

# The Commuter

A Weekly Student Publication

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Photos by Chris Treloggen



## Trip to the 'Secret Garden'

Local elementary school children file out of their buses and into Takena Hall for a Thursday morning performance of LBCC's "Secret Garden." More than 2,000 children will have seen the play by the time it concludes its run. Last Tuesday's snowed-out shows have been rescheduled for next week.



## Big Chill

Cold-hearted weather ices Transfer Day, takes bloom off Valentine flower sale

by Craig Hatch  
of The Commuter

While students enjoyed their "snow days" last Monday and Tuesday, college administrators were kept busy cancelling and rescheduling a variety of activities, from Valentine flower deliveries to nursing clinicals.

The biggest event to be victimized by the snow was College Transfer Day—when representatives from 16 colleges were planning to visit LBCC to assist transfer students. Transfer Day, which was supposed to be held last Monday, was cancelled due to the bad weather and not rescheduled.

A related seminar on tips for transfer students that was to meet Tuesday was also cancelled, and although Wednesday's transfer seminar did meet, no one attended. The seminars may be rescheduled, but no specifics are available yet, according to the counseling office.

Although the wet weather had no further effect on the college's leaky roofs, campus facilities reported that the grounds crew was forced to come in Tuesday afternoon to scrape the sidewalks for Wednesday's classes.

Student Programs' Valentine flower sale was postponed—flowers were delivered to the students on Thursday.

Probably the most adversely affected was the nursing program. They were forced to cancel their clinical experience and make up the other class on Wednesday.

And for the first time in memory, The Commuter missed a publication.

## Award-winning novelists read works at writers series

by Jacob Schmid  
of The Commuter

The seventh annual Valley Writers Series began last Friday with a reading by Diana Abu-Jaber, a local novelist and creative writing teacher at the University of Oregon who is quickly gaining recognition.

The series continues today, when novelist Karen Karbo gives a reading from 12-1p.m. in Takena Hall, room 213.

In Friday's presentation, Abu-Jaber read a passage from her first novel, "Arabian Jazz," which won the Oregon Book Award in 1994. The selection touched upon her concerns about the hardships a Palestinian immigrant faces adapting to the American culture.

Through humorous dialog and descriptive prose, the characterization is direct and personal, and reflects an image of the writer herself, who is a first generation American with strong roots in Arabian heritage.

At the end of the reading, the audience was urged to ask questions and make comments, and Abu-Jaber explained some of the process of writing and publishing her book.

In addition to the Oregon Book Award, Abu-Jaber was a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway First Novel Award, won the Independent Bookseller's Award from the Oregon Institute of Literary Arts, and an Artist's Award from the Oregon Council for the Humanities. Her novel-in-progress, "Memories

of Birth," won an NEA fellowship, and excerpts of it have been published in Left Bank and Story.

The series continued Saturday, Feb. 18, with a group workshop where participants were invited to write and share writing that they enjoyed, and offered tips on getting inspired and imaginative.

Today, Karbo will read from her writings. She has been published regularly in several magazines, and recently published her first novel, "Trespassers Welcome Here," which has been described as "ironic, compassionate, often hilarious... a brilliant debut." Karbo won the 1988 GE Foundation Younger Writers Award, and also published The Diamond Lane, a comedy of modern manners and errors, in 1991. She

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## CAMPUS NEWS

## New degree focuses on 'industrial-strength desktop publishing'

The electronic imaging/pre-press program opens wider choice of careers in the competitive graphic arts industry

by Jacob Schmid  
of The Commuter

In this age of video games and cyberspace, a completely new job market has developed that puts these digital images to work. It's called electronic imaging, and a new degree program at LBCC aims to give students a head start on the future in this field.

The electronic imaging/pre-press technology program, introduced in Fall of 1994, offers students a chance to train for jobs in a wide range of occupations that are being restructured by modern computers.

Many people aren't even aware the program exists—it is so new that it is not even listed in LBCC's 94-95 catalog. In fact, LBCC is the first school in the state to offer such training.

So what is this newfangled business? Dennis Bechtel, the program's coordinator, and instructor of many of the degree's required classes, describes electronic imaging as "industrial-strength desktop publishing."

"Computers and digital printers are rapidly replacing traditional methods of publishing," he said.

"In a couple years, the old jobs aren't even going to exist, and businesses aren't going to bother retraining their old employees. They want people who know how to use the computers."

Bechtel has been involved in graphic communications since 1979. He began teaching part-time at LBCC five years ago, and sold out his co-ownership of Bechtel/McMillen and Associates (Albany's largest advertising agency, which has won several awards) last year to teach full-time. He feels it is very important for students to get proper training for today's job market.

Bechtel is pleased with the success of the program so far, and attributes much of it to the support and cooperation of the college administration, particularly Dean Ken Cheney, and an advisory committee made up of various industry representatives.

"Considering we weren't in the catalog this year, and several of our classes are still over-full, I anticipate that beginning next year we'll be at maximum capacity," he said.

Students who earn the two-year degree can expect to be able to choose from a wide range of occupations in the graphics industry, be it typesetter, electronic illustrator, photo manipulation operator, or electronic pre-press systems operator. There will also be many jobs that don't even exist

yet, according to Bechtel. The computer has an application for everyone, if they're willing to learn how to use it, he said.

LBCC's facilities now include a 15-station Macintosh lab, installed last year in AHSS 116D for the program. The computers are Performa 636s with eight megs of RAM and 250 meg hard drives. With the RAM doubler system activated, each machine has 16 megs of RAM available. The lab is also equipped with two color printers, one black-and-white printer, and a Mirror/Flatbed color scanner. While this is currently an impressive set-up, the advancement of technology is moving at such a fast pace that these models will probably be outclassed soon. Bechtel feels that the machines are definitely adequate for educational purposes, however.

Students are being trained to use the same software used in today's job market, such as PageMaker 5.0, QuarkXpress 3.3, Photoshop 2.5, Microsoft Word 5.0, and Freehand 4.0. The lab also includes an LED overhead projection system, so students can observe the instructor's monitor as a model of their own screens.

Although the degree's curriculum overview is still in a state of flux, a proposed schedule for prospective majors is available. Students should contact Dennis Bechtel at extension 399 for more information.



Photo by Carol Rich

### What Next?

After two weeks of flaky weather—from sun to snow to heavy rains—the skies are expected to finally become a little friendlier this week. If the weather forecasters are right, the mid-valley will see partly cloudy skies with occasional sun breaks through Friday. Temperatures will be in the upper 50s, gradually cooling toward the end of the week. Last week's unexpected snow and cold closed campus for two days (story on page one).



Photo by Paul Turner

Local writers show off the 'write' stuff for students as part of Valley Writers' Series

✓ From page 1 usually divides her time between Los Angeles and Portland.

The series concludes Wednesday, March 1, with an open mike reading held in LBCC Boardrooms A&B from noon to 1 p.m., when local writers are encouraged to bring poems, essays, and short stories to share.

The Valley Writers' Series is possible through the support and sponsorship of ASLBCC, LBCC Albany Center, LBCC English Department, and the Linn-Benton Council for the Arts. Those who attend the workshops are encouraged to sign a registration form, available through Jane White, the program's coordinator, to promote future funding.

## Mini-courses help students cope with big ones

by Alan Hawkins  
of The Commuter

Students may be able to raise their grades or even avoid dropping classes that are giving them difficulty by taking a specialized mini-course from the Learning Center.

More than 20 for-credit mini-courses are being offered in the Learning Center and are available up to the last two weeks of the term. Up to one credit can be earned by completing the required work in each course which is offered at the standard per-credit cost.

"The sole purpose is to make it possible for students to become better students getting better grades," according to Charlie Mann, liaison officer of developmental studies.

Courses are self-paced. Eager students may complete the work in two weeks and busy students may take five weeks. Only the time needed to finish the module is required to earn the credit.

Some of the currently listed mini-courses available cover such problems as note taking, test taking, time management and essay writing.

Mini-courses are part of the developmental studies program along with the Write Course. Learning materials

*"The sole purpose is to make it possible for students to become better students getting better grades."*

—Charlie Mann

are multi-media; including audio tapes, video tapes, computer programs and hard copy.

Although the TI-81 calculator mini-course is the only math course offered, others are being developed by the math department that will be available later.

All mini-courses are taken in the Learning Center.

"To apply, go to the Learning Center and go to the main counter," said May Garland, co-coordinator. The Learning Center is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 7:30 to 5 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Last quarter 47 students signed up for mini-courses and this quarter 30 have signed up so far.

"More students might take advantage of the mini-course if they knew about them, but it's hard to get the word out on campus," said Mann.

### commuter staff

The Commuter is the weekly student-managed newspaper for Linn-Benton Community College, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty or Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them. Readers are encouraged to use The Commuter Opinion Page to express their views on campus or community matters.

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## CAMPUS NEWS

## Linfield art prof to speak at LB

Nils Lou to explore debate over the legitimacy of 'fax art'

by Marie Oliver  
of The Commuter

Nils Lou, Associate Professor of Art at Linfield College in McMinnville, will speak as part of Phi Theta Kappa's March Lecture Series at 12 p.m. on March 1 in Forum 104.

