

'Battery Bob' finds new life in 9-1-1 program

by Jeff Kemp
Staff Writer

What would you do if you were injured so severely that it restricted you from doing a lot of the things that you enjoy? That's exactly the question Robert Mapes, a student in the 9-1-1 program at Clackamas, had to face.

Mapes was a production and personnel manager in the timber industry when his life took a dramatic turn. He was watching one of his fellow workers when he noticed that the man was in a potentially-dangerous situation. In an attempt to protect the man, Mapes suffered a serious injury.

(Due to legal reasons, the exact nature of the injuries can not be disclosed).

For most people, an incident like this is a devastating one that inevitably causes them to feel sorry for themselves; but not Mapes.

"I worry about the things I have control over. The things that I don't have control over I don't bother with," Mapes said. "You just have to make due with what you've got."

Mapes was given an im-

planted electrical device as part of his rehabilitation. You wouldn't even be able to tell he was injured, were it not for the braces he needs at his computer station, which enable him to type and perform the other duties of a 9-1-1 dispatch operator.

"I felt bad that I didn't have shoes until I saw someone without feet," Mapes rationalized.

Mapes, who originally wanted to become a paramedic, says that most of the credit to his "new life" goes to the instructors of the 9-1-1 program, a program which he describes as a building block for his future.

"There's a lot of individual attention given to the students in this program," Mapes said. "They went above and beyond what they had to do."

According to Anita Beckwith, assistant coordinator of the 9-1-1 program, the one-year program usually generates motivation in its students. She sees that drive in Mapes who is always willing to stay after class to improve his skills.

"Bob is a very positive-minded, forward-looking man," she said. "He doesn't go un-

ticed. He won't let himself go unnoticed."

The soft spoken Mapes says he feels more confident after spending 20 years outside of the classroom in re-educating himself. He believes that it is because of all the caring he gets from his teachers.

"Carol Middendorff, Marian Miller, Harriet Hinton-Harris and Janet Wolffe are the ones that have made this happen for me," Mapes explained.

"The college doesn't realize the devotion that Harriet provides for this college. She is just a super lady," he said.

He emphasized his appreciation for their patience and understanding.

"They were always there when I needed them," Mapes



Photo by Anjanette Booth

Bob Mapes, also known as "Battery Bob," has found a new life in the 9-1-1 program at Clackamas.

stressed. "They pushed me and made me better."

"Battery Bob," a nickname given to him in one of his 9-1-1 classes, has begun a new life at Clackamas after six surgeries in two years.

"I've really enjoyed coming back to school, but I'm ready to get out and pick up a pay check from somewhere other than my mailbox," Mapes concluded.

Nursing instructor prepares for American citizenship

by Claudia Smulders
Staff Writer

England citizens Margaret Bate, a nursing instructor at Clackamas, and her husband are currently taking a course to prepare them to get their American citizenship.

Molly Williams, English as a Second Language instructor, is teaching this course at the college.

The first question that came to my mind when I heard about this was why would they want to do this now after they have been in America since 1964?

Since I am an international student myself, I have to admit that the thought of becoming an American citizen has crossed my mind. It would make a lot of things easier if I would decide to stay here. But I never considered it really seriously, because to me, it would feel like I am giving up my Dutch identity. But what Bate said about this made a lot of sense to me.

"I think about it as just a piece of paper that will allow me to do certain things, for instance, voting," Bate said.

"No matter what I do, I will still be a subject of the Queen," Bate continued. "But after getting my American citizenship, I will be equally proud of that."

The thing that triggered Bate's decision is that she has to be an American citizen to teach in England through the Fulbright Scholarship.

The course consists of 12 modules. The first seven are about U.S. history; then there is an oral quiz. After that, four modules about U.S. government structure and again an oral quiz. The last module is about citizens' rights and responsibility.



Photo by Anjanette Booth

Margaret Bate

ties, and U.S. symbols. After doing all this, the students have to go to immigration and take the exam which consists of 10 questions.

