

Deadbeat scholars may be forced to repay aid

by Kurt Madar
of The Commuter

Students receiving financial aid who don't complete at least one credit per term may have to pay back a percentage of their aid.

Federal policy requires colleges to repay money that was given to students who failed to complete the minimum credit requirements. But until recently, the U.S. Department of Education did not allow schools to pass these costs on to the students.

According to Lance Popoff, LB's director of Finan-

cial Aid, that policy changed in 1998, when the United States Congress passed a bill allowing schools to bill students who fall below minimum requirements.

Under the new standards, a student who attends 57 percent of the term and then drops out would be required to repay 47 percent of the aid they received from the federal government.

However, if the student attends at least 60 percent of the class before dropping, they will not be required to repay their aid.

Teachers at LB are required to track their students'

attendance and report it to the Financial Aid Office with their grade rosters. The Financial Aid Office uses this information to determine the amount of repayment necessary.

During fall term 2000, 124 LB students fell into the repayment category. According to Popoff, only 20 students had actually managed to make their repayments as of Jan. 28 2001.

LB is not the only community college in Oregon to institute this new policy. Before deciding on the change,

(Turn to "Aid" on Pg. 2)

Bills would let students skip classes that conflict with personal beliefs

by Leon Tovey
of The Commuter

The introduction of two new bills by State Rep. Betsy Close, R-Albany, could spell the end of "diversity" requirements at LB and other state colleges.

HB 2478 and HB 2480, the so-called "students rights" bills, were introduced in the Oregon Legislature a few weeks ago; both would allow students to opt out of many classes now required to earn two and four-year degrees.

HB 2478 would prevent state colleges from requiring students to take classes "that cannot be shown to be directly related to the degree the student is seeking."

The bill could mean the end of some courses as general education requirements—classes at LB like Lifetime Health & Fitness, Writing 121 and Fundamentals of Speech, as well as many of the "diversity" classes required by most colleges.

"These types of liberal education courses are being rammed down students' throats."

—Fred Decker

HB 2480 would allow students to take alternatives to required courses if those courses conflicted with their personal beliefs. Close introduced the two bills a few

weeks ago at the behest of Corvallis resident Fred Decker.

Decker, a former OSU physics and meteorology instructor, is known for making waves in local political circles as well as for his op-ed pieces in area newspapers. He served as deputy assistant secretary for research and improvement in the Department of Education from 1981-85.

Decker's request for the bills stemmed from an incident involving the daughter of a friend at Southern Oregon University, who ran into trouble when she refused to enroll in a class required as part of that school's freshman colloquium.

"These types of liberal education courses are being rammed down students' throats," Decker says. "Colleges should be trying to sell them on the benefits of these courses rather than trying to force them to take them."

(Turn to "Rights Bill" on Pg. 3)



Photo by James Bauerle

Seats are harder to come by on the Loop Bus these days now that students can ride for free.

Loop bus ridership jumps 4,000 since July

by Barry Douglas
of The Commuter

The Linn-Benton Loop has seen its ridership jump by more than 4,000 passengers since LBCC began offering free rides to students last July.

By paying a lump sum to the local transit companies, LBCC is providing students with a valid student I.D. with free rides on the Linn-Benton Loop bus, Albany Transit bus and East Linn Shuttle.

Last spring, student voters overwhelmingly approved a subsidy to fund the free bus service to be paid from student fees. However, Dean of Student Services Diane Watson said it was ultimately decided that the \$15,000 would come from the college's General Fund, at no cost to students.

The result has been a "tremendous increase in student riders," said Watson, who steered the subsidy program through the budgeting process.

Linn-Benton Loop bus driver Connie Kesterson said, "On the 8:15 run, it's standing-room only.

We're near capacity. And, I hear it's the same in the afternoon."

The college is now investigating whether it will have to provide additional funds. "Clearly there is a demand that we have only just begun to meet," said Watson. "In the near future, we may be applying for grants to fund additional bus runs, but have no plans to use student fees."

Watson recently commissioned a rider survey to evaluate the Linn-Benton Loop bus service. A student government task force collected 250 ride questionnaires, which are currently being analyzed. The results are expected to be available at the end of the quarter.

The free bus rides, originally available only on the loop bus and Albany transit, were expanded to include the Linn County Shuttle this term.

"This used to cost students \$5 for the daily round trip," said Watson. "What we are doing here is creating access for all our students."

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Creative Impulse

Corvallis artist explores personal and public art

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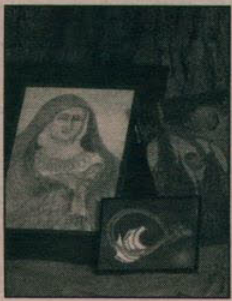
Check This Out

Get free pizza and insights into the LBCC/OSU Dual Admissions program in the Commons today from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Finally!

Men break five-game skid with win over PCC

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CAMPUS NEWS

OFF BEAT

Woman leaves brain in purse

A 41-year-old woman shoplifted some goods from a Family Dollar store, but the merchandise set off an alarm as she was leaving. She took off running with the manager in hot pursuit, but dropped her purse in the parking lot as she fled. It would have been easy enough for the cops to track her down from the IDs in her handbag, but she made it even easier by calling the police department to ask if they had found it. The policeman said, "yes," and arrested her when she came in.

There's no place like home

Jimmy Dean Jones, 43, serving time on a drug conviction, escaped from the Northside Correctional Institution, but was spotted the next day driving around town with his wife and two children. The cops chased him at high speed for about 20 miles, when Jones just decided to give up. With police hot on his tail, he drove back to the prison and turned himself in at the door.

Tough as nails

When fire broke out in a high-rise building in Hong Kong, emergency workers ran through every floor to evacuate the people, but the women customers in the Fingertrix nail salon refused to leave. They were having acrylic fingernails attached and did not want to interrupt the delicate procedure. They emerged an hour later, their nails perfect. By then, the fire was already out.

Lonely hearts=empty wallets

Cheryl Koniewicz wrote a love letter to a pen pal she found through a lonely hearts ad, vowing to move in with him as soon as she gets out of prison, and urging him—in the meantime—to send her money to pay fines and various expenses. She also wrote letters to at least 100 other men, asking for dough and enclosing pictures of other, more attractive, women. Cops say the scam netted Koniewicz, 38, about \$57,000 from her love-starved suitors.

—From the TMS News Service

SL&L holds annual carnation celebration

by Beth Lyall
of The Commuter

The Student Programming Board is inviting students to go out on a limb and buy a carnation for that special someone this Valentine's Day.

The flowers can be purchased daily in Takena Hall between 12-1 p.m.

The sale will continue until Feb. 13 or until all the flowers are sold. Buyers can

choose from red, pink or white carnations wrapped with greenery at \$1.50 each or six for \$7.

Three to four students will be dressed in tuxedos and delivering the flowers to a specified classroom or office on Valentine's day from 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. This event is sponsored by the Student Programming Board, which coordinates many other events throughout the year.

