

The Real Thing

New packing 'popcorn' promises to cushion against crunches

Eloquence Wanted

Student literary publication reorganizes, seeks submissions

Hoop Hoopla

Blazers draw full house to Payton's former playhouse

THE COMMUTER

A Student Publication

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Wednesday, Oct. 23, 1991

Writer watches flames engulf Bay Area suburbs

Historic blaze chases 5,000 people from their expensive homes in Oakland Hills

Editor's Note: San Jose Mercury News writer Pete Carey filed this first-hand account of the huge Bay Area fire.

By Pete Carey
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

SAN JOSE, Calif.--For five hours Sunday afternoon, my brother, his two sons and I raced to pack my father's life's work into two pickup trucks.

My father, Paul, who is 87 and a painter, was unimpressed by the approaching fire as he watched football on television. After all, he'd seen fires in these hills before. Into the bed of the trucks went paintings, photographs, letters, rugs, antiques--mementos that, over about 40 years, had filled the shingled ranch house that straddles Oakland and Piedmont at the dead end of Blair Road.

When the trucks were packed, I paused to note the symbols of my family's history that would have to stay behind. There was the Steinway piano my mother had played for nearly 50 years, the sheet music, the books. All I could do was stop and remember and watch the trees explode along the ridge while my brother, Scott, watered the roof.

Early in the day, it seemed as if it was safe. But as the day wore on, it became clear that this area was seriously threatened. Now, at 8, standing on my dad's back terrace, which has a sweeping view of the bay, the sky is black. Many summer nights I've stood out here and looked out over the Bay Bridge. Tonight it's just a wall of smoke and orange flames.

Just to the north, over the ridge line on the other side of Moraga Avenue, the sky is a brilliant orange. Flames are leaping up, and an occasional detonation signals the engulfing of yet another house or stand of trees.

All afternoon, the helicopters and tankers had worked noisily overhead.

The police and their bullhorns came and went. But as the night wore on, it became disconcertingly quiet.

The elderly man next door said he simply is not going to leave. He doesn't believe the flames will reach him. But all around us, the residents have started to desert their houses.

As I stand on the back terrace in the darkness, I can see flames leaping. They fan up. Huge sheets of flame just shoot into the sky, towers of sparks. Then it all dies down. To the east of us, the sky is clear and the moon is rising; it is almost full.

I'm looking at fire closer than I've ever seen it. There's a tree going up. It's exploding. It sounds like a bomb. Or fireworks. There it goes. Here comes another one right now. It's still coming over here. All that was left was to think of the years that had passed and my parents' life together. And how, in the course of an afternoon, a catastrophe can make you choose what to take and what to leave behind.

My dad was pretty cool about it. He picked out some of his best paintings. The creative things were the first, of course, and then the family mementos. The photographs. The letters. There are paintings that are too large, canvases of Bay area scenes that simply will have to stay and possibly be burned.

I grew up in these hills. When I first heard about this fire, I said, "Here we go again. It's those eucalyptus trees."

This area is just tinder dry. I've got a lot of warm feelings about this place but they don't extend to risking my life.

We've got a fighting chance. The smoke is getting stronger, but the wind has died down. We're still here. We may escape. We may be some of the lucky ones.

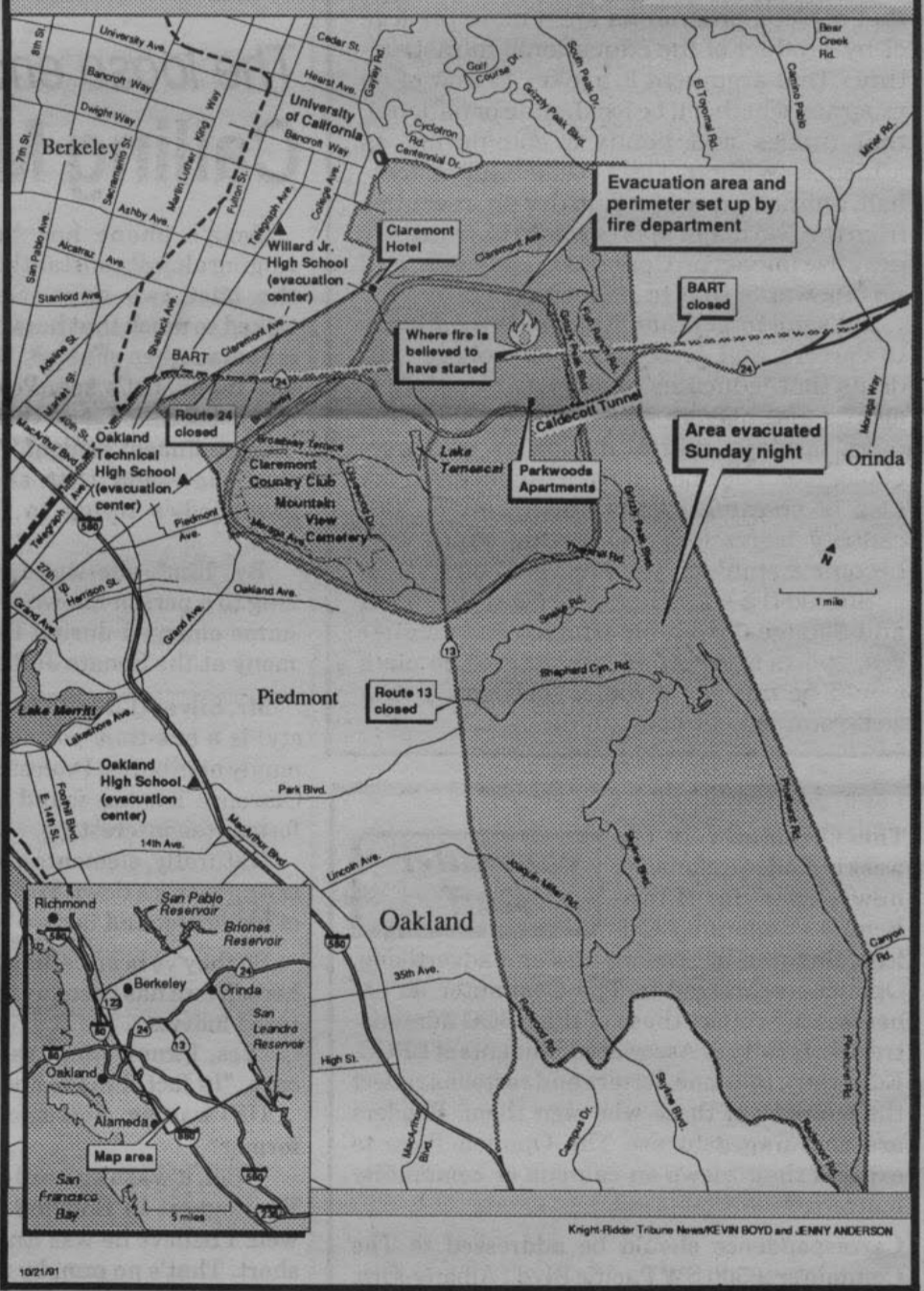
(Editor's Note: As of Monday, Paul Carey's home was still safe.)

Firestorm in California

A fast-moving blaze, possibly human-caused, killed at least 10 people, injured dozens and destroyed hundreds of expensive homes in the area of Oakland Hills, Calif.

Fire facts

Time started: approximately 11:00 a.m.
Wind speed and direction: to 35 mph, shifting from northeast to southwest
Number of firefighters: more than 1,000
Size of fire: at least 1.5 square miles
People evacuated: at least 5,000



LB, OSU work together to host Polish scholars in development plan

By David Olsen
Of The Commuter

A delegation of Polish scholars will use LBCC's Training and Business Development Center (TBD) as a model to develop their country's private sector this fall.

Three members of the Krakow Industrial Society (KIS) and two members of the Krakow Academy of Economics will study how the small business enterprise operates in American society.

"The center was started in 1983 in response to business and industrial leaders coming to LBCC for help," said Mary Spilde, Dean of LBCC Business Training and Health Division. "The country was then coming out of a recession." The center provides workshops and materials for prospective entrepreneurs in Linn and Benton counties.

The center will assist the scholars in developing a plan for their models in Poland and review it before they leave, said Cynthia Landeen, a faculty member of the TBD center. "The programs that LBCC and OSU are setting up are for individual interests as well as group interest. Their biggest challenge is going from a state controlled system to a free market system." The scholars are very eager for information, Landeen said. "I've been impressed with how hard they work."

The KIS scholars are currently attending classes at LBCC and OSU where training will emphasize four issues: strategic vision, technical skills, administrative capacities and communications.

OSU, in conjunction with LBCC, was awarded a \$133,000 grant from the United States Information Agency. The agency focuses on small businesses and

"OSU had to have a community college in the grant application because they are the only locations for small business development centers," said Landeen.

The government of Poland will "send three officials over at the end of November," said Spilde. "They will be looking at the government's role to make it successful."

The delegates are scheduled to leave Dec. 7, and will have consultants from LBCC and OSU available once they are established in Krakow, said Spilde. "If we're needed, it probably won't be until March or April, and the people going to Poland will be determined by what the needs are."

The five scholars are staying at private homes in the community during their stay, said Spilde. "they all communicate very well and it's a good opportunity to get first hand information about events in Poland."

Athletics vs. Academics

They both feed off each other

The state of Oregon is proposing a \$3.5 million bailout of state university

editorial

athletic programs that have always operated in the red. It is this proposal that will keep the non-revenue producing sports afloat, that has stirred up the age-old priorities argument of athletes vs. academics, and which comes first. It is not a matter of which comes first or who gets the most money; they both feed off each other, a symbiotic relationship. Let's ignore any mention or argument of Measure 5 chipping away at educational programs while athletic programs continue to drain the depleting resources of the system.

Measure 5 is just a phase—a very ugly one—but the educational structure will find a source of revenue and restructuring of the system to survive. Athletics, however, is not a phase. It's not something we can turn our backs on and let die. Academic purists argue that athletic programs are a more privilege or by-product of the educational infrastructure. That argument is a joke. I know of no program, whether it be local, state or national, that unifies and bonds a community as athletics. Without OSU basketball or football, alumni support would dry up, revenues from the two major sports would have drastic negative impact on Corvallis businesses, and no one wants that to happen.

Let's not forget that athletics is a pathway to careers and professions for college students that "educates" just as many coaches, agents and players as the university trains dairy farmers, marine biologists and psychologists. The ancient Greeks conceived the idea of sporting events and through 20th century technology, marketing sports has become a staple to the American diet.

Should the state then take away the "meat and potatoes" from the educational menu—yes, sports is a part of education—the plate would be missing a major food group in a well-rounded educational diet.

The Commuter is the weekly student-managed newspaper for Linn-Benton Community College, financed by student fees and advertising.

commuter staff

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 Opinion Page to express their views on campus or community matters.

