

Student quells his addiction

Abby Neet

The Clackamas Print

Andrew Senase used to have a very powerful addiction. Senase is a former alcoholic.

It started out casual. At 14 he would drink with his friends, have a good time and party.

As usual, addictions do not stay casual. It evolved into an everyday thing, and as he got older, he got deeper and deeper into it. He was in denial of what was happening, and what he was doing.

"It's a progressive disease," Senase said, regarding alcoholism.

Senase attributes much of his success to his involvement in Narcotics Anonymous and his sponsor through the program. His sponsor is there to mentor him, and help him out in situations he has never been in, as well as encourage Senase to look at himself, and ways to keep improving.

Mary Brown, Senase's girlfriend said, "He is very active in classes. He's focused and determined. When he says he is going to do something, he will. He is trying to better his future."

"He is the type of guy who sees a sunset and starts crying. He is very open and honest," Brown added, much to Senase's embarrassment.

Senase, Brown and Shelly

Mead worked together to start an NA meeting on campus.

The meetings are Monday and Friday from noon to 1 p.m. in room 112 in the Community Center.

He believes, "It's better to face our problems in numbers than by ourselves."

Senase emphatically supports the NA and AA programs, and believes the programs were helpful in his own recovery, and would aid in the recovery of others.

Angela Harvey, Senase's mother said, "He has the biggest heart there ever is."

She believes he has always been very compassionate, and has become even more so with his recovery. Harvey believes he has learned a lot of things through the recovery process.

His father, Tony Senase proudly said, "He is an asset to society," and also believes he has become a more dedicated father.

Those views are shared by Senase who said during his addiction it was all about himself, and now he is much more focused on his son who is, "the apple of my eye."

Senase is doing his part to help the community, and is a chapter chair of an Oxford house. Oxford house is a democratic program that provides sober living for those who want to a change and want help

getting clean.

The 26-year-old full-time student said he never would have imagined he would be in college and actually passing his classes.

Senase had a rough childhood. He is the oldest of six, and things became more difficult when he was nine and his parents divorced. He had to step up and help take care of the younger kids. Senase learned to cook, clean and do laundry and other things that took away from his time as a kid.

He eventually dropped out of high school, and was in the Navy for five years. Senase would consider himself to be a veteran.

He continues to be proactive in his goal of making a better future. He is going for his associate's degree, and is going to get into water environmental technology. This is his second term at Clackamas.

Senase said when he finds himself in situations where he is tempted to relapse, he can call his sponsor and has a wide support group.

Living up to what his family has said about him, Senase really does care about others, and would like to help anyone who needs help becoming clean, or is interested in sober living. Anyone interested in contacting him can contact *The Print* for contact information.



SENASE

Involved: ASG amplifies the voice of Clackamas Community College's students

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Student reaction to the "first aid kit" idea and lobbying has been positive according to Alyssa Fava, student ambassador and event coordinator for ASG.

"The general reaction has been very supportive. Students are very

interested in what is taking place," Fava said.

Brown sees student involvement as a key factor in obtaining critical funding from the state.

"It's more powerful to hear from you (the students) than the college president," Brown said, emphasizing the power of collective voice.

The importance of students getting their collective voice heard is not lost to Adriana Skero.

"I think we definitely need that if we want to support the school," Skero said about students getting their voices heard. "Without students, what opinion is there?"

Student Jamie Waddle

feels helpless in the eyes of the legislature, at least if she is fighting alone, "but with ASG putting everything together... it shows everybody is effected not just one person."

For students on campus Fava would like to emphasize that anybody can make a difference. She encourages students who want to

make a contribution to the campus by increasing support for our college through contact members of congress.

Fava also is encouraging students to come by ASG's office, located in the Community Center near the cafeteria, if they have any questions about how they can help their college.

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Classes: selections diverse

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New icons and labels dot the Clackamas spring registration catalog, as hybrid courses and online courses bring us onward and upward into the year 2009. Five new classes have even managed to emerge in this economic crunch in the nursing program.

"We are under the umbrella of a statewide program in the nursing department and when they change the curriculum so do we," stated Graf. The nursing program has refused to dwindle at Clackamas as students have continued to flourish in the program despite the economic downturn.

When registering for spring term the best decision is to register early.

"Do it as soon as you can, and apply for financial aid as soon as you can," said Ric Jenkerson, an enrollment services specialist at

the registration office.

For students looking at the classes they want at the time they want them, registration is the number one thing that should dominate the checklist for next term's to do list.

"The hybrid and online classes are a great new way of delivering the students, which brings them to campus some days," said Graf. "Some classes that are listed as TBA where the time is should understand that the time the class will be able to be coordinated with the instructors to meet the needs of the students."

Clackamas also offers options for students to familiarize themselves with programs as Blackboard, to make the change from the classical set instruction to the cyber world one of seamlessness and convenience.

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