These events are geared to be fun and a way to meet people.

SPB sells an average of 700 carnations every year.

"Our goal is to break even," said Director of Student Life and Leadership, Tammi Paul-Bryant. We want the college experience to be more than just academics, we want to focus on the whole person."

Aid: Popoff unsure about new policy

From Page One

the heads of college financial aid offices around the state met to decide how to react to the change in federal policy. Only two of Oregon's community colleges decided not to pass the repayment charges on to students.

Once a student has fallen into the delinquent category, they have 45 days to pay the college. If they don't, the school sends a bill to the U.S. Department of Education Collections Service and posts the delinquency on the National Student Loan System, which is responsible for tracking Federal Aid recipients. Students flagged for repayment will not be able to receive federal financial aid until the bill has been settled.

But according to Popoff, many students opt to leave school instead of paying. "From a philosophical standpoint I agree with this policy, but I don't like some of the consequences," he says.

Popoff feels students who receive financial aid don't have much disposable income, thus presenting them with a bill for hundreds of dollars makes it unlikely these students will be able to return to school. Popoff wants more discretion to be placed in the hands of the school.

"We have no provision to waiver the repayment if the student has a legitimate reason for dropping out," he says. "For a student that is a single parent and has a hard time affording food for their family, getting billed for three or four hundred dollars may prevent that student from returning."

Despite these reservations, Popoff believes that once the new policy becomes better known, it will decrease the percentage of dropouts.



Photo by Leon Tovey

'Open Wide'

Kyle Hamilton takes a ride in one of the LB Dental Assistant Program's dentist chairs. Dental Assistant Jan Woodman helped with an open house of the program's facilities for children from LB's Family Resource Center last Thursday.

State scholarship group seeks student for commissioner position

by Eric Normandin
of The Commuter

The Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) is currently recruiting for the position of Student Commissioner for the 2001-02 school year.

The OSAC is involved with students seeking tuition funding by way of grants, financial aid programs, scholarships and student loans.

Student Commissioners must be able

to meet one day per month, usually in Eugene or Salem. The commissioner must also be able to devote several hours per week outside of OSAC meetings, balance demands of competing interest groups, and be available for occasional conference calls.

The application deadline for this position is April 27, 2001. For more information, contact Todd Gifford at Student Life & Leadership at 917-4475.

St. Valentine's Day dinner lures lovers and others with haute cuisine

by Taiga Sudakin
of The Commuter

A St. Valentine's Day dinner presented by the Food Service Department will take place at LBCC in the Alsea Calapooia room on Feb. 14, at 6:30 p.m.

According to Jan Stover, teaching assistant and catering chef, the menu includes a cheddar cheese and wine soup,

salad of spring greens with lime poppy seed dressing, grilled halibut and shrimp tortellini or chicken breast wrapped in phyllo dough with roasted garlic and brie. Both entrees come with vegetables. One glass of wine will be served with the meal, your choice of pinot gris, riesling or sparkling cider. Dessert is a choice of black velvet mousse cake or strawberry

dacquoise and includes a flute of champagne.

The Food Service Department, students and Stover developed the menu. Stover said this gives students who are not in the Restaurant and Catering Management program a chance to experience catering. Proceeds benefit the Food Service Department, according to Sto-

ver. Last year's Valentine's Day event was a lunch presented by the Culinary Arts Program. Stover said making the event different each year "gets the creative juices flowing."

Tickets are \$18 per person, available from the Food Service department by calling (541) 917-4391, and can be picked up on campus in room CC214.

THE 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, Associated Students of LBCC or the Reform Party. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them.

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CAMPUS NEWS

Gifford's motivation sets pace for new ASG hopefuls

SL&L staff praises ASG president's accomplishments, while issues still remain for future candidates to tackle

by Crystal Davis
of the Commuter

"Being involved in anything on campus is the best way to get the most out of any college experience."

These are the words of Todd Gifford, who has been ASG president for the 2000-01 school year at LBCC. With the coming elections, Gifford will soon be training another student to take over the job he has come to love.

Back in February of 2000, when Gifford was just a candidate for the presidential position, he had already concocted a list of goals that he would like to accomplish, if elected. Those consisted of creating a science desk in the LRC with an emphasis on chemistry and physics, moving more vending machines closer to the LRC, and replacing individual desks in classrooms with rectangular tables to convenience the students better.

Although none of those things has yet been accomplished, Gifford opened the door by bringing those issues up. "If I start the conversation about these things, then in two or three years, it may become a reality," he said.

Gifford said he realized once he began office that there were a lot of challenges involved, and he couldn't work on everything that he wanted to. "It was really hard to balance what I wanted to accomplish with the everyday things I had to do just to maintain," he said.

ASG adviser Tammi Paul-Bryant, who worked closely with Gifford and other ASG officers throughout the year, commented, "Todd's commitment and maturity has contributed to raising the professional view of student government. He brings a high level of organization and leadership experience to the ASG. He also has a positive attitude about his role, and he is able to share that with others."

Gifford's year in office produced many rewards and he says he is going to miss many of the things that he has experience over the year.

"I have really been impressed with the administration here at LBCC. I feel fortunate to be involved with the people that run this college," he added. "They keep students' interests in mind at all times; it is the first and foremost thing they consider when making any decisions. I'll miss that."

Paul-Bryant also commented on Gifford's enthusiasm in office. "Todd understands that it's important to motivate a group. Because of his motivation, more students are willing to get involved."

In relation to that, one thing that Gifford learned while in office was that he had to stay focused and on track. "In any leadership position, you learn to follow through with things. If you say something, do it," he

