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becomes new ASG
Vice-President
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Bored? Need some
new things to do?
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Cougars take on
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FILE COPY **THE CLACKAMAS PRINT**

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Clackamas Community College

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Student offended
by instructor's
anti-homosexual
comments

SANDY LUPO
News Editor

A Clackamas student has filed a complaint against Dr. Donald Epstein, instructor for the Judaic Studies/Holocaust class, because he was offended by Epstein's anti-homosexual statements.

"Donald Epstein said, and I quote, 'You're better off dead than being a homosexual,'" wrote Joshua Alexander, an elementary education major, in his complaint. "The classroom should not be a forum for personal prejudice," he added.

Alexander dropped the class and spoke with the instructor the next day, Jan. 7.

The *Print* spoke to Epstein in two separate interviews, later that same day. Epstein told the *Print* he had been discussing in class the origins of anti-Semitism that culminated in the Holocaust, specifically the Maccabean era, around 167 B.C.

Epstein explained that during that era there was deep hatred between the Greeks, who were "notoriously homosexual," and the Jews, who "would actually sacrifice their own children rather than submit to the Greek atrocities, including homosexuality."

The *Print* asked Epstein, "What did he (the student) say today when he came to see you—'I'm quitting your class because you are, what, anti-homosexual'?"

"Apparently," Epstein answered. "He feels I should not have an opinion."

The *Print*: "Do you acknowledge you are anti-homosexual?"

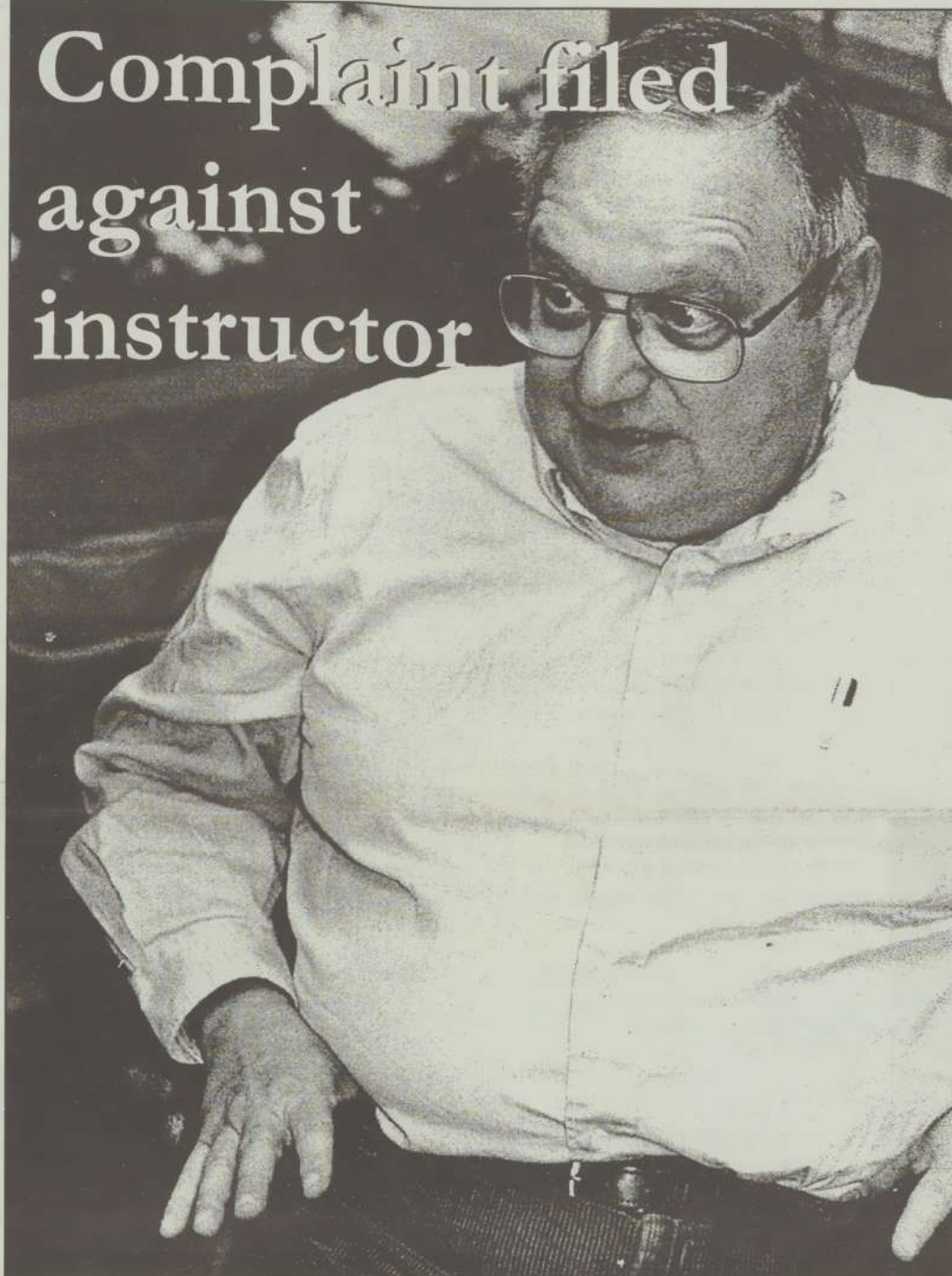
Epstein: "Of course."