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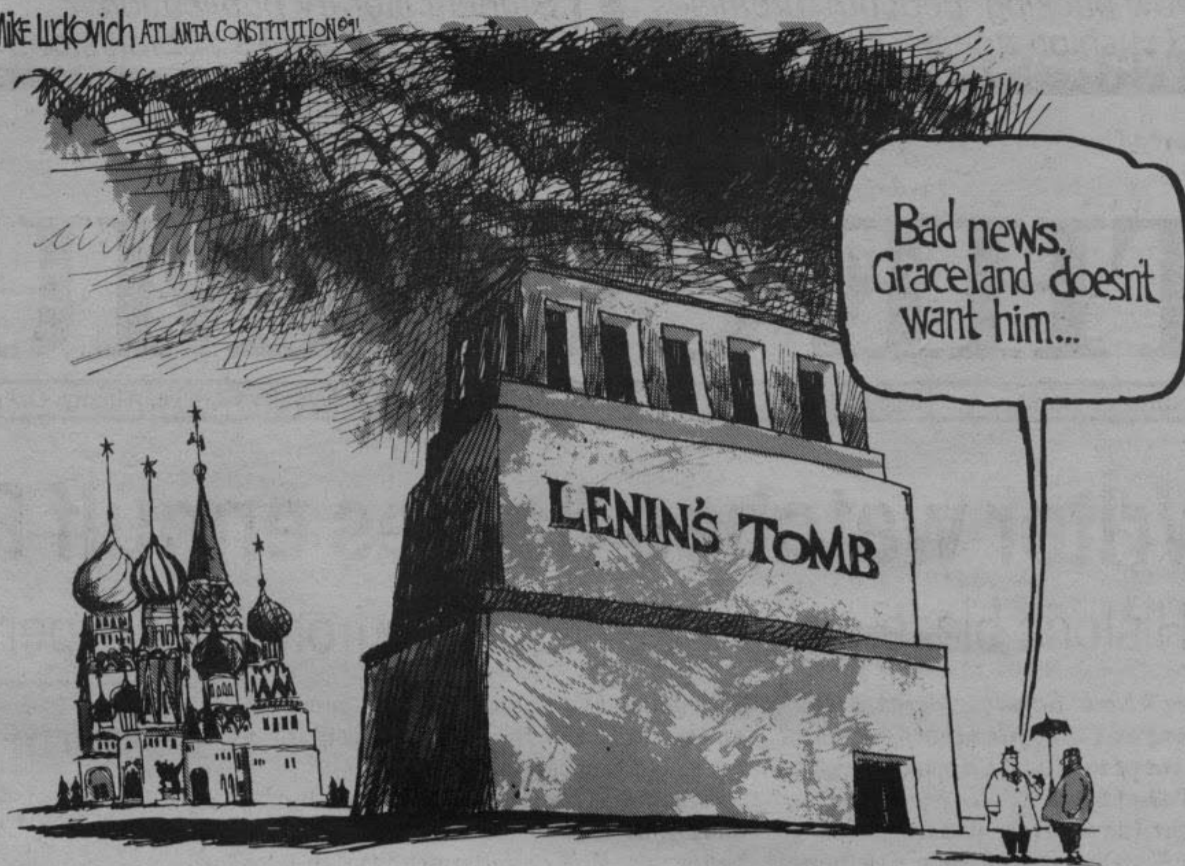
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MIKE LUCKOVICH ATLANTA CONSTITUTION '91



The loose end in the American drama

Calling Mr. Silver, America wants you

Seka's phone has been ringing almost constantly for the past two days. She's talked so much that her voice is hoarse when she says: "I've lost track. Let's see, People magazine called. And there's 'Entertainment Tonight.' And this show and that show. Everybody's trying to find him."



mike royko

By "him", she was referring to a person known as Long Dong Silver, whose name emerged during Professor Anita Hill's testimony at the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Silver (I'll call him that for reasons of propriety) is a one-time porn movie actor, known for his manly attributes. Professor Hill testified that Judge Clarence Thomas found Mr. Silver's dramatic performances interesting.

Naturally, elements of the news media have been trying to track down Mr. Silver to see what he thinks of his new-found fame.

So they've been calling Seka, who was a porn star herself and has been involved in the production of X-rated movies.

"Yes, I knew him," said Seka, who lives in Chicago, "In fact, I made one movie with him."

Uh, was he, how shall I put it, a skillful performer?

"Well, it wasn't a hard-core movie. It was R-rated. We made it in England. I really didn't know him well. I believe he was English. I called him L.D. for short. That's no pun, by the way.

"As far as I know, he only made a few movies. I'm not sure how many. They were all called 'Electric Blue.' They were numbered. That was about eight or 10 years ago. I don't know what happened to him."

The fact that Seka and others in the porn industry have been deluged with calls about Mr. Silver shows how deep the media interest has been in the solemn process of confirming a Supreme Court justice.

And this reflects the effort of millions of Americans to be better informed citizens.

Only a few weeks ago, when the hearings on Judge Thomas' confirmation were being televised on cable TV, the audience was relatively small. That's when Judge Thomas was being asked about his views on natural law, past Supreme Court decisions, and other weighty matters.

Then came Professor Hill's testimony. America became aware of the existence of Mr. Silver. Suddenly, the viewing and reading public couldn't get enough information on the Senate's confirmation process.

Some of the networks, realizing that the Senate

hearings were of great civic importance, provided live coverage. Even the baseball playoffs were aced out in the ratings.

The hearings ended and, after one more day of senatorial bluster and chest-thumping, Judge Thomas was confirmed. Senators are men of principle, conscience, and avid students of public opinion polls.

Judge Thomas will go on the Supreme Court and live happily ever after. Professor Hill has returned to her classroom in Oklahoma and will shock the nation by not making a fortune as a public speaker, not writing a best-selling book, and not selling the movie rights to her life story. People will wonder what her angle is.

So that leaves Mr. Silver as the one loose end in the Senate drama. America wants to know about Mr. Silver. Well, maybe not all Americans, but a heckuva lot of them. Video stores all over the country have been getting calls from people trying to rent his movies.

"I never heard of the buy before," says Al Zwick, who runs Video Shmideo, a Chicago video outlet. "I wouldn't know him if he walked in here. At least, not with his pants on. But my phone started ringing from people asking me about him as soon as the professor testified.

"So I called my West Coast distributor. They told me he's dropped out of porno movies, as far as they know. He was in those 'Electric Blue' movies about 10 years ago, but hasn't been doing anything since. Maybe my distributor can tell you more."

So I called the West Coast film distributor and asked him if he knew the whereabouts of Mr. Silver, of Senate Judiciary Committee fame.

"I don't know if he's dead or alive," the distributor said. "He was never that big in films anyway. He was better known for the magazines. You see, he had a problem making movies. Kind of an interesting problem."

The distributor explained Mr. Silver's problem quite bluntly. However, I will have to paraphrase it. It seems that when the studio lights were on, and the director yelled "action," and the cameras began rolling, Mr. Silver became inhibited. Or maybe he didn't take the proper vitamin pills.

Whatever the reason, he was unable to display his talents in their full glory. And he faded away, no pun intended.

But now civic-minded Americans are clamoring for Mr. Silver's films. So if he's out there and happens to read this: Mr. Silver, call People magazine and 'Entertainment Tonight.' You will be contributing to the public's right to know, you know?

Mike Royko is a syndicated columnist who writes for the for the Chicago Tribune and appears weekly in The Commuter.

forum

Congressional special interests make U.S. 'greatest debtor nation in history of world'

By Harry Lonsdale

Just as night follows the day, today's students in Oregon's fine colleges and universities will be tomorrow's leaders. Whether you're going into the medical profession or plan to be a champion of industry, whether it's architecture, or science, or public service, or the military—you're going to be running the show in 10-20 years. Many of us with grey in our hair are happy to pass the baton, and we hope you'll do a better job than we did.

guest column

For we haven't left you any great inheritance. Thankfully, it now appears it will be a relatively peaceful future, with the demise of the Cold War, and the collapse of the former Soviet Union. But the future of today's young people is one of debt, a debt that will be difficult to service.

Many of today's students will graduate with tuition loans to pay off. But that's just the beginning. Then there's the S&L bailout, expected in some quarters to reach a trillion dollars (or \$4,000 for every American) over the next 10 years. And, on top of it all, is the truly enormous national debt, presently sitting at \$3.5 trillion! That's about \$60,000 for every family in America. Now can you see why the adults are pleased that you'll soon be joining the taxpayer rolls? And, of course, we're adding to the debt at the rate of about a billion dollars a day. That's \$4 for every American. Think of it as that nice lunch you paid for today, but will never receive.

How did we get in this fix? How did we become the greatest debtor nation in the history of the world?

Well, there are several reasons, but the most important, clearly, in my mind is the corruption of the U.S. Congress by special interests. Ask yourself, why do we still have a \$300 billion annual defense budget and a bloated Pentagon and defense-contractor alliance long after the Cold War ended? And why don't we have guaranteed medical care for every American? Why do our high school students compare so poorly in international education competi-

tion, leaving us behind in the global economic competition for years to come? Why are our forests devastated with clear-cuts, and our air and streams fouled with pollutants?

The answer is that the Congress is hamstrung. We now have a virtually permanent congress—of all the incumbents who ran for reelection in 1990, 97% of them, the highest percentage in history in both houses, were reelected. And their reelections were made possible by massive contributions by a broad range of special interests, from the dairy lobby, to the defense contractors, to the NRA and the AMA. The contributions are made through Political Action Committees or "PACs" up to a limit of \$10,000 per candidate, and virtually all of that money goes to incumbents. They use it to buy expensive TV advertising time, which the average challenger for the Congressional seat can't afford, thus assuring their perpetuate reelection—or until they're caught with their hand in the till. And, of course, those campaign contributions aren't forgotten; they create a debt on the part of the Congressperson, to be paid off later with a vote favoring the special interest.

This country is being run by people we didn't elect!

What's the solution? Clearly, we need leaders in Congress who will work for the people's interests, not the special interests. To get them, we need elections not auctions. To get there, we must get the money out of politics. A great way to start would be to provide free TV time for qualified candidates. That's where most of the election-campaign money goes. And we need campaign spending limits.

And then we need public-spirited people, like you, to run for and win office. Maybe then we can restore integrity to the Congress, get this country unstuck, and build the kind of secure, opportunity-filled future we all want. Fight for the issues you believe in. Get involved in a campaign. Most important, register and vote. One person can make a difference.

It's your future.

Harry Lonsdale is a 1992 Candidate for the U.S.

letters to the editor

Use caution when taking and using new credit cards

Dear Editor:

This is some advice to students who will soon be offered credit cards from stores, gasoline companies and other firms seeking your hard earned dollars.

There is a psychological trap involved here. You have no credit background, yet they will issue you a card based solely on the fact that you are a student. Once you get that credit card, you will be happy to start using it. Short of cash, no problem. Charge it to my credit card.

But a payday must come. You pay for that charge, plus 18% or more in interest. And if you fail to pay, or pay the amount that you owe them each month, then they hound you for the monies, turn you over to a credit collection agency, and make an adverse entry in your record with credit reporting bureaus. Then when you really need credit, you cannot get it.

I have a blind friend that had someone, without her knowledge, order a chain saw. The company stated that since it had been ordered in her name and on her account that she was liable for it. That was twenty years ago. She has been paying \$20 a month on that for twenty years, and after paying nearly \$5,000 on the account, she still owed over \$1200. We found that of the \$20 a month that she was paying, only a little over \$2.00 a month was being applied to the principal. She refused to pay any more monies and turned them over to the State of Oregon Department of Justice Financial Fraud Unit for investigation. They in turn turned her over to a credit collection agency for immediate payment of the \$1200 or she would be sued. Fortunately she is on Social Security and they can not touch her income.

One alternative some people think is that if you get over your head in debt to go through bankruptcy. Bad choice. They can repossess the product you bought and a bankruptcy stays on your record for ten years.

Avoid the trap of credit cards. If you have one, use it wisely. Pay cash for as much as you can, and avoid using the plastic unless absolutely necessary.