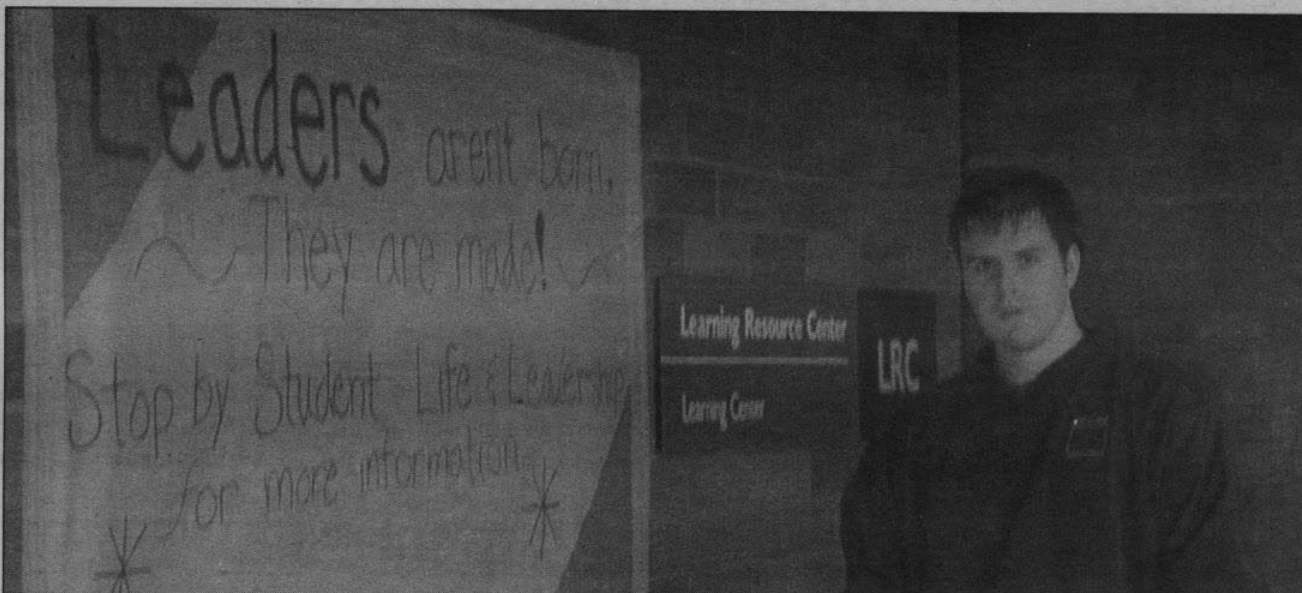


Photo by Leon Tovey

With new candidates filing for office, ASG President Todd Gifford is nearing the end of his reign. Gifford was elected last year in an election that featured the largest voter turnout in school history.

said. "Also, be enthused about what you are doing. You have to be red-hot."

Over the year, the ASG was responsible for many accomplishments. Gifford claimed that one of those, the candidate's forum, was his most memorable experience. Two hundred students and faculty attended this October event at which 17 candidates gathered in the courtyard and spoke to the audience. "President Carnahan claimed that this was the best thing done with election candidates in 28 years," said Gifford. "That was a big boost."

In addition to the candidate's forum, Gifford, along with the other ASG officers, was responsible for participating in voter registration week, at which 300 students were registered and about the same amount of ballots were dropped off.

Other accomplishments the officers were involved in include revising the election code, recognizing five new clubs on campus, addressing the smoking issue, providing free bus transportation, participating in a Thanksgiving food drive, adding the Student Activities and Programs (SAP) committee, approving the LBCC Equestrian team co-curricular program, and being more inclusive of the extended learning centers.

After this year, Gifford will no longer be attending LBCC; he will be transferring to OSU to major in Biology and Pre-dental. During the end of this year, he says he plans to stick around and be available for mentoring the new ASG officers. "I want to help them plan out the year for the new president so they can have a better understanding of what is expected."

To the next year's officers, Gifford says, "Do twice as much as you expect everyone else to do. Be involved and promote activities. Don't be exclusive to anyone; involve everyone."

"It was really hard to balance what I wanted to accomplish with the everyday things I had to do just to maintain."

—Todd Gifford

ASG ELECTION FACTS

Applications for candidates to the LBCC Associated Student Government are now being accepted in the Student Life & Leadership Office on the lower level of the Student Union.

The election will fill eight positions on the Associated Student Government and will be held Feb. 27-28.

The positions open include three executive positions and five representative positions.

Each executive position—president, vice president and public relations secretary—carry a full three term tuition grant, while the representative positions—science & technology, business and health occupations, student services and extended learning, liberal arts and human performances, and representative at large—each carry a two-term grant.

The election is open to matriculated students planning to take at least six credits and maintaining a 2.0 GPA. Applications can be picked up at the SL&L Office on the first floor of the Student Union.

The deadline to apply is Feb. 16 at 3:30 p.m.

Rights Bill: Close introduces legislation to offer alternative courses

From Page One

Decker sees Close's bills as a necessary step in insuring that college students are "paying for something they want to get."

For her part, Close says that the growing gap between courses students believe they need and the ones they are required to take has been a source of concern for her for some time.

"When I was in college, I had a choice," she told The Commuter last week. "Now it's gotten to the point where it's one class."

Close also expressed concern over the fact that students' personal beliefs don't seem to be taken into account by college administrators and Department of Education officials who set education requirements.

"It should be an option for a student to have a choice if they feel that a class conflicts with their beliefs," she added.

"If a class required some Marxist reading and the student was opposed to that, they should not be forced to take that class," she said. "It would be the same thing

"If a class required some Marxist reading and the student was opposed to that, they should not be forced to take that class. It would be the same thing if the student was opposed to the death penalty and the instructor supported it and lectured on it in class. There should be substitutes offered."

—Rep. Betsy Close, R-Albany

if the student was opposed to the death penalty and the instructor supported it and lectured on it in class. There should be substitutes offered."

Not everyone sees the need for legislation on the issue, however. In a letter published in the Jan. 28 Mid-Valley, Corvallis resident Barbara Boucot called the bill an attempt to "push the Oregon Legislature into micromanaging our state universities," and warned that they

offer "a very constricting view of education."

Officials at OSU and other state universities have yet to openly enter the debate, but according to Patsy Chester, LB's Dean of Academic Administrative Services, the current system seems to be working for the majority of students.

"No complaints have come before us," she said last Friday. Adding that "as long as we have a variety of courses offered that satisfy the requirements, I don't see it being a problem."

LB's general education and "diversity" requirements follow state guidelines for all of its technical, professional and transfer degree programs, Chester explained. In addition, requirements for its transfer degrees follow guidelines in place at four-year universities like OSU and the University of Oregon is a system that Chester believes benefits everyone.

"I think we would be short-changing the students if we didn't have these broad-based requirements," she said.

(For a look at what some LB students had to say about this issue, turn to page 12.)

NATIONAL NEWS

Lewinsky jokes cause New York student to sue professor

by Helen Peterson

Knight-Ridder Tribune

NEW YORK—Better watch those Monica Lewinsky jokes.

A federal judge has given a former student of State University of New York at New Paltz permission to sue her former professor for repeatedly referring to her as "Monica."

The woman, Inbal Hayut, 23, said Alex Young also made such remarks as, "How was your weekend with Bill?" and "Shut up, Monica. I'll give you a cigar later," according to court papers.

He once mentioned she was wearing

the same color lipstick as Lewinsky.

Hayut is suing Young and several SUNY New Paltz officials who allegedly failed to respond to her sexual harassment complaint.

Young could not be reached for comment, but his lawyer, Kenneth Kelly, said his client was just teasing Hayut because he thought she resembled Lewinsky. "It may not be polite, it may not be politically correct, but it is not sexual harassment," Kelly said.

Young, who retired after the case surfaced, has not been accused of propositioning or improperly touching Hayut,

Kelly said.

The remarks were made while Hayut was a student in Young's political science class in the fall of 1998.

"The timing of these comments, occurring as they did at the height of the White House sex scandal, is ... significant ... in determining the legitimate inferences which might be drawn from them," Northern District Judge David Hurd wrote in a decision made public Thursday.

The judge said that looking at the facts from Hayut's standpoint, the comments were the equivalent of Young telling her

classmates that she would perform, or was performing, sex acts on "older men in positions of authority."