Lou's talk is entitled "Faxis '94: Can fax art be legitimate art?" He will show a 12-minute video that is an edited version of the video taken during the fax art show Lou and Lillian Bell exhibited at Linfield's Renshaw Gallery in Oct. 1994.

"The art came in from artists all over

the world," said Lou.

"More than 120 artists from 25 countries faxed art in during a window of dates and the faxes were then exhibited as a fax art show," he said.

After showing the video, Lou will discuss his views on whether fax art constitutes legitimate art and who it belongs to.

Lou has been an art teacher for about 20 years, 10 of those years at Linfield. He also spent 10 years as a full-time potter, sculptor and painter. He is currently director of the Renshaw Gallery.

Dr. Warren Kronstad, who was originally scheduled to speak on March 1, cancelled due to a change in overseas flight plans.



Photo by Carol Rich

Karrel Koroush of Morse Bros. of Albany shows LBCC instructor Alan Jackson around the Peterbilt mixer the company donated to the college.

## High school ag students convene on campus for regional FFA competition

by Clark Watts  
of The Commuter

A dark blue wave will hit campus this Monday, as many members of the Future Farmers of America arrive.

LBCC will host the high school FFA Sectional Leadership Contest, allowing those participating to test their leadership skills. Nearly 200 members will be on campus wearing their trademark blue jacket with its gold seal.

Agriculture/Animal Science Instructor Bruce Moos, who is organizing the

event, said the section competing is comprised of three districts: Southern Oregon, Umpqua and Upper-Willamette.

The students will compete in parliamentary procedures, public speaking, extemporaneous speaking and creed speaking—a stylized form the students use to express the FFA creed.

Moos said the students gain confidence in themselves as they test their abilities at leading and speaking to groups.

## Livestock team takes 8th place in Texas

The LBCC Livestock Judging Team finished eighth recently at the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show in Ft. Worth, Texas.

The five-member team took third in sheep, ninth in reasons, 11th in horses, 12th in swine and 16th in beef.

Tamar Thompson finished 27th overall, with a fifth in sheep; Todd Koch took 29th, with a 13th in horses and 16th in swine; Brenda Tarr finished 32nd, with a seventh in sheep; and Jeff Green finished 37th, with a 15th in reasons and 20th in sheep.

## Several work study jobs still available on campus

by C. Watts  
of The Commuter

A variety of part-time jobs remain available on campus to students who are eligible for work-study grants. Qualified students may earn up to \$800 per term.

"Anyone with financial aid may apply for work-study grants," said Angie Aschoff, student employment specialist with the job placement office.

Nearly every department on campus offers jobs to students, said Aschoff. Out of 162 positions, there are currently nine openings, including departments aids, maintenance and food service.

Jobs typically pay \$4.75 to \$5.25 per hour. Many departments rely on the students and are flexible to the student's schedule.

Most jobs are filled during the job fair in the fall, but there are always jobs opening up, said Lance Popoff, director of financial aid. Although more than 400 positions are offered, less than one half of them are filled. He said that may be due to class load or the perceived vs. real needs of students. He said students should first determine their eligibility at his office, then see which jobs are open at the placement office.

"If students need jobs, we have them," said Aschoff.

## Truck donated to diesel program

by Carol Rich  
of The Commuter

Morse Bros. of Albany has donated a 1973 Peterbilt mixer with a 5 and 4 transmission that will give heavy equipment/diesel students opportunities for hands-on learning.

"Hands-on experience is the best way to learn," said instructor Alan Jackson, adding that the \$12,000 gift, along with a \$5,000 air brake training board, will be a valuable asset to the department.

LBCC has 24 students registered in the heavy equipment/diesel program and 22 students in its auto technology classes.

Jackson, who has taught classes since the fall of 1977, said that students participating in the two-year diesel/heavy equipment and the two-year auto technology are required to complete three credits of Cooperative Work

Experience (CWE) before graduating. The purpose is to give students opportunities to work in a real shop situation. Jackson reports that there are two students currently participating in CWE at Morse Bros., one at Triple T, and one at Nix Trucking.

Jackson also said that students who have a car in need of a mechanic's attention can check with the LBCC auto shop. If the repair fits into the current curriculum of the semester, students may get their car repair done on campus. The auto shop is currently working on electrical systems and power trains (clutches, transmissions, and drive lines). This fall the class will concentrate on engine rebuilding.

Students in need of auto repairs should contact Dave Carter, ext. 855 or 128 for an application. The teacher then decides whether it is a worthwhile learning project.

## Nationally known author opens annual Family Resource Fair

The annual Linn-Benton Community College Family Resource Fair will be held Saturday, March 4 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Registration is \$1. Lunch is \$2. Child care is available for children two to 10 for \$2 per child. For children over 10, the YMCA is available. Parents must preregister and pay for child care and lunch by Feb. 27. Space is limited.

The keynote speaker will be Forrest Gathercoal, sponsored by Good Samaritan Hospital of Corvallis, author of "Judicious Parenting."

The Family Resource Fair is sponsored by LBCC, Good Samaritan Hospital, Linn-Benton Education Service District, YMCA, St. Mary's Church in Albany, Albany General Hospital, LB-OAEYC, Linn County Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse—A United Way Agency, First Christian Church, Linn County Commission on Children and Families, Benton County Commission on Children and Families, Albany Parks and Recreation.

The workshops will cover such topics as: handling tantrums, applying positive discipline, making nutritious meals, promoting self-reliance, understanding defecation struggles, storytelling, avoiding power struggles, and several other parenting concerns.



Photo by Carol Rich

## Inundated

Groundskeeper Charlie Monk pumps water out of the flooded parking lot in front of the Family Resources Center last week. Drainage pipes couldn't handle the large volume of rain that hit campus on Friday.



# Defeat of Measure 13 didn't end battle in Linn County

## Local gay men experience feelings of terror every day because of their lifestyle

Area men tell their stories of life in Linn County as they struggle for acceptance on campus and in the community

by Paul Turner  
of The Commuter

A quick glance at LBCC's parking lot reveals many cars still sporting purple bumper stickers saying "No on 13. Protect Everyone's Basic Rights." Displayed proudly atop a decrepit gas station on Albany's Spicer Road is an obviously well-kept white reader-board that screams in red letters, "Protect Our Children. Yes on 13."

***"They looked closely at me, then my car and my California plates and rainbow sticker. One yelled, 'I think he's a fag!' and they both started beating my car and windshield with their pickets."***

— "Kris"

Measure 13 was the Oregon Citizen's Alliance's attempt to limit the rights of gay citizens in Oregon. It was narrowly defeated in last November's election.

Now, as the 1996 election looms on the horizon, both sides of the gay rights issue are polishing their political armor and stoking their propaganda machines for the news spotlight.

But is there anything new to be said?

Regardless of the rhetoric, facts or figures—or who comes out on top in the long run—people are caught in the cross-fire of this battle of ideologies.

"Kris" would not allow his real name to be published because of fear—fear spawned the first day he came to Oregon from California and was attacked because he "looked like a fag," according to his attacker.

The Commons is empty as he sits at a table eating a cheeseburger. The Camas Room was open, but it was crowded, so Kris elected to be interviewed in the deserted Commons, where he still fidgeted and looked frequently over his shoulder to make sure no one overheard.

His 20-year-old face seems too youthful to be so stressed.

Kris left California after several attacks he felt were due to his sexuality. Being openly gay led to him being "pushed down a flight of stairs; having a fire-extinguisher thrown at me—I was even lit on fire. The brake lines on my car were cut and I had to wreck my car to stop it. The police couldn't do a thing about it," he said.

Though Kris is open about his sexuality, he still worries about those around him. After moving to Albany a few months before the last election, he "was driving through Albany and making a right turn when there were people standing on the corner with pro-life signs—pickets. There were two teen-aged guys with big 'Yes on 13' buttons on. I didn't even know what that [Measure 13] was. They looked closely at me, then my car and my California plates and rainbow sticker. One yelled, 'I think he's a fag!' and they both started beating my car and windshield with

their pickets. The police were right there and pulled them off and I drove off right away. I had no idea what was going on!" said Kris.

Though he has removed the rainbow bumper-sticker (the rainbow banner is one of the symbols of the gay movement) he won't deny his orientation to people's faces.

He has been active in LBCC's Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Organization. But, he complains that their posters have been vandalized and disappear from around the campus.

When asked if he has endured physical violence for his beliefs, Kris responded, "Not here. Not yet. But there is tension in the air. There is a small

segment of our population who might invoke physical harm to try to make me go away."

So why doesn't he just keep quiet about his sexual preference?

"Whether I speak about it or not I'm still gay and there are those who will hate me for it. My hope is that by speaking about it I will educate," he said.

\*\*\*

"Mark" also didn't want his real name used and chose to be interviewed in the relatively private sheltered area above the LBCC bookstore.

Born in Linn County 20 years ago, Mark has lived here all of his life. He works in LBCC student government and is studying for a degree in humanities.

After not being able to express his feelings in high school due to the physical and emotional harassment he endured there, Mark "came-out" (stopped hiding his homosexuality) during his first year at LBCC.

"I had my car and house vandalized with raw bacon. Someone had written 'fag' with bacon on the front of my house," Mark said. "The cops couldn't do a thing about it since I didn't see them do it."

He laughs but there is no humor.

