

Clackamas becomes testing ground for foreign sewage treatment unit BIO MAX

CCC, Japanese firms strike up valued friendship

Clackamas Community College has been selected as one of two schools in the nation to conduct an revolutionary experiment with a new sewage treatment unit patented by the Japanese and licensed through a local distributor.

"The 'Bio-max' system is designed to replace the septic system in widespread use today," John Lewis, water technology chairman at the College said.

The system is an enclosed fiberglass sewage treatment unit designed to intercept wastewater from homes, and through biological action, convert it into water safe for use in irrigation.

The Department of Environmental Quality has com-

missioned the College to conduct a feasibility study on the unit to determine if it is environmentally safe for public use.

Lewis said that the system would work well for the person wanting to live in a remote area, and yet did not want to deal with a septic system.

The wastewater from the Bio-max unit can be dispersed in three ways, Lewis said. It can be released into the surface water system including streams and rivers, which is commonly done in Japan; it can be disposed of into the underground system, similar to the septic tank system, but far more desirable because it would not clog an underground drainfield like a normal septic system; or it can be put into holding tanks an-

used to irrigate crops, Lewis added. It is this third option that the College will be examining closely.

Lewis said that the manufacturer and its representatives has born all the expenses involved with the set-up of the system. He said that if an equipment expense ever arose because of the unit, the manufacturer would also foot that bill.

The unit is in place at the College, but is awaiting the arrival of a blower unit from Japan before the experiment will begin. The blower is due any day.

Lewis said there is a license to produce the bio-max unit in the United States, and with local production, the unit should cost between \$2,000 and \$2,500.

Clackamas Community College has gained a new friend.

Japanese industrialists, through their American distributors, are beginning to nurture a friendship with the College that stands to benefit both institutions.

The latest gesture is the donation of three computer hard-disk drives for the planned expansion of the College's instructional computer program. Earlier this month, Clackamas learned it had been selected as one of two colleges in the nation to conduct a revolutionary experiment with a new sewage treatment unit patented by the Japanese.

Last Week, Fujitsu, Japan's largest computer manufac-

turer, delivered the disk drives for use in the College's Mathematics/Computer Science Department.

Department Chairmen Jim Streeter said the unsolicited donation would greatly improve the storage capacity for computer science work stations.

Fujitsu plans to build a new disk-drive manufacturing plant in Hillsboro, company spokesman Roland Van Dyke said, who added that students trained with the latest computer technology would be likely candidates for employment at Fujitsu's new plant.

"The industrial world cannot survive unless it has support from education," Van Dyke said.



BRAD WYMORE GIVES a healthy pitch of bread crumbs to local residents of the ELC. Photo by Joel Miller

Student Aid still available

Financial aid packages are still available for students planning to attend fall term at Clackamas Community College.

Eligible students who apply before the end of the school year stand a good chance of receiving the maximum amount of benefits, Kathy Scheer, financial aid supervisor at the College said.

Students are encouraged to fill out an application at the Financial Aid Office for packages ranging from \$100 to \$8,000 per year. The office is located in the Community Center and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Scheer pointed out that 43 percent of the incoming freshman receive some type of

financial aid. Eligibility is determined by financial need, grades, number of family members and other factors.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Part-time responsible babysitter needed starting in Mid-Sept. 1½ hours \$5/hr. Sunday morning 10:45 - 12:15. Meridian United Church of Christ, Wilsonville. If interested, call Rose at 682-1308 or 682-0339 and leave message.

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