current turmoil in the distant mid-east country has reached home for three foreign exchange students attending the College this year.

One is Massoud Bahrani, who was graduated from Rex Putnam High School last year. A freshman at the College, Massoud lives with his uncle who is part owner of a restaurant in Portland.

Massoud depends on his father for college money. Massoud's father returned to Iran after assuring Massoud's safe arrival here two years ago. For the fall and winter terms, Massoud received substantial tuition from his homeland, but is not certain what will happen in the spring. One thing is certain however, Massoud's father was recently accepted as a U.S. citizen, and Massoud will be staying here as a permanent resident in the district. He will no longer need a student visa, and may receive a slight kick-back in tuition fees.

In-district community college students at Clackamas pay a standard \$125 in tuition per quarter, while Massoud and other foreign students have been paying \$440 per term, the cost charged to all out-of-district students.

It is possible that Massoud may be able to begin looking for work soon. His citizenship is in a transition period. With his father recently being accepted as a U.S. citizen, the result is a very unique and shaky situation.

For those Iranian students with no immediate probability of citizenship, however, finding work means overcoming many

obstacles. Permission to seek employment by a foreign student has to be approved by the immigration committee after the student's immediate needs are cleared by a counselor.

According to Vince Fitzgerald, foreign student advisor at CCC, the individual should only seek work as a full-time student. Usually, the minimum for full-time schooling is 12 credit hours. Work can only be looked for in time of crisis, and the job should not interfere with studies. Employment should only last as long as the crisis continues, Fitzgerald explained.

Massoud has not yet found it necessary to begin seeking employment. He is relatively secure living with his uncle, and contended that the current turmoil in his homeland doesn't severely affect his schoolwork or lifestyle. For others, however, the problems in Iran have touched them more deeply.

Kamal Balighi, an engineering student at the College, came here originally from Miami College and Portland State University a year and a half ago. Kamal transferred to study and stay close to friends in the area. With the onslaught of problems in his country, and the resulting lack of funds about three months ago, Kamal began to wait and worry. Now, Kamal says he spends between three and four hours in front of the television and radio daily. Excluding his time attending the college, a majority of his time has been spent looking for work.

Though Kamal originally preferred a job that would best fit his interests, he is now willing to do nearly anything for money. After three months, finding work for Kamal has become a thankless task. "I don't know why they just keep saying, 'fill out an application, and we'll call you later.'" After

10 to 12 applications, "No one has called," he said, and repeated, "No one."

Basic alienation, Kamal agreed, has been another problem that has affected him. "I don't know why they don't give me work, especially because I need a job so badly. They are very friendly to me, but I can't understand why they don't give me work. That's what I really want." Kamal said that if he does not find work soon, he will have to return to his country.

Ebrahim Jahangiri, a married, 26-year-old student at CCC, is also from Miami College, and a friend of

Kamal's. Ebrahim previously enjoyed 18 hours of schooling at PSU, but had to drop some classes and come to CCC because of a lack of money. Ebrahim has yet to begin looking for work, and, like Kamal, is having a hard time diverting attention from the current difficulties in Iran. Both Ebrahim and Kamal cannot study, and at the very least find it hard to concentrate on their studies. Their families are in Iran as are their consciences. Breaking the current barrier of finances and worry will depend on what happens here as well as in their homeland, they agreed.

## Students get help choosing a career

Choosing a career can often be a trying experience for the college student. It is a decision that can affect us for a lifetime. Making the right career choice is almost as important as choosing the right marriage partner, and many students at the College are finding it difficult to find a major because of this fact.

So what is the answer? It may be found in a new class being offered for occupationally undecided students, entitled Industrial Orientation.

"The class is designed for students interested in getting into a trade, and for anyone who hasn't made a definite decision on a career yet," said Larry Noonan, class coordinator.

The class features a complete overview of nine different occupational fields, including drafting, machine shop, welding, electronics, audiovisual and video, agriculture-horticulture, industrial

hydraulics, auto mechanics and auto body refinishing. Students will be working with mostly "hands on" operations, according to Noonan.

The class is being offered noon to 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and will be held at the same time next term. Grading is pass/no-pass with a ten-credit variable. Another plus is that there are no assignments or tests. Attendance and participation is all that is required to pass the course. Noonan pointed out that the class is open to women. At present there are seven male and two female students enrolled.

"I see a definite need for this type of thing at the College," said Noonan. "Many people who come here are undecided on a career."

For more information on the class, contact Noonan at 656-2631, ext. 355, 8 a.m. to noon daily.

### Need a ride?

central ride swap board for Clackamas Community College promises to be in effect Thursday outside of the office, in the Community Center.

encompassing all in district of the college, and some of the district, the system include cards for people need rides and people can give rides.

The central book swap, which will be in effect at the location, is still in the "testing stages" according to President Mike McCarty.

### Depression subject for seminar

Focus on Women's next seminar will be a joint venture with the Men's Resource Center, titled "Everyone's Acquainted: Depression." It will be held 10:15 in Randall 101, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The workshop is designed to help participants a better understanding of the dynamics surrounding depression as well as providing a framework through which to deal more effectively with depression.

The instructor, Jerry Juve, is a psychiatric social worker from McLoughlin Mental Health Center.

Thursday, Feb. 7, 1979

NEW



Toast  
of the Coast

Big Mouth from  
Mickey's Malt Liquor

©1978 G. HEILEMAN BREWING CO., INC., LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN AND OTHER CITIES

