

# CLARK

February 16, 2010

Volume 6, Issue 4

*twenty-four/seven*



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## Goal Met

*College Goal Sunday helps parents and students pay for college*

“Anything worth doing is not easy to get,” said Portland Trail Blazer Jeff Pendergraph to a crowd of more than 800 people attending the fourth annual College Goal Sunday event for Southwest Washington, held Sunday, Jan. 31 in Clark College’s O’Connell Sports Center gymnasium. The words may have struck a chord with some of the parents and children gathered there in search of help paying for a college education, a task which is indeed not always easy.

That’s why there’s College Goal Sunday. The daylong event provides information about loans, scholarships and financial aid. This was its first year being held at Clark, but it may not be the last. “Because of the event’s success, we have been invited to host again next year,” said Karen Driscoll, Clark’s director of financial aid. “If we can secure adequate funding from grants and the community, I am sure we will make the commitment.”

Driscoll said that one thing that contributed to the event’s success was the decision to combine College Goal with College Bound, a program



Karen Driscoll addresses a packed gym.

educating parents and students on how to sign up for the College Bound Scholarship (CBS). This scholarship, which students must sign up for during eighth grade, provides eligible students with tuition to Washington state colleges and universities. “By combining two events—College Goal Sunday and College Bound—we gained synergy,” said Driscoll. “That increased volunteerism. ...We were amazed at the number Clarkers who stepped up to volunteer their time and talents.”

In addition to Pendergraph’s appearance and a performance by the One of a Kind Drumline, guests were welcomed by Driscoll, Clark College President Robert K. Knight, and Lenny Haynes of

the College Success Foundation. Vancouver mayor and Clark alumnus Tim Leavitt also attended the event. Afterward, parents and students had the opportunity meet with staff from Clark College, Lower Columbia College, Washington State University Vancouver and the International Air and Hospitality Academy, who volunteered their time and shared admissions and financial aid information from their respective institutions. They also provided one-on-one help with filing the Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA), helping to ensure that financial barriers don’t keep children from achieving the goal of a college degree.

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Left: Portland Trail Blazer Jeff Pendergraph spoke to a crowd of more than 800 people in the O'Connell gym. Top right: (left to right) Superintendent of Vancouver Public Schools Dr. Steven Webb, Clark College President Robert K. Knight, and Vancouver mayor and Clark alumnus Tim Leavitt enjoy the opening speakers. Bottom right: Many Clarkers helped students and families on College Goal Sunday. Admissions, Student Ambassador and Campus Visits Supervisor Vanessa Watkins and Michelle Golder, Special Projects and Activities Manager, take a moment to pose with Oswald.

## Baby boomers on campus

*New ways to reach and teach Plus 50 learners*

America's 78 million baby boomers are approaching traditional retirement age. Some may have to work longer than they planned. Others want to retire—but on their own terms. To meet those evolving needs, the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) established the “Plus 50 Initiative.”

On Feb. 10, Clark College hosted a daylong conference on how to design a successful Plus 50 program. Clark College was one of five community colleges in the country selected as a “mentor” college when the Plus 50 Initiative was unveiled.

The session, which was held at Clark College at Columbia Tech Center, featured presentations by Plus 50 representatives from Clark, Clover Park Technical College and the Community Colleges of Spokane. Managers from 25 Washington and Oregon community colleges attended, as well as representatives from the Washington State Workforce Board and regional Area Agencies on Aging.

Clark College President Bob Knight welcomed the group, noting that “baby boomers are coming to community colleges for fast-track education and training. Because we are so successful in catering to the needs of non-traditional students, Clark and other community colleges are ideally structured to help baby boomers chart their next steps.”

Conference speakers included AACC Plus 50 Director Mary Sue Vickers and Clark Plus 50 Director Tracy Reilly Kelly. Clark Executive Director of



Brandon Rogers of Clover Park Technical College saw first-hand how technology can enhance learning for Plus 50 learners.

Corporate and Continuing Education Todd Oldham shared suggestions on innovative instructional technologies as a tool for teaching Plus 50 learners.

Joanne Murcar of the Community Colleges of Spokane praised the “amazing group of volunteers” who coordinated the conference. Murcar said she and her colleagues were “jazzed in a very special way” and “looking forward to going home and harnessing that energy and enthusiasm.”

Brendan Glaser of Lower Columbia Community College called the conference “excellent” and singled out Todd Oldham’s presentation as “exceptional.”

