

Help a child, donate a book

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Copy Editor

Now's the time to dust off your favorite childhood books and donate them to the College's library during the March Children's Book Drive to help expand the children's book section.

The library needs new or used books in good condition, especially books for babies, young children and beginning readers. More bilingual and multicultural books would be a great asset as well.

Librarian Karen Halliday thought of promoting a book drive after noticing the meager children's book section had few award-winning books. The children's books are used in several programs on campus, including the Instructional Assistant Certificate program and the Family Resource Center. CCC Students with young children also take advantage of the children's book section when bringing their kids to school with them.

"Upgrading the children's collection will improve the library's usefulness to other programs on campus," said Halliday. "There are few books for small children in our selection and we don't have many award-winning books."

When more books are available, the library can place a satellite collection at the Family Resource Center for the YMCA childcare center, YPOP students and their children and the new Family Literacy Saturday School which is starting this spring.

The Family Literacy program, headed by Rene Zingarelli, associate dean, extended learn-



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Teacher Ann Volk reads to preschoolers in the Family Resource Center. The library is having a children's book drive to update their book collection and improve the library's resources for programs on campus. They are accepting all children's books as well as cash donations to purchase new books.

ing services, is scheduled for Saturdays during Spring term.

"The program is for families that want to increase their own basic skills," she said. "It also teaches parents how to incorporate reading into playtime with their children."

A list of suggested books is posted in the library and on the

library's website. Many familiar titles such as, *Amelia Bedelia*, *Clifford the Big Red Dog*, *Goodnight Moon* and *Rainbow Fish* are just a few amongst the big list of award winning books.

The library has also applied for a \$1,000 mini grant to the Starbucks Foundation Literacy

Grant Program. Starbucks established this non-profit corporate foundation in 1997 to help support non-profit organizations, such as schools and libraries, that promote literacy programs.

Many people remember when they were read to as a child. Some can still quote phrases

from Dr. Seuss' *Cat in the Hat* or *Green Eggs and Ham*. Donating a book to the library will help give another child a chance to have that same experience. Bring your donated books to the reference desk in the library and be a part of promoting literacy in your community.

Horticulture: Students awarded cash prizes of \$500, \$1,000

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in third, winning a cash prize of \$500.

"I was very surprised. I was trying to place in the top 100," said Simantel.

Bruce Nelson, horticulture instructor, was extremely proud of his four competitors.

"It was definitely a team victory even though Phil and Sorjen get the kudōs. There were some events where, if they didn't have the partner, they wouldn't have gotten the points."

The Association of Landscape Contractors of America (ALCA club) is a national trade organization. Horticulture and landscaping students from all over the country compete in events such as arbor culture techniques, paving installation and irrigation practicum.

"ALCA does this because they want a trained workforce with a good professional image and they realize educated workers are going to help us get there," said Nelson. "A lot of it is very practical; do you know

how to do this, or don't you, and show me. That's what landscapers are about."

The weather did not make the competition any easier. Saturday morning, the temperature dipped down below freezing and snow began to fall. This did not stop the competitors, although it did make some of the events more difficult.

"They were going to do a tree climb, but the weather got so bad they had to go to knot tying," recalled Nelson.

The competition is spon-

sored by various businesses and is used as a forum to scout out fresh talent in the landscaping field. Nelson said the professionals often use this competition as "head-hunting" to fill jobs around the country.

"If you're looking for jobs, they're looking for you," he said.

Simantel agrees. He went to the competition with an open mind and was surprised at the offers that were made. "I didn't think I was anything important," he said. His father owns

a local landscaping business and he did not think the things he had been doing all his life would add up to so many job offers.

"I have been landscaping ever since I could hold a rake," he said.

Simantel will not be accepting any of the job offers made to him. This attitude is common among the CCC competitors this year and in previous years.

"It's hard to get them to leave the state," said Nelson.

Budget Cut: College remains positive, has action plan

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to figure out how much money we are going to have in the state budget before we make any big budget decisions," explained Keyser.

The Oregon Community College Association (OCCA) has developed a Community Action Plan for Colleges in order to give

them a chance to take action and show legislators how important the additional package is.

"We need to remain positive and let everybody know how much we need the money," said Andrea Henderson, OCCA Executive Director. "Any input is better than no input. The \$45 million budget is no longer secure

and it's time to turn up the volume for our message and tell how important this is."

The action plan for colleges includes inviting legislators to local town halls to raise community college funding issues, writing letters to legislators, collecting information on how each \$5 million cut from the funding pack-

age affects its ability to operate, develop a phone tree in case there's a need to flood legislators' offices with calls, visit legislators and write letters to editors.

When asked how students could get involved, Rem Nivens, legislative advisor for students, said that writing postcards to leg-

islators to tell them how important the enrollment package is could make an impact and increase awareness.

The OCCA will continue working to secure the enrollment funding in the coming weeks. A final decision concerning the enrollment growth package will be made early May.

Do you like to write or take photos and have a good time? The Clackamas Print is recruiting people to work on the paper. For more info call ext. 2309