

Getting the scoop

Program expands, offers more with new Broadcast Journalism class

This article, by a West Linn High student, is the first place winner of the journalism contest in feature writing, part of last Thursday's 26th Annual Clackamas Regional Skills Competition. Students interviewed English Instructor Andy Mingo, who with Journalism Instructor Linda Vogt is working toward offering a class in broadcast journalism in 2006.

Gabriella Cooks
Contributing Writer

A wave of change is hitting the world of journalism, and English Instructor Andy Mingo stands ready to take his students into the future.

Some of the changes are simply in redefining journalism, according to Mingo. He feels that journalism is a very important part of daily life, but it can often be taken in the wrong direction. The line between journalism and propaganda can sometimes appear blurry.

"It's [a journalist's] job to ask tough questions and be objective," he said. If the important questions go unasked, the hard facts go

unknown.

Mingo also feels that journalism as a whole is shifting away from the "conglomerate network control of the news."

As people become more educated about the world, Mingo said, there is a power shift to individuals, such as internet bloggers, as news sources. Already they provide information as, or before, the larger sources do, and "this really attests to the power of the individual."

Unfortunately, there is a catch to this individual power. As competition increases and sources grow in number, it will become harder and harder for the average person to filter through all of it to get to "the real stuff," said Mingo. It can be hard to know when sources are legitimate and when they're just somebody's opinion.

The changes that seem to most interest Mingo, though, are those of the technological realm. Broadcast journalism is growing and he hopes to help Clackamas shift into

video production as a key element of journalism courses, in addition to web design, before moving into broadcast journalism in order to provide a wider base of knowledge for the class.

Mingo also said that Macintosh G5s have been ordered and will be put to use to aid in this move away from the printed word.

"Don't get me wrong," Mingo said. "I'm a fan of hard-copy papers," but he can see them being made available on the web as well, an ecological and economic change for the better.

Newspapers will probably never become obsolete, Mingo said, but changes are definitely being made. In this technological world, they're unavoidable.

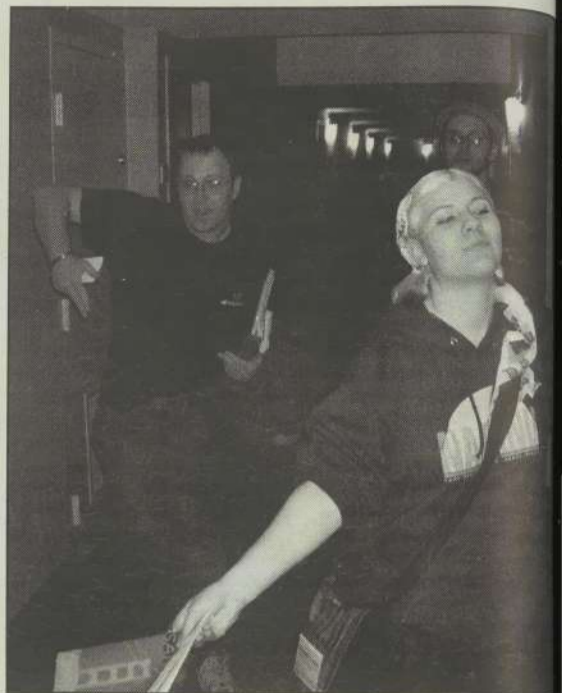
Mingo wants to teach his students to question things and to see the world

in new ways and he believes that these changes will help to forward that ideal goal of awareness and individual power.

"It's [a journalist's] job to ask tough questions and be objective."

Andy Mingo
English Instructor

Print staff conquers San Francisco



Ben Maras Clackamas

Staff members of *The Clackamas Print* (clockwise from left) Copy Editor James Tombe, Editor-in-Chief Isaiah Creel, and Design Editor Michael Cooper are part of a group of five editors and one staff writer travel to San Francisco last Thursday through Sunday for a national journalism convention. About 800 students from colleges and universities from all around the country came to the convention, attending sessions ranging from opinion writing to page design.

Check out the feature section next week for the full story.



the write stuff
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cccprint@clackamas.edu

Writing Contest

- POETRY
- CREATIVE NON-FICTION
- SHORT FICTION
- LITERARY ANALYSIS

- Open to students at Clackamas, Portland and Mt. Hood Community Colleges
- Postmark deadline: April 15th, 2005
- Contest sponsored by the Thomas Binford Endowment for Writing
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