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# the PRINT

Clackamas Community College

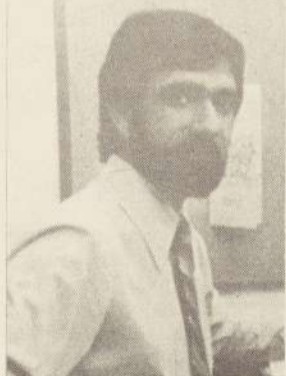
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## Computer era productive for farms Instructor devises unique program

Baling hay by computers is a fantasy. But Farm Business Management Instructor Steve Watts is helping local farmers use microcomputers to their advantage.

Watts came to Clackamas Community College a year ago and has added a dimension to the Farm Business Management program, which has created an enrollment waiting list for the first time since the program began in 1977. The



Steve Watts, designer of Agri-Business computer program.

class is currently full with 36 students.

The unique aspect is that the class is the only program in the Northwest that utilizes the computer with full-time farmers. The computers help the farmers with tax planning, financial records, inventory and other record keeping. Watts estimates that it saves farmers an average of 60 percent in time.

"They can still use the old hand method, but most of them choose the microcomputers," Watts said. "About 70 percent of the farmers have computers in their farm offices and the other 30 percent come in and use ours."

The College currently has two microcomputers set up in the Media Center at Clairmont Hall that the farmers have access to. In addition to the computers, monthly seminars are given and Watts pays a personal visit to each farm.

Watts said the program is set up on a financial year basis beginning in January and en-

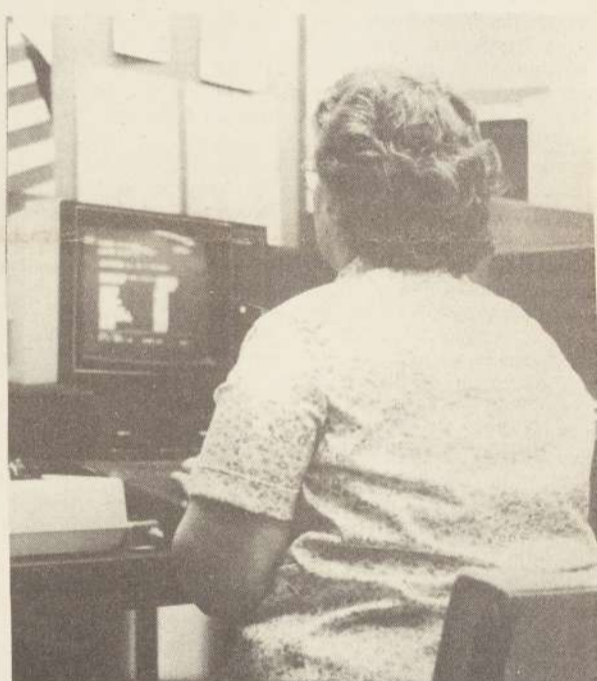
ding in December. The course is a three-year program that the farmers complete in yearly segments.

Acceptance of the program seems to be increasing, Watts said, and next year a class dealing with microcomputer applications in agriculture will be required for the College's two-year program in Agri-Business.

Interest in a program like this comes naturally for Watts, who also does consulting work with farmers in microcomputers by designing systems and customizing record keeping for farmers.

Future expansion of the program is stationary momentarily because of the financial bind that the College is in, but Watts said given the opportunity to expand they could.

"We could expand but we probably won't. Right now we are going to stick with the enrollment waiting list. Anytime the College wants us to expand, we can," Watts said.



Photos by Joel Miller  
MARY JO STAEHELly works on farming records for Valley View Guernsey Farms near Canby. Staehely is a student in the newly formed Farm Business Management program.

## Video-Tech department suffers severe cutback of program

By Steve Lundgren  
For The Print

With the recent elimination of three of its classes, the Video Technology program at Clackamas Community College "has been more or less phased out" as a separate instructional program, according to Lee Turpin, vocational career counselor at the College.

The elimination of the classes and the subsequent change of the program's status was the result of a number of factors. According to sources,

budget considerations, the findings of a job search survey for video technology, and the recommendations of an advisory committee played a major part in bringing about the change. A gradual decline in the program's enrollment was also cited as a factor.

While the program has not been eliminated, its emphasis has been changed. Until this year it included actual production projects. The course of study was changed last spring and all production-oriented classes were eliminated in favor of a pro-

gram that is more technically oriented, Chuck Scott, assistant dean of math, science and engineering said. The Video Technology program is under the control of the Electronics Technology Department at the College.

The change was instituted largely on the recommendation of an advisory committee that included representatives from local television stations KATU and KOAP. Scott says that the committee recommended a shift to a program  
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Photo by Russ McMillen

CARLOS RICKETSON, VIDEO Technology instructor, refers to the program as "defunct." Cuts were made to three of the four classes offered at the College.

