

Student to serve and protect

Jeff Sorensen

The Clackamas Print

There's only a few weeks left until graduation, and Criminal Justice student Josh Crader has been trying to stay focused through his last few classes at Clackamas.

Before Crader graduated high school in 2002, he spent the '01-'02 year taking art, music and recording classes at Clackamas. It wasn't until Winter Term 2003 that he found his way to the Criminal Justice department and got addicted to going to class.

"I would just add as many CJ classes as I could every semester," said Crader. "I'd take anywhere between 12 and 20 credits."

Beyond his normal course work, Crader spent some time through Clackamas' CWE program shadowing a corrections officer at Clackamas County Corrections Facility, where he fulfilled the requirement of 180 hours in under four and a half weeks.

It was there that Crader had a chance to not only learn about his

potential career in corrections, but to also learn a few things about the variety of inmates who get sentenced to the facility. Crader learned through personal conversations that many of the people living there were more complex than a "stereotypical criminal."

"We'd have conversations about their lives, families, and their job. [For many] yeah, it's a screw up, but it's not the end of the world," Crader said.

After graduation, Crader will continue to work toward his bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice at PSU.

"Clackamas is totally this comfort zone now," said Crader. "I'll have new classes, new professors and a new campus to deal with. I'm looking forward to the higher level course work ... I'm looking forward to the challenge."

After Portland State, Crader is still deciding whether he wants to get a graduate degree, but that decision is still some time away.

"I have two years left to finish my undergraduate degree. If I'm not sick of school by then, I'm going to enroll in a graduate program," said Crader. "I'm toying with the idea of Boston

University for that ... but that's way down the road."

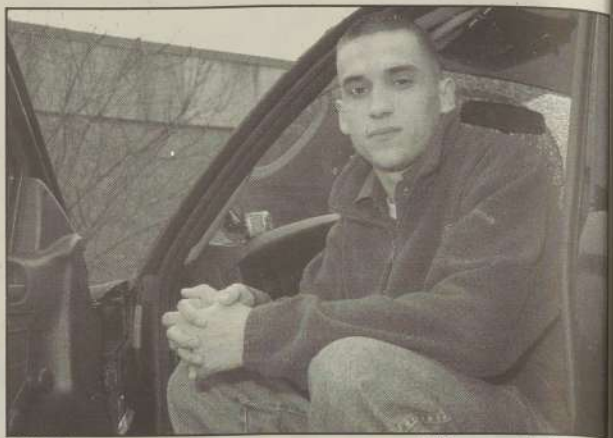
Eventually, Crader will want to get started on his career as well.

"At some point I do want to work patrol," said Crader, "I think that if I start out in corrections, dealing with those kinds of people on a day-to-day basis in that kind of environment, when I did actually get out on patrol I'd be more equipped to deal with people that the rest of society doesn't want to deal with or shouldn't have to."

Crader may not have known right away that he would find a passion for upholding the law, but growing up he knew it was definitely something that interested him.

"Always as a kid I would look up to police officers. I guess it's that whole hero aspect ... being needed by people, conflict resolution. Just being there when people can't deal with their problems and need someone to interject," Crader said.

He has worked hard to get where he is and although he still has more work to do, he's proud of how far



CRADER

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he's come.

"I was pretty much labeled in high school as someone who wasn't the most academically 'smart' person," said Crader, "and in a way I was out to disprove that fact. I think that with anything in life, if you set your mind to something and you work at it diligently, you can get it completed."

Crader will be getting his Associate of Applied Science Degree in Criminal Justice/Corrections from Clackamas on June 16, as well as a certificate in corrections, and he insists that nothing is going to stand in his way.

"I'm going to graduate come hell or high water," Crader said.

Clackamas employee runs for seat in state legislature

Katie Wilson

The Clackamas Print

Mike Caudle is ready to start making a difference.

Caudle is running for state

legislature for the Canby/Oregon City district. He currently works at the college as an Advising/Recruitment Specialist in Student Outreach.

"I was involved in politics a long time ago," said Caudle.

"I haven't really been since college, but the last legislative session made me so frustrated. They didn't do anything. The list is a mile long of things that they didn't do."

So he filed to announce candidacy through the state parties and started knocking on doors, getting his name and message out.

He has summed up his campaign into three main priorities: to put kids first, protect and support working families, and to make a smarter, more accountable Salem.

He is unopposed in the Democratic primary and at home, although his wife is a Republican.

"We have a bipartisan house," he said, "but my wife's pretty excited about me running. She's been really supportive."

He and his wife were high school sweethearts. They've been together for 13 years, married for seven and have a two-and-a-half year old daughter.

His campaign is fueled by the support of his friends, family

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Mike Caudle
Advising/recruitment specialist

and a whole host of volunteers.

"I do try to keep my work life and this other responsibility separate," he said, also mentioning that not many people at the college know he's running.

The primaries are on the May 16 and after that all the focus

turns to the Nov. 7 elections.

"It's kind of funny really," Caudle said. "It's all still kind of surreal."

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