The *Print*: Do you think your anti-homosexual stance should creep into the classroom?"

Epstein: "Of course; it's Judaic Studies."

The *Print*: "So it creeps into your class as part of history, not as your

Complaint filed
against
instructor



Instructor Dr. Donald Epstein

TIMOTHY A. BELL / File Photo

personal opinion?"

Epstein: "Both."

The *Print*: "Are you teaching anti-homosexuality in a world that is becoming more diverse?"

Epstein: "I'm not teaching anti-homosexuality, I am teaching Judaic Studies in the context of Jewish morality. Homosexuality is immoral....if it is immoral, it is not to be done, it is not to be condoned, it is not to be upheld."

The complaint is now in the hands of Don Hartssock, chair for the social sciences department. Hartssock told the *Print* he has opened a dialogue with both the instructor and the student, and will follow the process for "Incident Resolution Procedure" as outlined on pages 88-91 of the *CCC Student Handbook and Calendar*.

"It would not be helpful to the process to create a public debate

until all the facts are clear—it just muddies the water," Hartssock added.

Dian Connett, dean of instruction, provided the *Print* with Article 14 of the faculty contract, which addresses academic freedom. Hartssock had mentioned he would consider this topic. (See sidebar, p. 5.)

See Epstein, page 5

Student
dies on
campus

JOHN THORBURN
Editor-in-Chief

Brian Trapp, a student for an estimated 13 years, collapsed near the Randall/Barlow parking lot during the noon hour last Friday. Paramedics and doctors were unable to revive the 46 year old man; he was pronounced dead at Willamette Falls Hospital.

Kathie Woods, first-aid instructor and head volleyball coach, was the first person to come upon Trapp only an hour after running into him in the Randall Hall lobby where they discussed his health. He thought that he was coming down with the flu, according to Woods.

"It was pretty hard," noted Woods. "I had just talked to him an hour before and he was telling me that he thought he had the flu. I was walking out to my car when all of a sudden I heard a loud slap. I looked over and Brian was laying on his back. Immediately I had Karon (Allen) call 911. I knew it was bad. When I got to Brian, he was conscious and squirming a bit. He tried to get up but I told him to stay down because I noticed blood on the back of his head. Pretty soon, he was starting to drift in and out of consciousness so I started talking to him trying to get him to stay with me.

"Brian and I have been friends for awhile so I was asking him, 'Who's your buddy Brian?' And he'd say 'You are' so I asked him 'Who am I?' and he'd say 'Kathie' so then to get more of a response, I'd ask him 'Who's your favorite instructor?' and he'd say 'Kathie.' He was uncomfortable and started to move more. After a few minutes, the paramedics arrived and then we started to lose him. They checked his vital signs then started CPR and I was waving my hands in front of his eyes but there wasn't anything there."

Within five minutes of the call to 911 by Physical Education/Administration Secretary Dotty Coburn, paramedics from the Oregon City Fire Department arrived on the scene. He was then rushed to the nearest hospital.

Public Safety officers were not on campus at the time and took an estimated 15 minutes to arrive.

Survivors include his mother, Verna of Milwaukie; brother, Jerry of Junction City; and his sisters, Darlene Scott of Portland and Diane Robinson of Springfield. The family suggests remembrances be made to the Association for Retarded Citizens.

See next week's issue for a look back at the life of Brian Trapp.

A Special Report

Questions raised on recent financial reports

JOHN THORBUN
Editor-in-Chief

A Clackamas student stopped by The *Print* office last Thursday to discuss a letter that he wanted put into the paper questioning the latest Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which was given to the college earlier this week.

The letter, written by Glenn McCarthy, can be seen on page three. What follows is a look into the issue brought forth by McCarthy and my attempt to uncover a complicated situation within the college.

The report, which audits all of the college's financial records, was completed by Mark Brown, CPA, P.C. for the fiscal year end-

ing June 30, 1999. While this report is public record, very few people on campus know of its existence.

On page 120 under the heading *Budget Transactions*, it reads 'expenditures exceeded appropriations in personal services in the General Fund College Support Services Function by \$98,455; in materials and services in the Associ-

ated Student Government Fund by \$49,369; in personal services in the Computer Tech Fund by \$2,241; in capital outlay in the Capital Construction Fund by \$152,953; and in the personal services in the Public Safety Training Center by \$10,859. These over-expenditures are in violation of local budget law.'

See Report, page 5