

WOU public safety gets new badges

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — Campbell Hall and Mount Hood will soon grace the shoulders of public safety officers at Western Oregon University, thanks to a new badge designed by senior Jeff Collet.

"The problem that was presented was how can we describe the region and the campus in a simple way," said Collet, a visual communication design student. "Campbell Hall, being the oldest building in public education this side of the country, was a fine representation of that. Mount Hood is symbolic of Oregon, and then it was suggested that the American flag be included. I love the way it turned out."

Collet described the process of designing a new patch for public safety at an unveiling on June 9.

Currently, WOU public safety officers wear two different badges, one for the Oregon University System and one for WOU. But with the Oregon University System being dissolved July 1, and Western having its own governance board, it was time to take a look at a complete redesign, said Rebecca

Chiles, public safety director. It's the first time the Public Safety Department has had a new patch since 1997, said Officer Trever Jackson.

"We were able to get more specific to the university and use the university's colors with the red, which is fairly uncommon to have a lot of



Jeff Collet accepts thanks from Public Safety Director Rebecca Chiles during an unveiling of Western Oregon University's new public safety patch on June 9.

red on the patch," Jackson noted. "I'm real happy about it. It's really exciting."

Six students in Jen Bracy's visual communication design classes submitted designs, but Collet's was chosen — a testament to his hard work and vision, Bracy said.

"All the other students were ... further along in their coursework," she said.

Collet said he tried to keep his design simple enough that details would not be lost in embroidery.

"It was chosen because they liked the direction I was going in, but it definitely

needed an overhaul," he said. "So I went back to the drawing board and took what I had done and their suggestions and made something that everyone enjoyed."

One thing that needed to be rethought was the shape. "The shape of the patch was, originally, it looked like a W for Western, but that was a little too custom for embroidery shops," Collet said. The W is still implied in the new patch, he noted, with sloping edges along the side.

The patch is the first big project Collet has done. Though he is a senior next year, he has only started in the visual communication design courses, having taken only 100 and 200 lower-divi-

sion courses.

He came to Western after serving in the military as a combat photographer and videographer. After starting out majoring in chemistry and mathematics, he decided his passion lay in the arts.

"I looked at the programs that Western had that would strengthen my skills in photography and video, and I thought that pursuing graphic design would only benefit me becoming a more well-rounded multimedia artist," Collet said.

Chiles said she would make sure he got one of the badges, once they were made, to add to his portfolio.

"It's pretty cool to be a part of Western history now, having that impact, that's all I got to say," Collet said.



SCHOOL NOTES

CCC names Oliveros new dean of SDLR

SALEM — Chemeketa Community College has named Claire Oliveros as the new executive dean of student development and learning resources.

She will lead the departments that provide student support services such as enrollment, counseling and financial aid. She begins Aug. 1.

"Claire is a great match for our division, our college and community," said Jim Eustrom, Chemeketa's vice president.

Oliveros has nearly 20 years of higher education and community college experience primarily at Portland Community College. She was most recently PCC's director of TRIO Student Support Services, a federally funded program offering educational opportunity for low-income, first generation, and disabled students. She has a doctorate degree in education from Oregon State University with a specialization in community college leadership.

"I am excited to become a part of Chemeketa because of its commitment to diversity, equity and student success," Oliveros said.

KV Charter School hires music teacher

KINGS VALLEY — Kings Valley Charter School announced Thursday the hiring of Danielle DeMasi as a music teacher.

DeMasi has a degree in music from Berry College in Mount Berry, Ga.

Search continues for KVCS teachers

KINGS VALLEY — Kings Valley Charter School is looking for a new high school math teacher and first-second grade teacher.

Those applying for the math position must be a "highly qualified" teacher in Oregon for high school-level math. The application deadline is Friday.

Those applying for the elementary position must have a teaching license and meet highly qualified status for elementary teachers. Deadline is June 26.

For more information about salary, qualifications and how to apply for both positions, contact: People Sustaining Kings Valley (PSKV), 541-231-5444 or email pskvcontact@gmail.com. Applications are to be sent to PSKV at pskvcontact@gmail.com.

Summer meals locations listed online

POLK COUNTY — Families looking for locations serving free summer meals for students 18 and younger can now find that information online.

Meal site addresses and serving times can be found at: <http://www.summerfoodoregon.org/>.

Lunch, and at some locations, breakfast and dinner, are available to any child ages 18 and younger Monday through Friday now until Aug. 28.

Local meals sites include Ash Creek Elementary School, Monmouth (lunch); Falls City High School (lunch); Henry Hill Educational Support Center, Independence (breakfast and lunch); Head Start, Independence (breakfast, lunch and dinner); Independence Elementary School (breakfast and lunch); LaCreole Middle School, Dallas (lunch); Lyle Elementary School, Dallas (lunch); Monmouth Elementary School (lunch); Park West Apartments, Independence (lunch); Whitworth Elementary School, Dallas (lunch); Woodbridge Meadow Apartments, Dallas (lunch).

For more information: <http://www.summerfoodoregon.org/>.

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WOU renames rec center in Peter Courtney's honor

Itemizer-Observer staff report

MONMOUTH — It's a building he dreamed of — and now it is named after him.

Western Oregon University's recreational building, completed in 2011, is

now the Peter Courtney Health and Wellness Center. The university held a short ceremony in honor of Courtney — Oregon's Senate President and long-time WOU employee — Saturday morning before the university's graduation.

At WOU, Courtney served as an assistant to six university presidents and during that time, he advocated for the center to be built. He retired in December after working 30 years at the university.

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