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State Senator Catherine Webber, who chairs the Senate Education Committee, visited the campus last week to talk to students. See page 2

News

During April and May, Group Advising Sessions emphasizing majors will be held on campus. See page 2

Sports

Clackamas Cougar softball gained a split with two of the better teams in the region during their annual trip to San Diego. See page 3

Sports

The women's and men's track and field teams both blew their competition away during last weekend's meet. See page 3

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New gym lighting is best in Oregon

Long-planned project saves taxpayers money

by Jeff Kemp
The Print Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Plant Services division and the college's hands-on electrician Mark Lee have been working long hours to confront a problem that is facing all students, faculty and staff on campus.

The increasing dilemma of how to handle the extremely tight budget that most schools are now facing in Oregon is of extreme importance to Plant Services. Enter Lee. Lee, in coordination with Plant Services and the rest of the decision-making parties of the college, have been hard at work revamping lighting fixtures since the school year began. Specifically, the gym in Randall Hall has seen some of Lee's free hand.

"A great deal of planning went into this project," Lee said, noting that strategies and planning have been underway since last March. "And it only

took two days to execute."

The "project" Lee referred to was an effort to increase the lighting efficiency in the gym. And those aren't just any lights. They are designed with the light bulb encased inside another glass fixture to ensure that there will be no falling glass in the event the light bulb was to shatter if ever struck.

The money for the project was gathered from various savings and rebates that are offered by PGE. Under PGE's policy, by purchasing more efficient light fixtures, money is given back to the college in hopes that it will continue improvements. And that's exactly what the college has done.

"For two years we've (Plant Services) taken a beating from you people regarding the lights. We've made the improvements outside, which you guys haven't seemed to notice. This

was the next logical step," Lee said.

From various improvements that surely everyone is beginning to notice around the outside of the campus, Plant Services was able to use part of their \$18,000 rebate money to make the \$16,000 lighting improvements in the gym.

"There isn't a better college in the state including four-year institutions, in terms of lighting, than CCC," Lee said of his project.

The old lights were insufficient for collegiate level competition," Lee explained.

All in all, 108 light fixtures were removed from the gym to make way for the 50 brighter and more efficient lights. "We will be getting \$5,000 back for this project. We will again turn that money back around into the college," Lee noted. The old light fixtures will be taken down to Salem for auction, with Clacka-



photo by Chad Patterson

Clackamas now sports a new lighting system that is not topped by any other college in Oregon.

mas getting the profit from the sales.

The new light fixtures are also guaranteed for the next five years. This will help reduce general maintenance costs for years to come. Plant Services is proud to be saving the college money in the long run.

"Plant Services were the

people who went about making these improvements, not the Athletic Department. If we can save money and improve the college, I think we owe the taxpayers that," Lee said.

"It is our intention to provide the best lighting for education, safety and all the other goals of CCC," Lee concluded.

Crisis line provides options for those in need

130 volunteers and 14 mental health professionals handle 120,000 confidential calls per year

by Russ Jones
The Print Staff

It is as easy as taking the time to listen and look as we go about our daily journey, to realize the many types of social problems within our community. The terms child abuse, substance abuse, do-

mestic violence, suicide and depression are familiar to all of us, and each incident, whether known to us or not, has an impact upon our lives.

Is there anything that we can do, as individuals, to help mitigate the social impact of these

problems and, perhaps, make a difference in someone's life?

In 1978, the Metro Crisis Intervention Service was formed to provide assistance to anyone in the greater Portland area who was suffering from emotional distress. In 1991, the Clark County Crisis

Line was awarded to Metro to expand their services to the residents of Clark County, Wash., as well.

Today, with a staff of 130 volunteers and 14 mental health professionals as supervisors, Metro Crisis Line handles 120,000 confidential calls per year on a 24-hour-day, seven-day-week basis. These calls often deal with serious human problems such as child abuse, spouse battering, depression, domestic disputes, alcohol and substance abuse, compulsive gambling and suicide.

By providing this service, the Metro Crisis Line, at 223-6161, helps callers identify options and locate agencies or organizations who can help them resolve their problems. In addition, the hotline provides a positive alternative to the 9-1-1 system, helping to alleviate overloading of the emergency line.

Since this service is a volunteer-operated system, there is a constant need for dedicated and concerned members of the community to contribute time and energy. Simply put, Metro needs your help.

The Metro Crisis Line volunteer program is available to anyone who may be interested and no experience is required. Applicants must be at least 18 years old, successfully complete 52 hours of

training provided by Metro, and upon completion of training, agree to serve one four-hour shift per week for a minimum of one year. As the Crisis Line is operative 24 hours per day, shift scheduling can be flexible.

Training sessions are held in the evening and on weekends, and the next training session is scheduled to start May 2. For additional information about this community service program, contact the Metro Crisis Line volunteer coordinator, Sara Cole, at 226-3099.

Oregon Senator visits campus



photo by Heidi Branstator

State Senator Catherine Webber visited campus last week in hopes of leaving with student input on how to improve upon Community Colleges. See related story on page 2.



photo by Chad Patterson