

Miller teaches Latin, life lessons



Photo by Lane Scheidemann

Eighty-five year old Kermit Miller teaches Latin to Clackamas students one day a week. He also hopes to instill in his students a desire for lifelong learning.

by Nolan Kidwell
Staff writer

At age 85, most people have the rest of their lives pretty well planned out. Some people spend these later years at home or living with relatives watching their favorite game shows or soap operas.

This is not the case with 85 year old Kermit Miller, who is years away from trading in his teaching position for an armchair and a bowl of bran.

Miller teaches Latin at Clackamas. While teaching Latin might seem unusual, what is even more unusual is that he does it for free! He told college administrators that if they could find anyone who was actually willing to take the class, he would teach without pay.

There are currently five students taking Latin; six were originally enrolled.

"I'm hoping that the five hang on," he said.

The class is from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. every Monday. It offers four credit hours for whoever is diligent enough to pass.

Miller's interest in Latin began in high school. While Miller was still a freshman, one of his older friends said that he was taking a class on a "dead language." This interested Miller. He began with Latin and later took Greek in college.

Unlike a number of older people, who may find it difficult to fathom the younger and rapidly changing generations of today, Miller mixes with his students. He is one of them with just a touch more knowledge which he would like to share.

Miller has lead a very full life. He has lived through both World Wars and the Depres-

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-Kermit Miller

sion. During WWII he considered enlisting in the military as part of the war effort. He was teaching junior high school at the time. When the principal heard that Miller was thinking of going into the army, he told Miller to "put it out of his mind." In order to contribute to the war effort, Miller and another teacher held down an eight hour job at a steel plant, sharing the hours the night job required, and taught at the same time.

Miller's advice to young people is simple.

"Whatever situation you find yourself in, learn all you can that will be of profit to you as you live on."

Twenty-four audition for Williams' 'Night'

by Heidi A. Hoffman
Staff Writer

Twenty four students gathered in the campus theatre on Sept. 28 to audition for the fall play *Night of the Iguana*.

The 12 males and 12 females who came to the audition had talent ranging from the first year student to those who have been acting for several years. No matter how much experience each individual had, they all shared one common desire: they wanted to be a part of the fall play here at Clackamas Community College.

"When I audition I'm worried that I won't do the best that I can do," said Kathy Clapp. "I really enjoy Tennessee Williams plays; this is one of his best. I think that it will be challenging."

To some an audition is just a daily routine; to others it can be a nightmare. Seventeen year old Ryan S. Hull felt that an audition can be "an enjoyable experience, but it still gives me the clammy hands," Hull reflected. "I felt nervous, but more of an excited nervousness. Anything can happen; you can bomb or even do something that you've never done before."

Uneasiness isn't the only emotion experienced during an audition. David Burnett, who will be directing a one act play this fall, felt "threatened." Yet after the audition was over, he replied in a more positive attitude. "I think of how many people that I have to kill to get the part I want."

Jack Shields, the director of the play, is very excited. After making the very difficult decision, he proudly announced "We have a very strong cast and crew, I have very high expectations of production quality."

The last Tennessee Williams show produced here at Clackamas was *The Glass Menagerie* in 1980. That show featured Barbara Bragg, the Theatre and Communications department secretary, as Amanda.

The production will run at 8 p.m. on Nov. 29, 30 and Dec. 1, 8, 9 and again at 2:30 p.m. on Dec. 9.

Focus on Women to hold breakfast

Oregonian feature writer Jann Mitchell is the speaker for next weeks Focus on Women Issues Breakfast, Oct. 17 at 7:30 a.m. in the Community Center.

Mitchell's topic is "Women's Lives - No Laughing Matter: Or Is It?" A feature writer for the Living Section, Mitchell specializes in doing stories on human relationships, self-help pieces, personality profiles and humorous looks at life. She also writes a humor column, "Monkey Business," for *In Unison* magazine, and is the author of several books.

Cost of the event is \$5.50, which includes breakfast. Interested persons should register for WKS 1-02, or call ext. 489 for more information.

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