Hurd said the comments could have created a "sexually hostile environment" for Hayut, who has transferred to another college.

Her lawyer, William Martin, said the remarks left her feeling "embarrassed ... and humiliated." He described Hayut as "quiet, shy and reserved" and said she never laughed or encouraged any banter. Martin said Hayut corrected Young when he called her "Monica," saying, "that is not my name."

Fraternity suspended for racial slurs

by Matthew McGuire

TMS Campus

The University of North Texas suspended a fraternity for five years after allegations that members used racial slurs and waived a Confederate flag at a group of mostly black football recruits.

Kappa Alpha's suspension, the longest the school has handed out to a campus group, began Friday, Feb. 2, and will require the fraternity to vacate their fraternity house and suspend activities until the suspension ends.

A student group in charge of giving tours to prospective football players said that as its tour passed through the student union the previous weekend a group of 40 men wearing Kappa Alpha T-shirts waved a confederate flag and shouted racist chants. About 10 of the prospective players were black.

The university has deemed the sus-

pension a "death penalty" because at the end of the five-year suspension any current Kappa Alpha members will no longer be on campus, Wolper said. If the fraternity wishes to reinstate its charter, it will have to petition the university at the end of the five-year suspension.

In addition to verbal abuse and intimidation, the fraternity was also suspended for giving the university "misleading information about the incident." UNT President Norval F. Pohl applauded the decision and went as far as thanking students for leading anti-racist demonstrations on campus.

"I am impressed and encouraged by the level of student response to this incident," Pohl said. "Now, I hope all students will join me and other administrators in efforts to channel those substantial energies to forge unity and build greater diversity on the UNT campus."

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Valentine's Flower Sale

Carnations can be ordered in the Student Life and leadership Office or at the table in Takena Hall beginning January 31.

For the price of \$1.50 each or 6 for \$7.00, a carnation wrapped with greenery will be delivered to a specified room or office between 8 A.M. and 2:30 P.M. on Valentine's Day.

Contact Kris Neilsen in the Student Life and Leadership Office at Ext. 4963 for more information

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CAMPUS NEWS



Photo by Chris Spence

Roadrunner dancers perform one of their routines during a timeout at a recent game in the Activities Center.

Coach DeBord invites student dancers to join LB team in fall

by Christina Laramore
of The Commuter

Lori DeBord, dance coach and instructor at LB for three years and instructor at Albany Dance Academy, is seeking students to join the dance team for next fall. The team performs during every home basketball game.

In order to dance for this team you must have two to three years of dance or cheerleading experience. This experience can be from high school, college, or individual dance classes. Members also must sign up for the Advanced Jazz Hip Hop class offered through LB.

The class is held at the dance academy where DeBord teaches, but the team prac-

tices in the Activities Center so that they can get used to the floor.

Upon signing up for the class, which starts in September and can be found in the Fall catalog, students are automatically on the team.

The class offers no credits, though the team members must pay for the class and provide their own costumes. The team has club status, and is currently working to receive credits like other classes on campus.

The team consists of Jan Sissom, Amy Willis, Natalie Walker, Jeannine Garcia, Catlyn McIntosh, Chelsea Penner, Kay Schultz, Jasmine Petty, Donnabell Kloewer, Jill Anderuc and Connie Gerig.

LB partners with John Deere on proposed training program

by Ky Weatherford
of the Commuter

The LB Board of Education has accepted a proposal to start a program that would partner LBCC with the John Deere Tractor Company to train students in heavy construction equipment repair.

The college's proposal goes before the State Board of Education on March 23 for a hearing and final decision on whether the school will be able to offer the two-year degree program.

LBCC hopes to be one of nearly 20 schools taking part in John Deere's nation-wide effort to increase the number of skilled workers in the repair and maintenance of large farming and construction equipment.

"Over the next five years there will be a nation-wide demand for 24,000 technicians to fix heavy construction equipment," said Ann Smart, interim director of Engineering and Industrial Division.

In an effort to meet that demand, the John Deere Corporation is offering to provide financial help, not only to the college but also to the students enrolled in the training.

The company will provide training for the faculty and any equipment that is needed by the college.

John Deere dealers around the Northwest will also pay for half the students' tuition and half the cost of their books. They will also loan students \$5,000 worth of tools, which the students get to keep if they graduate and work for a John Deere dealer for a minimum of two years. John Deere dealers include Hessel in

"Over the next five years there will be a nation-wide demand for 24,000 technicians to fix heavy construction equipment."

—Ann Smart

Oregon, Smith Tractor in Washington, and Empire Builders in Northern California.

"Some of the students will be hired to work in Eugene, Portland, Bend, Tangent, and Medford," said Smart. "Those are the Oregon locations."

"Before people can sign up for the two-year program, they have to first be hired by John Deere," Smart said. "Would-be employees should have some aptitude with computers, be interested in tools, be able to work in teams, and like to fix things."

John Deere wants its employees to get the Associate of Applied Science so they have a basic education as well as details on how all the equipment works. Some of the classes that will be required are electronics, engineering and several computer classes. Students will also travel to Illinois and Iowa to tour factories the summer between their first and second years.

"They're hoping to set up 19 schools. They started four last fall and we'll be in the second group of four. We're also the only one in the Northwest," said Smart.

For additional information, call Ann Smart at 917-4347.

Model Arab League tries to make a difference

SL&L seeks students to role play in international issues involving Arab nations

by Mike Taylor
of The Commuter

The Student Life & Leadership Office is looking for students interested in participating in the Model Arab League (MAL).

The MAL is an organization working to make a difference in the political and social problems of the Arab Nations. According to public relations secretary Stephanie Ware, the MAL is a group of people that generates resolutions for their given country.

The delegates representing LB for the third year in a row will be going to Pacific University in Forest Grove, Ore., to present the possible solutions to ongo-

ing problems in the Arab nations, along with other students from different schools in the area.

Students will learn about the social, economic, cultural, and political issues in an effort to better understand the complex problems of their particular region. The main idea of MAL is to go in as a team representing a country, which

happens to be Kuwait, and present solutions for that country in a forum. It resembles the ideals of United Nations but targets the Arab Leagues, Ware said.

Students will be attending the conference on April 6, 7, and 8. They will meet with other countries to discuss the most important problems the Arab Nations are facing.

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Commons Menu

Feb. 7 - Feb. 13



Wednesday

- Meat Loaf
- English Style Fish & Chips
- Penne Pasta
- Soups: Potato Chowder & Chicken w/ Wild Rice
- Spinach Salad

Thursday

- Pork Piccata
- Coq au Vin
- Falafel Sandwich
- Soups: Ox Tail & Sherried Mushroom
- Baja Shrimp Salad

Friday

Chef's Choice

Monday

- Turkey Cutlet
- Braised Lamb Shoulder
- Spinach Lasagna
- Soups: Roasted Vegetable Chowder & Borscht
- Three Mustard Chicken Salad

Tuesday

- Garlic Chicken
- Vietnamese Steak Wraps
- Vegetarian Chili
- Won-Ton & Lentil
- Tarragon Shrimp Salad

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BEHIND THE MIC

Celtic, rock, blues entertain the Willamette Valley

Wednesday Feb. 7

- Moe performs at 8 pm at the EMU Ballroom (U of O Campus). Tickets are \$17 dollars at the door.
- Dance night at Iovino's (Corvallis) with DJ Toes, DJ Lunitin, and DJ Caleb. Show starts at 10 p.m. There will be a \$2 cover. 21+ only.
- The Oregon Wind Ensemble performs works by Benson, Grainger and Purcell at 8 p.m. at Beall Hall (U of O Campus). Tickets are \$5.
- Southern Culture on the Skids at the WOW Hall at 8:30 p.m. with Amazing Crowns and The Danged.

