

Debate team dominates contest

Michelle Sanchez
Clackamas Print

Clackamas' speech and debate team set the bar in community college level events this year, as they competed in several university level competitions.

This school year alone, the team has participated in various events, including the Linfield, Mt. Hood Community, and Clark Community College competitions.

Stephanie Bachelder, an experienced member of the team, commented that at the Linfield competition, the team was a competitive col-

es, members of Clackamas' speech and debate team see them as an opportunity for growth.

"Debate gives you the ability to learn," said veteran speech and debate team member Jay Sabin. "It forces you to look at many different avenues and broaden your perspective."

Bartlett commented that, "Every time you go to a tournament you learn something new, and participating helps you learn how to articulate your feelings."

Bartlett said it had helped him learn to 'stand up for his rights, instead of just throwing in the towel.'

Speech and debate, however, is much more than just arguing and political jargon.

There are several different events in which students can enter to compete. Many members participate in interpretation speeches in which students take a piece of poetry, prose or other literary work, and through it express their opinions on subjects such as teen angst, divorce and other socially significant subjects.

Speeches prepared without previous knowledge on a given topic, known as impromptu speeches, heighten the challenge at hand. But, whether they are pre-



Contributed Photo

The speech and debate team poses for a group shot before the debate on Oct. 28, 2008.

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Jay Sabin
speech and debate team member

paring for an interpretation speech or getting stoked to team up as a duo for debate, the passion and love for the event is evident in the students. Stephanie Bachelder admitted, that she can sometimes be found wandering around, talking to herself out loud.

"I will be wrapping silverware at work practicing my speech," she laughs smiling.

So whether they are on the road competing or in the back room at work rolling silverware, Clackamas's speech and debate team members are ready to give their all to the what they love.



Robert Crawford Clackamas Print

Debaters Taylor Haymen, left, and Jesse Kingsolver, right, collaborate on their counter argument at the Annual Invitational Speech Tournament on Dec. 13.

Theater alumna returns to Clackamas as guest director



Megan Shaw Clackamas Print

Guest director Annie Rimmer gives her actors tips during a rehearsal of 'How I Learned to Drive,' Clackamas' upcoming winter show.

Sean Huggins

The Clackamas Print

A new year, a new quarter and the theater department has a new guest director, Annie Rimmer.

She is currently directing the newest performance from the theater, 'How I Learned to Drive.' She was a student at Clackamas before she transferred to Willamette University. She directed two other plays at CCC, 'Downtown,' by Jeffery Hatcher and 'Dentity Crisis' by Christopher Durang.

As a former student at Clackamas, most of her studies were in the theater department under theater instructors David and Cynthia Smith-English and technical theater instructor Chris Whitten. It was under these instructors when she did her two plays here.

"The theater department is really strong here, and they influenced me to direct here," said Rimmer, when asked how her time here at Clackamas affected her.

Whitten hinted that thanks to the Clackamas Repertory Theatre that David Smith-English asked Rimmer to guest direct in the summer of 2008.

Rimmer's work is thought of rather highly in the theater

department, particularly by Whitten.

"Not only was Annie an actress, she was a stage manager, and I remember her student directed one act as one of the strongest pieces we have ever had be a part of the end of term showcase," said Whitten.

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Chris Whitten
technical theater instructor

Don't miss Rimmer's latest show

'How I Learned to Drive' by Paula Vogel

opening Feb. 26 and running until March 8.