

# CCC forensics gets top rating in Oregon community colleges

by **Brendon Neal**  
Staff Writer

The forensics club struggled this year to a first-place rating in Oregon for community colleges.

Speech has been advised by Randy Baker and Amanda Feller since the winter of 1994. The club consists of only six people this term.

Nate Smith is the president of the club this year. Baker says because Feller has been a volunteer assistant this school year, they have had to keep the number of students low. This is because they both feel each member needs to be able to get help when they need it, and much more than six or seven members would lessen the time available to help indi-

viduals.

Of the six team members, four have only been a part of the club for one term. Baker says this is because all but one of the students that were a part of the club last school year graduated or transferred from Clackamas.

Clackamas held a tournament last Friday and Saturday. It was an invitational and didn't affect the school standings. Frank Kessler received second place for dramatic reading, and third in novice informative speaking. Cory Glenn earned third place in novice impromptu speaking, and a second-place award for novice extemporaneous speaking.

Despite the lack of experience, the team got first in Oregon

regionals for community colleges. Feller says ranking is different for speaking circuits. This is because many schools are involved in any competition. Instead, they have a competition to decide state standings. This year it was held at Lane CC. Nationals were held in San Francisco, and who goes to nationals is mainly decided by individual coaches. This year Baker and Feller decided not to send anyone because only one person in the group had any experience, so it wouldn't be worth sending one person when costs are considered.

"From that (speech competitions) are the most educational experience that is available to students.

"[It] not only forces them to work and learn skills, but they have to internalize it because it's about communication," commented Baker about the speech experience.



Photo by Josh Kehler

**The forensics club worked hard this year to produce a successful team.**

All but one of the current members will be returning to the club next year. They expect six to eight members next year.

The club is now finished with competitive competition. However, they plan to participate in other events to sharpen their skills.

Among their planned activities is going to high schools and doing performances to get students interested in public speaking.

The club will also be meeting informally over the summer to keep the students ready and focused.

## Eady enthalls audience

by **Christi Snavely**  
Opinion Editor

Cornelius Eady stood before us in the overflowing, stuffy boardroom of the Community Center April 26. His brilliant smile was instantly inviting and warm.

"I'm always pleased to contribute to the advancement of your grades. I'm a college professor as well, so I know all about extra credit," said Eady addressing the participants who

were in attendance due to mandatory reasons.

Eady is on tour promoting his new book, "You Don't Miss Your Water," which is now avail-

able in CCC's book store. The graded and the non-graded all seemed to be in agreement on the success of Eady's reading.

Eady began the hour with excerpts from his book, "Victims of the Latest Dance Craze," which was awarded the Lamont prize. That was because most attendants of the past readings in the tour had expressed specific interest in those works.

Eady's relaxed personality is equally evident in his poetry. His selections from "Victims..." involved dancing, as the title indicates. Dancing in the form of freedom, of fun, of fear or confusion or as release. His images conjure up real images of his characters in our minds. We can see Johnny lacing up his red shoes, preparing to trip the light fantastic.

At times the "dance" that Eady refers to is a metaphor of the more outrageous acts in our life that allow us to be free, and give some perspective of the world around us.

Eady uses song titles and lyrics of the past to effectively give the audience (both those who remember and those who don't) the sense of bittersweet emotion that results from reminiscing. His selections from "You Don't Miss

Your Water" were presented in prose form and based on his father's influence on the family. "It wasn't intentional, but this really ended up being a book for sons," said Eady after the presentation.

The poems give a clear, somewhat frustrated, sometimes comical but always loving portrait of his father.

Eady explained to the audience that his father had died three

years ago, and the works in his book were based on his final year with his father.

He told us that lines of communication were not always static-free; his father's "real men don't cry"

generation and Eady's need to express emotion caused a bit of tension.

This father-son conflict is one we have all heard before. However, Eady's poetic devices lend a magic to a tale that leaves the participants feeling almost uncomfortable after learning too much. Eady's ability to share his family with us and cause such reactions is what gives his work credence.

"I went over my memories of the last year of my father's life, and if certain moments came up, something big and lyrical, then I kept it...I wanted to see that my father's life had poetry in it," said Eady when asked what inspired his latest book about his father's life and death.

Eady teaches and directs the Poetry Center at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, NY.

When he was a student, he remembered extending his own imagination regarding his future in many different areas. He recalled the excitement of all the possibilities of what could happen. By working with college students on a daily basis, he is able to encourage them to realize what they can accomplish.

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