Mark said the only real harassment he has experienced on campus has been comments from people on the mezzanine overlooking Takena Hall. They shout names when they think he can't see them—but they know he can hear them.

Why the difference?

"In high school I was acting like a victim. I just took it. Here I don't. I don't take crap about who I am anymore," he said.

Mark feels Measure 13 and other measures like it are ways of making homosexuals feel like victims, which is why he actively campaigned against it.

"I worked hard on the campaign [against 13]. But it drains your energy down, way down. People still don't get it. Homosexuals do not choose to be the way they are. We are born the way we are. We have no more choice than most people have to be hetero," he said.

Mark pauses to light a cigarette.

"They are all around you. Many are

very religious—so you probably sit next to them in church," he added. "People who fear homosexuals need to talk to them—need to read about them. Education is the only thing that will help."

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"Renny" is a 32 year-old gay male who lives and works in Lebanon. He sits nervously on the old sofa in the office where he's employed. He bounces his car keys off the black leather of his cowboy boots as he looks around the room. Well dressed, he sits with an air of dignity that won't quite conceal his nervousness.

Renny lived in the Lebanon area until 1982, but then people found out about his male partner and "the rumor mill stated turning," he said.

It was then that the threats began.

"So I left town. At that time it was easier to just fade away. That way there was no damage to my family's reputation. It was 1982-83 when AIDS hit and was being blamed on gays—then gay bashing became fashionable. People were looking—is he one? Is that one?" Renny said.

"That was the environment at the time."

In 1986 his family's business was in financial trouble, so he returned to Lebanon to help out.

"That was when the violent episodes started happening. They spray-painted 'Die Fag' on the side of my pick-up and business," Renny said.

"About a month later I left the business about midnight. There were four men waiting for me who I knew as fighters. Not much was said—just 'you didn't hear our warning so it's time we did something about it.' They hit from all sides until I stayed down. Luckily it was only cuts and bruises," he said.

But he didn't report it to the police.

"I wasn't willing to risk being exposed," he said. "That would mean having to risk dealing with my family—dealing with the fear."

The same group of men who beat him started coming into the business and harassing him while he worked. This, combined with losing his partner, caused him to leave Lebanon again. That's when Renny decided to start drinking.

After three years in the Salem area, he moved back to Lebanon in 1991 so his new partner could be close to his parents who happened to live in Renny's hometown.

Renny related his feelings about moving back to Lebanon in one word: "Terrifying."

"I didn't want to meet or see anybody. I started drinking heavily and basically destroyed my life. After an attempted suicide I stopped drinking," he said.

"After I moved back I saw the people who beat me. They are the same drunken slobbs they were back then.

They still haven't grown up. They are still bigoted and closed-minded," he said.

Renny now works in a business that puts him in the public eye everyday.

"I came to work here in February of 1994. I came into a position where I was put back in the community. I had to face who I was," he said.

"Some of the people who come in know I'm gay from when I lived here before. Some of the others know, and some don't. Since I stopped worrying about it so much I think the people I serve don't care about it," he said.

Renny knows that a big part of his sobriety is linked to his acceptance of himself. He knows that there will always be people who hate him for what he is.

"Kids need to know about homosexuality," said Renny. "Kids need to know that some of them are going to be gay. They have no choice. It just happens. They need to be [able to be] more 'out' if they are gay. If they can't be then there will continue to be more drug use and suicide among those who are fighting what they are. That way they won't have to walk away from their life like I had to—more than once."

And what about those who persecute gays?

"They need to open their hearts and minds and understand. Homosexuality is not a choice like your major in college—it's something you're born with. This is not a life-style I would recommend to anyone. It's hard to believe that people would think I would choose to be this way," he said.

"I could be your brother. I could be your mother. I'm definitely your neigh-

***"About a month later I left the business about midnight. There were four men waiting for me who I knew as fighters. Not much was said—just 'you didn't hear our warning so it's time we did something about it.' They hit from all sides until I stayed down."***

— "Renny"

bor. I am a member of your community. You have walked down the street and spoken to me. Do you think you could know who I am by looking into my eyes? Do you think you can tell by looking into your children's eyes? All this hate is killing our children," said Renny.

When asked how life is now, Renny smiles.

"When I left, I lost my family and church. Now that I'm back I never expected to have so many people say they missed me when I was gone—they tell me they're glad to see me. I am home," he said.

*Reporter's note:* I would like to be able to balance this story with stories of women—lesbian or otherwise, but my leads on women did not pan out. If you have any ideas feel free to leave a note in my box in the Commuter office or call and leave a message. Coming soon: the conservative view on the gay-rights issue.



## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## LBCC student will direct efforts to uncover a 'Buried Child'

LBCC student directs Pulitzer Prize play about family's dark secrets through the years

by Jim Eagan  
of The Commuter

The LBCC Performing Arts Department will present Sam Shepard's Pulitzer Prize winning drama "Buried Child" beginning Feb. 24 in LBCC's Loft Theatre. The play is directed by LBCC student Nick J. Bruno.

According to Bruno, the play is "dark and thought provoking." A brooding tale of a family and its secrets, the play deals with the disconnection that has affected the family over the the course of the years.

The seven member cast includes Bernie Leclerc, Mike Fairchild, Mike Baze and Arild Leavenworth of Albany; Michael DeMaio and Jennifer Overholser of Corvallis; and Susan Neuschwander of Cascadia.

Sam Shepard has written more than

40 plays, 11 of which have won Obie Awards. In 1979, he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for "Buried Child." In 1984, he added to his resume with an Oscar nomination for the part of Chuck Yeager in "The Right Stuff."

"Buried Child" is a metaphorical representation of the death of the American dream, the decay of national myths, the growing mechanization in our lives, the search for roots, and the travails of the family.

"Buried Child" will play Feb. 24, 25 and March 3, 4 at 8 p.m. and on Sunday March 5 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$4 general admission and may be purchased at the door beginning a half hour before curtain.

Telephone reservations may be made by calling the Takena Theatre Box Office at 967-6504. The box office is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Loft Theatre has limited seating, and telephone reservations are highly recommended. For more information contact the box office.



Photo by Carol Rich

### Rhythm on Rye

"Ditchwater Trio" performs as part of a recent Rhythm on Rye show in the Commons. From left are Mark Weiss, an LBCC counselor, Debbie Davis and Tim Hardin. Their next performance is May 12 at the Oddfellows Hall in Corvallis. Motherlode will perform March 8 in the Commons at noon.

### review

## 'Guarding Tess' proves most big critics wrong

by Paul Turner  
of The Commuter

A film recently released to video that can count on not seeing any gold at Oscar time is "Guarding Tess." Starring Nicholas Cage and Shirley MacLaine—this was a film universally hated by critics—touted as shallow, unbelievable and insipid.

Well yeah, true for the most part, however in their pointing out the obvious the critics forgot to mention that it was a very entertaining film.

Cage has the perfect face for the poor soul who is the victim of circumstance. He plays Douglas, a secret-service agent reluctantly reassigned to guard the widow of the recently departed president, Tess, played by MacLaine.

Tess is at best difficult, and at worst truant—having a bit too much fun running off. In a fit of defiance she leaves her secret-service keepers holding their Dick Tracy-esque watch microphones while looking quite bewildered.

The story watches the escalation of the passive-aggressive sparring between Tess and Douglas, which Douglas usually loses. She's the lady of the house and he's the keeper, so they both have power over each other and use it hilariously. Cage is at his sad-sack best while getting his

butt chewed by the president because Tess decided to narc him off to the Big Boss. MacLaine is at her bitchy best when forced to adhere to regulation seating arrangements in the limo—which Douglas enforces with glee.

All this comedy is a build up to serious drama as the bored security team is called into action when Tess is misappropriated. Yes, Douglas does figure out who the bad-guys are.

One forgets this started as a comedy when the hunt is on and the secret service team is shamed to admit they have lost a gray-haired old lady.

What makes this movie work is the play between Cage and MacLaine and how their relationship changes throughout the film. There are no deep truths revealed or new ground broken, but sometimes it's okay to rent a video to just veg-out with one hand on the remote and the other in the popcorn bag. Not every film has to be the cinematic parallel of a classic novel.

The critics have spoken on this film and damaged the box office take substantially. It is a critic's job to say what they think of a particular work. It is your job as the viewer to use the critic's opinion as a barometer. But you have to ignore the barometer if it says rain and there is nothing falling into the mud puddles.

### arts briefs

#### Majestic Theatre Auditions

Auditions for Corvallis Community Theatre's spring production, "Annie," are scheduled for Feb. 25-26. Auditions for children and a dog that obeys hand signals will be on Saturday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Adult roles will be auditioned on Sunday from 1-5 p.m. Call backs will be held Feb. 27-28 above the Peacock Tavern. Come dressed to move, with a prepared song, and the corresponding sheet music. For more information, contact director Mary Jeanne Reynales at 754-1026.

#### High School Band Contest

Twenty-two outstanding bands from Oregon High Schools will compete Feb. 27 and 28 at the LaSells Stewart Center, 875 SW 26th Street in Corvallis. The Northwest High School Concert Band Contest will run Monday from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The contest, sponsored by the OSU Music Department, is free and open to the public. For more information call 737-5592.

