

Milwaukie students learning by teaching mentally retarded.

By DAVID PETERS
Correspondent, The Oregonian

MILWAUKIE — "When I first started out, I was really scared." That was how Dawn Cook, 14, reacted when she began working with trainably mentally retarded students at her school, Ickes Junior High School in Milwaukie.

"I didn't know how to act," she said. However, "they sort of make you feel you're wanted in here," she added. Cook has been one of 28 student specialists — 14 per semester — at Ickes this year. The specialists, mostly eighth-graders, work with fellow students who are trainably mentally retarded, are foreign and need extra help in their studies, or are having problems in a single subject. Some student specialists also work on basic subjects with younger students at nearby Harmony Elementary School.

Nancy Hersey, an Ickes guidance counselor, said she started the program six years ago after she realized how much time she spent consoling special students who were hurt or teased by other students. She decided to prevent such problems.

Started with leaders
"I took a bunch of school leaders, kids who really are respected by the other students, and gave them special training," Hersey said. She said that the specialists also received training for their assignments by visiting children's hospitals, talking with parents of impaired children and other methods.

They were then assigned to help special students with their studies and to show other students that it is all right to treat special children with respect.

The program is so popular among the student population that those invited to be student specialists enjoy a certain status, she said.

Troy Enger, 14, was assigned to help a student who could not take physical education with other students.

The experience, he said, taught him that special students "are just like other people."



HELPING — Danielle Van Auken, 14, left, receives help with math from Barbara Hillebrand, also 14, a student specialist at Ickes Junior High School.

"They seem to cope better with problems than other people do," he said.

"I enjoyed (being a student specialist) a lot because these kids have

grown on me," said Suzie Rupp, 14, who helps mentally retarded students in physical education classes.

Even though there have been efforts to sensitize youngsters, special stu-

dents still are subject to teasing by other students.

Less teasing

"People ridicule them..." Rupp

said. "Those kids don't deserve that. They don't deserve to be ridiculed."

Enger said that there is less teasing when the specialists are working with them.

The Oregonian/BOB ELLIS

Warn Industries employees taught to do it right the first time

By FRAN JONES
of The Oregonian staff

MILWAUKIE — "We have a tendency as a nation to burn the toast and then scrape it. We're trying to teach people how to do it right the first time."

That was instructor Susan Stewart's explanation of an educational program in place at Warn Industries in Milwaukie called "Quality Productivity Improvement: Statistical Process Control."

That's a fancy name for teaching Warn employees how to improve productivity and quality — and therefore profits — by eliminating errors in production that spawn costly delays.

Warn Industries' Milwaukie plant, 13270 S.E. Pheasant Court, manufactures hubs and winches for four-wheel-drive vehicles and light and heavy duty hoists for industrial use.

It is a supplier of parts to Ford Motor Co. and General Motors Corp.

The national drive for quality con-

Class focuses on quality control in production

trol was started with a project co-sponsored by Ford Motor Co. and the American Society for Quality Control, the latter a consortium of community colleges in the Midwest, that addressed the problem of the decline of quality in American manufacturing, said Stewart, an instructor at Clackamas Community College.

If a company has a 99.75 percent efficiency rate, that means that one part out of 400, or 2,500 parts per 1 million, would be defective, said Don Hutchison, co-instructor, who teaches statistical analysis.

"The Japanese are talking about 20 defective parts per 1 million being acceptable," Hutchison said.

Tom Mansker, inspection supervisor for the Milwaukie plant, said the company has been playing with statistics for more than a year but just a few

weeks ago began the quality control class designed specifically to meet the needs of Warn Industries and the companies it supplies.

Mansker was one of the first employees to take the course. He said the class taught him to evaluate the data he collected and was able to pinpoint where in the manufacturing process problems were occurring.

Warn Industries employees go to the 35-hour class during company time, the equivalent of a full work week. The company foots the bill for their time and also for Clackamas Community College instructors Stewart and Hutchison.

"School has always been available here. If someone wanted to go to a community college and take courses that would help in their job, the company would help with the cost or pick

up all the tab," Mansker said.