Sherman Lee Pompey

Comedian's material not suitable for LBCC campus

To the Editor:

This letter is an apology to LBCC staff, faculty and students for the performance of Mr. Skip Pace, a comedian who performed in the Fireside Room on Oct. 6, 1991.

It is my opinion, and that of other students in attendance, that the material used by Mr. Pace during his performance was not acceptable for our college campus.

In hiring Mr. Pace to perform on the LBCC campus, I had stipulated that the material used must be kept "clean" and was not to include any obscene, racial or sexual slur or comments.

Once again, this apology is extended to all, from the Student Activities Committee and the Student Programs Office.

Tammi S. Paul
Student Activities Coordinator
Student Programs

Contributions help ease pain of Amish tragedy

If national news events of the last few weeks have led you to the conclusion that the world generally stinks, you can be excused for that belief. We're in the midst of a mean and lonely slice of time.

But there is a reason to feel pretty good about yourselves. Several

bob greene

weeks ago we reported the story of an Amish family in Ohio that was destroyed by a driver who had allegedly been drinking. On the terrible evening, 10 members of the Amish family were on Ohio Route 314, heading toward their farm in a horse-drawn buggy. The buggy was their primary means of transportation; the Amish endeavor to lead a peaceful and simple life. They dress all in dark colors, they do not have electricity in their homes. Everything they do is intended to make life basic and pure.

That night, a pickup truck driven by the man who allegedly had been drinking slammed into the back of the buggy. Six members of the family were killed—Aden Yoder, 27; his wife, Esther, 27; their son Eli, 6; Mrs. Yoder's mother, Sarah Miller, 54; her daughter Clara, 16; and her son Noah, 14. Four of the Yoder children were injured and rushed to hospitals. They were Susie, 5, Lydia, 4, Anna, 2, and Atlee, 1.

The Amish family did not carry insurance, and because they do not believe in lawsuits, the surviving family members would not even consider suing anyone. Which left the four surviving children with their lives stretching out ahead of them, and no parents to care for them. In the last paragraph of the column we printed the address of a bank that was setting up a fund to help take care of those four children. Which is where you came in. As of last Friday, the fund stood at more than \$141,000.

I recently received a letter from Albert Miller, Sarah's oldest son, asking me to pass the family's gratitude along to all of you.

"I personally can't find appropriate words to express my thanks," he wrote. He explained why the family had been out together that night: they were having a chicken supper at the farm of a relative. After dinner, "Clara was sitting on the porch swing watching the beautiful sunset, and the others paused to notice, even little Eli, not knowing it was the last sunset we could share." He summed up how the surviving children are doing. Lydia, the 4-year-old, had severe head injuries and was in a pediatric intensive care unit for over a week. She had to go to a rehabilitation unit to try to overcome walking, talking and swallowing problems; she could not drink liquids, and her speech was slurred, necessitating speech therapy. Susie, the 5-year-old, suffered similar injuries; in the aftermath of the accident she had problems with one of her eyes, which kept crossing, and will probably need surgery for it. Anna and Atlee didn't have to be hospitalized quite so long.

All of the children are out of the hospital now. Albert Miller sent me a family tree, so that I could understand how everyone was related. It was an awful thing to see, after six of the names: "Died August 5, 1991."

Albert Miller wrote: "Since we Millers have lost both parents, two sisters, one brother, brother-in-law and a nephew, we tend to sink in our own grief and are not thankful enough for all the precious memories as a family." But the family was able to put its grief aside at least for a moment, to thank all who helped them out.

The toughest times are just beginning, as the surviving children try to deal with their sorrow, and get on with their lives, their parents gone. For any of you who may be interested, here once again is the address of the fund: Miller and Yoder Family Fund, First Knox National Bank, 10 Plymouth St., Lexington, Ohio 44904.

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Student environmentalists take legislative approach

Exchanging tie-dyes for suits and ties to plead legislatures to transform ideals into politics

On its 20th anniversary last year, Earth Day attracted huge crowds and lots of media attention.

This year's celebrations, while more subdued, have seen the emergence of a more earnest variety of student environmentalists.

Determined to win specific environmental reforms, these students have headed to Washington and their state legislatures to transform their Earth Day ideals into political realities.

"Tie-dye shirts and Birkenstocks aren't the flavor of the environmental movement I'm seeing in the field," says Julian Keniry, Southern Regional Coordinator for Cool It!, the student campaign of the National Wildlife Federation. "Students are willing to put on a suit and tie and play by the rules to get their administrations to take the first step."

Students fight observatory planned for Arizona forest

Students from Arizona, North Carolina, Harvard and Yale have all joined in a campaign to preserve a forest threatened by a telescope observatory proposed by the University of Arizona.

The students have worked since 1984 to convince federal lawmakers to stop the project.

Opponents of the plan to construct an observatory among 700 acres of old



Artwork by Paul Hoffman of the University of Akron Buchtelite

growth forest on Arizona's Mt. Graham say the project violates the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA).

Also threatening the rare red squirrels that live in the area, the proposal violates the Endangered Species Act (ESA), according to environmentalists.

Arizona students have written letters of protest to Sen. Dennis DeConcini (D-AZ) and Sen. John McCain (R-AZ).

They also have enlisted the support of students at the University of North Carolina, Harvard University and Yale University to write Rep. Walter Jones (D-NC) and Rep. Gerry Studds (D-MA). Both of whom are known to be powerful supporters of the Endangered Species Act.

"This [observatory] could set a

dangerous precedent," says David Hodges, a senior interdisciplinary studies major and member of Arizona's SEAC chapter.

Hodges says that if the university succeeds, then it has shown that "it just has to come up with the money to lobby Congress and it'll get around the act."

Steve Emerine, University of Arizona Associate Director of Public Information, defends the plan, stating that several artificial structures already exist on Mt. Graham, including a bible camp, log cabins and camping grounds.

"I am optimistic that the project is going to be stopped," says Hodges. "There are students out there who are concerned enough to do something about it."

Florida students work for bottle bill

In an effort to increase recycling in their state and save resources, hundreds of Florida students are writing letters, lobbying, and signing petitions to pass legislation to put a five-cent deposit on cans and bottles sold in the state.

Students of the Florida Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) organized a drive in January and February that gathered approximately 1,800 letters urging Gov. Lawton Chiles and state legislators to support the "Bottle Bill."

Students from Florida State University, the University of South Florida and Florida International University were among the campuses that took part in the drive.

The Bottle Bill's proponents say the legislation would promote recycling and reduction of trash by encouraging consumers to return containers to redeem their nickels.

Nine states currently have Bottle Bills, but the legislation has been introduced unsuccessfully in the Florida Legislature for fourteen consecutive years.

The first state to pass a bottle bill was Oregon.

"Our main effort with the Bottle Bill is to have an effective means of recycling on the books," says Mike Brustad, Florida PIRG's organizing director.

"But the retail and beverage industries have consistently fought it—they don't want to be told they have to recycle."

national briefs

15,000 students fight hunger

By cleaning playgrounds, painting homeless shelters and working in soup kitchens, 15,000 students from 197 campuses raised \$225,000 on April 13th in the Seventh Annual Hunger Cleanup, the nation's largest student-run community service event to benefit the impoverished.

The Hunger Cleanup, sponsored by the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness (NSCAHH), is a "work-a-thon" against poverty.

Students from across the nation spent three hours working on community service pledges from friends and

colleagues. Funds are given to local, national and international anti-poverty projects.

Tammy Hinman, a student at Colorado State University, participated in this year's Cleanup by sorting clothes for a community center. "Students get to work alongside hungry and homeless people and get a chance to actually see the problems," says Hinman.

Dan Lohaus, a sophomore majoring in geography at Boston University, now volunteers in a local meal program on a continual basis after participating in last year's Cleanup. "When students finally see the impoverished community, they're a lot more willing to go

back on a long-term basis," says Lohaus.

CUNY students protest hikes

NEW YORK—In a mass protest against budget cuts at the City University of New York (CUNY), 1,000 students marched to Gov. Mario Cuomo's office at the World Trade Center on April 17th.

The students, from 14 of CUNY's 21 college campuses, responded to a proposed yearly tuition hike of \$500 by Gov. Cuomo, to offset \$40 million of a \$92 million budget cut to the CUNY system.

"We're holding a strike to stop the

proposed budget cuts and tuition increases that Gov. Cuomo wants to inflict on us," says April Vassell, a student protester at Hunter College. "We're determined. We're not going to relinquish the building until we get what we want."

Darren Dopp, spokesperson for Gov. Cuomo, states that cuts are inevitable because of New York's budget deficit.

Dopp says, "Even after increasing tuition, [CUNY] will remain the best educational bargain in the nation."

"We have the community and the will of the people behind us," says Vassell. "It's just a matter of sticking it out until we get what we want."

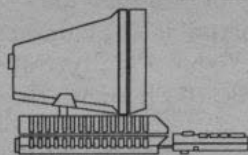
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national news

Old-fashioned food being used as packing material

Environmentalists excited over new idea to use real popcorn instead of Styrofoam

By Mark Jaffe
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Popcorn. It's an idea whose time has come--but maybe shouldn't have.

Not popcorn in the big buttered tubs at the movies. Or popcorn from a microwave.

No. We're talking popcorn in a shipping crate, as a protective cushion for computers, rugs, shampoo and appliances.

We're talking popcorn --The Packing Material.

Nobody, not even popcorn experts--there are such people--is sure who first got the idea of using bursting seeds of maize as a substitute for white styrofoam peanuts and curlicues. But it is definitely here.

"Everyone wants to do something about the environment ..., and this is definitely a plus," said John Sebastian, president of Sebastian International Inc., a Southern California cosmetics company that pops and packs about 300 pounds of corn daily.

Styrofoam is made from petroleum, fills up landfills and never breaks down. But popcorn is all natural.

"It makes great mulch. You can feed it to the birds," Sebastian said. "I think it makes people feel we're trying to do something right."

The Sharper Image --that extravagant emporium of high-tech doodads--is among the companies that ship products in popcorn.

Granted, popcorn isn't right for everything.

"We wouldn't, for example, ship an expensive watch. ... We wouldn't want the popcorn getting in the watch," said Barry Jacobson, the company's vice president for distribution.

Still, 95 percent of all The Sharper Image's mail orders are popcorn-packed. "We started doing it for environmental reasons, and customer response has been terrific," Jacobson said.

Not everybody is brimming with enthusiasm, though.

"Great concept. Bad idea," said Joel Makower, editor of the Green Consumer Letter. "It's an obvious thing to want to use a natural substance instead of a manmade one ..., but popcorn presents all kinds of problems."

It might attract rodents. You wouldn't want it left out on your doorstep on a rainy day.

And somebody might eat it. The possibility of someone eating tainted popcorn bothers the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

"We have no permitted uses of a

food, like popcorn, for any non-food use," said FDA spokesman Christopher Lecos, "and use as a packaging material would raise the potential of the product being adulterated. The law prohibits interstate transport of a food that could be adulterated. ... We would go after anyone who did that," Lecos said.

Even the Pop Corn Institute, a Chicago-based trade group, is concerned by this turn of events.

"We don't know where the idea came from," said a spokeswoman. "We get queries all the time. Our position is that popcorn is a food."

Other critics raise concerns about all the electricity needed to pop the corn and the fact that most of it still ends up in the garbage.

Still others complain about the fact that a foodstuff is being used for packing while people all over the world are starving.

Even the Air Force thought it was a bad idea. Yes, the Air Force.