## Local poet reads works at Book Bin in Corvallis today

Poet and award-winning scholar Joseph Soldati will give a reading of his poetry Wednesday, Feb. 22, starting at 7 p.m. at The Book Bin, 228 S.W. Third St., Corvallis.

The reading, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by the Willamette Literary Guild as part of its monthly reading series.

Soldati, professor of English at WOSC in Monmouth, is associate poetry editor for the nationally-recognized literary magazine, Calapooya Collage.

A collection of his poems, "Making My Name," was published by Mellen Poetry Press in 1992. His poems have appeared in several anthologies and in a variety of regional and national magazines and journals including Jefferson Monthly, New Voices, Northwest Magazine, Spectrum and Calapooya Collage.

Soldati has published scholarly articles on literature and religion. His critical work, "Configurations of Faust: Three Studies in the Gothic (1790-1820)," was published by Arno Press in 1980.

Soldati received two NEH summer seminar fellowships—one at Princeton and one at Harvard—and has been a participant and Fellow at the Salzburg Seminar (1984). He has received two Fulbright Fellowships, lecturing in British and American literature at the National University of Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa.

Soldati was recognized as Western Oregon State College Teacher of the Year for 1993-94 and was part of last year's Valley Writers' Workshops at LBCC.

LBCC Student Programs Presents A Dinner Theater

Neil Simon's

## Last of the Red Hot Lovers



Tuesday, February 28th • Hors d'oeuvres 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner 7 p.m. • Play 8 p.m.

Tickets: \$20 • \$16 Students w/valid ID and Seniors 60 & over.  
Student Programs Office, College Center Bldg. 213, LBCC  
The White Rose Custom Floral Design, 201 1st Ave., Albany  
Rice's Pharmacy, 910 NW Kings, Corvallis

Dinner prepared by LBCC Culinary Arts Program Students. Vegetarian plate available upon advance request



Linn-Benton Community College  
6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, Oregon 97321

If you require accommodation for a disability in order to attend, contact Student Programs, 967-8831, at least 48 hours prior.



## SPORTS

## Roadrunners finish 3rd, head for playoffs

LBCC defeats Umpqua to set up showdown for first place, but falls short against Cougars

by Bill Chiaffino  
of The Commuter

With the season winding down, LB was looking to finish strong on the road and keep their playoff hopes alive after beating Lane at home by 22 and losing to Chemeketa.

After defeating Umpqua 91-73 on the road last Wednesday, LBCC remained tied for first with Chemeketa and Clackamas behind Chris Swallow's 25 point performance. The team shot an impressive 53 percent from three point range, Swallow hitting 5-for-10.

Jeff Taylor put in 15 points for the Roadrunners and dished out nine assists. Steve Roberts and Sean Eaton scored 13 a piece and Eaton also grabbed a team high eight boards.

Head coach Randy Falk was reported as saying that his team was aggressive on defense and did well on the boards.

Umpqua, who shot 29-of-70 from the field, was led by Chad Murry with 13 points and 15 rebounds and Scott Thompson who scored 14 points.

At Clackamas, LBCC failed to put together a complete game as they shot 24-for-59 and were out rebounded 45-



Photo by Jessica Sprenger

Sean Eaton congratulates one of Lane's players after the Roadrunners' victory in their last home game of the year. Eaton finished the regular season as the team's leading scorer.

39 for a 39 point loss, 110-71. Despite the loss, Eaton scored 17 backed up by Taylor's 13 points and seven assists. Greg Obrist leaped for five boards.

Again, Falk was reported as saying that the team's expectations were greater than what was played out in the game. He said the game was important, but the game Thursday against Chemeketa carries the greatest magnitude.

Clackamas got balanced scoring from its players as Stahl scored 17, Williams 16 and 15 each for Walker and Pearson.

Currently in third place in the Southern Division, LBCC will travel to Chemeketa Thursday to keep their playoff hopes alive.

Falk said that his team had an opportunity to beat Chemeketa this season and feels that the team can play with them.

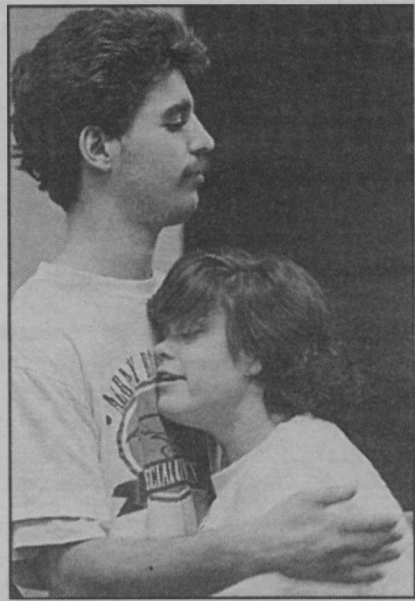


Photo by Carol Rich

## Hug for the Winner

23-year-old Aaron Hastings gets an award-winning hug from Chris Ayres during the Special Olympics basketball games at LBCC recently. Hastings' team, the Roadrunners of Albany, went on the the state tournament in Salem Feb. 18-19, where they took a gold medal for the fifth straight year. Hastings now goes on to the World Games in New Haven, Conn.

## Season of high hopes ends with disappointing loss at Clackamas

by Aaron Heinemeyer  
of The Commuter

The women's basketball team finished a season that started with high hopes last November but ended disappointingly with two losses last week, ending their chances for post-season play.

Wednesday against Umpqua the Roadrunners were 14 of 65 from the field and lost the game 70-37. The Roadrunners went into the locker room down 35-

12. Leading scorer for LBCC was Lynette Murdock with seven points.

On Saturday the Roadrunners traveled north to play the Cougars. LBCC fell behind 16-6 early, but rallied later in the second half to make a game of it. Unfortunately, Clackamas used a late-game rally of their own to overcome a three-point deficit and take a 52-49 lead. When Darci Powell's last-second three-point shot fell short, the Roadrunner's season ended.

The victory left Clackamas with a 6-8 league record and LBCC at 5-9 ending the season for both teams.

Powell led LB scoring with 13 points, five assists, and nine rebounds, while Jessica Sprenger and Sarah Worden combined for 21 points.

Sophomore Rachel Furguson paced the way for the Cougars scoring 22 points and grabbing 12 rebounds and blocking five Roadrunner shots.

## Rule changes and Nigel back in F-1 make for interesting season

by James Eagan  
of The Commuter

Last time, I gave you a season preview of American auto racing series. This week, I will give you a sneak peek into the Formula One World Championship.

The deaths of three-time world champion Ayrton Senna and rookie Roland Ratzenberger rocked the world of auto racing. Numerous rule changes have been implemented by the International Automobile Federation (FIA) as a result. The outcome of these changes are yet to be seen.

Continuing from last year, there will definitely be a season-long battle between the Williams-Renault team and the Benetton-Renault team. Benetton switched from Ford last year for their powerplant.

Michael Schumacher, reigning world champion, will try his hardest to win a second title this year. Watch for a lot of action from this Formula One superstar.

Be on the look-out for some "sibling rivalry" between Damon Hill and David Coulthard from the Williams camp. Hill will be fighting hard with both his teammate and Schumacher for the championship this year. Coulthard, one of the rising stars in Formula One, should prove to be a formidable opponent.

Ferrari is another team to watch for this season. Last year, the Prancing Horse team won their first race in many years with Gerhard Berger in the pilot's

seat. Both Berger and teammate Jean Alesi will definitely try to throw a few punches with Williams and Benetton this year.

In response to their dismal results last year, the McLaren-Peugeot team has switched to Mercedes-Ilmor power this year. Mika Hakkinen is an excellent driver, and he should win a race or two this year.

*The deaths of three-time world champion Ayrton Senna and rookie Roland Ratzenberger rocked the world of auto racing.*

With a surprise pole and many podium finishes, the Jordan-Peugeot team looks destined for victory. Jordan has kept its lineup of Reubens Barrichello and Eddie Irvine from last season. Barrichello should be a frequent visitor to the winner's circle this season.

After leaving IndyCar racing last year with dismal results, Nigel Mansell is going to try his hand at winning another championship this year. Mansell is now the number-one driver for McLaren-Mercedes along with Hakkinen.

Hakkinen's former teammate Martin Brundle is moving to Ligier this year. Ligier is has replaced its Renault engine with the newest generation Mugen Honda V-10.

After being in a medically-induced coma following his injuries at Monaco last season, Karl Wendlinger is returning to the Sauber team. Sauber is switching from Mercedes power to the reigning world champion Ford engine this year.

Some late-breaking news on the

home front. Sterling Marlin, driving a 1995 Chevy Monte Carlo won the Daytona 500 Sunday. Marlin led quite a few laps as he won his second Daytona 500 victory in a row. Dale Earnhardt, in another Monte Carlo, finished a close second. Earnhardt has won every other race at Daytona except the 500.

# 4-on-4

# Volleyball

# Tournament

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Gym

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## NATIONAL NEWS

## College bound students weak in math and science

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP)—The majority of America's high school graduates are not prepared to do better than C-level work in their first year of college algebra, calculus and chemistry, an ACT report said Friday.

The report to the National Education Goals Panel says only the 11 percent of students who have taken at least three science and three math courses in high school and who intend to major in those fields are likely to reach a "B" grade or better in freshmen math and science.

