

THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

Skills Contest showcases county's best

FRANK JORDAN
News Editor

The 24th annual Clackamas County Skills Contest was held Feb. 28 on the Clackamas Community College campus. The contest involved high school students from all over Clackamas County in a wide variety of topics.

Winners receive a \$250 tuition waiver from Clackamas.

Among the more intriguing events held on campus included the county spelling bee, a leadership contest involving teams building a Lego structure, and a crime scene reenactment by the CCC Criminal Justice Department.

"This contest is a great way to show off the best and the brightest that this county has to offer," said Mike Caudle, Associated Student Government adviser. "We have seen first-hand what these students have to offer, and hopefully, some will take advantage of their talents."

Caudle was the moderator for the leadership contest, which involved seven teams from the county. Each team was comprised of four to eight members. The object of the contest was to recreate, using Lego blocks, an art sculpture set up in the center of the room. One member of each team drew a rough

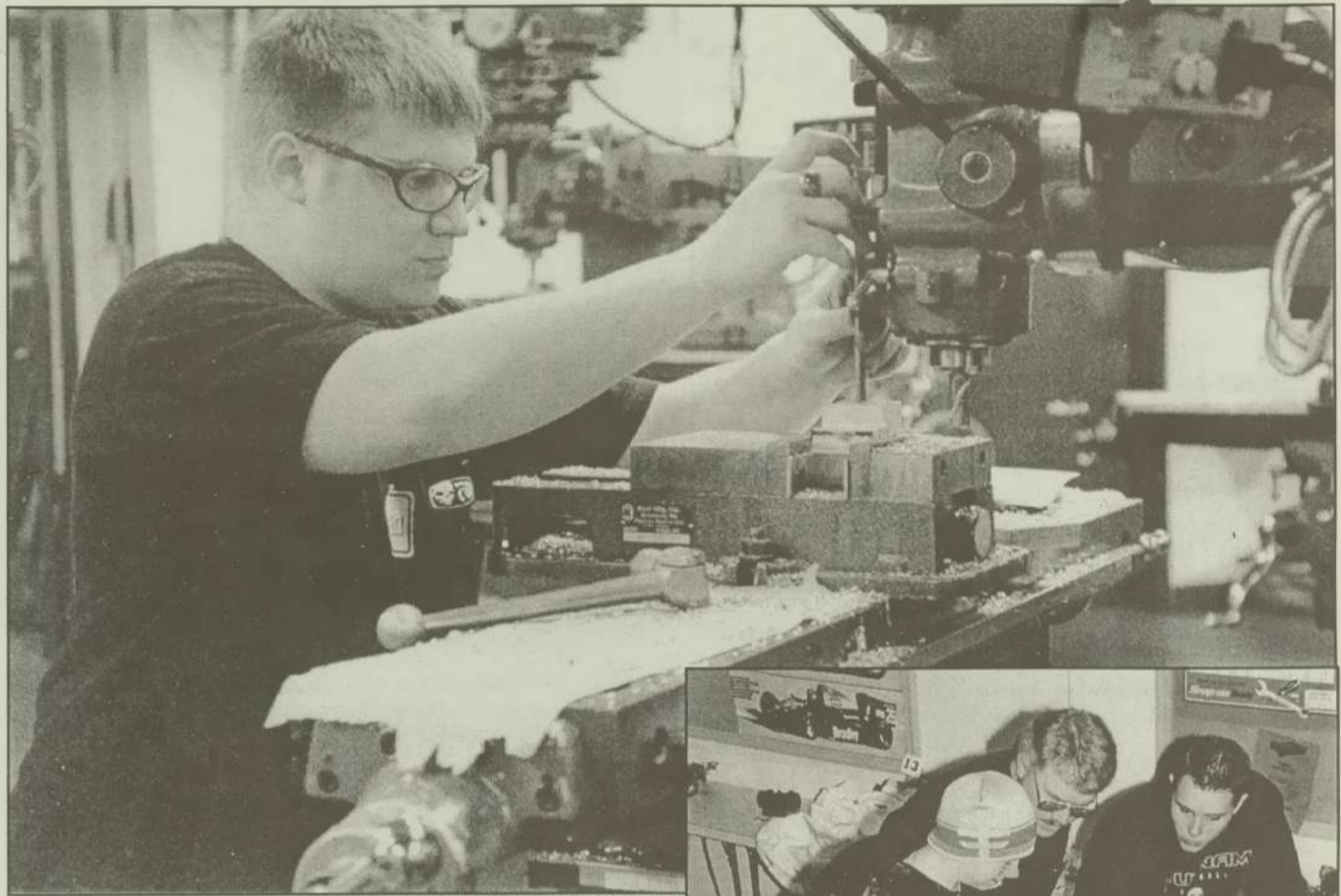


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY TAD WAGNER

Brian Harris works on machining an aluminum part on a mill during competition at the Clackamas Regional Skills Contest.

sketch of the sculpture, and the rest of the team had to recreate the design of the artwork in the shortest amount of time possible.

The team representing home school students in the county won the contest in 10 minutes and 48 seconds.

The county spelling bee drew 25 contestants and Ruthie Johnson from Country Christian High School in Molalla correctly spelled "chargeable" to win the contest over Jill Schulenberg, a home school student.

"This contest helps us realize just

where we are as far as our education is concerned, to go up against other students from other schools in the county is a lot of fun and very exciting," commented Cody Smith, from Estacada High School.

"I was entered in the Journalism-Feature Writing contest, and I had a lot of fun with it. I just hope that I did well enough to place." Smith did do well enough, picking up the second place prize in the contest.

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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY TAD WAGNER

Ray Conklin, Clackamas Automotive Department chairman, judges Rex Putnam High School students during the Skills Contest's open contest for meter-reading skills.

Peace Corps: Experience leaves positive impact on participants' lives

Continued from page 1
role that language plays in understanding a culture in his time in the Philippines. The language he learned there, Basayan, has a present tense and three past tenses (immediately past, a while ago, and long ago) but no future tense. "This made planning difficult," Ferris recalled.

David Demsky spent his time in Guatemala getting a sawmill running, eventually upping

production to two logs a day.

He contacted American companies to get donations of machinery and parts. Another project involved bringing water to a village three miles from a lake.

He used galvanized pipe the first time and "that was a mistake," he said. "The first earthquake we had broke it in about 300 pieces." A second attempt with PVC eliminated 12 miles of walking per village woman per

day.

The speakers agreed that their time in the Peace Corps had positively impacted them for life.

"You just get the feeling that the world is a bigger place," Bjerre said.

Ferris commented that one becomes less concerned about getting things done in a hurry. "You become more concerned about smooth interpersonal relations."

"I just wanted to do something for someone else for a

change," Demsky said. "I mean, what's two years of your life? There's no money in the world that can touch that."

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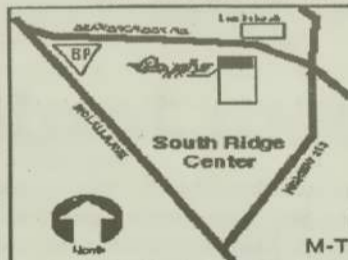
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