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AACC Plus 50 Director Mary Sue Vickers shared her insights on creating, implementing and sustaining a successful Plus 50 Initiative.



He expressed interest in exploring partnerships with Clark College to help Lower Columbia become recognized as a Plus 50 college.

Tracy Reilly Kelly noted that, beyond the opportunity to share best practices, the conference provided the chance “to pilot our own practices for future conferences to be held at our brand new Corporate Learning Center. We debuted our Lecture Capture system and recorded the whole conference. AACC will place it on the Plus 50 Web site.”

She added, “The conference was so positive, and the participants were so energized. It is exciting to know that we can do as well as we did ‘right off the bat.’”

## Science is Golden

*NSF grant workshop tells colleges where the money is*

On Feb. 3, about 30 instructors and grant writers from local community colleges and high schools gathered at Clark College at Columbia Tech Center to learn about new frontiers in science and technology—science and technology fundraising, that is. They were attending Clark College's National Science Foundation Day, a daylong workshop on how to find and apply for NSF grants.

The day began with opening remarks by Clark College President Robert K. Knight and a video greeting by U.S. Rep Brian Baird, whose office had been instrumental in arranging the workshop. This was followed by a presentation by NSF legislative specialist George Wilson, who had flown out from Alexandria, Va., to guide attendees through the intricacies of applying for NSF grants. Also speaking was Celeste Carter, program director for the NSF's Division of Undergraduate Education.

Wilson told 24/7 that he holds between 8 and 10 of these workshops each year, and that of that number, at most two are held at community colleges. "Most of them are at four-year institutions because, although NSF does provide around \$100 million in grants to community colleges each year, that's still a small part of our overall budget," he explained. Wilson added that Clark was an attractive location for NSF because of the college's commitment to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education, including its planned new facility dedicated to STEM. "STEM education is what we're really interested in," he said.

Clark College computer science instructor Pamela Dake said the workshop helped her organize what she needs to do to apply for a Broadening Participation in Computing (BPC) grant. "Before the workshop, I felt



(Left to right) Kelly Love of Rep. Brian Baird's office, Kimberly Blake Pincheira of Sen. Maria Cantwell's office, NSF legislative specialist George Wilson, Dr. Rassoul Dastmozd, and Division of Undergraduate Education program director Celeste Carter.

disorganized to the point of disorientation about what needed to be done, what to emphasize, and whether I could do this or that," she said. "Now, I am quite confident that I know what tasks need to be done and how to approach them."

In unveiling his initiative to improve national math and science education, President Obama stated that U.S. students currently rank 21st in science and 25th in math compared with students around the world. The president wants to move the United States "from the middle to the top of the pack."

Planning is underway for a science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) building to be built on Clark's main campus during this decade. Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Rassoul Dastmozd said, "With state funding declining, NSF grants and donor support will play an important part in our ability to create a dynamic building that supports educational excellence and brings science to life—inspiring the next generation of scientists and engineers."

President Knight added, "Our vision for that building is a first-rate facility that will excite our own students as well as K-12 students from throughout the region."



## Future Shocks

*Competitors test suspension systems—  
and outdated stereotypes—at the annual  
Future Tech auto-repair competition*

Things were revving at the Automotive Technology Building on Clark's main campus on Feb. 4, as more than 40 high school seniors vied to win the annual Future Tech 2010 automotive-service competition.

The event, sponsored by the Metro Portland New Car Dealers Association (MPNCDA), puts contestants through a rigorous, daylong series of tests of their automotive know-how. Schools from as far away as Florence, Ore., sent their top three automotive students to compete in the annual event. "With the economy the way it is now, some schools are told they can't take field trips," said MPNCDA Education Director Lee Hall. "We try to make it as affordable as possible. The schools don't have to pay anything beside the cost of travel and maybe hiring a substitute teacher for the day."

In the next 10 years, jobs for trained automotive service technicians and mechanics are expected to increase by 5 percent, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. And today's cars aren't like those old 1960s Volkswagens a novice could pull apart and rebuild in a day. That's why Future Tech, which Clark has been hosting for more than a decade, tests students on such varied aspects of auto technology as troubleshooting a car's electrical system, diagnosing another sample car's suspension and steering, and checking for leaks. At one point, contestants had to sit at a table strewn with unlabeled auto parts and identify each by turn. There was also a written test.



