

Clackamas Print



Independent, student-run newspaper since 1966
 Clackamas Community College, Oregon City, OR

Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2005

FREE

Volume 39, Issue 4

Inside the Clackamas catacombs

Katie Wilson

conditioning, water and
 they come to the col-
 underground.

network of tunnels runs
 under the Barlow,
 McLoughlin, Bill Brod
 Community Center, and Pauling

run out from the ends of
 to supply Rook, the
 Forum, the Dye Learning
 Streeter and the Niemeyer

probably a phone wire,
 said Kirk Pearson,
 of campus services, as he
 down the tunnel that runs
 with Barlow out towards

ing out a pipe that runs
 water, he explained how
 cycles back.

not like we just dump
 said. "It all comes back
 the system."

of the pipes have been
 for 30 years or more and,
 to Pearson, probably
 have to be replaced any

can see here what's going
 said, where a pipe was
 covered in a Styrofoam-
 material. "[This pipe] is
 stripped. Part of the project
 right now is re-insu-
 piping here.

technology from 30 years
 insulating chill pipes was
 the Styrofoam material,
 at the time was, you know,
 new thing. What happened
 not a tight seal."

because it was not a tight seal
 get down into the pipes,
 ing moisture to move up
 down inside the insulation
 cause corrosion," explained

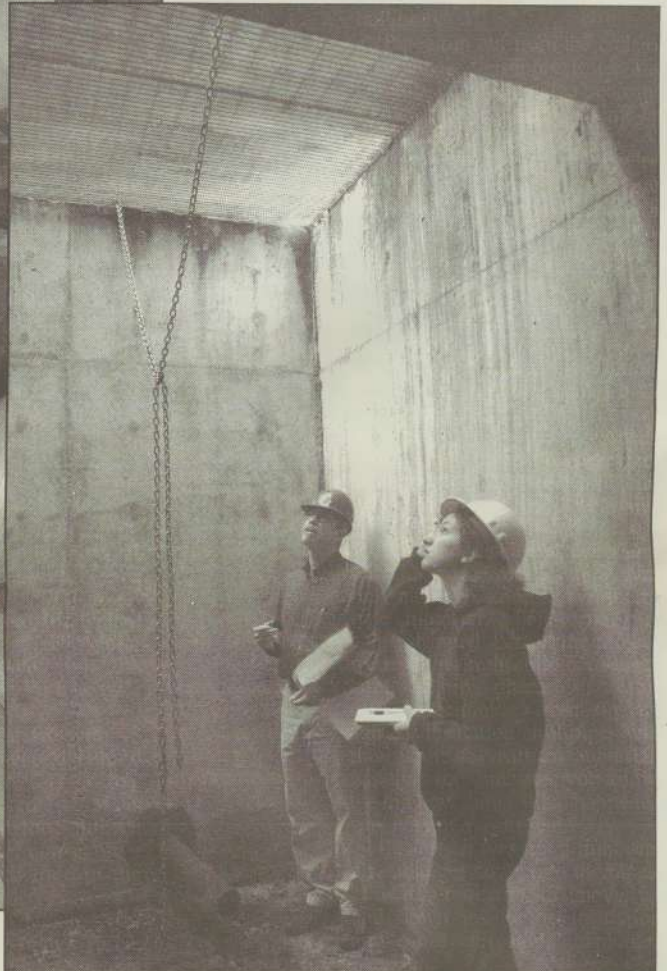
new system we're putting
 means that, even if you get a
 it's a much tighter prod-
 Pearson explained. "It really
 to the pipe. So if you do
 reach, it's localized."

the years, and with the
 of new buildings
 Roger Rook and the Art



BELOW AND LEFT: Kirk Pearson shows *The Print's* Katie Wilson the network of tunnels and pipes which supply everything from water to air conditioning for the college.

Crews also use the tunnels to diagnose problems with the facilities in case of emergencies.



Photos by Andy Zehrung Clackamas Print

Center, new pipes and lines have
 had to be installed. In the case
 of Pauling the tunnel was actu-
 ally extended, but for other build-
 ings only the pipes have been
 extended.

In the occasion of a college
 power outage the pumps shut
 down and only the city water

continues to flow. The pumps
 come back up automatically when
 power is restored.

"We walk through and check
 everything [after an outage]," said
 Pearson. "It depends on the length
 of the outage. There was a very
 bad storm in the late '80s, I think.
 We were without power for a

couple, three days. Some pipes
 broke."

Also underground are the trans-
 formers, which get power directly
 from PGE.

"If you plugged your radio into
 that voltage, you'd fry it," said
 Pearson. "The transformers take

the voltage and step it down to
 what we can use."

Pearson ended the tour by
 climbing several stairs, open-
 ing a door and emerging in the
 Community Center causing a few
 students to look up curiously as
 the door swung back shut.

College receives high marks in anticipated state review

Jeff Sorensen

committee of state department
 representatives and local
 evaluated college departments last
 on their abilities to fulfill require-

for Title II of the
 Workforce Investment
 Act. The evaluation was

learned a lot
 our programs by
 at them in a way
 normally don't,"
 Brenda Marks, the
 Clackamas skills devel-
 opment chair.
 committee, accord-
 Marks, reported
 Clackamas is within
 compliance and
 they need only to
 on "continuous

improvement."

Created in 1998, the Workforce
 Investment Act is, according to the U.S.
 Department of Labor, designed to "help
 Americans access the tools they need to
 manage their careers through information
 and high quality services, and to help
 U.S. companies find skilled workers."

The college was specifi-
 cally being evaluated for
 Title II of the act, which
 focuses on adult educa-
 tion and family literacy.

"One of the main
 changes in legislation
 from the early '90s to the
 Workforce Investment
 Act Title II legislation
 was in performance
 accountability," said
 Kristen Kulongoski, the
 Oregon state director

**"We learned
 a lot about
 our programs
 by looking at
 them in a way
 we normally
 don't."**

Brenda Marks
 Clackamas skills
 development chair



College President Joe Johnson shakes hands with Kristen Kulongoski (daughter of Gov. Ted Kulongoski), the Oregon state director of adult basic skills and head of the review committee.

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Jeff Sorensen Clackamas Print