In May 1957, way before the age of environmentally friendly anything, the Wright Air Development Center in Springfield, Ohio, issued a report titled: "An Evaluation of Popcorn as a Cushioning Material."

The Air Force's conclusion was that "popcorn is not a good cushioning material. It is stiff ... and has very little ability to recover after compression."

Sebastian will concede that popcorn isn't perfect. But, he says, consider the alternatives -- there are none.

"We are big supporters of the Rainforest Foundation, and we've been trying all along to keep all of our products environmentally friendly," he said. "We wanted to find some biodegradable packing material. We tried a number of things, like shredded paper, but shredded paper caused allergies among some of our packers."

Then, about two years ago, Sebastian mentioned his packing woes to Floyd Red Crow Westerman, a Sioux tribal leader, singer and actor in the movie "Dances With Wolves."

This may sound strange, but remember we're dealing with Southern California here.

"I said we've got this problem, and he said, 'Why don't you use popcorn?'" Sebastian said.

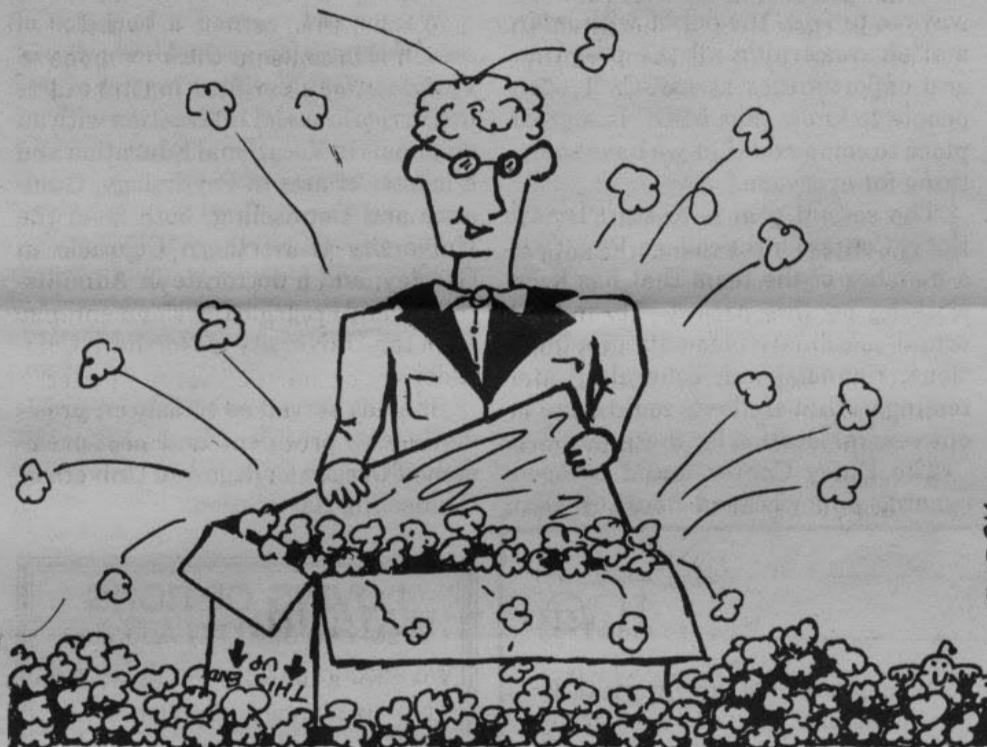
Ah, California.

"We went out and bought our own hot-air popcorn poppers. ... That was two years ago. The things we ship -- things like shampoos and conditioners -- are breakable goods, but (popcorn) does a very good job."

Sebastian includes in each box a warning not to eat the popcorn, along with suggestions on environmentally sound methods of disposal.

"It's not just us. It's our clients, too," Sebastian said. "It is a question of whether you want to try to do something for the environment and not just say nothing works."

national
feature



Noriega trial delayed when juror suffers heart attack; attorney ill

By David Lyons
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

MIAMI--Manuel Antonio Noriega's drug trial was placed on hold Monday after an alternate juror suffered a heart attack over the weekend and the lead defense attorney called in sick with the flu.

U.S. District Judge William Hoeweler said the juror, Arnold Andrews, had suffered a mild heart attack over the weekend and was resting at Jackson Memorial Hospital.

Andrews is expected to remain hospitalized for at least a week. Defense

lawyer Frank Rubino, who became ill over the weekend, was bedridden with a high temperature.

The jury had been scheduled to hear from Colombian drug trafficker Juan Cabrera, who testified Friday that a high-level member of the Medellin cartel told him that Noriega allowed the cartel to use Panama as a money-laundering center. Prosecutors have yet to complete their questioning of Cabrera.

The oft-delayed trial, which started Sept. 16, is now expected to last into next year.

Department of Education reports numbers of college applications declining due to passing of 'baby boom era'

WASHINGTON, DC--Most four-year public and private schools are feeling the end of the baby boom hit with applications dropping by as much as 15 percent. According to the Department of Education, there will be only 2.5 million high school graduates in 1991, down from 2.7 million in 1990. The demographic trend is expected to continue until 1994.

The Commuter
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DEPOSIT OR WITHDRAWAL?

campus briefs

Watercolors on exhibit at LB Humanities Gallery

The LBCC Liberal Arts and Human Performance Division is showing an exhibit of watercolor paintings by David Richardson in the Humanities Gallery through Nov. 1.

Richardson, a San Francisco artist, will be on campus Friday, Oct. 25 from noon to 1 p.m. for a gallery discussion on the current exhibit. There will also be a reception open to the public from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Both events are in the Humanities Gallery.

For more information call Shelley Curtis at ext. 460.

Education grants available

The Northwest International Education Association has announced the availability of nine mini-grants at \$350 each for addition to courses they teach. The two topics for the 1991-92 academic year are European Integration and the Soviet Union's Disintegration.

Interested faculty can contact Charlene Fella at ext. 831 for more details.

United Way needs volunteers

Students and staff who would like to help with the United Way Campaign for this year can call Mark Weiss, ext. 102; Joan White, ext. 254; or Roger Gaither, ext. 268.

LBCC to host collection of hazardous materials

On Nov. 16, LBCC campus will be the primary location for a hazardous material collection site. All household hazardous materials will be accepted. Some examples of these materials include: nail polish, paint, turpentine, lighter fluid, oven cleaners, brake fluid, and pesticides.

Most people are unsure of what exactly a hazardous material is. If the words corrosive, poison, caustic, or flammable appear on the label the

material is considered hazardous.

The Albany Fire Department has been trained in hazardous waste and will be hosting the event.

David Kidd, an organizer at LBCC says, "The project is looking for brave volunteers." These volunteers will be controlling traffic that day.

The primary reason behind this event is to reduce hazardous waste materials in landfills.

Shakespeareans to perform at LBCC next week

Scott Douglas and Ben Livingston, actors from the Oregon Shakespearean Festival, will give a free performance from 12 to 1 p.m., Nov. 1, in the Forum Room F104 at LBCC. The performance is open to the public.

The pair will present scenes from Shakespeare, as well as poetry and prose from various authors around the world. After the actors finish their presentation they will visit Jane

White's Shakespeare class to discuss being an actor in the festival, and answer any questions that the students may have.

White encourages everyone who can to "please come." The West Albany High School seniors have been invited, "because the bigger the crowd the better the actors will perform," stated White.

LBCC Blood Drive planned by Student Programs Office

The Student Programs Office and RSVP will co-sponsor an LBCC Blood Drive on Nov. 5 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Boardroom. LBCC's quota for the drive is 95 pints.

The ASLBCC is attempting to coordinate appointments which will fit in with student's schedules. Appointment forms can be picked up at the Student Programs Office at CC-213. Forms should be returned no later than Oct. 31.

Watson sets goals of enrollment control, entry center

Diane Watson has been appointed LBCC director of Admissions and Records, replacing Blaine Nisson, who resigned to accept a position at a community college in Centralia, Wash.

Watson has been a counselor for the LBCC Counseling Center since 1985, serving as the chairwoman since 1989. "I'm excited about this opportunity," Watson said. "I enjoy new challenges and love working in community colleges. It is exciting to have an opportunity to contribute to the mission of LBCC."

Watson said one of her two goals is to institute a college-wide enrollment management plan. The plan would involve assessing community needs and researching national trends, deter-

mining and implementing additional ways to help students reach their educational goals, and finding effective ways to provide the public with information concerning all the programs and opportunities at LBCC. "I want people to know that LBCC is a great place to come and that we have something for everyone."

The second goal is to start a new Entry Center for the college. Watson is a member of the team that has been working on this project. The center would coordinate elements of admissions, financial aid, counseling and testing so that students could come to one central location for these services.

The Entry Center would be open evening and weekend hours so that

prospective students with daytime obligations during the week could be served.

Watson, 44, earned a bachelor of arts in Education at the University of Florida in Gainesville; a master of arts in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Vocational Education and a master of arts in Psychology, Guidance and Counseling, both from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley; and a doctorate in Administration and Program Development, also from the University of Northern Colorado.

She has served as treasurer, president-elect, president and past-president of Oregon College and University Counseling Association.

Low-cost flu clinic to be held Wednesday, Oct. 23

On Wednesday, Oct. 23, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., the LBCC Wellness program and Albany General Hospital, will put on a low cost flu clinic.

Dave Bakley, coordinator of the wellness program, said that nurses from the family care center will be giving the shots in the LBCC Activities Center, room 112A.

The clinic is open to all interested students and staff. The cost is \$6 for people through age 54 and \$5 for those over 55 years of age.

If your flu resistance is down, consider getting a shot, recommended Bakley.

No appointment is needed for the clinic.

The Weekly Crossword Puzzle

Answers on page 8.

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ACROSS

1 Unhappy
4 That man
6 Foreign
11 Correct
13 Seller
15 Three-toed sloth
16 Speech
18 Agave plant
19 Therefore
21 Greek peak
22 Undergarment
24 Lucre
26 Dines
28 High card
29 Small island
31 Travel about
33 Printer's measure
34 Dry
36 Highway

38 French: abbr.
40 Want
42 Aggregation of people
45 Hawaiian wreath
47 Pierce
49 College official
50 Part of church
52 War god
54 Symbol for tin
55 That is: abbr.
56 Vegetable
59 As far as
61 Dried grape
63 Destined
65 Woody plants
66 Saint: abbr.
67 Before

DOWN

1 Health resort
2 Gets up

3 Fulfill
4 Courageous person
5 Wipe out
6 Flier

7 Zodiac sign
8 Hostelries
9 Revised: abbr.
10 Public announcement
12 River in Italy
14 Mature
17 Former Russian ruler
20 Spanish pot
23 Note of scale
24 Greek letter
25 Flowerless plant
27 Narrow opening
30 Stalemates
32 Fat of swine
35 Holds back
37 Expires
38 Aptitude
39 Iterate
41 Mend with cotton
43 Ridicule
44 Half an em
46 Exists
48 Trinkets
51 Actual being
53 Highlander
57 Baker's product
58 Exclamation
60 Poem
62 Negative prefix
64 Myself

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campus news

Livestock judging team places, heads to San Francisco

By Chris Bates
Of The Commuter

LBC's Livestock Judging Team is heading to San Francisco next week to compete at the "Cow Palace."

Teams from all along the West Coast, as well as from all over the U.S., will be attending the contest. Coach Rick Klampe said that this will bring in some "very tough competition."

