

# Career data more visible

The College's counseling department now offers a new centralized career center. The career information has always been available to students, but it is now visible and more organized, according to Bernie Nolan, college counselor.

There are several books available explaining various careers and job opportunities. "Occupational Outlook Handbook" is one such book, updated yearly by the Department of Labor. The book gives

information on the nature of various jobs, places of employment, training needed, salaries, working conditions and also the future outlook for hundreds of jobs, according to Nolan.

If students want to know

which corporations are hiring a certain group of college graduates, such as engineers, the "College Placement Annual" has that information and also general descriptions of all the major companies in the United States.

There are also several "how to" books available on helping a student perform a career search. Also located in the career center are the college bluebooks, which give descriptions of college and vocational schools nationwide.

In addition to books there are other options available to searching students.

The C.I.S. (Career Information System) is a computerized system open to all students. This system provides



Bernie Nolan

information on job descriptions, training needs and employment outlook for the Portland metropolitan area. Anyone wishing to use the computer should contact the counseling secretary.

The testing department also offers several interest tests that

are designed to give students information that should help them make career choices, such as, the Edwards Personality Profile and the Strong Vocational Interest Test.

For further information on career guidance, contact the counseling department.

## Nolan voted new Focus chairperson

Bernie Nolan, new Focus on Women Chairperson, will assume chairmanship today during a steering committee meeting. Bill Hargadine, appointed Ms. Nolan with the approval of the steering committee. She replaces Bernice Evans, who has been chairman since the beginning of Focus on Women.

"The Focus on Women program has been strong involving women from the community with the College. Hopefully, we will be able to continue a strong program in the future. With the continued support of the women on campus, Focus on Women will continue its present direction," said the new chairperson.



## Tax mistakes can cost

By Kelly Laughlin  
Of The Print

It's tax time again. And while many people are hurriedly filling out 1040's and 1040A's, errors can make that wait by the mailbox seem indefinite.

One taxpayer, when filing for 1977 tax returns, waited until August merely because he signed his name on the wrong line. He also got stuck for a long distance call from the main office of the Internal Revenue Service, in Idaho.

Dale Potts, Public Affairs Officer for the Oregon IRS, encourages all taxpayers to "double check everything before mailing."

Potts also cited tax breaks that some students and renters may be overlooking.

Under certain conditions, deductions in educational expenses for employment, trade or business can be made.

"Primarily, though, you must be employed in the profession that relates to your education," he said.

Specifically, however, employees must meet the expressed requirements of employers, or requirements of law or regulations, for keeping salary, status or employment, if the requirements imposed serve a bona fide business purpose of the employer.

The education must maintain or improve skills required in performing the duties of present employment or trade,

or other business. Deductions can not be made if they result in classes taken to meet the minimum educational requirements for qualification in employment or other trade or business, or are part of a program of study that will lead to qualifying persons in a new trade or business, even if the education maintains or improves skills required in employment.

Educational expenses can include amounts spent for tuition, books, supplies, laboratory fees and similar items, and some travel and transportation costs. Expenses for education are an itemized deduction that appears on Schedule A in form 1040 as a miscellaneous deduction.

When parents are both employed or attending some form of schooling, they may be eligible for a child care credit.

"This money, however is not refunded," Potts said, "it only reduces the liability."

If a parent has one dependent, maintains half the income for a child's care, and earns less than \$8,000 per year, they are eligible for an Earned Income Credit where a percentage of what they owe in taxes is sliced off the amount they owe.

"The percentage taken off, depends upon their income bracket," Potts said.

Both students living at home, and parents that pay more than half of their support,

can claim a \$750 exemption on their individual returns.

Students may be eligible for a homeowner-rental refund on their yearly income of \$15,999 or less. Again, the amount of the refund depends upon the income of the student. Energy credit can be obtained for taxpayers who are homeowners and renters who spend money on energy conservation in their dwelling. The law, which is retroactive to April 20, 1977, provides a tax credit up to \$300 for energy conservation materials installed in the home, with a separate credit of as much as \$2,000 for taxpayers who install renewable energy source devices like solar or wind equipment.


The limited credit is deductible at 15 percent of the \$2,000 used on such items as storm or thermal window doors, insulation, weatherstripping and caulking. Fuel replacement burners, opening modifications, electrical or mechanical systems to replace gas lights and clock thermostats also qualify. Renters as well as homeowners are eligible for the credit.

## Jog for easy cash

In an active effort to supplement the College's department's budget, runners are filling out spreadsheets in an effort to meet eligibility for the upcoming A-Thon—Walk-A-Thon.

Taking place at the College track on March 9, at 7 p.m., the hour long event is designed to take in funds on a per laps basis. Though the actual intake of funds will depend upon the amount of individual sponsors, the department heads have set a goal of \$10,000.

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