Although the percentage of students taking college-preparatory courses has increased during the past eight years, "under-preparation remains a huge problem," Richard L. Ferguson, president of the Iowa City-based ACT, said.

ACT is the primary college-entrance exam in 28 states, mostly in the West and Midwest. The other primary college-entrance exam is the Scholastic Aptitude Test.

"It would appear, from this report, that American students must achieve at much higher than current levels if the nation is to reach its goal of being first in the world in science and mathematics achievement by the year 2000," Ken Nelson, executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based National Education Goals Panel.

Researchers compared ACT math and science test scores of thousands of students to those same students' grades in math and science courses in college. The comparison provided a basis in average ACT scores for determining other ACT-tested high school graduates' potential in those courses.

They then examined the scores of 756,104 public high school graduates who took the ACT exam and

who planned to continue their education and determined the likely level of their achievement in college.

Ferguson said America's public schools are graduating more than 40 percent of college-bound students "without all the courses they need to be truly ready for higher education."

"Because only 14 percent of the students indicate an interest in majoring in a science or mathematics, we should, of course, encourage more of them to pursue those majors. Even more, we must get all our college-bound students into the core courses in high school," he said.

Only 36 percent of students who completed core course work in math and science and who plan to major in those fields are likely to achieve an "A" or "B" grade in calculus. Fewer than 60 percent are likely to make an "A" or a "B" in college algebra and chemistry, the report said.

It also said 18 percent of the prospective science and math majors did not take three years of science and three years in of math in high school. Of those students, only 16 percent are likely to get an "A" or "B" in college algebra; only 7 percent are likely to get those grades in calculus; and only 22 percent have an even chance of achieving at least a "B" in chemistry.

The report said that 28 percent of college-bound students who have not completed a college-preparatory curriculum and who do not plan to major in science or math have little chance of success in those courses in college. Only 3 percent of those students have a 50-50 chance of earning at least a "B" in calculus. Nine percent are likely to do that well in algebra while 15 percent have a chance to achieve that level in chemistry, the report said.

## Workers train for new variety of jobs in Northwest woods

ASHLAND, Ore. (AP)—Bjorn Everson spotted a stick of deer brush at his feet and punched the four-letter code for its Latin name into his portable computer.

"C-E-I-N, Ceanothus interregnum," Everson said as his thick fingers, shaped by a lifetime of hard work, sought out the tiny keys on the computer that guides him through a complex assessment of plants and topography.

Everson is training himself and other former timber workers for the jobs in the new forest products industry—an industry that looks at what the entire forest ecosystem has to offer, rather than just the big trees that can be felled, bucked, and ripped into lumber.

"We had one old log truck driver who was sure he would never learn the Latin codes," said Everson. "But once you start calling a big leaf maple A-C-M-A (for *Acer magnafolia*), it sticks."

Traditional retraining programs at community colleges received most of the \$5 million awarded under President Clinton's Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative last year to train

900 displaced Oregon timber workers for new jobs.

There people are learning to be accountants, auto mechanics, business managers, community servants, construction workers, cabinet makers, computer technicians, dental hygienists, diesel mechanics, energy managers, nurses, respirator therapists, wastewater treatment technicians and draftsmen. These are jobs that take them out of the woods and small towns where they spent their lives.

But some people are learning new skills that will keep them in the woods and the communities they love.

The numbers now are small, but Bob Warren, a member of the governor's forest policy team working with the Department of Economic Development, estimates as many 3,000 new jobs in the woods could sprout.

"The new mills, the upgraded mills, are tending to be along the I-5 corridor," Warren said. "Many of the small rural communities that used to have mills will not necessarily be competing for the logs coming out of the forest, but could be, would be competing for jobs in this industry."

## Science historian warns against blaming genetics for social ills

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Blaming genetics for society's ills has always been an easy way out, says science historian Garland E. Allen, but it's also dangerous and misguided.

It's convenient—and cheaper—to believe that the killer, the alcoholic, the manic depressive or the schizophrenic were just born that way. It's in the genes.

But Allen maintains that studies purporting to back up that concept are badly flawed at a number of levels and tend to distract people from the underlying environmental and social causes of many of the problems.

Social solutions cost money, Allen noted, and are not currently in favor in Washington. Allen, who is a professor of biology at Washington University in St. Louis calls the controversial book, "The Bell Curve" and a spate of recent studies that suggest that science may soon offer possible "genetic fixes," troublesome.

"First off, there is a sad and disastrous history of such attempts in the past," said Allen, who spoke on the "Uses and Abuses of Genetics in Society" Sunday at the annual convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Atlanta.

"In the 1920s and 1930s similar claims led to the rise of the eugenics movement in the United States and to compulsory sterilization and immigration restriction laws," Allen said. "This same sort of thinking also led to the Nazi eugenics movement and the Holocaust in Europe. The recent studies are nothing new and they're just as simplistic as 19th century studies that tried to link physical features to criminality."

Richard Lewontin, professor of zoology and biology at Harvard, agrees with Allen.

"All that is an attempt to explain the ills of society by putting it inside people," Lewontin said, "thereby avoiding the problems of really coping with the issues."

"It's a way of taking the heat off laws and social organization. I can understand why people want to do that. They always have. In the 19th century they

said it was in the blood."

"Yet, disturbingly, these concepts are becoming increasingly prevalent in our sophisticated society," Allen said.

He added that, historically, the genetic answer to social problems has usually been used against people. "The genetic fix blames the biology of individuals rather than social circumstances for recurrent social and economic policies."

Allen said he sees a link between economics, the political mood of the country and demands for the genetic fix.

When profits are threatened, big business tightens its belt, cutting back on jobs and production. That increases unemployment and reduces the number of people with such benefits as health care.

Some of those affected respond in an unhealthy manner, turning to crime or alcohol or drugs. Some become depressed and mentally ill.

If the nation's leaders then convince society as a whole that there are groups of people within it that have these dangerous problems, that paves the way for essentially fascist kinds of treatment of them, Allen said.

"It's their fault," they say. 'Blame the victim.' Of course, that ignores the economic and social conditions that really cause the problem," he said.

"The question is usually phrased as 'What is the genetic basis of \_\_\_\_\_?' Fill in the blank of your favorite social problem," Allen said. "There is this erroneous assumption that you can disentangle genetic from environmental inputs in the molding of any adult characteristic."

"The very phrase, 'the gene for' conveys an erroneous impression that genes are like little blueprints that just unfold in a very mechanical way into an adult trait."

"This is not true of virtually any trait—even eye color—because molecular structure is susceptible to alterations from the chemical environment of the cell. And when you are talking about more complex traits, especially behavior, this way of looking at genetics is really meaningless."

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## OPINION

## soapbox

## Students should care more about outside world

by Marie Oliver  
of The Commuter

There's that old saying that what you don't know can't hurt you—but it's a lie.

What you don't know can, in fact, hurt you very much. As I evaluate what I've learned halfway through my tenure as editor of this newspaper, I've been very disturbed by evidence I've seen that too many students on this campus don't know a whole lot about what is going on in their world beyond their own little circle of buddies or area of specific interest. Not only that, they don't seem to care.

How do I know this? Every week we send a reporter out on campus to get students' opinions on issues of the day. What these reporters have found is that if the question we have chosen for the week is about a current political event, the most common answer is "I don't know anything about that." Even during the elections we were hard-pressed to find people who knew what measures were on the ballot—we had to explain what the measures were and what the controversy was before people could come up with an on-the-spot opinion about it.

Somehow the myth has been perpetuated in this country that "nothing I do is going to make any difference anyway"—even when there is direct evidence to the contrary. In the past election, 896 people directly affected the lives of approximately 180,000 Oregonians when they cast their "Yes" vote for Measure 8—the measure that now requires state employees to pay into their pension.

While not enough students were paying attention in 1990, the citizens of this state passed Measure 5 (the property tax limitation)—sending schools into a tailspin and causing colleges to begin raising tuition by leaps and bounds. More recently, the state Legislature cut into many student's pocketbooks by decreasing the state need grant.

I'm not suggesting that all students need to become experts on the political matters. But I am suggesting that reading a newspaper every day is the least any student can do to validly claim to be an educated person. And dare I suggest reading non-mainstream magazines and non-fiction books not required in the classroom? It's one way to explore ideas the market-driven media don't bother to discuss.

This country was founded on the idea of representative government. It was a good idea then and it still is today. But today we do not have representative government, and the fault of that lies not in the government itself, but in the citizens of this country. We complain that those in power are only out for themselves, and we are right. Our founding fathers knew this was the nature of human beings, so they set up a system making it possible to vote our representatives out of office if their actions don't reflect the needs of their constituents.

Today, however, we've handed the power to a small group, relinquishing our right to have a say in how our lives will be lived. Left to themselves, our representation has proven money in the right hands talks, leaving the majority of us to experience a declining standard of living. This has happened because the public has chosen to be ignorant about what's going on.

Dr. David Bella, a recent speaker on campus, said the responsibility to dismantle dysfunctional systems "weighs most strongly on those who have an education," and I believe he is right. But I would add that before you can go about dismantling a system, you have to understand how it works—how it plays out day by day—and you can't do that unless you keep up with the news.

What you don't know can hurt you very badly—and the less you know, the more it hurts.