Thursday Feb. 8

- Irish Moonshine will be performing traditional Celtic music at The Fox & Firkin (202 SW 1st, Corvallis) at 9 p.m. There is a \$2 cover charge.
- Gregory Mason and friends present French and Latin chamber music at 8 pm at Beall Hall (U of O Campus). Tickets are \$7.
- The Jill Cohnu Band will be at the downtown Beanery (500 SE 2nd) in Corvallis at 8 p.m.

Friday Feb. 9

- Culture, RA Scool, and Balou the Sasquatch are going to be at the Wild Duck at 9 p.m. Tickets available at House of Records, Fastix, and Lazar's.
- Moonstone will be at the downtown Beanery (500 SE 2nd) in Corvallis at 8 p.m.
- Country-Rock group New South is performing at Snarky's (1295 Commercial Way, Albany) at 9 p.m.
- Glen Falkenberg will be playing the Celtic Harp at New Morning Bakery (219 2nd, Corvallis) at 8 p.m.

Saturday Feb. 10

- Funk-rock trio Liquid Foundation will be at Squirrel's (100 SW 2nd, Corvallis). The show is 21+ with a \$3 cover.
- Deep Banana Blackout is going to be at the Wild Duck. 21+ only. Tickets are \$12 and available at Fastix.
- The Venetian Theater (241 1st, Albany) will be featuring Latin music with Sabado Gigante at 10 p.m.—\$15 at the door.
- Acoustic duo Rita & Bill will be at the downtown Beanery in Corvallis at 8 p.m.
- Joy France will be playing classical piano at New Morning Bakery (219 2nd, Corvallis) at 8 p.m.

Monday Feb. 12

- The Tone Sharks at Interzone (1563 Monroe, Corvallis) at 7 p.m.

Wednesday Feb. 14

- Joseph Pusey and belly dancers will be performing at the downtown Beanery in Corvallis at 8 p.m.
- Pink Martini with the Eugene Symphony at the Hult Center. Call 682-5000 for tickets.

—Compiled by Crystal A. Huff

Teen delights crowds with soulful music

Lebanon High School blues prodigy rocks the house with a wide-ranging repertoire

by Chad Richins
of The Commuter

Jake Blair received his first garage sale acoustic guitar when he was four. Blair is now a professional musician, a consummate blues man and the leader of his own band.

He is also a 14-year-old freshman at Lebanon High School. That sounds like a contradiction, and usually it would be. But Jake Blair doesn't appear to be conflicted. On stage he has the comfortable air of the veteran performer. His voice, though not weathered by years of hard living and road experience, is confident and controlled, with an occasional raspiness that adds character and credibility to the soulful songs he sings and plays.

And the boy can play.

Blair has a rare quality, an exceptional relationship with his instrument that allows him to have a soft touch yet lets him wring out a hard edge on blues/rock classics like "Tin Pan Alley" which he plays in a style evocative of Mr. Stevie Ray Vaughan. Blair's repertoire includes Jimi Hendrix's "Little Wing," blues standards like "She Caught the Katy," and crowd pleasers like "Route 66."

At a recent show in McMinnville at the Cornerstone coffee shop, the crowd was definitely pleased. The spacious coffee house was full of attentive listeners whose faces registered the delight of seeing such a young man perform on professional and personal level. Blair is already talented at working the crowd and his confidence captures the audience as much as his playing stirs their emotions.

On the night of the Corner Stone show, Jake's band included bass player Matt Seymour—son of band manager Dan Seymour—and the dapper Marshall Root on drums. The sit-down trio's sound was tight, and their song selection and execution kept the audience enthralled.



Photo by Chad Richins

Fourteen-year-old blues guitarist Jake Blair performs at McMinnville's Cornerstone Coffeehouse.

The band plays mostly in the McMinnville area, and since Blair is having trouble booking bars, until he gets a letter from a judge saying he can, they will continue to play other venues. The Commuter will publish show dates for the Jake Blair Band in the future. Until then, call your local venue and ask for them by name.

Artists needed for two summer events

by Adam Pierce
of The Commuter

Performers and artists looking to shine this summer have at least two opportunities in the Willamette Valley to do so.

The two events, one sponsored by the Linn County Fair Amateur Contest and the other sponsored by the Salem Art Fair and Festival, are accepting applications for auditions from performing artists.

The Linn County event will be held July 26 and 28. Artists will compete with other performers for first place prize of \$1000. There will also be a prize of \$500 for second place, and \$250 for third place. Deadline for applicants is April 10.

The Salem Art Fair and Festival takes place July 20-22 in Salem's Bush Pasture Park and is the largest juried art festival of its kind in Oregon. Last year an estimated 100,000 people attended the fair. The Prospectus and Application is available at: www.salemart.org/fair/artist.htm

Deadline for applications is Feb. 16.

For more information on the Linn County Fair contact the Albany EXPO Center at (541) 926-4314. Information on the Salem Festival can be found by contacting the Salem Art Association at (503) 581-2228.

FRC holds V-day fundraiser

The LBCC Family Resource Center is holding its annual Sweetheart Fundraiser drawing to raise money to enhance the children's outdoor play area.

Tickets cost one for \$1 and six for \$5. Over 30 prizes will be given away.

Tickets can be purchased at the Family Resource Center.

The drawing will be held Feb. 14 at 10 a.m.

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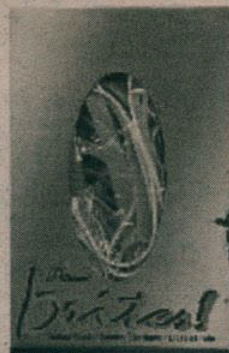


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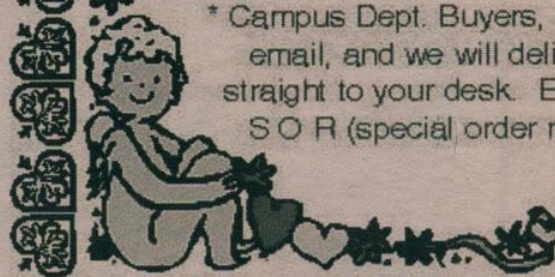
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Sodomites defy convention and play just for the hell of it

by Crystal A. Huff
of The Commuter

On a busy afternoon in Corvallis, Jeff Schmit, guitarist for local band The Sodomites and Interzone employee, rushes out drinks to Zone regulars. He manages, however, to stop long enough to talk about his band and their upcoming show.