Klampe describes the Cow Palace as "the No. 1 judging contest on the West Coast."

In a recent competition against U.C. Davis, the LBC team placed third out of 10 overall, with John Hawkins placing third individual in sheep. The team also placed third at an event at Chico State,

where Dawn Johnson took first individual overall, as well as third, fourth, and fifth place in various classes.

At the contest in Portland last weekend, LBC placed second overall, with Brad Gohr in first place individual, Jeff Crozier in third place and Trace Coffman in ninth overall.

A livestock judging team consists of five people. The contest starts with the placing of classes, which begins in the morning. The contestants judge four different animals of the same species of beef, sheep and swine according to their physical make-up and market value.

There are 12 classes with a possible 50 points each, making a total of 600 points possible for each

person. Students' scores depend upon how close they judge the animals compared to the official scores.

The second part of the contest takes place in the afternoon. Each contestant must make a one to two minute persuasive speech, explaining why they placed the class the way that they did. The purpose of this is to try to convince the officials that you were correct in your evaluation of the animals. There are a possible 350 points possible in this area.

The team is open to anyone with any livestock experience.

Coach Klampe said that "this is a sport, much like any of the athletic sports. There is tough competition, and you must practice hard, just like any other sport."

12-step room provides haven of fellowship among members

By Patty Davenport
Of The Commuter

Addictions are on the rise in the United States, and Linn-Benton is doing its part to combat the problem with the 12-step program room.

The room, located in the island of the College Center at CC-200 N3, was set up in 1990 to help students recover from obsessive-compulsive personality disorders.

Addiction crosses age, race, sex and social-economical boundaries.

The room is a safe haven for all members of the program to share strength and experience, according to Kevin, a student volunteer and who is in recovery himself. "We don't care what you did or how you got here. What we do care about is helping each other out."

Kevin feels that anonymity is "essential to success". It is stressed in all 12-step programs. Members are known by their first names only, thus keeping

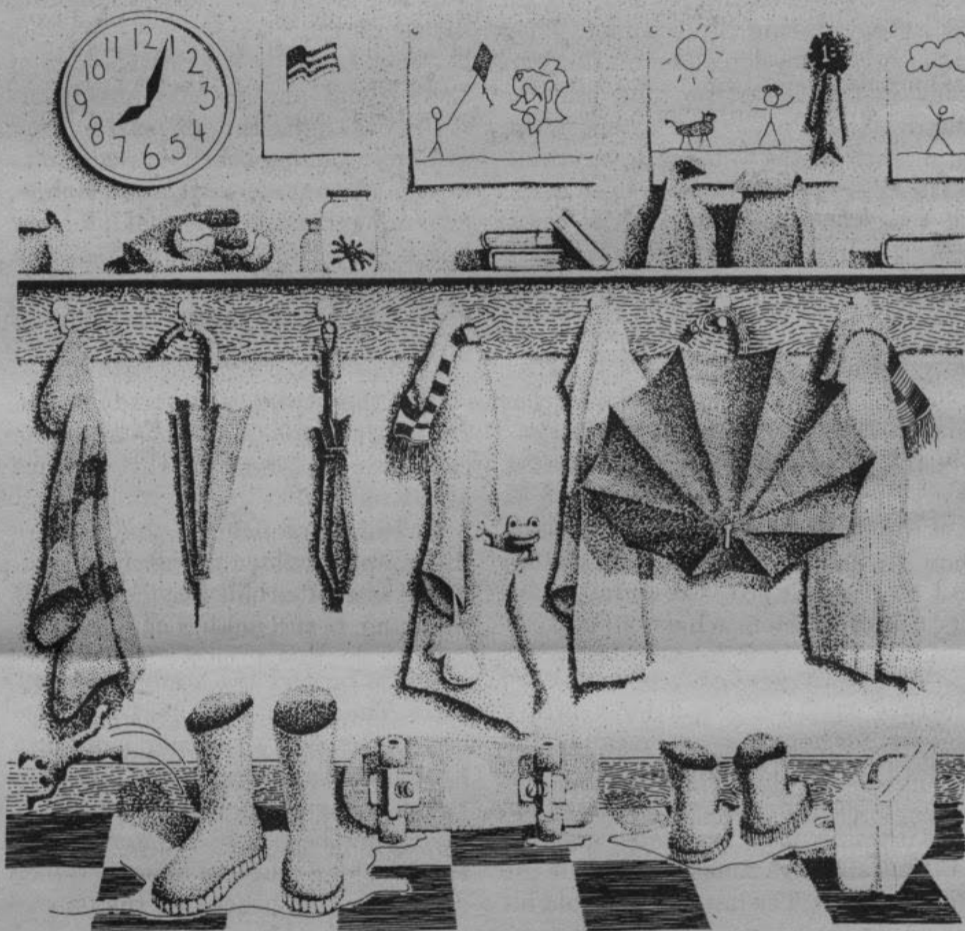
everyone equal.

The 12-step room is divided between seven programs: Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Overeaters Anonymous, Co-dependent Anonymous, Gamblers Anonymous, Al-Anon (relatives and friends of alcoholics) and Adult Children of Alcoholics. The only program that doesn't meet there is Smoker's Anonymous, which meets at the Women's Center.

Kevin believes that, "Society has a responsibility to educate its members in regard to the pre-disposition toward obsessive compulsive personality disorders."

Kevin hopes to eventually hold meetings in the room. Narcotics Anonymous is tentatively scheduled for Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

"The main reason for this room is to set up fellowship, "We strongly urge all students or interested staff to come by and check us out," adds Kevin.



Rich Larson

Eloquent Umbrella will become class, offers opportunities for publication

By Charles Shepard
Of The Commuter

Beginning winter term at LBC a new class will give students the opportunity to have poems, paintings, photos, or drawings published in the Eloquent Umbrella.

"Any kind of publication is helpful," said Linda Smith, the creative writing instructor who will be teaching the class and helping to organize and publish the student literary magazine.

Smith has a degree in graphic communications which includes printing technology, graphic design and journalism. She has had the privilege of working with Northwest writers such as Jean Auel, David Wagner and Richard Hugo.

The class will provide students with a collective learning process and give them the chance to explore all aspects of publication.

The magazine will not be distributed until spring term. It has not yet been decided where the magazine will be available.

The Eloquent Umbrella became a separate publication from the Commuter in 1987.

The magazine title was chosen by a vote including students and faculty. The word umbrella was chosen. Richard Bergeman, the Commuter advisor

and journalism instructor, felt it needed something more. Eloquent Umbrella was the result.

The cost of the magazine is \$1 and all money goes to help fund the program.

"I am hoping students will submit material and help create this magazine," said Smith.

The class is worth three credits but anybody can submit items to be published. Entry level students are encouraged to contribute. All magazine staff will be selected from class members.

Submission forms can be picked up in room 116 of the AHSS building and are due back no later than Jan. 9, 1992.



Father Bill Davis, will speak at Forum addressing world order, related topics

Davis' Christic Institute investigates, prepares law suits for advancement of human rights, social justice

Father Bill Davis, co-founder of the Christic Institute will speak in 5 Oregon cities during October and early November. The Albany/Corvallis presentation will occur at LBC Forum F-104 on Nov. 1 at 7:30 p.m.

The scheduled talk is entitled "Government Secrecy: The Constitution in Crisis." Themes addressed during his presentation include the BCCI and S&L scandals, indictments of CIA officials and the Iran/Contra cover-up, the erosion of our civil rights, illegal covert operations, hidden aspects of the new world order and related situations that affect all of us.

Davis, a Jesuit Priest, was an investigator on the Karen Silkwood Case against Kerr-McGee, has worked extensively in Central and South America and was an official

observer in both the 1984 and 1990 Nicaraguan elections.

He is currently a member of an investigative team that is investigating Contragate drug running. Father Davis also worked on the investigation of Chilean Charles Horman, subject of the movie "Missing".

The event is free to the public and is being sponsored by a number of community organizations in the Albany/Corvallis area including Linn-Benton Peace Works.

The Christic Institute is a public interest law firm and policy study center. This center conducts investigations and presents law suits carefully selected to advance human rights, social justice and personal freedoms.

The Institute was successful in representing the family of Karen Silkwood, provided legal service to citizens living near Three Mile Island following the nuclear accident and assisted the defense of Stacey Merkt, the first Sanctuary worker to be prosecuted for aiding Salvadoran refugees.

A New York tan: One most people would kill for

By Mike Scheiman
Of The Commuter

In NYC, going to the beach is more than just a recreational pastime, it's a way of life for some.

There's a lot of beaches in New York, there's Brighton Beach, Coney Island, Jones Beach, Manhattan Beach, the Hamptons, and Fire Island.

new york stories

Brighton Beach is in the heart of Brooklyn.

Known for its very large Russian population, Brighton ain't what it used to be. These days all the dregs of the earth seem to congregate there. The beach, plagued with syringes washing up on shore and other types of trash, has lost its appeal. However, dirty needles have not stopped the crowds of Eastern Europeans from showing up every day during the summer. They don't swim, they don't let their children play in the water, no mud piles or sandcastles. People just lay out in the sun, fearful of the water and everything in it. Clean up efforts have been made at Brighton Beach, but, it's a losing effort, more trash just keeps washing ashore. The problem is so bad city officials have considered closing the beach.

Coney Island, famous all over the world for its amusement park—Astroland—and the world's oldest working roller coaster, the Cyclone, is not the place it used to be. The beach has the same problems as Brighton, but most people go to Coney Island for the park not the beach.

When I was young, my parents used to take me to Coney Island once a month for hot dogs, cotton candy and rides that would easily bring the hot dogs and cotton candy right back up, but it was great. I remember giggling as dad and I rammed around in the bumper cars. The harder we would hit someone the harder I would laugh.



Coney Island isn't the same anymore, mostly due to the downfall of the neighborhood. A lot of teenagers hang out there looking for trouble, there's a lot of drugs, and violence. But, you'll still see the occasional tourist there, and will always find lots of laughing little children.

Jones beach is out on the edge of Long Island, and my personnel favorite for basking in the sun, surfing, and swimming. Jones beach is divided into several beaches; surfing beaches, swimming beaches, the cool hang-out beach, the old folks beach and so on. It wasn't designed that way but over the years the different groups have claimed and divided their own territory.

And then there is the nude beach. For years people have been trying to close it down. I don't know why, it seems pretty natural.

I hang out on Beach 5, that's where the younger, wilder people hang out. There is a lot of ball playing, Frisbee throwing, beer drinking and necking.

Jones Beach has a stadium for concerts. The Miller Genuine Draft Concert Series every summer is a blast. Last year I saw Sting, UB40, and Tom Petty perform. The whole concept of laying on the beach, swimming, and sunning for a couple of hours and then dinning on the beach and then a concert is really phenomenal.

The Hamptons are also a favorite spot of mine, however, it's losing its interest as more and more YUPPIES buy up every piece of land. The homes in the Hamptons are beautiful, and expensive. Don't plan on buying a house on the beach unless you've got a million to spare.

The beaches are clean, and so is the water but I don't know for how long. It's just a matter of time before the garbage migrates and consumes the few remaining vestiges of clean sand and surf in New York.

For New Yorkers going to the beach is quite the event. Families bring everything they own to the beach at 6:00 a.m., set up camp, and spend 12-15 hours absorbing every healthy radioactive ray of sunlight so they can show off that glorious tan that most New Yorkers would kill for.

The wonderful glorious suntan, that perpetual bronzed glow that tells your peers and neighbors—I've got time and money to burn but my skin never burns. A tan means everything to a New Yorker.

