

THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

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Clackamas Community College

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Clackamas celebrates diversity Vale prevails in auto skills contest



Elisabeth Meyer/The Clackamas Print

Swinging to Ritmo Tropical's beats, two dancers salsa at the International Day Celebration Wednesday, May 8, in the cafeteria. The French, German and Spanish clubs each arranged part of Wednesday's program, lining up musical entertainment, teaching dances and selling ethnic foods.

The Print bags nine awards, second in state

MAGGIE JIRASEK

Editor-in-Chief

The Clackamas Print received eight individual awards and second place in General Excellence for community college newspapers at the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association awards ceremony held at Oregon State University in Corvallis Friday, May 3.

Schools from all over Oregon attended the event. Clackamas competed with seven other community colleges: Chemeketa, Lane, Linfield, Linn-Benton, Mt. Hood, Southwestern Oregon and Portland Community College.

Awards were given out in 22 categories, with General Excellence the highest presented to Oregon's college newspapers. The award is based on general

and departmental news, mechanical excellence, advertising enterprise, editorial content, general appearance, make-up, style, photographs, graphics and thoroughness of campus coverage. This year, Linn-Benton Community College took home the General Excellence award.

This is the third year that *The Print* placed in the top two. In 2000, *The Print* received first place in General Excellence for the first time and came in second last year. Previously, the paper had never placed in that category.

"The Print staff works incredibly hard week after week. They deserved every single one of these awards and more," said Patty Mamula, newspaper adviser. "We were especially pleased to take second. We are establishing a standard for excellence."

The eight other awards include: first place Best Sports Story, Elena Boryska; first place Best Feature Photo, Liesl Muggli; second place Best Section, second place Best Special Section, second place Best Columnist, Nick Barron; second place Best Photography, Salena De La Cruz; second place Best Cartooning, Chris Lungren; and Honorable Mention Best Writing to Nick Barron. All entries were judged by journalism professionals.

"It feels great knowing you've been recognized for being the second best photographer among community colleges," said Salena De La Cruz, design editor.

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J.J. PEARSON

Staff Writer

Once again, two Vale High School students triumphed at the Ford/AAA Auto Skills Contest held at the college on May 3, entitling them to travel to Washington D.C., to participate in the national competition on June 17. Vale has been the national champion three times.

As soon as Ray Conklin, the competition manager and chair of the automotive program said, "Gentlemen, start your engines," it seemed as if Vale had nearly completed all of the necessary tasks needed to win. About 10 minutes after the start of the contest, Coleman Whitley and Kenny Roner had 9 of 10 bugs located and repaired on their Ford Escape, donated by Hertz Rent A Car. The nearest opponent, Siuslaw High, had five bugs fixed.

The competition is divided into two areas: a written examination, which is completed early in the school year, and the hands-on competition. Each high school in Oregon with an automotive program can send up to eight students to take the written examination. The two students from each school who score the highest on the written examination may compete in the hands-on contest. A maximum of 10 schools is allowed to compete in Oregon.

In the hands-on competition,

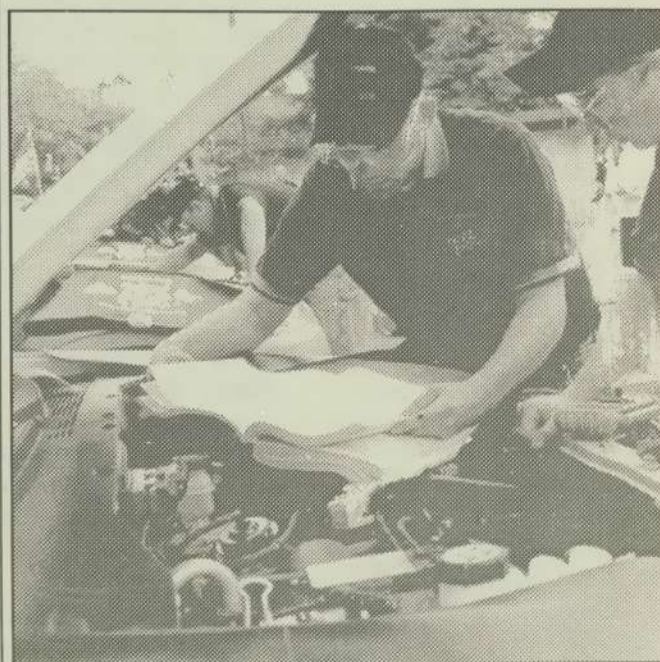
the two-person teams compete against each other in diagnosing and correcting malfunctions deliberately placed in the electrical, starting, ignition, charging, fuel, emission control systems, or body hardware of new vehicles. Workmanship, speed, accuracy, and written test results are factors in the judging. Of all these, accuracy is the most important. Winners of the state competition go on to compete against winners from the other 49 states in the national finals.

"Most high schools focus on sports. This competition is a good thing because it focuses on other departments," said Mark Lambrecht, a finals judge and Ford ASSET instructor at Mt. Hood Community College. The primary goal of the competition is to prepare and recruit students for rewarding careers in automotive service.

Vale slowed down after their initial drive with an unforeseen problem allowing Siuslaw a glimpse of hope at upsetting the reigning state champion. Matt Bottensek and Michael Bouchet of Siuslaw looked as if they knew they were getting close because they seemed to begin to rush things a little bit and stumbled on a problem themselves. This gave Roner and Whitley time to complete the rest of their tasks and drop the hood first.

During the final check, a team of trained technicians carefully looks

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J.J. Pearson/The Clackamas Print

Two St. Helens students look up a parts description during the Auto Skills competition held at Clackamas last Friday. Vale High School won for the 15th time in the last 18 years.