The Sodomites are a local favorite who "have a 70's New York vibe," according to Bill McCannless, co-owner of Interzone. "They're the most solid band with their

own unique sound that I've heard in years," he says.

Schmit has been involved with music as long as he can remember, but it was the band's lead singer and guitarist, Jesse Calloway, who first initiated getting a band together.

"Somebody told him to name a band 'The Sodomites,'" Schmit explains "so he basically gathered us all together and we bought instruments for each other. Then it just happened."

The Sodomites played their first out-

of-town show a few weeks ago at John Henry's in Eugene but the response from the audience wasn't all that different from playing at home. "There were more people at John Henry's from Corvallis than Eugene," Schmit says.

Interzone will be presenting The Sodomites on Feb. 17 at 8 p.m. The band will also be performing at Squirrels Tavern along with Arcweld and Plain B on Feb. 24—this is a 21 and over show with a \$3 cover that starts at 9:30 p.m.

The band—guitarist/vocalist Jesse

Calloway; keyboardist Erik Vestnys; guitarist Jeff Schmit; bassist Jake Schmit; and drummer Randy Knight—has no plan to make a career out of music. As Schmit laughingly put it, "we're just doing this, but if anyone wants to pay us, then sure." After a pause, Schmit sums up his thoughts on the music industry by saying, "some people are making money and some people aren't."

Next month the band will be taking a short break so be sure to look for The Sodomites in February.



Photo by Chad Richins

Corvallis artist Willow Fox believes in expressing herself through her art.

Local artist displays work, defines vision of private art

Broad focus includes public art, interior design and art education in elementary schools

by Chad Richins
of The Commuter

According to local artist Willow Fox, "Almost anything you do can be art; anything you do creatively and express yourself."

Fox is a Corvallis artist with roots in North Dakota where she received some art training privately and attended college as an art major before becoming disillusioned with the program.

She has shown her art locally at places like the Interzone and is currently displaying several pieces at the Jawbreaker on Fourth and Monroe in Eugene. The media she works with include paint on canvas, drawing, found object creations, and interior design.

When asked to define art, she describes art as a process that involves both expressing emotion and evoking emotion. "It is such an altered state," she says. "To concentrate and create these things and put whatever thought forms you want down for people to see."

Public art is also something that she is very interested in, and the way it influences people to have art in their environment. She points to murals and public sculptures as things that, "change space dramatically, and can be a vehicle for learning as well. People can be walking down the street and see something depicted from across the world."

"Almost anything you do can be art, anything you do creatively and express yourself."

—Willow Fox

Fox says she also sees art as a healing medium for people who have problems. While creating art, they can shut off the thinking part of their brains for awhile and let what is underneath come out.

Recently, Fox says she has become interested in interior design and mural painting, and also works with the STARS program through the Corvallis Art Center to teach children art in schools. Her approach is to explain the project, provide tools, and turn the kids loose. Then if they need help, they can ask and she provides instruction.

KBVR offers local listeners music from the road less travelled

by Ben Hughes
of The Commuter

Those of you out there, and you know who you are, who are tired of the same old garbage flying out over the FM airwaves, might find comfort in knowing there is a station out there that doesn't play country or non-stop rock oldies, but does play a variety of alternative shows that grip the fascination of any music lover.

KBVR 88.7 FM (OSU's on campus station), serves Corvallians a dish of music that is hosted by knowledgeable disk-jockeys and alternative themes such as Erik's "Adventures In Foam," Matt K's "Psychedelic," Ryan B's "Hardcore," DJ Don's "Master Hip-Hop Theatre," Jen B's "Variety Show," plus many more.

KBVR presents its programming in two-hour segments. It begins at 8 a.m. and ends at 2 a.m., except for Mondays and Saturdays when KBVR goes off the air at 5 a.m.. Between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.—or faith harbor hours—any music containing profanity or adult subject matter can be played.

Depending on the weather, the 350 watt station is heard across a 45 mile radius from the center of Corvallis

KBVR has a non-commercial broadcast license. The only interruptions between music programming are public service announcements or one of KBVR's informative talk programs.

According to Jen Biegle, music director and one of the rock disk-jockeys, KBVR's mission statement is to "provide a selection of music that is not readily available."

Most of the music that KBVR plays is sent from promotional companies and record labels that hear about KBVR's format and programming through College Music Journal, which KBVR reports to.

DJ Ryan Baker, who does the

"Sometimes people will call up and request things. Other times people call just to find out what something was."

—Ryan Baker

"Hardcore show," also promotes some music from garage bands that drop off demos.

KBVR disk-jockeys encourage audience music requests. Ryan, who gets from four to 12 calls per show, says, "Sometimes people will call up and request things. Other times people call just to find out what something was."

KBVR has been around since the mid '60s, when it was located at OSU's Shepard Hall broadcasting with only 10 watts. The station was later moved to Snell Hall in 1977. Program content consisted mostly of jazz and news. In 1980 the station picked up an extra 340 watts and pushed its signal almost to Sweet Home.

OSU had a broadcasting major until 1991, when it was dropped. OSU currently has a communications major with minors in print and tele-media.

According to Ann Robinson, Student Media advisor, OSU plans on developing a new type of media-communications major in the 2002 school year. OSU officials have been screening applicants to head the program. The future major will go "more into where media is headed, than where it's been," according to Robinson.

Some KBVR DJs have made it big, like '60s DJ Boyd Levitt, who went on to be public affairs director at KGW and eventually became news director of the year. Another '60s DJ, Ron Chandler, eventually became a member of the House of Representatives.

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SPORTS PAGE

BOX SCORES

Men's Games

UMPQUA 90, LINN-BENTON 73

UCC (90): Strom 1-3 0-0 2, Anderson 6-11 0-0 14, Brown 3-5 3-4 10, Bauer 11-22 6-7 28, Jackson 12-21 4-9 30, Potter 0-1 0-0 0, Chandler 1-2 0-0 2, Simmons 2-2 0-0 4, Dunn 0-1 0-0 0, France 0-3 0-0 0. Totals 36-71 13-20 90.

LBCC (73): Robertson 0-3 0-0 0, Michaelis 5-9 2-3 12, Hutchins 2-3 0-0 5, Marshall 2-7 0-0 4, Gilder 6-11 1-1 15, Brusseau 11-16 2-4 26, Blevins 0-3 0-0 0, Coats 1-5 0-0 3, Grock 3-6 2-2 8, Rodgers. Totals 30-64 7-10 73.