New Yorkers take their beaching very seriously, block their sun and they'll kill ya.

classifieds

HELP WANTED

We need you! If you are interested in being involved in the College Activities or Publicity Team, we'd like to hear from you. Many people are needed, so let us know! Contact Scott Eley or Tina Anderson in CC-213 or ext. 441. Hope to see you soon!

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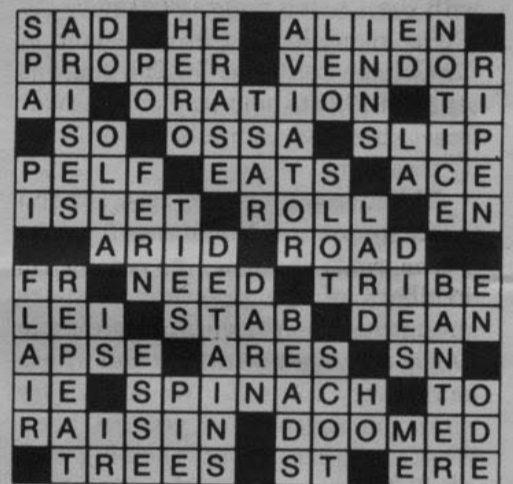
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Deadline: Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads will appear only once per submission. If you wish a particular ad to appear in successive issues, you must resubmit it.

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.



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| 344- Birth Control | 461- Men's Health |
| 345- Bones, Joints and Muscles | 462- Mental Health |
| 346- Cancer | 463- Nervous system |
| 347- Children, Advice for parents | 464- Pregnancy |
| 348- Children - conditions and illnesses | 465- Plastic Surgery |
| 349- Dental Health | 466- Respiratory |
| 350- Diet and Nutrition | 467- Sex information |
| 351- Digestive system | 468- Sexually Transmitted Disease |
| 352- Drugs | 469- Skin |
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arts & entertainment

MUSIC

OCT. 24

Local jazz quintet Jazz Essence plays every Tuesday evening at the Old World Deli starting on this date. The show runs from 7-10 p.m. Every Wednesday, Belly Dancers perform. On Thursdays, bring your personality and disposition to Open Mike night. Old World Deli is located at 341 SW 2nd, Corvallis.

**coming
soon**

OCT. 25

Rock group Delta Haze plays the Peacock Tavern through Oct. 26. Call 754-8522 for more information. Peacock Tavern is located at 125 West 2nd in Corvallis.

OCT. 28

The Old Time Fiddlers begin their weekly stint at the Old World Deli on this date, 341 SW 2nd in Corvallis. For more information, call 752-8549.

FILM/THEATER

OCT. 25

Philip Barry's "The Philadelphia Story," directed by Barbara Wilson, will open at 8:15 p.m. at the Albany Civic Theater. Tickets are \$6 general. They are available at Sid Stevens Jewelers in Albany and Rice's Pharmacy in Corvallis.

The International Film Series presents Shohei Imamura's 1966 film "The Pornographers." The film is shown on Friday and Saturday at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Wilkinson Auditorium at OSU. Call 737-4520 for more information.

OCT. 28

Albany Civic Theater will be holding open auditions Monday-Wednesday Oct. 30 for the Neil Simon comedy, "Chapter Two." Director Sandy McCormack needs two men and two

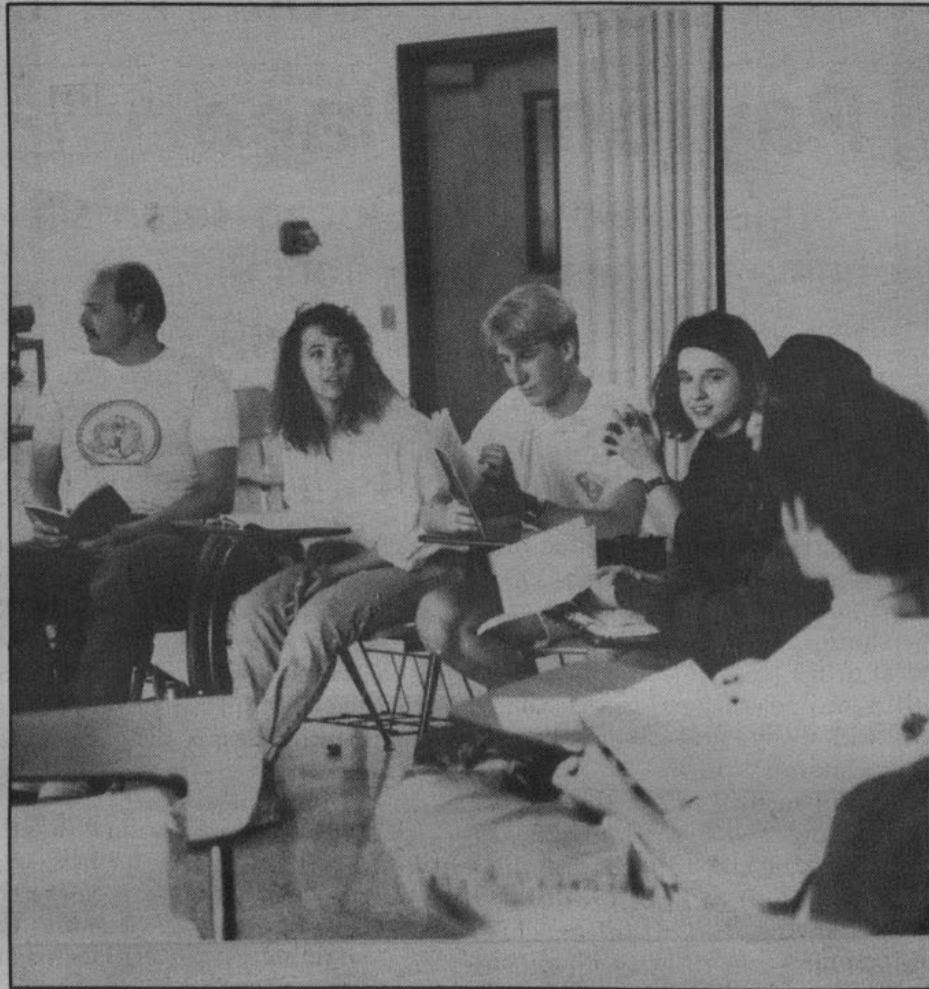


Photo by Monica Griffis

Play on words

Performers in the Loft Theatre production "The Brick and the Rose" go over their lines at a recent rehearsal. LB student Jennifer Curfman will direct the play based on a 1959 Lewis John Carlino book about a Brooklyn teenager's troubling adolescence. Tickets for the Nov. 1 through Nov. 10 production are \$4 and can be purchased in AHSS 108.

women, all in their 30s and 40s. For more information or scripts, call McCormack at 928-0732.

ART

OCT. 23

The Corvallis Arts Center's 21st Annual Willamette Valley Juried Exhibit will continue through Nov. 14. The Arts Center is located at 700 SW Madison. Gallery hours are 12-6 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday.

"Uncle Sam in Oregon Country," an historical exhibit from the Library of

Congress and the Oregon State Library, is on display through Oct. 31 in the LBCC Library. The exhibit is open to the public during regular library hours: 7-30 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Fridays. There is no admission fee.

Hero Hero Comics Cards and Games will welcome two professional comic book creators to their Hero-Con comic and card collectors convention on Saturday. Tables can be reserved for \$20 each, by contacting Hero Hero at 1561 NW Monroe Ave., in Corvallis. The number is 754-7343.

Vivacious writing, heart-stopping fantasy call for movie version and sequel to Sagan's latest

By Cory Frye
Of The Commuter

"Coed High School Hi-Jinx"

by Carl Sagan
Ballantine Bks. \$72.35
Reviewed by Francis L. Scurvy

Imagine my elated surprise when I found a copy of this bulky book by one of America's foremost authorities on our solar system, Carl Sagan. But when I got it home and thumbed through the introduction, I was even more surprised that there were no long-winded lectures and analyzation.

Ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Sagan has written a smutty, lecherous novel.

Mr. Sagan explains his reasons for changing in his lengthy introduction:

"I had grown tired of hearing the 'billions and billions' jokes and having to argue with the notion that I was simply a scientist who got off on boring research I had to put 'Cosmos' behind me; it had been an excellent concept and I was never sorry that I wrote it... but the times and people have changed. 'Cosmos,' as eye-opening as it was, won't feed me the rest of my life. So I decided to do fiction." ("Hi-Jinx," pg. 7.)

"Coed High School Hi-Jinx" revolves around the continuing

shenanigans of cheerleader Misti Braincells, who Sagan describes as "...a luscious turnip, delicious in a felt skirt and teasing panty hose."

The opening passage finds Ms. Braincells bribing her middle-aged science teacher for a passing grade in his biology class—and this bribery doesn't involve money, my friends. It's ten pages of kinky adventure involving Jell-o and a spatula in the kitchen of the school cafeteria.

And it only gets better. In the next 761 pages, Misti takes on the football team, the faculty, and the entire student body in a forty-page finale that'll set hearts pounding and blow modern science as we know it out of the water.

The shortcomings of the novel are evident in the fact that there really is no plot and the reader never finds out what happened to the redneck in the Chevy or the fortune teller in Cairo. However, these complaints are rather minor when compared to the vivacious writing and heart-stopping fantasy of a novel.

Currently, Steven Spielberg is producing the film adaptation and Mr. Sagan is hard at work at the sequel novel, "Misty Takes on the Ivy League."

Personally, I can't wait. Misti Braincells' world is one worth returning to again and again.

Until next time, read and be a pompous ass.

Mr. Scurvy is an award-winning columnist for the Cancun Clarion. He lives in Cancun and spends his spare time lounging in front of the television and chugging cheap Mexican alcohol.

amuseings

'Other People's Money' shows off strong cast

OUR FLICK OF THE WEEK is "Other People's Money," a very strong adaptation of Jerry Sterner's play about a greedy corporate takeover artist, feasting

gene siskel

on American businesses that have gone soft. The strength of the play was that it wasn't one-sided. It concluded with two powerful speeches, first by the old guard boss of New England Wire & Cable, who pleads for tradition, and second by Wall Street shark Louis "the Liquidator" Garfinkle, who advised everyone in America, in effect, to wake up and smell the coffee, which probably was brewed in a foreign-made pot.

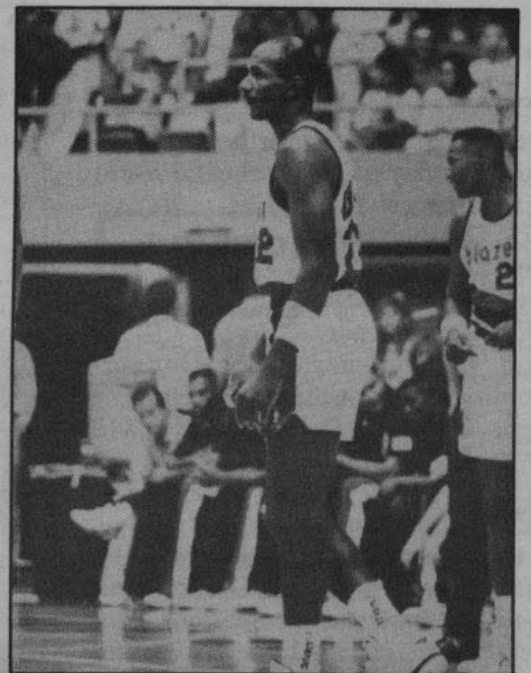
And right up until the end of Norman Jewison's film version, the back-and-forth battle between the rumpled patrician (Gregory Peck) and the voracious hustler (Danny DeVito) is genuinely exciting. DeVito once again has harnessed his ability to deliver shockingly brazen dialogue, beginning with his very first speech about how much he loves money. Unfortunately, the actual ending of the play has been changed to soften the impact of the story. A key character lives who died in the play; foreign investors play a new role. Inasmuch as most people who see the movie will not have seen the play, this may seem like quibbling. But a tighter ending would have given "Other People's Money" more impact. Instead, we focus on the terrific relationship between DeVito and his love interest in the film, the Wall Street lawyer (Penelope Ann Miller) who is hired to romance and destroy him by her father (Peck). They make a fresh-looking pair on screen and both shoot straight from the heart. In a way, they are a variation on the quarrelsome, bright couple in DeVito's own "The War of the Roses." Credit also must be given to cinematographer Haskell Wexler, who makes everything glisten, from a close-up kiss to an overhead shot of trees in a park. Rated R. 3-1/2 stars.

