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Clackamas Community College

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INSIDE

News

Higher Education Act changes financial aid process

The Higher Education Reauthorization Bill, which was signed by President Bush this summer, is currently going into effect nationally. The Higher Education Act is expected to drastically change the Federal Financial Aid process when dealing with student loan programs and many of the Federal Grants offered to students.

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Opinion

Ballot Measure 9 challenges Oregon education program

Oregon students could face a strictly controlled school environment if Ballot Measure 9 passes.

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A challenge to CCC students to let their voices be heard

As Nov. 3 approaches, Eric St. Anthony's emphasizes the importance of voting.

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Features

Bluegrass Festival held at CCC's Gregory Forum

The newly built Gregory Forum will host a Bluegrass Concert on Oct. 17 at 7:30 p.m. It is one of the first events to be held there. Several Bluegrass bands will take part in the concert.

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New sites at Clackamas



Above: A high school choir sings at the dedication of the Eva Dye Learning Resource Center on Sept. 25. The Dye Center houses the library, instructional media services and the developmental education program. At left: The Family Resource Center, located on the west side of campus, was dedicated at a ceremony on Oct. 4. The center will aid low income families and single family homes with education and support services.

2,000 student increase in fall term enrollment

by Jeff Kemp
Staff Writer

Clackamas Community College received quite a surprise this term during registration. Judy Clark, an office secretary in the Community Center who worked on the registration process, reported a jump of 2,000 students from last year's enrollment.

This year CCC is educating about 30,000 people, which entails not only the main campus but through a lot of other facilities and special networks as well.

"We've noticed an increase in students in part because of the higher G.P.A. restrictions and cost of the larger colleges," Clark said of the registration statistics.

Tuition climbed from \$324 last year to \$342 for 12 to 19 credit hours this year. One to eleven credits, or anything above nineteen stands at \$28.50 per credit hour.

Over 2,000 students applied for financial aid this year and many students have received some form of assistance. "Without F/A I probably wouldn't be able to go to school," Thad Routson explained, "I'd probably be at McDonalds working in the drive-thru."

Class space has been finite since school resumed two weeks ago. English, Math, Science, Psychology, and Art classes have all been saturated from the onset. Health, Machining Fundamentals,

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Convict escapes from ELC work crew

by Melissa Freels
Co-Editor-in-Chief

A convict from the Columbia River Correctional Institute escaped from a work crew at CCC's Environmental Learning Center three weeks ago.

April Senick, 25, who is serving a three-year sentence for prostitution and has prior convictions for the possession of a controlled substance, walked away from the supervised work crew at the ELC on Sept. 23.

According to Jim Wiseman, Public Safety Supervisor, campus security was not immediately notified of Senick's escape. Instead, the supervising officer of the work crew called the control center of the institute, who then notified the state police. The state police sent out an "all points bulletin" and eventually Senick was caught

that same night on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., where she had returned to prostitution.

Richard Little, the program representative for the correctional institute, explained that Senick was not considered to be dangerous. "All inmates on the crews are minimum security," he said.

According to Little, the ELC employs work crews from the institute four times a week. Supervised crews of female and male inmates work at the ELC on Wednesday and Friday, respectively. The supervised crews allow one guard for every eight to twelve inmates. On Saturday and Sunday, the center often employs "unsupervised" crews, which are supervised by the ELC, not by a corrections supervisor.

The ELC, which is a

private organization operating on the CCC campus, has "a contract with the state of Oregon Corrections Department to bring prisoners here to work on different projects," said Wiseman. According to Little, the ELC has participated in the program since January of 1992.

Little explained that the work crews supply "an extremely inexpensive labor force to state agencies and non-profit organizations." The institute provides five crews per day to sites located throughout the Portland area. "Last month we had a total of 5,300 inmate man hours on work crews," Little said. Over the last two years, the institute has lost 27 inmates on work crews, and all but 2 are back in custody.

Senick's escape and the way it was handled has stirred

concerns among the college's campus security. According to Wiseman, campus security did not learn of Senick's escape until "one of the officers on that shift pulled it off the teletype." This left "no room for immediate action," he said.

"Our responsibility is really to the students and staff here," said Wiseman. "We wouldn't want someone acquiring some kind of weapon and doing some harm."

Campus security expressed their concerns at a meeting with administrators and ELC officials on Oct. 7.

"We'd like to see them contact the local jurisdiction where it occurred," Wiseman said. Campus security's involvement, he explained, "would be a benefit to us (the college) and the state system."