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THENEBR

Vol. XX, No. 14

Clackamas Community College

Oregon City, OR 97045

March 4, 1987

'Containers' reveal surprise

y Dean Grey

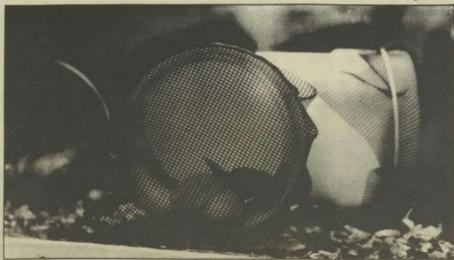
Panic. People running around mass hysteria trompling hildren looking out for emselves. In their horror they ause their own destruction. They urn buildings trying to destroy invading creature that has owers greater than their chnology.

This was the scene that H.G. ells set in a radio play, later ade into a movie, about some uterspace creatures that set out conquer the earth. That was en and we thought it was a arce, but it's happening again ght under our noses in Pauling

If you will remember the reatures came in a round. ylinderish type ship that had a ng neck extending out of the top ending in a grotesque eye, an that wrought death and estruction in its wake.

So what does this have to do with Pauling? Let me start at the beginning

A couple of weeks ago a botany class was down at the ast near Newport when, in the midst of their studies, they came



The above pictured skate is the last survivor of an invasion force discovered by the botany class. The captive is being held in Pauling 141 and may be viewed freely.

across two plastic "containers". Not knowing exactly what they were, those who found them brought them back to the rest of the party. Bob Misely, the leader and instructor of the group, having a small inclination of what it might be, but not totally sure, instructed the students to open one

Inside were two small embryos of some sort of ocean (space) creature, later identified as "Skates". The two embreonic Skates made the trip home safely and were put into an aquarium.

The next day in class Misely directed the opening of the se-"Egg Container" and found inside four more of the

Skate embryos.

Raja binoculatus or Big Skate belong to the order of Rajiformes. Other members of this order are sawfish rays, electric rays, stingrays, eagle rays, manta rays, and devil rays. There are about 11 species of Rajiformes off the pacific coast.

The eggs of the rays are laid in

a protective covering called an egg case or mermaid's purse. The egg case can be used to identify what species of skate it came from.

The Raja Binoculata, as adults, average 6 feet and can weigh up to 200 pounds, some get up to 8 feet in length. They have practically no commercial value. The wings are the only part used and they are eaten primarily by those other than North Americans.

From a total of six skates that they started out with, there is now only one left, the biggest. If the class can raise the Skate to a juvenile state, the Marine Science Center, who have been giving the class advise since the capture, will take over the care of him.

The Science Center said that it is difficult to raise the Skates in captivity because little is known about duplicating the birth conditions.

The Skates are being kept in an aquarium n Pauling 141 and is open for student and staff viewing.

Student representitives from lleges all around Oregon got gether at Roseburg to discuss veral topics of importance. The oup of students known as Community Colleges of Oregon Student Association and Commission (CCOSAC) held their conference Febuary 27 and 28. The discussions featured topics such as raffles, drawings and such, and whether they should be legalized or not.

CCOSAC is a little known group of students that represent regon community colleges. There is one representative from each of the community colleges, usually from student governnt, that make up the Board of Presidents. The fourteen members of the Board of Presidents attend monthly eetings that are held at a host

The COSAC function is an immeasurable effort to serve student interests. They accomplish this through sharing success stories to infuse other colleges with ideas for entertain-

ment, fund raising, and student services on campus. At this time in the legislative season there is also a political involvement committee that is reponsible for letting legislators know the united concerns of community colleges

A typical COSAC meeting begns with roll call, approval of minutes, distribution of written reports of events from each college and approval of the agenda (topics to be discussed)'

The February 27-28th meeting was held in Roseburg at Umpqua Community College. The primary topics included: discussion of supporting a bill to legalize raffles and drawing from school fund raising; student health insurance; free legal advisors on campus; and a special report from the political involvement committee (PIC) team leader Ron Robbins.

The discussion of supporting a "raffle bill" centered on one student president's account that a casino nite event at her college was "really successful". At the time of planning the event she did not know that the bill which legalizes some games (such as the lottery) does not include schools

The PIC team was commissioned to discuss the ammendment with legislators.

The subject of student health insurance was analyzed, with Bill Baze of Linn-Benton Community College supporting a united community college policy which would supply lowcost health insurance for students who wanted it. He requested the Board of Presidents examine the need on their home campuses and send him some figures he could discuss with an

insurance company.

A request, by Chemeketa
Community College Senator Tim Rogers, for information from other community colleges that have lawyers available for students, brought about a discussion of this service. The Board of Presidents asked to be informed on the outcome of this

A request for a \$100 donation for Jean Mooneyham, a Portland Community College lobbyist, was discussed and approved. The donation will help to send her to a national legislative conference held by United States Student Association (USSA) in Washington D.C. USSA is a student organization which, through a united national effort of letter writing, petitioning, and lobbying lets the Senate and House Budget Committee know the needs of colleges and the effect of finacial aid cuts. Her main persuasion was that after speak-ing to "some key officials in Washington D.C." she learned that not one Northwest community college had been heard from. She will be representing all fourteen Oregon community colleges and some Washington community colleges also.

The Political Involvement

Committee activites was the principal discussion topic. The PIC team is comprised of team leader Ron Robbins from Lane

Tim Rogers from Chemeketa C.C., Mary Van Agtmael from Linn-Benton C.C.l, Mark Tomlin from Linn-Benton, and Robyn Jenson from Treaty Oak C.C.. They are student lobbyists that represent all Oregon community colleges in the Salem legislature. In Salem two or three times a week they keep track of any legislation that will affect community colleges. Depending on COSAC's stance on the issue, the lobbyists support or protest the action through testimony in front of the assembly, petitioning, and personal interviews with state officials.

The PIC/Board of President's debate centered on the feasibility of holding a community college rally in Salem to protest financial aid cuts and/or inadequate funding. It would be sponsored by COSAC and buses would be provided for students without cars. The idea for a rally was voted down due to lack of funds, the

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