Read!

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KIRK

## ellen goodman

## From orphanages to day care—will America ever be able to solve the child-care crisis?

BOSTON—When the talk of the times turned to orphanages for orphans, I confess that a small, cartoon-like light bulb went over my head. Here was an idea with great potential.

If we were going to take the children of poor mothers and raise them in group homes or centers, why not start modestly and cheaply. Why not start with part-time orphanages: Why not keep them open during working hours? We could call it day care.

After all, the folks who favor 24-hour care would certainly favor eight- or 10-hour care. Anyone who likes Boys Town would like Preschool Towns.

I know, I know, they might see through my plan. It will be hard to get a child care subcontract into the Contract With America. For reasons that escape me, child care is considered a tired old liberal idea while orphanages are a bright new conservative idea. Maybe it's a difference of day and night.

Still, the whole argument about poverty and work, welfare and workfare, hangs on a very familiar question: Who Will Take Care of the Children?

For decades now, many on the political right have believed that mothers with small children shouldn't work outside the home, but that welfare mothers should get a job. Meanwhile many on the political left have defended working mothers but have been uneasy pushing poor women into their ranks.

Today, at the ideological core of this debate are the families, struggling and juggling with work and kids, who have come to the conclusion that if they can do it, so can welfare mothers. More to the point, if they have to do it, so should welfare mothers.

Into this emotional and heated debate now comes a new and critical study of the quality of child care. A team of psychologists and economists from four universities—Yale, UCLA, the Universities of Denver and North Carolina—examined 400 child care centers and tested children in four states.

They came to the depressing but not surprising conclusion that the vast majority of children in these centers were getting care that was "mediocre in quality, sufficiently poor to interfere with children's emotional and intellectual development." Only one in seven centers provide both the security and the stimulation that was worthy of a high rating.

The youngest of the children fare the worst. About 40 percent of the infant and toddler rooms were rated poor, and as Yale's Sharon Lynn Kagan says, "When I say I poor, I mean poor—broken glass on the playground, unchanged diapers."

This study is one of the first to relate the cost of day care with the quality and with the outcome—how kids actually fare. It shows, in the words of Barbara Reisman of the Child Care Action Campaign, that "the ones that have more money do better." This conclusion, she laughs, "would make my daughter say, 'DUH, mom'." But she says it's rarely spelled out this clearly.



In fact, the better centers from sources like block grants, private funds, corporations. The difference in the price tag of mediocre and good care was as little as 10 percent. But when they had the dollars, and had to live up to state standards, centers used the money in ways that matter—in the quality, quantity and constancy of staff.

Perhaps the most startling finding in the study is about parents, the buyers in the child-care market. While the researchers said most care was mediocre or poor, 90 percent of the parents said their child care was good.

Parents' view may be form of myopia brought on by guilt. How could I leave my kid at a place I didn't think was good? Or it could be inexperience. How many parents have seen the kind of centers that are the norm in France or Japan?

But any way you look at it, this is a case of low consumer expectations. And a market that meets them.

For too long, child care has been tangled up in arguments about women's roles rather than children's lives. Middle class mothers felt that any criticism of day care was really criticism of them. Lower income and, especially, single mothers, were forced to be grateful for any child care at all.

Now we may have a wave of AFDC mothers searching for places in an underfinanced system threatened even further by cuts in block grants.

In this environment, researcher Kagan says that parents have to become much savvier and more demanding consumers. Those who care about kidstuff have to be savvier citizens.

The question isn't just who will take care of kids, but how they'll be taken care of.

Have you heard the promises from the orphanage fans? They insist that these won't be Dickensian warehouses but warm, nurturing, high-quality, group settings for children.

Well, OK. Let's give them a try.

How about dawn to dusk.

Monday to Friday.



## OPINION

## letters

## Beef consumption may lead to demise of other species

## To the Editor:

Nobody can help every good cause. Anyone can be a part of a "Save Our Overgrazed Public Lands—Don't Buy Beef" movement.

Cattle lobby activities, resulting in the defeat of candidates supporting good causes, may have been paid for by beef you ate.

Beef, eaten by those who otherwise care, may lead to the further slaughter of wild horses (competing with cattle for forage) and the extinction of species on our overgrazed public lands—land also menaced by special interest backed groups trying to wrest control from our government and prevent rangeland reform.

James Griffin  
Fallon, Nev.

## Conservative group defends right to exist on campus

## To the Editor:

In the Feb. 8 edition of The Commuter Charlene Fella, director of Student Programs, published a harsh criticism of the College Conservatives Association. The question is why? Especially when looking at the facts of the matter.

College Conservatives Association was envisioned by myself and Bill Hollingsworth, a former student, in the fall of 1993. Since that time we have tried to make this vision a reality. We received and filled (out) the necessary forms for admittance as a "club" at LBCC. This process is still pending, due to a lack of a qualified advisor. The problem is not that we cannot find an advisor but that we cannot find a staff member that fits within the strict parameters set by Student Activities. This should not stop CCA, as a

student organization, from becoming interested in the workings of our school.

Ms. Fella implies that CCA does not have a right to exist at LBCC without the approval of her department. But one has to wonder about her agenda when no hue and cry is raised when OSPIRG comes to town. The fact remains that CCA and OSPIRG both have the right to assemble peacefully and the freedom of association guaranteed by the Constitution.

Ms. Fella seems to have an agenda, and it seems that she believes CCA does not fit into the LBCC community. Certainly if she were really for the interests of all students, as the Student Handbook states, she would not be attacking the CCA but instead helping us.

Eric Bootsma

College Conservatives Association President

## Graffiti scars more than walls

## To the Editor:

LBCC has been experiencing a marked increase in incidents of graffiti of late. Much to my dismay, an alarming amount of it is gang-related or racial in nature. I mention this not because of the damage to college property this causes, or the increase in the workload to the already over-worked facilities staff who must remove this mess, but because of what it says about the authors of said graffiti.

It is my fervent hope that the students who grace our halls (or restrooms as the case may be), are here to learn and grow; to expand their minds and their potential. It saddens me to see that some still embrace ignorance, hate and fear, that some still wave a banner of ethnocentricity and that violence is still preferred to an out-stretched hand.

I realize that the vast majority of our college community abhors this ignorance and that these misguided souls are to be pitied, but I sometimes have to wonder.

Phil Shaw

Security & Safety Services



UNFUNDED MANDATES

## Hotline established to expose abuse of tax dollars

Salem—A new outreach effort to encourage citizens and government employees to report waste and misspending of tax dollars has been launched with a new hotline number that people can call to report directly to the Audits Division.

The 24-hour number is 1-800-336-8218.

Citizens may either leave information anonymously or leave their names, addresses and telephone numbers so they can be contacted additional information or follow-up. computer users may contact the Audits Division through the Internet address of Audits.hotline@state.or.us.

"As taxpayers are asked to dig into their pockets to support government, efficiency has to be a top prior-

ity," Auditor Don Waggoner said. "People have a right to do something about government misuse and waste. Through our new effort, they now will know exactly where to report information. Some of our best tips have come from government workers."

Also in the works, as part of a broader Citizens Awareness Program, the Audits Division will release to the public and media announcements of upcoming audits. This is to encourage anyone with information that might be relevant to the soon-to-be-started audits to contact the Audits Division. Citizens and organizations interested in tracking upcoming audits can call the Audits Division hotline to place their name on a mailing list.

## marla's musings

## Entertainment getting dumber and dumber

by Marla J. Lawrence  
for The Commuter

Now that I've lived long enough to see my childhood flotsam become the stuff of collectors' dreams, I don't feel as bad as I used to about not keeping up with the times. Even though I know enough about current trends to have a halfway decent conversation with my adolescent daughter, I'm far more comfortable with the familiar: vinyl records, granola with the fat left in, and my 1945 Royal typewriter.

There is one fad that I've seen come and go several times during my lifetime—I call it the "Toys in the Attic Syndrome." Once again it's become socially acceptable for grown people to blunder their way through life, picking their noses and generally behaving as if they've got the IQ of a radish.

My question is, what in God's green earth is so funny about that? Take master moron Jim Carrey (please!). The characters he plays aren't merely two tacos short of a combination plate, they're missing everything but the shredded lettuce—yet the guy's raking in millions on every picture he makes, and he's even being hailed as a comic genius.

Call me an intellectual snob if you must (and some of you undoubtedly will), but I absolutely cannot find anything to laugh about in a 32-year-old man who acts like a cartoon.

Nor do I enjoy so-called situation comedies whose main characters are uneducated slobs who do nothing but watch TV and insult each other. As I mentioned before, stupidity as an art form is nothing new—the court jesters of medieval times and the Marx Brothers were also regarded as comic geniuses—but Beavis and Butt-head as cultural icons? Puh-LEEZE.

*Once again it's become socially acceptable for grown people to blunder their way through life, picking their noses and generally behaving as if they've got the IQ of a radish.*

It would be easy to dismiss all this nonsense as the fallout from social changes that have removed the taboos from certain activities. But I think it has more to do with the feeling that the world is becoming an increasingly scary place, and the result is a yearning for a simpler way of life.

We want to return to the "good old days" when neighbors actually talked to one another and kids could play after dark without getting mugged. Even though we all know deep down that our longings are basically one part memory and three parts Norman Rockwell, we want all the old familiar things: the bowling nights, the Fourth of July parades, the block parties... and the Three Stooges.