Auto tech instructors Mike Godson and Jason Crone helped oversee testing during the daylong event.

In the end, the two top scorers from a single school—Jalen Kohen and Jordan Gritman of Hillsboro High—won a free trip to New York City for themselves and their instructor, Glen Campbell, to attend the National Automotive Technology Competition on April 6-7.

Hall noted with pleasure that the number of girls participating in Future Tech this year had risen markedly this year. "We have more female contestants this year than we've ever had," he said. "I think we have eight; last year we had two."

Siuslaw High senior Tasha Silva acknowledged that she's in the minority in her auto tech class, but shrugged when asked if that makes things difficult for her. "It's complicated," she said. "Some boys see you and say, 'You're a girl, you don't know anything.' But recently there's been a change. A lot more girls are getting into [the field], and I think the boys are a little afraid of us. It's challenging, but it's fun."

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Far left: Contestants identify auto parts during the Future Tech auto-service competition.

Top right: Future Tech competitors ready to take on the next test. Siuslaw High School senior Tasha Silva (second from the left) represents a small but growing population of women working in the automotive field.

Bottom right: Problem-solving during Future Tech at the auto testing area sponsored by Mt. Hood Community College. Other testing areas were monitored by Portland Community College and Clark College.



## Forward into the Past

*Columbia Writers Series guest lecturer Paul Collins muses on first folios and iPads*

Writer Paul Collins has based his career on delving into the past. His first book, *Banvard's Folly: Tales of Renowned Obscurity, Famous Anonymity and Rotten Luck*, rediscovered forgotten (and frequently unsuccessful) artists and inventors from the 19th century. His sixth and most recent, *The Book of William: How Shakespeare's First Folio Conquered the World*, chronicles the creation and survival of the first published collection of the playwright's works. Collins also has his own publishing imprint, under the auspices of literary wunderkinder McSweeney's Books, that reprints old and obscure books.

And yet, for all his love of the past, Collins is entrenched in modern media, as he revealed during his guest lecture on Wednesday, Feb. 10 as part of Clark College's ongoing Columbia Writers Series.

Collins said he regularly uses the Internet to research his books and articles. He pointed to a recent article he'd written for *New Scientist* about the Tricho System, a

hair-removal procedure from the 1920s that caused a major scandal when it was discovered that its key ingredient—radiation—had unforeseen health effects. Collins explained how he was able to use the *New York Times*' online archive to discover that, years before Tricho became commercially available, its inventor had placed an ad for several missing lab rats with distinct hairless patches. This fact became the lead anecdote of his article.

Without the Internet, "there's no way in a million years I would have found a lost-and-found ad that ran in the *New York Times* once or twice a hundred years ago," he noted.

At the same time, Collins acknowledged that the Internet had made it more difficult for print magazines and newspapers to survive. He also speculated that college textbooks might be the next medium to move online. Still, he didn't







think books were going away entirely. “With long-form narrative books, most people are not going to want to curl up with an iPad to read them,” he said.

Collins also read passages from *The Book of William*, including a humorous vignette involving his time handling Samuel Johnson’s copy of Shakespeare’s first folio (evidently the famous 18th-century writer had a tendency to spill food when he read). Then he gave advice to aspiring freelancers among the crowd of about 40, telling them to offer editors material that could be turned into online extras.

The Columbia Writers Series has been a part of Clark College since 1988, bringing local, national and international authors to the college throughout the year. Clark English professor Jim Finley, who has directed the Columbia Writers Series for the past three years, said he chose Collins through a series of happy coincidences. Finley had been browsing at a bookstore in preparation for an upcoming class he was teaching on Shakespeare and picked up *The Book of William*. Reading the author’s blurb, he discovered that Collins taught at Portland State University.

“I e-mailed him the next day, and I think he got back to me that afternoon,” Finley said. “I was really thrilled. I like it when we can celebrate local talent.”

*The next scheduled author in the Columbia Writers Series is 2009 Oregon Book Award-winning poet Penelope Scambly Schott, who is appearing at Clark in May. Check the CWS blog for more information.*

Paul Collins (left) and Jim Finley chat during the book-signing after Collins’s reading.

## Kids' Collections

*Child and Family Studies turns bottle caps into education and pennies into Haitian aid*

Want to do a really easy good deed? Just don't throw away that cap from your bottle of soda, juice or water. And while you're at it, hold onto your pennies. Then, next time you're in the mood for a stroll, head over to Child and Family Studies (CFS), drop both caps and pennies in their respective jars, and boom! Instant karma.