FRANKIE AND JOHNNY. This film manages to work as a sudsy romantic picture about big-city loneliness despite an awkward performance by Al Pacino. What compels our attention is Michelle Pfeiffer's surprisingly touching portrait of a waitress down on herself, men and the dating game. Pfeiffer seems genuinely bitter on screen, and one suspects she's using personal anger developed in Hollywood from being hit on and pigeon-holed as a sexpot. Pacino's role nearly sinks the picture, however. He's simply there to dispense playwright's Terrence McNally's pick-yourself-up philosophy with references to Shakespeare. That all this comes from a check-forgery just out of prison is a little hard to take. Nonetheless one can't help but want Pfeiffer's character to find some happiness, and that desire drives our attention to "Frankie and Johnny." R. 3 stars.

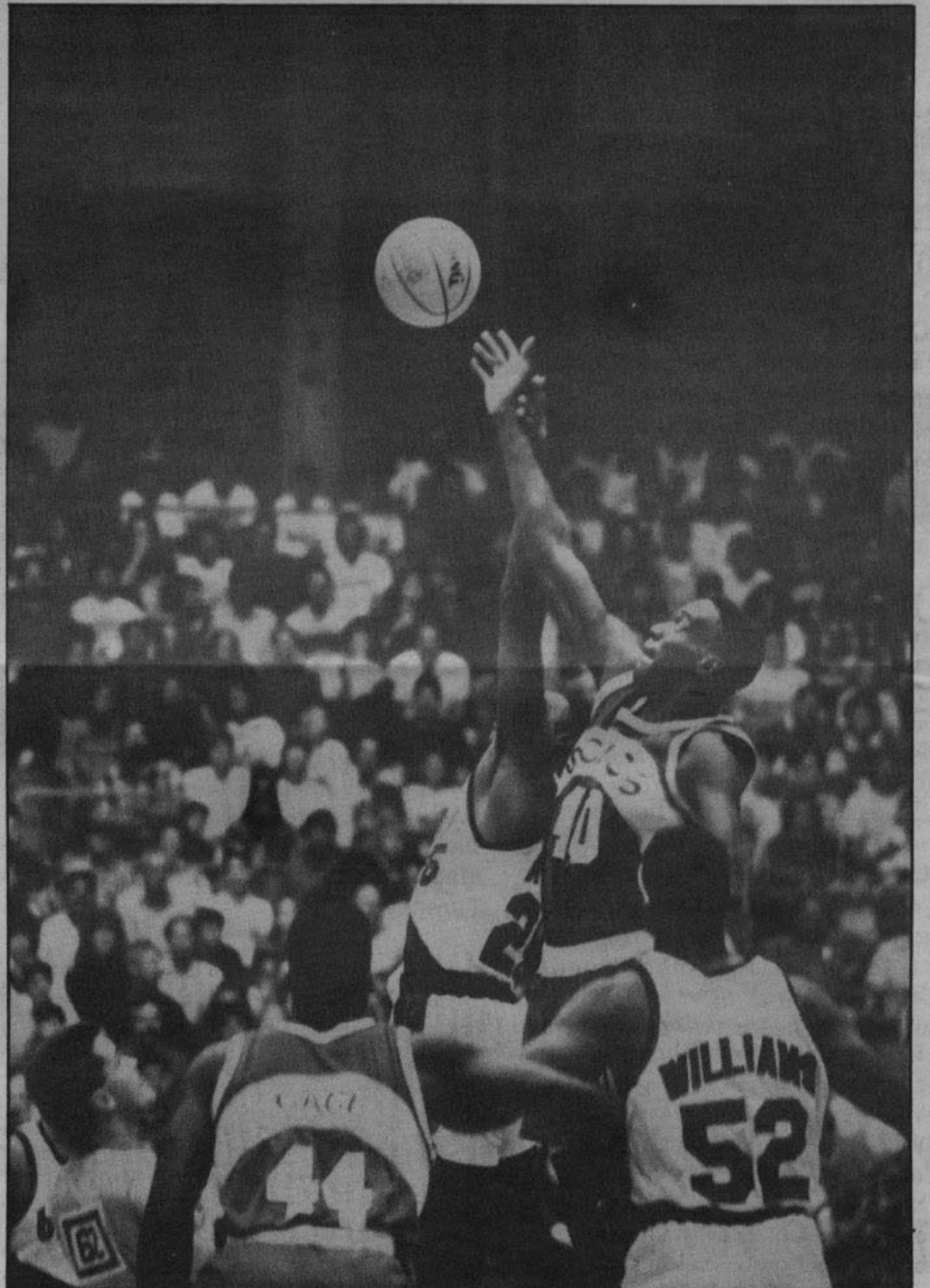
Payton's Place

Former OSU All-American returns home to rude welcome from Blazers

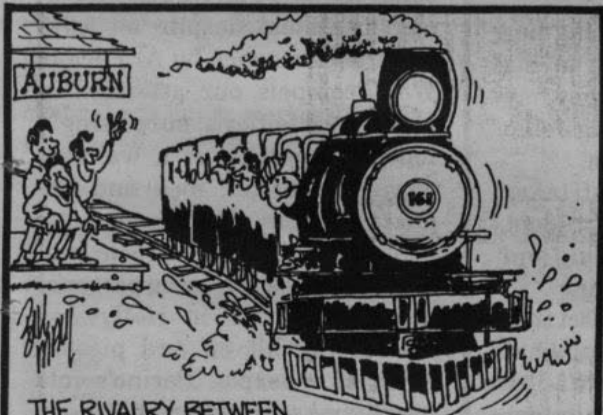
The Portland Trailblazers and Gary Payton made their way south for a preseason game between Portland and Seattle at Gill Coliseum Sunday night. The sold-out crowd at Gill gave Payton a raucous pregame welcome along with a plaque commemorating his contributions to OSU basketball. But that was the only highlight for the Sonics, as Portland registered a 102-73 win. Both teams gave reserves and free-agents vying for spots on the roster plenty of court time. Portland's roster may be the most difficult to crack in the league with only Walter Davis' and Wayne Cooper's spots on the roster questionable. Rookie Robert Pack of USC raised a few eyebrows as did veteran Ennis Whatley, both looking to upseat Davis.



Photos by Michael Scheiman



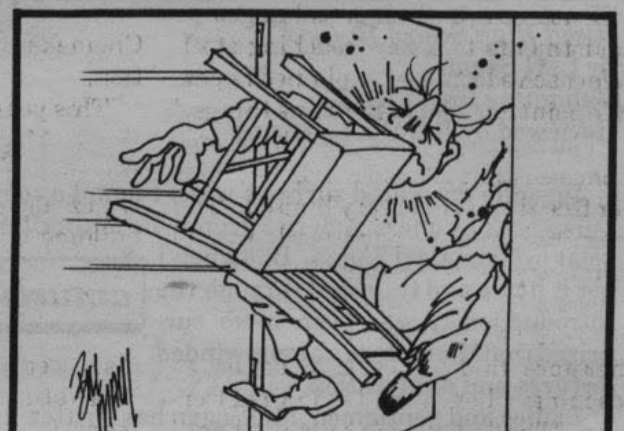
Sports Hall of Shame by Nash & Zullo



THE RIVALRY BETWEEN GEORGIA TECH AND AUBURN SIZZLED OVER IN 1896 WHEN PRANKSTERS FROM AUBURN LATHERED RAILROAD TRACKS WITH SLIMY PIG GREASE AND WAITED FOR THE GEORGIA TECH FOOTBALL TEAM TO ARRIVE BY TRAIN. ENGINEERS WERE UNABLE TO STOP THE TRAIN UNTIL IT HAD SKIDDED ALMOST FIVE MILES PAST TOWN. THE LOCOMOTIVE COULDN'T BACK UP BECAUSE OF THE SUPER-SLICK RAILS, SO THE TECH PLAYERS WERE FORCED TO WALK INTO TOWN LUGGING THEIR EQUIPMENT ON THEIR BACKS. THE TIRED TECHERS WERE STOMPED BY AUBURN 45-0.



AFTER RIDING THE BENCH FOR MOST OF THE 1953 BASKETBALL SEASON, OHIO UNIVERSITY FRESHMAN DICK GARRISON WAS SURPRISED WHEN THE COACH ORDERED HIM INTO THE GAME. LEAPING TO HIS FEET, GARRISON RIPPED OFF HIS WARM-UP JACKET, PEELED OFF HIS SWEAT PANTS — AND THEN MADE A WILD DASH FOR THE LOCKER ROOM. THERE, GARRISON DONNED THE PAIR OF TRUNKS THAT HE HAD FORGOTTEN TO PUT ON WHEN HE FIRST SUITED UP! THE FRESHMAN RETURNED TO THE COURT, FULLY DRESSED BUT TOTALLY MORTIFIED.



EAST MISSISSIPPI JUNIOR COLLEGE FOOTBALL COACH BOB SULLIVAN WAS HIS USUAL WILD SELF WHEN HE FLUNG A CHAIR DURING A PREGAME PEP TALK IN 1963. UNFORTUNATELY, AN ASSISTANT COACH PICKED THAT PRECISE MOMENT TO OPEN THE LOCKER ROOM DOOR AND DECLARE, "THEY'RE READY FOR US." THE ASSISTANT WASN'T READY FOR THE FLYING CHAIR AS IT HIT HIM SQUARE ON THE JAW AND KNOCKED HIM OUT COLD!

sports

LB's volleyball team gets swept against tough league opponents

Linn-Benton's women's volleyball team lost two tough Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges Southern Division road matches last week to Clackamas Community College and Chemeketa Community College.

On Wednesday, against Clackamas in Oregon City, the Roadrunners lost in three sets, 16-14, 15-8 and 15-11.

"We started off playing as well as we did last weekend," LB Coach Kevin Robbins said. "But we missed a game point serving, then they scored five

straight points and beat us. It affected us big time. We finally pulled together and played well in the last game."

Robbins said LB had 24 kills but committed 23 errors in the match.

On Friday, in Salem against Chemeketa, the Roadrunners lost in three sets to the Chiefs, 18-16, 15-7 and 15-8.

The Roadrunners, 1-6 in league and 4-98 overall, play host to Umpqua tonight at 6:00 p.m. and Multnomah on Saturday at 1:00 p.m.

