

★ THE CLACKAMAS PRINT ★

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Oregonians can log onto www.leg.state.or.us/listn/listenset/htm to listen to the state's house revenue forecast live on Friday at 9 a.m. Students and staff may gather in the Gregory Forum, room 108C to hear the forecast.

'Professor Hammer' customizes on campus

Pete Ford
 News Editor

Ron Covell, the half-bald, thick-bearded car legend nicknamed "Professor Hammer" morphed into "Professor Harley" for his seminar Feb. 17.

Well over a hundred people gathered for Covell's fourth appearance at Clackamas. Covell took a turn from the normal street rod presentation and brought what he called "a motorcycle-oriented evening."

Covell began the evening with a slideshow of custom bikes that "captured his fancy." The slideshow even featured some of his own work. Most were Harley-style motorcycles that, according to Covell, were "very difficult shapes to create and exquisite metal work."

Some bikes were built just for novelty, such as Ron's burley, unique '57 Chevy cycle. The machine was constructed for a customer who wanted to splice a car and a motorcycle. The outcome was phenomenal. The back end of the bike was obviously a '57 Chevy when it was completed.

After the slideshow, Covell began the demonstrations using aluminum sheet. "Aluminum sheet is my favorite metal," he said. "You can bend it (annealing), stretch it, or shrink it. Those are the only three things you can do to shape metal."

The goal for the evening was to construct, from scratch, a teardrop-shaped motorcycle gas tank.

The first approach Covell demonstrated was shrinking the metal using the shrinking machine. The machine is an over-sized metal clamp, similar to a large vice, that squishes metal to form new shapes. Picture a rotated vice that opens up and down rather than left to right and add a lever



Above: One of many students' custom made motorcycles. This particular bike was the trophy winner of its class at the fifth annual Portland Rod and Custom show on Feb. 16.

(which moves the teeth up and down) instead of the normal clockwise rotation; that's a shrinking machine. This technique can be used for anything, but is most commonly used for creating pieces such as custom hubcaps.

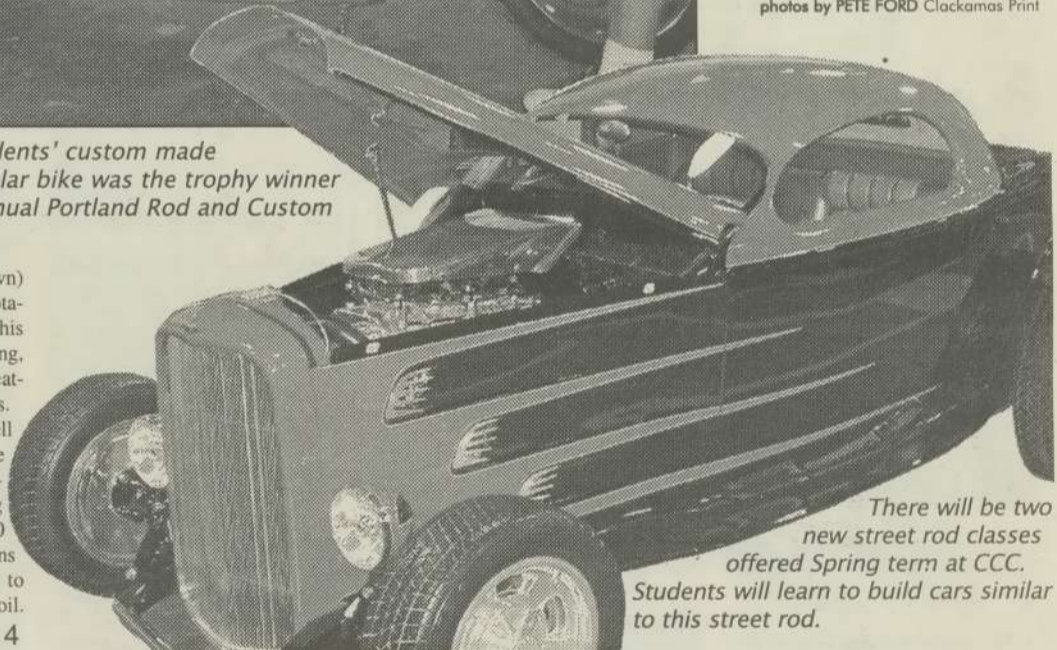
After that demonstration Covell quickly began explaining the process of annealing, better-known as bending metal. Heating up the metal to roughly 800 degrees using a blowtorch begins this process. This allows you to shape the thick aluminum like foil.

See Covell on pg. 4



Covell displays the teardrop motorcycle gas tank he created during his presentation.

photos by PETE FORD Clackamas Print



There will be two new street rod classes offered Spring term at CCC. Students will learn to build cars similar to this street rod.

Lend Me a Tenor Directed by David Smith-English



LUKE MAHAN Clackamas Print

"Lend Me a Tenor," written by Ken Ludwig and directed by David Smith-English will open tonight at 7 p.m.

"Lend Me a Tenor," according to Smith-English, is a quick-paced, highly intense comedy.

"The characters are wonderfully wild. The further out they get, the more you are willing to accept it," said Smith-English.

Plot Summary: When world-famous tenor Tito Morelli takes ill on opening night, Saunders (Matt Morrison, pictured left) the stage manager steps in to save the day.

Reality Bite: Real life ran parallel to the play's plot when assistant stage manager, Matt Morrison took over the lead role weeks into rehearsing. Former lead Mat Lingmann stepped down due to work-related scheduling conflicts.

"We have a very dedicated cast," said Smith-English.