What's the story? Well, it begins back at the end of the fall 2009 quarter, when CFS took its young charges to see the Archer Gallery's exhibit *Flotsam & Jetsam and Jetties & Gyres*. The kids were fascinated by an installation that created patterns out of differently colored plastic bottle caps. CFS instructors quickly realized what a great teaching tool they had discovered, and the bottle-cap collection project was begun. Simply drop your caps off at jars in three locations: Disability Student Services (GHL 137), the faculty lounge in the basement of Foster Hall, and CFS itself. The caps will then be used to teach children about such diverse topics as math and creative expression. CFS hopes to collect enough caps to allow the children to create their own art installation that can travel



through the department's classrooms, growing as each class adds to the project. "Personally I would love to see an unveiling for Earth Day [April 11]," said Terry Haye, an early childhood education specialist at CFS.

The pennies, which are being collected only at CFS, are a more recent project that began in reaction to the January earthquake in Haiti. Students at CFS are collecting pennies to send to the Mahotiére Home for Boys, a Haitian orphanage that is struggling to keep its residents fed after the quake. Mahotiére has a very personal connection for CFS; faculty member



CFS students explore the Archer Gallery exhibit *Flotsam & Jetsam and Jetties & Gyres* during the fall 2009 quarter.

Branden Mayo helps daughter Courtney contribute to Haiti relief.

Kay Beaulière's husband grew up there. Money raised here will go toward buying food for the orphans and toward rebuilding the orphanage itself, which was rendered uninhabitable by the quake. Haye said the project helps to give CFS students a sense of their role in a global community. "Our children here at CFS are helping the children in the orphanage," she said.

The penny jar is in the lobby of CFS, easily spotted in front of its red posterboard display. And while it is technically a "penny" jar, we've discovered that folding money fits in there just fine.

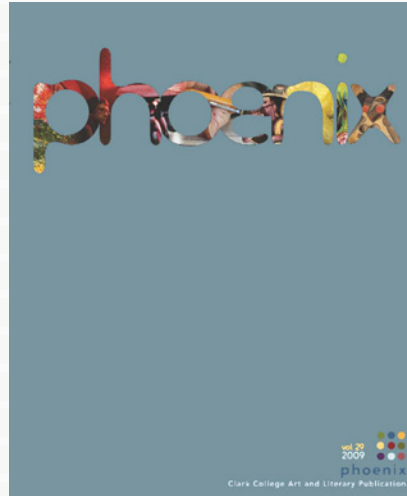


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## Penguin Patter

*News about people from  
throughout the Penguin Nation!*

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### PHOENIX FLYING HIGH

The *Phoenix* has done it again. For the second year in a row, Clark's annual literary and arts journal has been named the best literary and art magazine in the country by the American Scholastic Press Association (ASPA). The *Phoenix* received the top award in the category of junior/community colleges with enrollment of more than 2,501 students.

The 2009 *Phoenix* also received a first place with special merit award in the ASPA's annual magazine competition—the only college west of the Mississippi River to earn that honor.

### TAKE FIVE, BILL

Let's take a moment to shine the spotlight on bass instructor Bill Athens, who was named the January 2010 Jazz Society of Oregon Musician of the Month. Check out his [full-page interview](#) in the most recent issue of JazzScene, the society's monthly magazine.



### SPEECH! SPEECH!

Congratulations to the Clark College Speech and Debate team, who earned a trophy for top two-year college at the annual Fred Scheller Invitational Tournament, held January 29 – 31 at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon. Clark's team was up against teams from 23 colleges—both two-year and four-year.



# Upcoming Events

For additional information, see the activities calendar on the Clark College Web site: [www.clark.edu/news\\_events/college\\_calendar/](http://www.clark.edu/news_events/college_calendar/) (Unless otherwise noted, all events take place on the Clark College main campus. If you need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in an event, contact the Disability Support Services Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-992-2835 (TTY), or visit Gaiser Hall Room 137.)