Mansker said not all of the 250 employees would be involved in the quality control class, but many of them would be and they would come from all departments of the company.

In the current class, there are two each from the purchasing department, manufacturing shop, assembly line and engineering, and nine persons who supply material to Warn Industries.

Because the chain of quality starts at the very beginning, the suppliers were invited to take the course at the company's expense, and they eagerly accepted, Mansker said.

Stewart said it wasn't fair to assume it is always the workers' fault for defective parts. "For example, workers may not have control if managers are buying bad supplies," she said.

Mansker said the suppliers in turn would offer the course to their employees.

The practice of offering quality control training in hopes of becoming more competitive in the world market is becoming commonplace, especially among suppliers to major automobile companies, Stewart said.

The electronics field also has been caught in the competitive pinch and is scrambling to provide in-house training, she said.

Warn Industries has its own testing laboratory where parts are tested for strength and corrosion due to salt water. Winches manufactured by the company also are tested for lifting capabilities and resistance to cold weather — the latter done in a chamber set at a temperature of 50 degrees below zero.

The company also runs a comprehensive safety program, Mansker said.

Mansker has been compiling comparative figures on defective parts between 1984 and 1985, when the push really began on quality control.

He said precise figures were still being worked on, but "it looks like there has been a 40 percent decrease."

Calendar

Thursday, June 6
Canby-Clackamas County Child Health Care Clinic, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., First Christian Church, 444 N. Holly St. The Clackamas County Public Health Division is in charge of appointments.
Clackamas County Board of Commissioners, 10 a.m., county annex, 906 Main St., Oregon City.
Clackamas County Fair Board, 7:30 p.m., fair office, 694 N.E. Fourth Ave., Canby.
Dwyer Community Hospital & Medical Center free blood pressure check, 8 to 10 a.m., 10150 S.E. 32nd Ave., Milwaukie.
Estacada City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 475 S.E. Main St.
North Clackamas School Board, 7:30 p.m., administration office, 4444 S.E. Lake Road.
Willamette Falls Hospital free blood pressure screening, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., 1500 Division St., Oregon City.

Friday, June 7
Family night movies, 7 p.m., Community Center Mall, Clackamas Community College, 19600 S. Molalla Ave., Oregon City. Admission is \$1 for adults, 50 cents for children ages 7-12, free for children younger than 7.
Milwaukie Leaves & Fishes afternoon dance, 1 to 3 p.m., Milwaukie Senior Center, 5440 S.W. Kellogg Creek Drive. Admission is free. Music by the Original Troubadours.
Happy Valley City Council, 8 p.m., City Hall, 10602 S.E. 125th Ave.
Molalla Elementary School Board, 7:30 p.m., primary school cafeteria, 910 Toliver Road.
Oregon City Civil Service Commission, 7 p.m., City Hall, 320 Warner-Milne Road.
Oregon City School District, 7:30 p.m., administration building, 1417 12th St.

Tuesday, June 11
Canby Utility Board, 7:30 p.m., CUB board room, 154 N.W. First Ave.
Dwyer Community Hospital & Medical Center free blood pressure check, 8 to 10 a.m., 10150 S.E. 32nd Ave., Milwaukie.
Gladstone City Council, 7:30 p.m., City Hall, 525 Portland Ave.
Lakeridge High School Citizens' Advisory Committee, 11:30 a.m., high school, 1235 Overlook Drive.

Wednesday, June 12
Carus School Board, 7 p.m., school library, 14412 S. Carus Road, Oregon City.
Clackamas Community College Board of Education, 7:30 p.m., Barlow Hall board room, 19600 S. Molalla Ave., Oregon City.
Clackamas County Board of Commissioners, 9:30 a.m., county annex, 906 Main St., Oregon City.
Clackamas Multnomah County Fire District No. 1, 7 p.m., district meeting room, 11309 S.E. Fuller Road, Milwaukie.
Dokey Prairie School Board, 6:30 p.m., school, 15897 S. Calahan Road, Molalla.
Estacada School Board, 7 p.m., River Mill Elementary School, 850 N.E. Broadway St.
Gladstone School Board, 7:30 p.m., district office, 17777 Webster Road.
Oregon City-Clackamas County Child Health Care Clinic, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Atkinson Memorial Church, Sixth and John Adams streets. The Clackamas County Public Health Division is in charge of appointments.