Halftime—UCC 40, LBCC 33. 3-point goals—UCC 5-13 (Anderson 2-3, Brown 1-3, Jackson 2-5, Potter 0-1, Dunn 0-1), LBCC 6-20 (Robertson 0-1, Michaelis 0-1, Hutchins 1-2, Marshall 0-1, Gilder 2-5, Brusseau 2-5, Blevins 0-2, Coats 1-3). Total fouls—UCC 13, LBCC 14. Fouled out—None. Total rebounds—UCC 39, LBCC 39. Assists—UCC 20 (Jackson 6), LBCC 21 (Coats 5). Turnovers—UCC 12, LBCC 20. Blocked shots—UCC 6 (Simmons 5, France), LBCC 7 (Michaelis 2, Brusseau 2, Marshall, Coats, Grock). Steals—UCC 14 (Anderson, Brown 4), LBCC 8 (Brusseau 3). Technicals—None.

LINN-BENTON 77, PORTLAND 68

LBCC (77): Robertson 3-6 0-0 7, Michaelis 5-8 0-0 11, Marshall 4-8 0-0 8, Campbell 0-1 0-0 0, Gilder 1-4 0-0 2, Brusseau 7-10 5-9 22, Blevins 5-8 3-4 15, Coats 1-2 0-0 2, Rodgers 2-2 0-2 4, Grock 2-7 2-2 6. Totals 30-57 10-17 77.

PCC (68): Hudson 0-4 0-4 0, Hutcherson 2-13 0-0 6, Kirk 6-14 0-12, Norris 1-6 0-0 2, Wilson 6-10 0-12, Jackson 0-1 0-0 0, Adams 0-1 2-2 2, Foster 12-24 6-8 34. Totals 27-73 8-14 68.

Halftime—LBCC 40, PCC 36. 3-point goals—LBCC 7-16 (Brusseau 3-6, Blevins 2-4, Michaelis 1-1, Robertson 1-3, Coats 0-1), PCC 6-22 (Foster 4-10, Hutcherson 2-9, Hudson 0-1, Norris 0-1, Jackson 0-1). Total fouls—LBCC 17, PCC 16. Fouled out—None. Total rebounds—LBCC 53 (Michaelis 8), PCC 34 (Hudson, Kirk, Wilson, Adams, Foster 3). Assists—LBCC 12 (Robertson 4), PCC 11 (Hudson 6). Blocked shots—LBCC 1 (Blevins), PCC 4 (Wilson 3, Adams). Steals—LBCC 2 (Robertson, Gilder), PCC 11 (Hudson 4). Technicals—Norris.

Women's Games

UMPQUA 89, LINN-BENTON 81

UCC (89): Buehler 4-13 10-13 18, Barker 0-3 3-4 3, Spieker 6-9 1-1 17, Randall 5-6 0-2 10, Gildner 10-13 3-4 23, Pierce 2-7 1-4 6, Durfey 5-9 1-4 11, Suppah 0-1 1-2 1. Totals 32-61 20-34 89.

LBCC (81): Wright 4-13 0-0 9, Rickert 7-19 1-2 19, Dexter 3-7 0-0 7, Pass 5-14 5-6 15, Torresdal 7-12 4-7 18, Ward 4-6 0-2 8, Strohm 1-3 0-0 3, Scott 1-2 0-0 2, Starker 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 32-78 10-17 81.

Halftime—UCC 41, LBCC 33. 3-point goals—UCC 5-13 (Spieker 4-5, Pierce 1-4, Barker 0-2, Buehler 0-2), LBCC 7-24 (Rickert 4-10, Wright 1-8, Dexter 1-3, Strohm 1-1, Starker 0-2). Total fouls—UCC 16, LBCC 25. Fouled out—Rickert. Total rebounds—UCC 55 (Gildner 20), LBCC 31 (Torresdal 11). Assists—UCC 23 (Buehler 8), LBCC 25 (Wright 9). Turnovers—UCC 23, LBCC 14. Blocked shots—UCC 2 (Buehler, Durfey), LBCC 1 (Rickert). Steals—UCC 6 (Buehler 3), LBCC 13 (Rickert 5). Technicals—Pierce.

LINN-BENTON 79, PORTLAND 66

LBCC (79): Wright 5-12 0-1 13, Rickert 9-13 2-2 24, Dexter 0-3 2-2 2, Pass 7-15 5-7 19, Torresdal 2-8 1-2 5, Strohm 3-8 1-2 7, Ward 3-5 0-0 6, Starker 0-3 1-2 1, Scott 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 30-68 12-18 79.

PCC (66): Sager 7-14 4-5 20, Sipp 4-12 0-11, Cason 2-4 2-2 6, Middleton 5-11 4-4 14, Litvin 0-3 0-0 0, Frison 2-4 0-0 4, Angyal 1-4 0-2 2, Dizer 2-6 0-0 5, Andreas 1-2 0-1 2, Coppock 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 25-61 10-14 66.

Halftime—LBCC 33, PCC 34. 3-point goals—LBCC 7-16 (Rickert 4-7, Wright 3-6, Dexter 0-3), PCC 6-15 (Sipp 3-6, Sager 2-6, Dizer 1-2, Middleton 0-1). Total fouls—LBCC 14, PCC 17. Fouled out—Sager. Total rebounds—LBCC 39 (Pass 9), PCC 43 (Middleton 9). Assists—LBCC 11 (Rickert 3), PCC 8 (Middleton, Sipp 3). Turnovers—LBCC 22, PCC 32. Blocked shots—LBCC 1 (Pass), PCC 1 (Litvin). Steals—LBCC 10 (Pass, Strohm 2), PCC 12 (Sager 4). Technicals—None.

STANDINGS

Men	League	Overall
Lane	7-1	16-6
Clackamas	6-2	19-3
Umpqua	5-3	10-11
Chemeketa	5-3	13-8
Mt. Hood	4-4	10-12
Linn-Benton	2-6	3-18
Portland	2-6	6-16
SW Oregon	1-7	6-15
Women	League	Overall
Chemeketa	7-1	16-5
Umpqua	7-1	19-3
Clackamas	6-2	17-6
SW Oregon	5-3	10-12
Linn-Benton	4-4	15-7
Lane	2-6	12-11
Mt. Hood	1-7	5-17
Portland	0-8	5-17

Another split for women puts team in fifth

by Jason Amberg
of The Commuter

For the fourth week in a row the Lady Runners split their games, once again losing at home and winning on the road.

LB continued their losing streak at home on Wednesday, dropping a tight game to the Umpqua Timberwomen 89-81. The Runners recovered on Saturday to extend their winning streak on the road, pulling out a win over the Panthers 79-66.

In Wednesday's action the Lady Runners faced the Southern Division's second place team and the leagues third most prolific offense when the Timberwomen played at LB.

Umpqua came out of the huddle with hot hands, shooting over 53 percent in the first half. At the same time, the Runners were shooting just under 37 percent, and fell behind 41-33 at the break.

"We knew that they like to run," explained Coach AJ Dionne. "In the first half they had a few runs, but we took away their cherry-pickers pretty well."

The Runners weren't through, staying even in the second half. LB came out of the break with better shooting and the Timberwomen's hands cooled somewhat. Despite the improvement from the field, the Runners fell 89-81.