## SPRING 2010 NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

Wednesday, February 17, 2010  
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. and  
5:30 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.  
Also held 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
on February 25 and February 26.  
PUB 006

## NWAACC CONFERENCE BASKETBALL GAMES

Wednesday, February 17, 2010  
6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
Women's game at 6 p.m.  
Men's game follows at 8:00 p.m.  
Green River  
Community College  
Auburn, WA

## "THE PRODUCERS" TICKETS GO ON SALE

Friday, February 19, 2010  
6:00 p.m.  
Tickets are available for dinner  
theatre and non-dinner shows of  
this smash musical, which runs  
February 20 – March 6. See Web  
site for more information.  
Gaiser Hall student center

## NWAACC CONFERENCE BASKETBALL GAMES

Saturday, February 20, 2010  
3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Women's game at 3 p.m. Men's  
game follows at 5:00 p.m.  
O'Connell Sports  
Center gymnasium

## MENTAL HEALTH MONDAY

Monday, February 22  
12 p.m. – 1 p.m.  
Reid Vanderburgh, M.A., LMFT,  
speaks on gender identity.  
Penguin Student Lounge  
(PUB 161)

## STUDY SKILLS

Tuesday, February 23, 2010  
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Presented by Eden Isenstein,  
M.S., NCC.  
PUB 258 A

## PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY ADVISING

Wednesday, February 24, 2010  
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Advising Center, Gaiser Hall  
**RESUME BUILDING**  
Wednesday, February 24, 2010  
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Presented by Carolyn Johnson  
CTC 210

## CO-OP/INTERNSHIP WORKSHOP

Wednesday, February 24, 2010  
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Presented by Suzanne Thayer.  
PUB 258 B

## NWAACC CONFERENCE BASKETBALL GAMES

Saturday, February 20, 2010  
6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.  
Women's game at 6 p.m. Men's  
game follows at 8:00 p.m.  
O'Connell Sports  
Center gymnasium

## CHOOSING A MAJOR, CHOOSING A CAREER

Thursday, February 25, 2010  
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Presented by Carole  
Mackewich, M. Ed.  
GHL 213

## TREE PLANTING

February 27, 2010  
9 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Held in conjunction with  
**Friends of Trees.**  
St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
426 E. Fourth Plain Blvd.

## ARTISTS' RECEPTION

February 27, 2010  
6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Meet the artists in the Archer  
Gallery's newest show, "Alight:  
Works on Paper."  
Archer Gallery

## Plus—save the date for these upcoming events:

### CLARK COLLEGE ALUMNI AND FRIENDS WINE & HORS D'OEUVRES THEATRE RECEPTION

Saturday, March 6, 2010  
The Alumni Association invites  
you to a wine and hors d'oeuvres  
reception preceding the Theatre  
Department's non-dinner show  
performance of The Producers.  
Tickets \$35 for Alumni Association  
members/\$40 for non-Alumni  
Association members. Purchase  
tickets **online** or call 360-992-2301.

### WINTER CONCERT

Wednesday, March 10, 2010  
The Clark College Orchestra  
presents its winter concert featuring  
guest soloist Ronald Barron, retired  
Principal Trombone of the Boston  
Symphony. Admission is free and  
open to the public. Donations to the  
Orchestra General Fund accepted  
at the door. Held at the Royal Durst  
Theatre in the Vancouver School of  
Arts & Academics.



## From the HR Department

### SAVE ON GAS—TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE COMMUTE TRIP REDUCTION PROGRAM

Automobiles are one of the most significant sources of air pollution in the Vancouver-Portland metropolitan area. Reducing the number of people who drive to work alone may be the most important and most effective measure we can take to help preserve our environment.

There are a number of ways that Clark College employees can participate in the commute trip reduction program. Most options include the additional feature of a guaranteed ride home:

- Bike riders will find bicycle racks and bike shelters on the main campus. Bike riders may also receive a helmet.
- Walkers are eligible for an umbrella.
- Bus riders are eligible for subsidized transit passes (free for one-zone travel).
- Riders and van poolers are also eligible for the guaranteed ride home.

Other services in support of the commute trip reduction program include personal laundry pick-up and delivery on the main campus and use of lockers on the main campus.

For information about the C-Tran/Clark College bus pass program click on: [http://intranet.clark.edu/department\\_information/human\\_resources/c-tran\\_bus\\_program.doc](http://intranet.clark.edu/department_information/human_resources/c-tran_bus_program.doc)

To sign up for the Commute Trip Reduction program feature that meets your commuting needs, call Laura Elwood-Klein in Human Resources, X2381

### OPEN POSITIONS

#### BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY INSTRUCTOR:

Full-time tenure-track teaching position.

Closing date: February 24, 2010.

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