The questions vary from: "Who was George Washington?" to "How many judges are there in the Supreme Court?" to "Who becomes the president if the president and vice-president cannot serve?"

Williams said that a lot of Americans can't answer these questions.

I found it kind of strange that immigration just picks 10 questions for the entire exam. It almost seems like you are doing too much work.

"I think people should know why America is the way it is," Williams explained.

And of course, it can't do any harm to know a lot of things about the country you live in.

Bate told me that she "enjoyed learning, especially about the history."

The last question I asked Bate, was if there was something she really missed about England?

"What I really miss is good tea," she said.

One acts range from comedy to tragedy

by Nolan C. Kidwell
News Editor

The Clackamas Drama Department will be presenting three one act plays called "Present Tense," "8B" and "Hansel and Gretel" on May 25, 26 and 27. They are free to the public.

"Present Tense," directed by Jeff Woods, is about teen paranoia and feelings of inadequacy. Norm, the main character, played by John Abbott, is worried about his relationship with his girlfriend who recently bumped into her ex-boyfriend.

"He starts having anxiety attacks," Woods said. Norm spends much of the play picturing his girlfriend and her former boyfriend "groping" each other, which is acted out during his anxiety attacks. "John is quite the comical actor when he wants to be, and he pulls it off quite well," accord-

ing to Woods.

"8B," directed by Scott Hadley and written by former Clackamas student David Barnett, is about a man who suddenly finds himself in a phantom hotel room.

"This is a vision of one man's own personal hell," explained Hadley. "He does not know how he got there or why. Through the course of the play he begins to remember."

A woman whom he does not recognize comes to the room, and he later realizes it is his wife. She had come to that particular room to carry a liaison with his best friend. The play has a surprise ending which leaves the effect of "a groundhog day gone bad."

"Hansel and Gretel" is "an adaptation of Grimm's fairy tale and we have just taken it and had

fun with it," said Director Martel Conklin.

As in the original fairy tale, the main characters are Hansel and Gretel who are lost in the woods and are kidnapped by the hungry witch.

"It is geared for kids, but I think that adults will have fun with it, too," Conklin said. "I have a lot of faith in this cast. They're really pulling together as a unit and are working well."

According to Conklin, the costuming is also a little less "fairy tailish" although it fits the characters well.

All three one act plays will be performed at 7:30 p.m. on May 25. "Present Tense" will also be shown at 12:30 p.m. on May 25. "Hansel and Gretel" will be shown at noon on May 26, and "8B" will play at 12:30 p.m. on May 27.

Student begins women's writing club Insights and opinions shared

by Daphne Hartt
Staff Writer

Jan Zittleman, a Clackamas student, recently started a women's writing club, "Chrysalis," which meets once a week to share their writing with one another.

Zittleman, who is currently enrolled in English instructor Kate Gray's Writing 123 class, was previously in the Writers' Club, but felt that she wanted to create a new writing environment.

Gray, who is a full-time teacher, was chosen as the faculty adviser for the group.

Gray said that the writing club allows the women to give their insight and opinions to one another.

"This is just a club to encourage writing. Any female may join and we welcome all levels of writing. You don't have to be an expert writer to join," Gray said.

Although the group has no particular focus of writing, the members write fiction, poetry and non-fiction. Many of the writers use their personal experiences to express themselves.

"It is a place where women can come together and share their writing. Many women feel more comfortable sharing their work with other women. We are providing an encouraging and supportive environment," Zittleman added.

While the group presently meets on Wednesdays at noon in B-114, Zittleman eventually hopes to expand the group and have off-campus meetings as well.

"Many women work and cannot make it to the once-a-week meeting, so we would like to offer another time," Zittleman concluded.

if we leave it...
maybe the next
generation will pick
it up

We cordially invite
you to take the
challenge
**THIS generation
Recycle**