As a baby boomer, I can relate to most of that. I just don't understand why some dumb schmuck getting a pie thrown in his face or grunting in monosyllables is supposed to be funny.

But then, I never did appreciate contrived comedy, not even when I was 10 and Bobby Hastings, whose one talent was his ability to break wind on cue, would supply the dialogue each time our fifth-grade teacher asked the class for comments.

No, I get my jollies from the subtle absurdities of life, such as the irony of Jim Carrey's three box-office hits occurring in the same year that a guy who's even wackier became Speaker of the House. (At least ol' Jimbo is harmless, which unfortunately is more than I can say for Newt.) And wasn't 1994 the year that homespun homilist Forrest Gump first said, "Stupid is as stupid does"?

'Nuff said. Heh-heh-heh-heh.



# MARKETPLACE

## classifieds

### Tax Counseling For Low-Income Students

And anyone else that needs assistance with figuring out their tax form. You can call the RSVP office at 967-8838 or LBCC ext. 838 to find out about current information or schedule an appointment. Counseling available on Friday from 12 - 3:45 p.m.

### Classified Ad Policy

**Deadline:** Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads will appear only once per submission. If you wish a particular ad to appear in successive issues, you must resubmit it.

**Cost:** Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free to students, staff and faculty. All others are charged at a rate of 10 cents per word, payable when the ad is accepted.

**Personals:** Ads placed in the "Personals" category are limited to one ad per advertiser per week; no more than 50 words per ad.

**Libel/Taste:** The Commuter will not knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in an unfair manner.

### EMPLOYMENT

**Travel Abroad and Work.** Make up to \$2,000-\$4000+/mo. Teaching basic conversational English abroad. Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea. Many employers provide room and board + other benefits. No teaching background or Asian languages required. For more information call: (206) 632-1146 ext. J60651.

**First United Methodist Daycare Center.** Preschool Aid position available. P/F tim. Send resume to 1115 S.W. 28th, Albany.

**Alaska Summer Employment.** Students needed! Fishing industry. Earn up to \$3000-\$6000+ per month. Room and board! Transportation! Male or female. No experience necessary. Call (206) 545-4155 ext A60651.

**The Oregon State Police** is accepting applications for Recruit Trooper. The deadline for applications is March 17, 1995. The minimum qualifications are: Applicants must be 21 years of age or older, U.S. citizen, high school diploma or G.E.D., Valid motor vehicle license with a good driving record, no felony convictions or misdemeanor convictions (sex, drugs, violence, fraud/deceit), good health and moral character. Starting salary is \$2,656 per month for the first year. Applications can be obtained at any State Police office or call: (503) 378-3720, Extension 4131.

**Men and women earn up to \$480 weekly** assembling circuit boards and electronic components at home. Experience unnecessary, will train. Immediate openings your local area. Call 1-602-680-4647 ext. 102c.

**LOOKING FOR WORK?** Visit the LBCC Student Employment Center located on the first floor of Takena Hall in the Career Center. Part-time, full-time, temporary and permanent positions available. Summer jobs are also available. For a more complete list of jobs come to the Career Center, T-101. If you are eligible for the Federal Work Study through Financial Aid, we have graphic (need Pagemaker), switchboard, food service, grounds keeper, maintenance, business faculty, library, auto tech and manufacturing tech lab aide positions on campus. Visit us today!!!

### HELP WANTED

Help wanted coaching Special Olympic Volleyball and Track and Field. For more information call Jeff at 758-3686.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

**95-96 Under-represented minorities achievement scholarship** program has scholarships available to college junior transfer students who meet all eligibility requirements. Deadline to apply is May 1, 1995. Applications available in Career Center, Takena Hall.

**95 transfer students to University of Washington** with major in paper science or engineering can apply for scholarships. Deadline to apply is March 1, 1995. Applications are available in the Career Center.

**95 transfer students in early childhood education** may apply for a \$400 grant from OAEYC. Deadline to apply is March 1, 1995. Applications available in Career Center, Takena Hall.

**OREALS Scholarship** for students beginning or furthering a career in a legal support staff position are eligible to apply for a \$1000 scholarship. Deadline to apply is March 17, 1995. Applications available in Career Center, Takena Hall.

**95-96. SME Education Foundation Scholarship** for students in Manufacturing Engr. or Manufacturing Engr. Tech. Six different school's scholarships to apply for, with various award amounts. All six have Mar. 1, 1995 deadline. Applications available in Career Center, Takena Hall.

**95 Taylor Scholarship** for full time Nursing or Engr. related fields of study (including Auto Tech). Approximately \$6,000 award. Deadline to apply is April 15, 1995. Applications available in Career Center.

**1995 Women in Transportation Scholarships** available for female students majoring in transportation related fields. Two \$100 awards and two \$2000 Awards. Deadline to apply is Feb. 28, 1995. Application available in Career Center, Takena Hall.

**95 American Chemical Society Scholarship** for minority student in Chemistry, Bio. Chem., or Chem. Engineering. Awards of up to \$15,000 over a four-year degree program. Deadline to apply is Mar. 1, 1995. Call 1-800-227-5558 (then press 9, press 3, press 5) for application.

**95 Oregon Farm Bureau Scholarship for Agriculture majors.** Award amount is \$500. Deadline to apply is April 1, 1995. Application available in Career Center, Takena Hall.

**95 American Water Works Scholarship** for Water/Waste Water Tech. Students in the amount of a \$5000 award. Deadline to apply is April 10, 1995. Applications available in Career Center, Takena Hall.

**95-96 National Society of Public Accountants Scholarship.** Available to full-time undergraduate students in degree program. B or better GPA. Applications deadline is Mar. 10, 1995. Applications available in Career Center, Takena Hall.

**95-96 SME Education Foundation Scholarship** for students in Manufacturing Engr. or Manufacturing Engr. Technology. Six different schools scholarships to apply for, with various award amounts. All six have Mar. 1, 1995 deadline. Applications available in Career Center, Takena Hall.

**95 Americorps applications** available at the Career Center in Takena Hall. Exchange community service for education award. Can be used to pay back existing education loans. Awards include a living allowance and education award up to \$4725/yr.

**95-96 NAWIC Scholarship** for students in construction-related fields. Deadline to apply is April 1, 1995. Applications available in Career Center in Takena Hall. (amount of scholarship is not given).

### FOR SALE

**Datsun 310GX** 4 cyl, 4 speed. Dependable car. \$725. 928-8573 after 3 p.m., ask for Jake.

**Small male Boa Constrictor,** Mexican subspecies, darker color, feisty, \$75 o.b.o 928-1062.

**For Sale:** Recliner \$100; Sofa \$150; Rocker \$90; five small chairs \$25 each.

**Four Studded Snow Tires,** P/175/80R13, excellent condition \$150, Golf Bag \$45, Schwinn Ten speed with rear rack and front end bag \$95.

**Wanted: Any JFK articles, books, or pictures.** Depending on item, will pay. Call 451-5799 after 4 p.m.

### PERSONALS

**Adoptees/Birthparents Support Group** 7:00 p.m. 1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month. For more info 753-9126.

### SERVICES

**MasterWord** Processing. Book Reports, Terms Papers, Essays, Research Reports, Course Outlines, Quality Work and Reasonable Rates. Debi Wallace (503)924-0204.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY MR. PRESIDENT

S	L	A	W	S	H	O	P	S	K	A	T	E	
H	A	L	O	C	U	R	I	E	E	N	I	D	
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## Get your State Need Grant back!

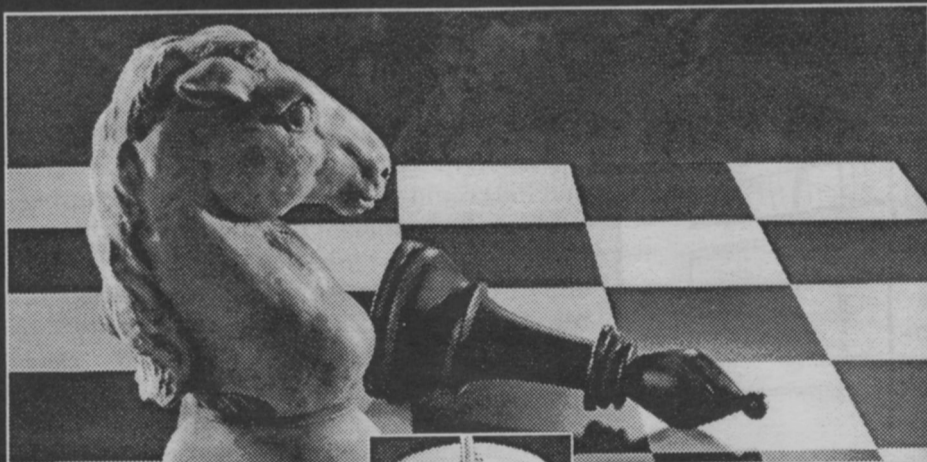
# LOBBY DAY

### February 23, 1995

All students are invited to go to the capitol on Thursday February 23, 1995 with the Student Leadership Team. Meet and talk with your representatives and senators.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY, EXT. 831

## THE SHARPEST MIND ADVANCES.



WHEN FACED WITH THE ULTIMATE CHALLENGE, IT TAKES MORE THAN STRENGTH ALONE TO CONQUER SUCH ADVERSITY. IN A BATTLE OF WITS, IT IS THE INDIVIDUAL WITH THE STRONGEST MIND WHO WINS. IF YOU WANT TO STRENGTHEN YOUR MIND AND BODY, THERE IS A PLACE WHERE



THE MUSCLES ARE FORGED AND THE MIND SHARPENED. WHERE A PROUD FEW WITH THE ABILITY TO LEAD WILL RECEIVE THE KNOWLEDGE AND WISDOM OF OVER 200 YEARS. TO CAPTURE YOUR POTENTIAL AND BECOME AN OFFICER OF MARINES, CALL 1-800-MARINES.

