

High school students flood campus

MIKE GARCIA

Copy Editor

The familiar Tercels of the college student set were replaced by yellow school buses Thursday, as high school students took over campus for the Regional Skills Contest.

Over 1100 students from around Clackamas County could be seen around campus entering the various contests, which were in turn judged by the various CCC departments, such as engineering, chiropractic, firefighting, nursing, sales and manufacturing. There was a total of 1754 entries.

There are some interesting facts about the latest Skills Contest. New contests in Criminal Justice—"Crime Scene" and "Investigation and Crisis Intervention"—debuted. Forensics, in its second year at the contest, had 39 contestants, as opposed to eight last year.

The Creative Writing and Horticulture Departments will be on board for next year.

This year Foreign Language had 499 contestants and Math had 488. Students from Oregon City made the most submissions, with 156. Canby followed with 129, and Sandy had 128.

First-place winners in each contest receive a one-term tuition waiver for Clackamas. All winners and their friends and family are invited to attend the Skills Contest Recognition Ceremony, which will be held Monday, March 16, in Randall Gym.

The Journalism department had a feature writing contest, in which five students participated. The following

is an excerpt from the winning story, written by Casey McEnaney, a sophomore at Canby High School. The story is about the online reporting class, "Digital Deadlines."

Students have been plagued for centuries with a dilemma: whether to go off to the strange environment of college, or to stay in the free environment of home. Now, however, with the advent of online courses, students can sit at home, nestle up in their favorite blanket on a cold Sunday morning and go to college.

For about three years now, students from all over the nation have been trying this new technology and now these classes have found their way to Clackamas. One such aptly titled course, "Digital Deadlines," is a totally new way for journalism students to get their feet wet and begin learning the basics of a newspaper...

As Journalism Advisor Linda Vogt explained, it takes a certain kind of student for an online course such as this. It "depends on the student and how the student learns best, students who learn best with independence and like to set their own schedule will do well with online courses."

This course is not the only online course at Clackamas.

"We currently have two online courses, and we plan

to add about six next year," said Vogt. Currently offered are Digital Deadlines and a computer science course.

Now there is a compromise between the strange environment of college, and that warm cozy house that many so dearly love.



TIMOTHY BELL / Clackamas Print

Clackamas student Chris Thomas (right) oversees Putnam High School senior Justin Iverson as he performs an electrical test at the high school Skills Contest to ensure that everything is working properly.

News Briefs

The following recruiters are scheduled to be on campus in the Community Center: Today, March 4, Airport Terminal Services; and Thurs., March 5, Kelly Assisted Living.

Two Clackamas English instructors will be holding a poetry reading at the Blackfish Gallery, 420 NW Ninth Avenue in Portland, Saturday, March 7, at 7 p.m. Diane Averill and James Grabill will read from their new books. The event is free and open to the public.

Ushers are needed in exchange for free admission to "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," playing in the McLoughlin Hall the evenings of March 6-7 and the afternoon of March 8. For more information contact Alice Nelson in M112 or call ext. 2356.

Need money for child care expenses? Grant applications to help pay for child care during Spring term are now available. See Lela or Ann in the ASG offices, ext. 2245.

Support ASG and buy a raffle ticket! They will be giving away a gift certificate for Stanford's and Albertson's, a Swiss Army knife, a watch and other items. Purchase tickets in the ASG office. ASG is raising money to send students to Washington DC to lobby for money for financial aid.

Theater students will stage one-act plays in the McLoughlin Theatre today, March 4 at noon and March 5 at 12:30 and 8 p.m. Everyone is invited to see these one-act plays: "A Style of the Eye" and "Rough for Theatre I."

Petitions for graduation are now being accepted at the Registrar's office and the Help Center for students planning to complete their program of study at the end of Winter of Spring terms. A petition must be filed to indicate a student's desire to have a completed certificate or degree posted to their transcript. A separate petition must be filed for each certificate or degree. Information regarding the graduation ceremony will be sent to students during Spring term. The ceremony will be June 12, 1998.

Poet Michele Glazer will be reading from her work today, March 4, at 3:00 in the Skylight Dining Room. Glazer is author of *It is Hard to Look at What We Want to Think We'd Come to See*, which was the winner of the 1996 Associated Writing Program's Award Series in Poetry.

Reads: Time with children provides college credits

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Foster said that Adam has become more accepted among his classmates with the help of this program.

"Just having me there makes him feel better; all the boys like me and think I'm cool, so therefore they think Adam's cool," Foster said.

Children that need Lunch Buddies need them because they aren't getting stimulation at home from their parents or guardians, or maybe they just don't interact well with other kids.

"When you're a teacher, you can see who has dirty hands every day, who has holes in their shoes, who doesn't have a backpack and who doesn't have any friends—who gets picked on," Foster explained.

Foster feels that this would be a good program to get senior citizens involved in. Many seniors enjoy volunteer work and spend a significant amount of time volunteering in their communities. Both parties would benefit from this arrangement.

Foster's Lunch Buddy will be moving to Arizona this year, and she will have a new lunch buddy next year.

She admits she'll miss Adam. "He's just as important to me as I am to him," she concluded.

Both America Reads and Lunch Buddies are open-enrollment programs—students may enroll at any time during the term.

Currently there are only 10 students involved in the America Reads program, with only one of those students signed up for the work-study credit option. This is an opportunity to help children and earn credit, or even work-study money, at the same time. If you are interested in joining either program contact Amy Lundy in the High School Relations Office.

Aid: On the students' side

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ceives when applying for financial aid.

"Reading the enormous amount of paperwork can be a bit confusing, to say the least," Jackson said, "but remember that the staff believes in an open-door policy."

Thirdly, Jackson could not stress enough the importance of the required entrance and exit interviews.

Students can receive a copy of "The Student Guide," concerning the different types of aid available, written by the U.S. Department of Education. It is the federal government, not Clackamas, that makes the decisions about how much money each college will receive, and the rules that each college must follow to remain eligible for these funds.

"Reading the paperwork is only half the battle," said Ruth Rippey, Financial Aid Technician. "Understanding it will lead to victory."

The staff deals with a large number of applicants, (in the 1995-96 school year 1,547 students received financial aid) and that sometimes students might feel like they've been lost in the shuffle of papers, but this is not the case.

The staff can help in many other ar-

eas, including counseling, food programs, clothing, and child care. The staff can also tell you where to go for state and county aid programs.

"Our entire department is dedicated to helping students attain the financial aid needed to better themselves," Jackson said, "and we strive to do this by treating students with dignity and compassion." They may not be able to solve every problem, she said, but they are willing to help any way they can.

Jackson said the college is installing a new computer system that will speed up the application process. It will be integrated with other systems on campus and will feature such things as a Financial Aid web page, including a frequently asked questions section regarding funding. Students will be able to send e-mail to the department (and expect a 24-48 hour response time), fill out standard in-house financial aid applications, and perform a multitude of other procedures.

A financial aid expert is available on Tuesdays 3-4 p.m. in Barlow 114 to help answer any questions regarding how to properly fill out financial aid applications. Students can call ext. 2422 for more information.

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