Thursday, June 13
Linwood-Clackamas County Child Health Care Clinic, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., St. Paul's Methodist Church, 11631 Linwood Ave., Milwaukie. The Clackamas County Public Health Division is in charge of appointments.
Milwaukie Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m., City Hall, 10722 S.E. Main St.
Schuebel School Board, 7:30 p.m., school, 23921 S. Schuebel School Road, Beaver Creek.
Toughlove Group, 7 p.m., Gladstone High School, Room 64, 1505

Friday, June 14
Carus School Board, 7 p.m., school library, 14412 S. Carus Road, Oregon City.
Clackamas Community College Board of Education, 7:30 p.m., Barlow Hall board room, 19600 S. Molalla Ave., Oregon City.
Clackamas County Board of Commissioners, 9:30 a.m., county annex, 906 Main St., Oregon City.
Clackamas Multnomah County Fire District No. 1, 7 p.m., district meeting room, 11309 S.E. Fuller Road, Milwaukie.
Dokey Prairie School Board, 6:30 p.m., school, 15897 S. Calahan Road, Molalla.
Estacada School Board, 7 p.m., River Mill Elementary School, 850 N.E. Broadway St.
Gladstone School Board, 7:30 p.m., district office, 17777 Webster Road.
Oregon City-Clackamas County Child Health Care Clinic, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Atkinson Memorial Church, Sixth and John Adams streets. The Clackamas County Public Health Division is in charge of appointments.

Saturday, June 8
Cabin Fever Country Music Show, 7 to 9 p.m., Community Center Mall, Clackamas Community College, 19600 S. Molalla Ave., Oregon City. Admission is \$1 for adults, 50 cents for students and free for senior citizens with gold cards.
Milwaukie Leaves & Fishes evening dance, 8 p.m., Milwaukie Senior Center, 5440 S.E. Kellogg Creek Drive. Music by Manny's Band. Admission \$1.50. Prochle also available.

Sunday, June 9
Canby Elementary School Board, 7:30 p.m., William Knight Elementary School, 501 N. Grant St.
Canby Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m., City Hall, 182 N. Holly St.
Clackamas County Historical Society, 8 p.m., Mente Stevens Guest House, 607 Washington St., Oregon City.
Cotton School Board, 8 p.m., district board room, 30138 S. Wall St.
Gladstone Cable TV Advisory Committee, 7:30 p.m., City Hall, 525 Portland Ave.

appointments.
Oregon City Economic Development Committee, 7 p.m., City Hall, 320 Warner-Milne Road.
Stroke Club, 1 to 2 p.m., Milwaukie Senior Center, 5440 S.E. Kellogg Creek Drive.

Annual track meet for youths slated

OREGON CITY — Oregon City Community Schools and the Hershey Foods Corp. will sponsor the sixth annual Hershey Track and Field Meet beginning at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, June 6, at the Oregon City High School, 1305 12th St.

The event is open to boys and girls ages 9 through 14. Proof of age will be required at registration, which will begin at 5 p.m. on the day of the event.

Students will compete in their own age groups in a variety of track events, including softball throw, 50-meter dash, 400-meter dash, four-person 100-meter relay, standing long jump, 800-meter run, 100-meter dash and 200-meter dash.

First- and second-place finishers will have an opportunity to advance to the district, regional and national competitions.

Applicants sought

MARYLHURST — The Clackamas County Education Service District is seeking applicants for a position on the board left vacant in April when James K. Linderman Jr. resigned.

Candidates for the position must be registered to vote and must have resided in Zone II, which includes the North Clackamas School District, for at least one year.

The term of office for the position will expire in June 1987. However, the appointed board member would have to seek — and win — election in March 1986 to serve the remainder of the term.

District Superintendent Russell Klein, Marian Hall, Marylhurst College for Lifelong Learning, is in charge of applications.

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