

Three students to be 'profiled' at graduation

Welk pursues career in occupational therapy; applauds support received from LCOP, Clackamas

by Michele Myers
Staff Writer

Patricia Welk, 42, is a real inspiration. For three years she has attended Clackamas Community College and is also a Life and Careers Option Program graduate. LCOP is a program for single parents and homemakers who have decided to get back into the job market.

Welk is one of three students who will receive special recognition and will be profiled by College President John Keyser at graduation June 11.

Before Welk started attending Clackamas, she was working

took different classes to obtain a more satisfying job and to save money for her children's college funds.

Now, three years later, Welk is graduating from Clackamas and will go on to attend Pacific University and pursue a career in occupational therapy.

"I originally planned on going into Psychology," she said. She looked into Pacific University's catalog and read about occupational therapy. At first she was hesitant about going into a health-related field as she had relatives that had done that for years.

"They have all different kinds



Patricia Welk Photo by Heidi Bramator

market outlook as it is a creative, new field. Welk hopes that with President Clinton's new health plan that occupational therapy might get an even bigger boost.

Welk has some advice for students, particularly returning students with a job and a family. "Don't give up. I know how hard it is with a family, job; it is definitely worthwhile."

Clackamas, particularly the staff, were very supportive and Welk said that they truly wanted the students to succeed. She said she is very lucky to live close enough to attend a great school like Clackamas.

--Patricia Welk

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at a low-paying job at a plant, trying hard to make ends meet and hating the work she was doing. An unfortunate accident gave her the ability to give up working at the plant and attend college. She

of therapists but occupational therapists are more positive, and deal more with the patient's whole life working toward a positive end," she said. Occupational Therapy also has a better job

Freels leaves 'comfort zone' at Clackamas, heads for University of Oregon

by Hafidha Acuy
Staff Writer

Melissa Freels is one of three graduating Clackamas students this year to be honored as a student profile at graduation.

Jan Godfrey, director of counseling and career planning, describes the student profiles as "students who are given recognition for completing degrees here at Clackamas; who have surmounted special situations."

Faculty and staff nominate students; a committee then selects the student profiles.

John Hooley, assistant dean of humanities, was the chairperson of the committee, and nominated Freels.

"She has been very involved in the student paper and managed to maintain honors grades and still finish in two years. I thought she had done remarkably well for someone so active," he said.

Hooley also said it was important to have a representative from the younger students. Freels was the only candidate who had



Melissa Freels Photo by Annette Booth

come to Clackamas directly from high school.

"I received the application in the mail. I was kind of surprised that I had been nominated, but I thought I'd take the chance. (I) didn't really have anything to lose by applying," Freels said.

She began attending Clackamas two years ago on a journalism scholarship and was a staff writer for *The Clackamas Print*. A year later she earned the posi-

tion of co-editor-in-chief.

"(I) (journalism) is something I've always loved. I became involved in journalism in junior high and I've continued on ever since," she said, smiling.

Freels, a petite, generally quiet woman, who celebrated her 20th birthday in February, is a Journalism major planning to transfer to the University of Oregon in the fall.

"I know they have a really strong journalism program. I've heard so many good things about it, and the School of Journalism has received national recognition," she explained.

When asked what she is looking forward to at U of O, Freels replied, "Learning; I'm always thrilled about learning new things, getting closer to my degree. I'm looking toward magazine journalism. Their classes down there are more specialized." She says she hopes to enroll in the types of classes she likes and "focus on what I really enjoy."

Despite her experience with

Araki plans to go home to Japan; will miss 'the people' of CCC

by Nicole Turley
Staff Writer

Madoka Araki has been selected by college faculty as a student profile for the graduation ceremony, which will be held on June 11.

Araki is 23 years old and moved from Hamanatsue, Japan five years ago to attend college in America. Currently, Araki is completing her associates degree in music and is involved in jazz, choir, International Club while maintaining a 3.3 GPA. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her friends and playing the piano.

When she began at Clackamas, Araki could not speak any English, so she began taking ESL classes at Clackamas. "To learn a new language is very difficult for me," she said, "especially because English is so different from Japanese."

This difficulty did not stop her from getting involved and meeting new people. She got involved in the International Club, where she was a secretary for a year and took some vocal jazz classes.

"I took vocal jazz class and I met many American friends," she said. "The teacher (Lionie Cline) was very nice."

Her future plans are to return to Japan and pursue a career in teaching music, but she

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--Madoka Araki

is keeping her options open. Originally, Araki hoped to continue attending college in America, but her financial situation will not allow for it.

"I just wanted to take classes I could use to transfer to another school here but unfortunately I can't," said Araki. When asked what she will miss most about Clackamas, Araki said, "the people."

*A photo of Madoka Araki was not available.

The Clackamas Print, Freels doesn't plan on trying to become an editor at U of O's daily paper, *The Emerald*. "I really want to focus on my studies and writing," she said.

Though Freels is eager to continue her education at U of O, "I'll miss the personal atmosphere

Freels, a Milwaukie native, to leave her family and friends here.

For those who know Freels, a two-year honor roll student with impeccable handwriting, who neatly highlights textbooks and always keeps her office desk orderly, it is not difficult to imagine her in a position of even greater

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--John Hooley, assistant dean of humanities

and everyone I've met in the journalism program. It's kind of like this whole place is a comfort zone," she added. She knows it will be difficult to find a place on her new campus where she will feel at home, like she did here.

Because Eugene is "not that far away" and she has family there, it won't be too hard for

authority.

Her "ultimate goal" is to own her own magazine one day, but she knows the road to the realization of that dream is long. In the meantime, "I hope to stay in the Northwest," she said, "work for a newspaper or magazine and possibly do freelance work."

Poet conveys 'sense of sacred wisdom lost, new found hope'

by Justin M. Fields
Staff Writer

Tradition and heritage, the land and the heart, the past and the present. Native American poet Elizabeth Woody combines these elements to convey a sense of sacred wisdom lost, and new found hope.

Woody appeared in the Gregory Forum, Friday. Woody, who cites both Wasco and Navajo influences in her work, has been widely anthologized. Such collections as "Songs from This Earth on Turtle's Back," "Fireweed,"

"The Native American Today" and "Talking Leaves: Contemporary Native American Short Fiction," all include selections by Woody. In 1985, she was published in a project of the Seattle Arts Commission under the title of "Image," with only 17 other selected poets. That same year, Woody was juried into the Literary Readings series of the National Women's Studies Conference at the University of Washington.

"One of my favorite things to do in college was write essays," said Woody, who majored

in creative writing at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe. She began the reading with a short essay which provided the background for her poetry.

Relating contemporary places and traditional history, Woody spoke of a time, "pre-dating mass media." While emphasizing the importance of living in harmony with the Earth and its rhythms, she solemnly warned, "The greatest experience is missed by those who will not listen." The poet said that static dogma is a part of

human existence that can only be challenged by self examination.

"I think that my essays explain a lot about how I approach my poetry," said Woody.

Woody's poetry selections included: "Buckskin," a humorous story involving emotional attachment to "An Indian Car," "Plateau women," about women she admired as a girl, and "Three Sisters," a poignant look at the Native American family and heritage. Of the sisters, Woody writes, "Their grandmother is in their hips."

A self-described "mountain of womanhood," Woody's big hearted presence and calm demeanor are a captivating combination.

When asked about life on a reservation, Woody replied, "Can you imagine being made to pick up your family and move?"

In response to a question regarding her attitude toward white people, she said, "I am not a separatist. I am mostly making a plea for all people to know themselves."