CONTACT SGT. KELLY COOK 967-1822

**Marines**  
THE FEW. THE PROUD. THE MARINES.



# JOIN THE 95-96 STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM!!

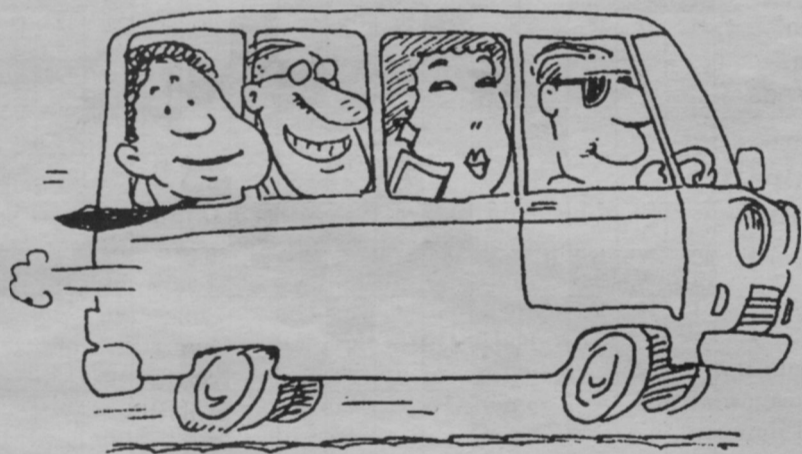


**Hear Ye!  
Hear Ye!**

**Be a part of a Progressive Leadership team. Learn Leadership skills and make new friends!**

## TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES!

- Leadership team members attend leadership seminars and conferences with other College and University student leaders.
- Weekend retreats at the Silver Creek Falls Conference Center, and much more.



## SIGN UP TODAY!

For an application or job descriptions for Student Government, Programming Board and the positions listed below contact the **Student Programs** office, CC-213.

**Weight  
Room Staff**

**Intramural  
Staff**

**Womens  
Center Staff**

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

### ASSOCIATED STUDENT GOVERNMENT

- Moderator
- Operations Coordinator
- Business and Health Occupations Division Representative (2)
- Science and Industry Division Representative (2)
- Liberal Arts and Human Performance Division Representative (2)
- Student Services and Extended Learning Division Representative (2)
- At-Large Representative

Applications Due March 3, 1995

### STUDENT PROGRAMMING BOARD

- Team Coordinator
- Intramural/Recreational Sports Specialist
- Series Events Specialist
- Community Events Specialist
- Campus Events & Recreation Specialists
- Current Events & Political Activities Specialist
- Health & Recreation Specialist
- Family & Evening Student Specialist

Applications Due February 27, 1995

## TALENT GRANTS AVAILABLE!

Tuition assistance is available through Talent Grants for students serving on the Leadership team.



# Be a Part of the Team Today!



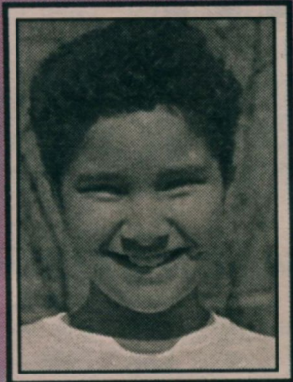
# THE LAST WORD

## you said it

### What did you think of "The Secret Garden?"

*I thought it was a good play. I liked everything, especially the ending.*

**Jesse Jackson**  
Fairplay Elementary  
age 10, aspiring model



*I think the best part was in the middle when they were talking about Mary in the bedroom. She was getting to try what it was and the maid wouldn't let her.*

**Tony Farley**  
Fairplay Elementary  
age 9, aspiring astronaut



*The part where the boy learned how to walk was the best. I liked the movie too.*

**Nicole Hammeiquist**  
Fairplay Elementary  
age 7, aspiring singer

*I liked it when it was at the end, because it was happy.*

**Hailey Glasgow**  
Fairplay Elementary  
age 6, aspiring pet shop owner

*I liked the part where Colin and Mary were dancing.*

**Alex Hunt**  
Fairplay Elementary  
aspiring scientist



## they said it

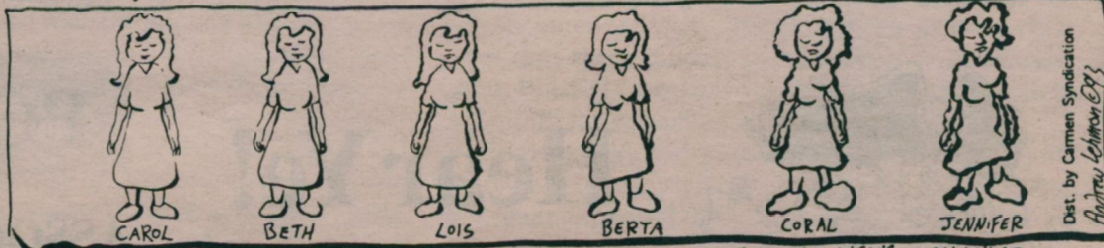
“

*Not to know is bad; not to wish to know is worse.*

—African proverb

”

LEHMAN by Andrew Lehman



LUKE FELL DEEPLY IN LOVE AT TWENTY. IT DIDN'T WORK OUT. THE NEXT GIRL HE UNCONSCIOUSLY CHOSE TO LOOK LIKE THE FIRST. WHEN THAT DIDN'T WORK OUT HE CHOSE THE THIRD FOR HER RESEMBLANCE TO THE SECOND. THE FOURTH WAS THE IMAGE OF THE THIRD. EVENTUALLY THIS LEAD TO SERIOUS REDUCED MATE RESOLUTION WITH THE INEVITABLE LOSS OF CLEAR DEFINITION AND FEATURES.

LEHMAN by Andrew Lehman



WARREN HAD THE INCREDIBLE ABILITY TO READ WOMEN'S MINDS. UNFORTUNATELY HE WAS CLUELESS AS TO THE SUBTLETIES OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

## Crossword 101

### "Happy Birthday Mr. President"

By Gerry Frey

#### ACROSS

- 1 Cole
- 5 Stores
- 10 Allie's partner
- 14 Angelic headgear
- 15 Radiologist Marie
- 16 Oklahoma city
- 17 Mars; comb. form
- 18 Guardian or Arch
- 19 Hawthorne to friends
- 20 29th president
- 22 42nd President
- 24 Squealer
- 25 Beau
- 26 Beauty shop
- 29 Zeppelin
- 30 Haskel or Bauer
- 34 Declare
- 35 Ike's command
- 36 Attempting
- 37 Facial spasm
- 38 7th & 17th presidents
- 40 Variation: abr
- 41 Contract part
- 43 Girl Scouts of Amer.
- 44 Author Grey
- 45 of Montezuma
- 46 Rover for one
- 47 French Impressionist
- 48 Abominable snowmen
- 50 Singer Damone
- 51 21st president
- 54 37th president
- 58 Holbrook & Willis
- 59 Yuppie goodbyes
- 61 Large land mass
- 62 Gaelic
- 63 French stage
- 64 Tear into pieces
- 65 Golf needs
- 66 Tennis great
- 67 Tibetan bovines

#### DOWN

- 1 Former Iranian leader
- 2 Zhivago's love

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15						16			
17				18						19			
20				21			22		23				
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26	27	28				29			30		31	32	33
34					35			36					
37				38				39			40		
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45						46				47			
			48		49				50				
51	52	53						54			55	56	57
58						59		60			61		
62						63					64		
65						66					67		

- 3 Brewer?
- 4 28th president
- 5 Meager
- 6 Suspended
- 7 Organization: abr
- 8 Joined
- 9 Vends
- 10 35th president
- 11 Med School Subj.
- 12 One of the Jacksons
- 13 Paradise
- 21 Mr. Fleming
- 23 Vein networks
- 25 1st & 41st presidents
- 26 Pitcher Paige to friends
- 27 St. Teresa's town
- 28 Townie
- 29 Limited; abv
- 31 Sofa
- 32 Lacking substance
- 33 Wading bird
- 35 Vane initials
- 36 An airline
- 38 Advantage
- 39 NY time
- 42 18th president
- 44 12th president
- 46 Sea robber
- 47 Microphone: abv
- 49 Heads of France
- 50 Clamps
- 51 Atkins or Huntley
- 52 Tortoise rival
- 53 Other
- 54 Angry fit
- 55 On the water
- 56 Hockey arena
- 57 Fathers
- 60 Prescription word

Crossword answers on Page 10