



Faculty profile: Judy Nicks

Next Wednesday, Nov. 1, there will be a blood drawing at the Student Center from 10-12:15 and from 1-4. Sign up early for an appointment at Student Programs.

Flu shots will be available on Monday, Nov. 6 and Wednesday, Nov. 8. Flu shots will cost \$22 and a Pneumonia shot is available on those dates for \$35.

Judy Nicks is one of the “new kids on the block” in the Children’s Lab School, but she’s been on the front lines of early elementary education for more than 17 years. She is now assigned to a classroom of 3 to 5-year-olds at Centralia College. The Lab School is one of the places where Early Childhood education students learn their skills.

Nicks was born and raised in Northeastern Colorado, out where the Rockies give way to the grasslands. She graduated from high school in Sterling and attended Northeastern Colorado Junior College in her hometown. “I knew while I was in high school that I wanted to be a teacher,” she remembered. “I was a teacher’s aide in the elementary school and I got a first-hand look at classroom teaching; it really appealed to me.” She subsequently earned her BA in elementary teaching and her teaching certificates from Northern Colorado University in nearby Greeley.

Her family was pioneer stock on the northern prairies—many of them still live in the immediate area around Sterling—so it was something of a surprise that Nicks took her first teaching job in Weslaco, Texas. The South Texas boomtown is just seven miles from the Mexican border and a “fair piece” from the high plains of Colorado.

“I really loved teaching the little ones,” she confessed, “especially kindergarten and first

grade. It’s a joy to watch them learn, to watch the light bulb go on,” Nicks added, “but south Texas was just too far from home.” A year later she’d found a position teaching head-start classes in Greeley—and was happily entrenched in her home range.

Eventually Nicks came to grips with the larger world and took teaching jobs in Elko and Jackpot, Nevada. “They weren’t as far as Texas,” Nicks smiled, “and they were a lot more like the mountains around Greeley.” She returned for a short while to Colorado when her father became ill.

She had visited friends who lived in Chehalis several times. “I liked this area a lot, she recalled, “and it was time for me to look for something different. When a position opened in the Early Childhood program at Centralia College I applied. I was fortunate enough to get it, and that’s how I got here.” She considers it a great move.

“I really enjoy it here. This college reminds me of UNC—the students and staff are so friendly it feels like home.” She paused for a moment. “It was hard to leave Colorado,” she admitted. “It was like a family at Greeley, but I’m finding the same thing here. I always wanted to teach the little ones in a college setting, and this opportunity is wonderful.”

Nicks enjoys arts, crafts, and music, but she loves to ski. Perhaps White Pass and Crystal Mountain played a part in her decision to relocate to Centralia College.



The Muse

“Experience is that marvelous thing that enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.”

—Franklin P. Jones—

Birthday Party Dates



JOHN FASLER	10/27
VIDA LONG	120/27
TEDDY ROOSEVELT	10/27
BILL SCHOELKOPF	10/28
ALICIA WICKS	10/30
GEORGANNE COPELAND	11/2
DONNA HUFFMAN	11/2

Congratulations to a great group of celebrants this week. Hot buttered root beer for everyone!

Volleyball Schedule



Date	Opponent	Time
10/25	@ Highline	7 p.m.
10/30	@ Clark	7 p.m.
11/1	LOWER COLUMBIA	7 p.m.

Volleyball season closes Nov. 16-18 with the NWAACC tournament. Women's non-league basketball starts on Nov. 17; men's non-league play will start Dec. 3.

THE EXCURSIONISTS

The drama department is hosting a visiting stage production of "The Excursionists," a one-hour comedy based on the undersea adventures of Capt. Nemo.

The comedy was cowritten by Centralia College grad Chris Bange, who also lends his creative talents to the play.

The play toured Canada during the summer and garnered several top awards at drama/stage festivals.

"The Excursionists" plays Friday, Oct. 27 in the Wickstrom Studio Theatre. There will be a free performance at 10 a.m.. Friday evening it's also at the Wickstrom with an \$7 ticket price for adults, \$5 for students and seniors.

The NOVEMBER feature in the WAH Art Gallery will be the watercolors of J. C. LaCoursiere. More details next week!

Fall play a feast of unbounded laughter

The fall play, "Mere Mortals" doesn't open for a couple of weeks yet, but there is scarcely time to tell everyone just how funny this collection of six short comedies really is. You're going to want to have tickets for a David Ives festival beginning Nov. 9 in the Wickstrom Studio Theatre.

Brian Tyrrell has chosen some of the most hilarious one-act vignettes written in modern times for the autumn offering, and anyone who misses this one just doesn't like to laugh.

The title playlet, "Mere Mortals," has three steelworkers perched on a huge beam on the 50th

floor of a building under construction. They are macho males not known for a willingness to bare their innermost secrets, but these three are different. They bring out matters of inner identity that even their wives don't know—and their revelations challenge each other's ability to believe as they practice a form of bizarre one-upmanship.

A poignant comedy features two lonely but sweet young mayflies who meet at a pond and really hit it off. They flirt, dodge bullfrogs, and watch TV, where they learn—via a David Attenborough documentary—that they only live for one day,

PUMPKIN PIE FEED

On Friday afternoon the Leadership Application 1 class is holding a holiday "Pumpkin Pie Feed" from 3-4 p.m. in the Hansen Boardroom. You're invited, too!

Bring a coworker or friend for the perfect close to the work week. And you can learn how to help the community. There will be folks on hand to provide information on various community service organizations. You can start by bringing a non-perishable food item or other donation to help support our local campus families. Needed are baby formula, baby food, shampoo, soap, and toothpaste.

and part of that has already been frittered away. It's an adult fairy tale, side-splitting in hilarity and gentle, but inspiring in its metaphoric moral.

In a raucous counterpoint, the wild "Dr. Fritz" features a bellowing, saw-wielding German surgeon in some Latin land, and his trinket-selling assistant who talks to God on a doll-shaped telephone. Their actions are inspired by the I-pre-

fer-to-die state of a stricken tourist.

Also included in the evening's madness is "Fore-play, or the Act of the Fugue."

Chuck, a self-styled Don Juan is at a miniature golf course with his date. When they move to the second hole, Chuck is slightly older with another date. By the third hole, Chuck, now considerably older, has a young date who doesn't get his jokes and is beating him at golf. It would make you think if you weren't busy laughing your head off!

"Mere Mortals" plays the Wickstrom Studio Theatre Nov. 9-11 and again Nov. 16-18. Showtimes are 7 p.m. Thursdays and 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Tickets are \$10 adult, \$7 student and senior. Call ext. 525 to order yours.

Coming Up

On Friday the SAAT Family Halloween Night kicks off at the Student Center. Bring your kids, grandkids, neighbor's kids, and any youngsters who might like the games, treats, and the movie "Hocus Pocus." A 6 p.m. start and a visit by Spiderman to talk about Halloween Safety.

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Start getting your arts, crafts, and gift stuff ready for the Phi Theta Kappa Holiday Bazaar, set for Nov. 17 from 9 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Campus clubs are invited to stage a holiday fundraiser; tables are \$10. For details or to reserve space call ext. 224 or ext. 333.

