

Feature

erhood and politics



photo by Robert A. Hibberd

over an ASG meeting. The two were elected into office.

Gaskell said.

Gaskell (and Barnett) have only encountered one person who "tried to instill some doubt," said Gaskell. The CCC staff member was very critical of their choices to continue on ASG. Gaskell believes that the staff member was concerned with the college's "image." This criticism, however, only gave the two women the drive to succeed. "Amazingly, that was the only negative (viewpoint) that I've been confronted with," said Gaskell.

As for ASG and her job as President, Gaskell is extremely confident that she will be able to resume her duties after the baby is born. She hasn't, however, discarded the possibility that she may not be able to continue. "I'm going to go to every length to have that not be the case. . . It would be really hard to step down," she emphasized.

Gaskell doesn't believe that her pregnancy has hurt ASG. "I don't see it as a handicap or a disability to the group," she explained. She has high regard for the entire ASG group. Gaskell also emphasizes the support that ASG has received from Berney. She sees that he has "enthusiasm and compassion for his job" and does a lot more than just what the job description (of ASG adviser) requires.

Gaskell really sees ASG as a "family" that has worked very hard together. "We've built up so much, I would just really like to continue through," she said.

After the baby is born, Gas-

kell hopes to challenge some courses and take some telecourses—two options that may give her time to care for the baby. She and Hibberd plan to "flip-flop" their schedules during Winter and Spring Term. If this doesn't work out, Gaskell explains, they have many friends and family members who are eager to help care for the baby.

Currently, Gaskell isn't working. Instead, Hibberd is financially supporting the couple with his part-time job at Radio Shack and with the money he receives from the Army G.I. Bill. This has been hard for Gaskell. She quit her job at Izzy's Pizza Restaurant at the beginning of the summer, but "I really miss waiting tables. . . I liked being independent that way," she said.

The couple is undecided about their educational future, but they are considering continuing school at Portland State University next year. Because of the baby, Gaskell explained, "I'm really tempted, next year, to take a year off."

Gaskell is interested in a career in the social sciences. Eventually she hopes to enter the education field—possibly in Education Administration. She has some experience teaching in a Japanese home stay program. During the summer, Gaskell



"The support that I (have) received from my family made a world of a difference."

—Amy Gaskell
ASG President

teaches American customs and English conversation skills to Japanese students. She has also found her interest in teaching at student government conferences. "I have a way with teaching and bringing humor into the lessons," she said.

This career goal is a step in a new direction for Gaskell. "Ultimately, I've always said I've wanted to be a United States Senator," said Gaskell.

Obviously, Gaskell is the kind of person who enjoys a challenge.

Pantages' study comes to a close

by Robert A. Hibberd
Co-Editor-In-Chief

To Natural Helpers, he is known as "Tubular Tim", to others he is known as Tim Pantages, head of the drug and alcohol awareness program at Clackamas.

Pantages has been working to identify, recognize and solve the drug and alcohol situation at Clackamas. He has been operating with the funds provided by the United States Department of Education with a grant called Funds for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE). The grant will expire this year.

"It was kind of a 'shotgun-grant' because we were trying to determine what kind of drug and alcohol prevention activities would work at a community college level," said Pantages. "Community colleges have not been studied that much in the past."

According to Pantages, the FIPSE grant had several goals that it wanted to achieve. Those goals consisted of a student attitudes and use survey, training faculty and staff, specialized training with counselors, curriculum infusion and changing the campus environment regarding alcohol and drugs.

Pantages regards the student attitude and use survey as being one of the biggest achievements of the FIPSE grant.

"The question that administrators always have is 'show me that there is a problem here' or 'is there a problem here and if so, show it to me,'" said Pantages. "This was the first really comprehensive study that had been done at the college in its 26 years."

The results of the study enabled Pantages to have baseline information in order to further analyze CCC's drug and alcohol situation.

"The study confirmed that community college students, as a whole, tend to drink and use drugs at a lower level than four-year college students but still drink and drug at a higher rate than people of the same age group who are not in college," stated Pantages.

He believes that the reason 2-year colleges drink and use drugs at a lesser rate than 4-year colleges is that community colleges have students who are older than those who attend 4-year institutions.

Pantages also added that the perception of drug and alcohol use is much greater than the actual use.

"Everybody thinks that everybody else is doing a hell of a lot of drinking and drugging when the reality is that they are not."

Another major success of the FIPSE grant was the enacting of the Natural Helper pro-

gram took the people that were identified during the survey and put them through additional training to refine their skills," said Pantages. "We also helped them learn not to burn out, how to limit themselves so that they're not constantly giving help and draining their own emotional batteries."

With the expiration of the FIPSE grant, Pantages must ponder what position he will take next in life. He was asked what he will do next.

"The \$64,000 question," replied Pantages. "I've been



photo by Robert A. Hibberd

Tim Pantages, CCC's drug and alcohol counselor, has been working to identify, recognize and solve the substance abuse problem on the campus.

gram, according to Pantages. The Natural Helper Program was part of the "changing of campus environment" goal.

"Natural Helpers are called Natural Helpers because they have been identified by other students as being people that students feel comfortable talking to about personal problems," explained Pantages. "These are people who have natural counseling skills."

Natural Helpers act as an internal campus support group made up of volunteers. The idea being that a student in need of help will turn to peers before seeking professional advice.

"The Natural Helper pro-

gram, according to Pantages. The Natural Helper Program was part of the "changing of campus environment" goal.

"Natural Helpers are called Natural Helpers because they have been identified by other students as being people that students feel comfortable talking to about personal problems," explained Pantages. "These are people who have natural counseling skills."

Natural Helpers act as an internal campus support group made up of volunteers. The idea being that a student in need of help will turn to peers before seeking professional advice.

"The Natural Helper pro-

Students share poetry at community reading

by Nolan Kidwell
News Editor

Community poetry readings are held every other Friday from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. at select locations across campus.

"The purpose is just for people to practice," according to English Instructor Kate Gray. The poetry readings, she explained, allow writers to practice their work instead of "writing in a vacuum."

There were five people who read at the event last time drawing a crowd of about fifteen people. Gray introduces each reader from a brief autobiography which the readers give her beforehand. Each reader is given ten minutes to read their work.

"For me, poetry is a way of establishing my existence; reaching towards my soul and feeling whether or not it is still there,"

explained Rob Hibberd, one of the readers at the last community reading.

The subject matter of the pieces read ranged from satirical to deep and ominous. "It can be anything, really," said Gray.

The community readings, in the past, have often included

"The purpose is just for people to practice."

—Kate Gray

works by staff members here at Clackamas, according to Gray. Last year, there was at least one staff member among the readers each time, although this has not been the case this year.

Gray has never experienced trouble finding people willing to read their work. "People come

out of the woodwork," she said.

She had originally gotten the idea for the community poetry readings from a professor she had met in Washington, who had been organizing similar readings for 35 years. He had nearly 1000 of his students works published, according to Gray.

"Since I've been here, I have witnessed an elevation of cultural awareness at Clackamas. I hope it can keep on rising," said Hibberd.

Gray chimed this sentiment and feels that the staff here at Clackamas would like to see the college become the cultural center of the community.

The next community reading will be this Friday, Nov. 20 and the last one for this term will be on Dec. 4. Locations for the readings are printed in the Today Bulletin each week prior to the event.

Quit smoking.

American Heart Association