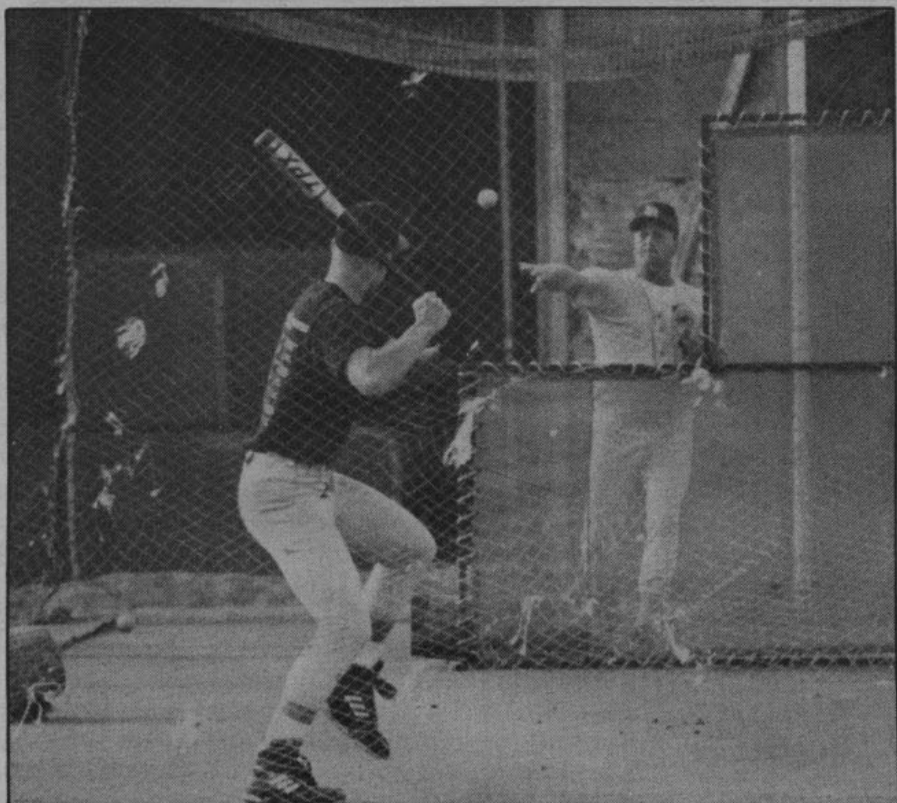


Photo by Monica Griffis

The Boys of October

The defending NWAACC champions are at it again. The fall baseball season is under way and according to head coach Greg Hawk, the team looks "outstanding." Sixty prospects are going through the fall routine under the watchful eye of Hawk. Conditioning is a big part of fall ball. Players can look forward to a daily two-mile-run, wind sprints and plenty of drills. The Roadrunners recently had an Astroturf surface installed in the batting cage to combat the mud and rain of fall ball.

Lopez takes over the reins as LB's women's basketball coach

By Joel Slaughter
Of The Commuter

Belinda Lopez is getting her chance to coach at the college level. After three years as an assistant coach, she is the new LBCC women's basketball head coach.

Lopez has experience in both skipping the sidelines and running the baselines. She played college ball at Oregon State. She was a guard for the Beavers from 1980-84. Lopez began coaching in high school and is beginning her fourth season here at Linn-Benton.

Lopez is taking over the helm from Debbie Herrold, who is taking the year off to take care of her baby.

Their game plans are similar (Lopez and Herrold) and returning players will not see any major changes or adjustments to a new coaching staff. "We coach a lot alike," explained Lopez. "We point out a lot of the same things."

Lopez has enjoyed the role change from assistant to head coach, but finds her free time is now very limited. "The recruiting and the paperwork are the hardest parts," she said.

Lopez spends her days teaching first grade at Shedd Elementary School and therefore finds it easy to adjust to coaching college athletes in the afternoon. "That's why I can relate to them," Lopez explained.

The women's basketball program at LB has enjoyed some success in recent years. Last season LB was second in the Southern Division and fifth overall in the NWAACC. Yet Lopez feels no pressure and is quite confident the team will be a contender this year. She virtually guarantees the team will finish among the leagues the top three. The top two in each division go to the conference tournament and Lopez sees Umpqua and



Photo by Monica Griffis

Belinda Lopez will take over as coach of the Lady Roadrunners this season.

Chemeketa as LB's toughest competition.

This year's team has a lot going for them. More girls (18) turned out for this season's practice than ever before. Lopez also credits good recruiting in building a very athletic team. "We've got better talent than we've had in the past and most of the girls are good fundamentally," said Lopez. Lopez also credits assistant coach Brad VanNatta as a valuable asset to the team.

Height might be a factor for LB this season. Tina Johnson is the Lady Roadrunners tallest at 6'0" and the team averages only 5'9". "We're still short," said Lopez.

The 91-92 basketball season is rapidly approaching. One certain women's coach can hardly wait. Belinda Lopez is prepared to make the most of her shot at leading LB to victory.

"These girls are learning a lot in a serious way, but they're still having fun," said Lopez.

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION FOR ATHLETES

1. You must be registered in a minimum of 12 credit hours.
2. You must have passed a minimum of 12 credit hours the last quarter you were enrolled in college.
3. You may not participate in one sport more than two seasons.
4. You must be registered within 20 days from the beginning of the quarter.
5. To qualify for eligibility to participate in a second (2nd) season of any sport, you must have earned a minimum of 36 credit hours at the member institution from the first quarter of participation.
6. You must be a high school graduate or the class of which you were a member has graduated.
7. Any time you participate in a regularly scheduled game, match or contest, you will be charged with one year of eligibility in that sport.
8. You may be declared ineligible if during the sport season you represent any club, organization or team other than you college team.
9. If you are a transfer from another community college that is a member of the N.W.A.A.C.C., you become eligible for athletic competition after a time lapse of three quarters, exclusive of summer school, after separation from the former college.
10. If you transfer from a 4-year college or non-member community college, you become eligible immediately provided you pass 12 credits the last quarter in attendance and meet all other requirements of the N.W.A.A.C.C. Athletic Code.

For more information contact Dick McClain at Ext. 109.

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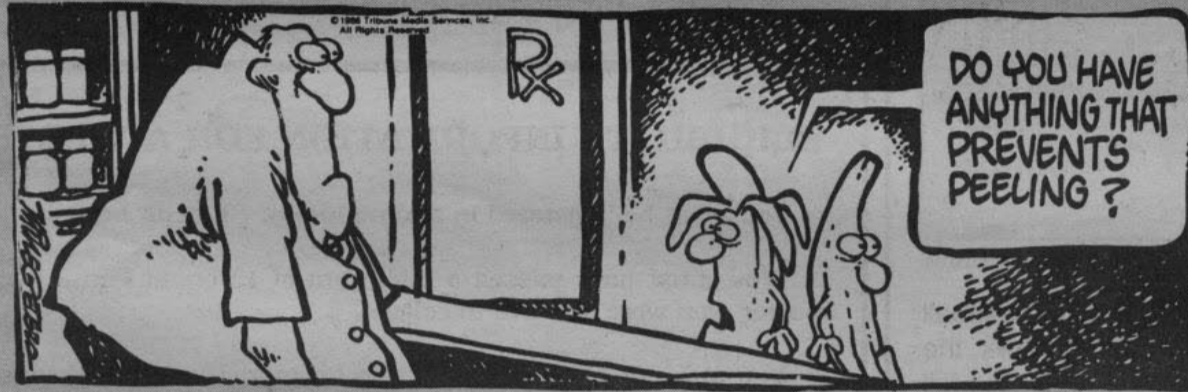
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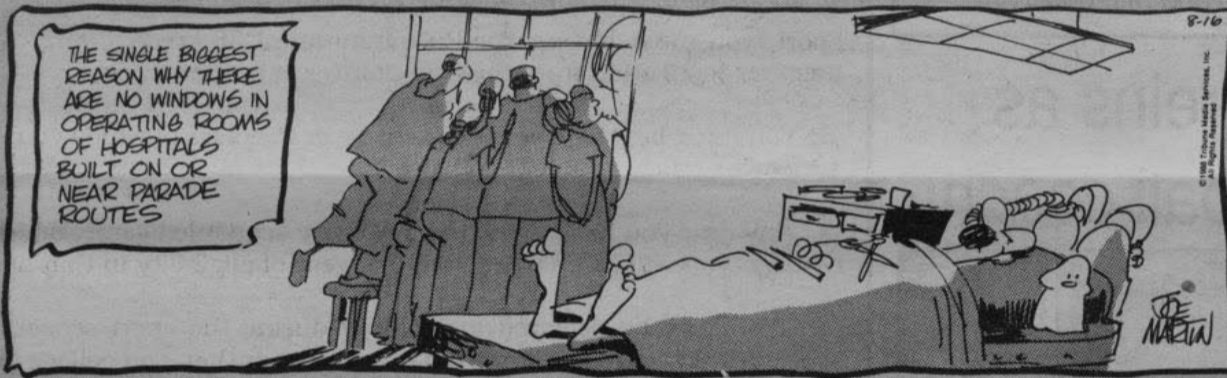


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the funny page



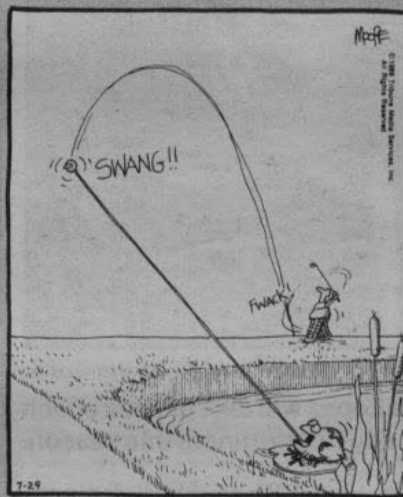
MISTER BOFFO
by Joe Martin



"Kick, mister, kick! There's a runner right behind you! Don't hold back!!"



"That does it, Sylvia. If he makes that shrill, high-pitched sound one more time, I'm going to squash him."



7-29

top ten list

New slogans await 1991-92 Portland Trailblazers

By David Rickard
Of The Commuter

From the home office in Canyonville, here's this week's top ten slogans for the Blazers' new season.

10. If you don't support us, we're moving to Vancouver.
9. We can always pull the plug on Blazers cable at any time.
8. We've got the cleanest jocks in the league.
7. Rip City, can you say "lawsuit"?
6. The hell with "We're going to Disneyland"; we're going to Magic Johnson's kingdom.
5. Red Hot and Rolling in Dough.
4. Let's win it all for LaRue Martin.
3. Stuart Gray, Stuart Gray, Stuart Gray.
2. Our owner needs a new pair of shoe companies.
1. We'll ride Duckworth's chunky butt to the title, along with the entire town of Scio. Bingo bango bongo!

Tube Trivia

1. What was the name of Dudley DooRight's horse?
2. What was Potsie Webber's real name?
3. Name Woody Boyd's hometown on Cheers.

ZONE



"I DON'T KNOW, COACH, BUT I THINK PEOPLE MIGHT BE A LITTLE LOW."

Answers: 1. Horse; 2. Warren; 3. Hanover, Ind.

BY CORY FRYE '91

EDITOR'S NOTE:
CORY FRYE HAS BEAN ASKED TO TURN IN HIS PEN AND WILL NO LONGER BE A PART OF THE FONNIE PAGE OR THE PAPER AND HAZ RETURNED TO HIS LIFE-LONG CALLING -- PIN-SETTER AT LINN-LANES

SORRY, GUYS. DREW A BANK THIS WEEK...