The Lady Runners primary problem was rebounding. They managed only 31 rebounds in the game. Meanwhile, Umpqua's starting posts Reinna Gildner and Becci Randall cleaned the glass as they combined for 30 boards, 20 belonged to Gildner.

Freshman guard Christy Rickert had a good all-around game leading the Runners with 19 points, dishing out 8 assists and making 5 steals. Freshmen forwards Rebecca Torresdal and Christin Pass also had strong games with Torresdal scoring 18 points and grabbing 11 rebounds and Pass adding 15 points.

"Torresdal played pretty well," noted Dionne. "Christin played real well in the second half. She tried too hard in the first and took herself out of the game."

On Saturday, the Lady Runners started the game strong when, on their first possession, Rickert drove to the middle of the lane, drawing the defense and making a perfect pass to Torresdal for an easy lay-up to get the 2-0 lead. Despite the quick start the Runners would spend most of the first half playing catch-up.

It wasn't until late in the half that Coach Dionne found a combination to bring the energy needed to get back into the game. That energy group of freshmen bench players Nicole Scott, Wendy Starker and Linzi Strohm along with starters Christin Pass and Rebecca Torresdal, helped bring the Runners back, including nine straight points by Pass. At the half the Runners trailed only 34-33.

"We had 15 turnovers at the half," grumbled Dionne. "We were tentative and made poor decisions."

The Runners returned from the locker room looking quite a bit better than in the first half. An 11-4 run by LB to open the first four minutes of the second half got things headed in the right direction. But once again the Runners defense got sluggish as they allowed the Panthers to get back into the lead 45-44.

In this game of runs LB got another turn as they went on an 11-2 streak to put the Runners ahead for good. The run was triggered by a three-on-one fast break in which sophomore guard Summer Wright received the outlet and moved the ball

LB pole vaulters soar to new heights

by Sean Leveque
of The Commuter

Several LB track athletes competed in the Great Northwest Indoor Track and Field meet Jan. 27 and 28.

Brad Carman, the track coach, noted that the pole vaulters turned in some impressive performances, especially for this early in the season.

Christine Smith set a personal best in the vault when she cleared 10 feet, 6 inches.

TJ Vetkos cleared 14 feet in the men's competition, which Carman called a "respectable early season performance." Carman also noted that Eric Konzelman made 14 feet, "a full foot higher than he vaulted last year."

The Roadrunners next tune up meet will be Saturday Feb. 10 in Reno, Nev.

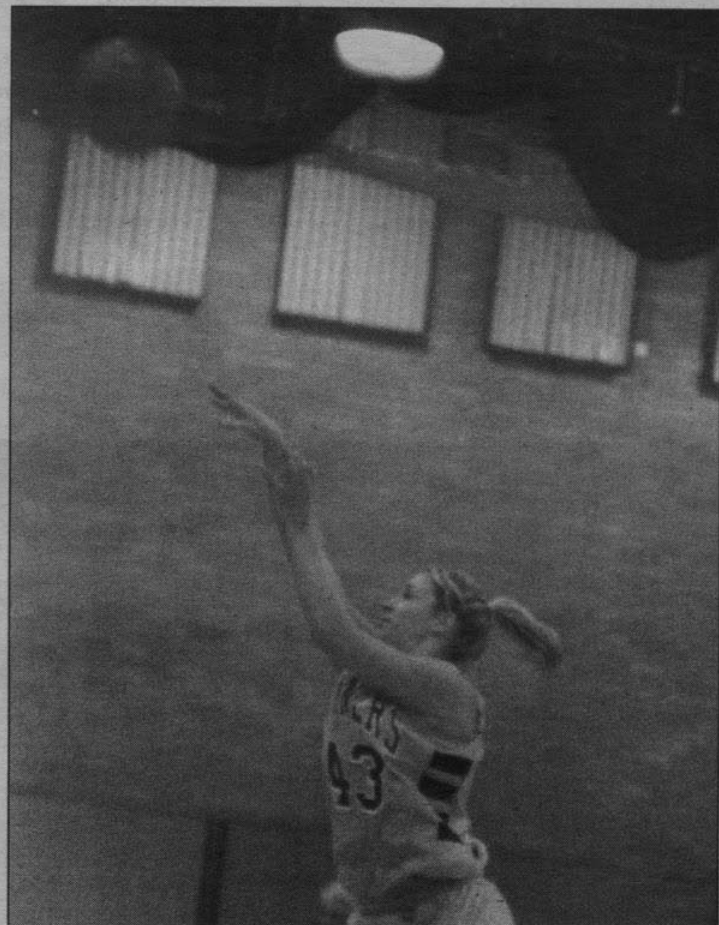


Photo by James Bauerle

Roadrunner Rebecca Torresdal takes a jumper during Wednesday's game against Umpqua. Torresdal scored 18 in the game.

to Rickert who delivered a pass to freshman forward Robyn Ward for the lay-up. Less than a minute later the Panthers began to show their lack of composure as sophomore forward Kelley Dexter broke away and got hammered on the lay-up for a flagrant foul. Dexter nailed both free throws, which added to the lead. The Runners went on to win 79-66.

"Linzi played well overall, she gave us good defense, and boxed out people for others to get the rebound," said Dionne. "Christy had a hot hand again and Christin played well in the second half."

Rickert led the way for the Runners with 22 points. Pass scored 19 and grabbed 9 rebounds. Wright added 13.

The Lady Runners are now 4-4 in league and 15-7 overall and are currently fifth in the Southern Division. Only the top four teams in each division make the play-offs.

"We played pretty well as a team (against Umpqua)," said Dionne. "We tend to play better games against better teams."

Despite the improved play the Runners have yet to beat any of the top four teams, and will have to travel to each of the four teams' home courts for the rematches.

"We put ourselves in this position," admitted Dionne. "We have to win at SWOCC on Wednesday. Right now it is our most important game of the year."

The Lady Runners will travel to Coos Bay to take on SWOCC on Wednesday and host Mt. Hood on Saturday.

Student athletes sought for SL&L's three-on-three co-ed tournament

by Justin Pittenger
of The Commuter

Student Life and Leadership is putting on a three-on-three co-ed basketball tournament Feb. 9 from 5-8 p.m.

The tournament is open to any co-ed team that does not include members of the LBCC or OSU basketball teams. Interested students can sign teams up in the SL&L Office, located on the first floor of the Student Union.

The games will be played to 21 points and teams must win by 2 points.

Games will be conducted on half court and possession will change when points are scored. Fouls will be called by the players, with possession resuming at the top of the key. Any

intentional, violent fouls will cause forfeiture of the game.

The tournament will be either single or double elimination, depending on the number of teams that eventually sign up. Teams must check in at the scores table prior to the start of the tournament.

For a complete list of rules and regulations go to the SL&L Office.

Six teams have signed up so far. Teams have until Feb. 9 to register, but are encouraged to do so as early as possible.

Winners of the tournament will be awarded prizes consisting of t-shirts and coupons to local fast food restaurants.

SPORTS PAGE

LB men move up in standings with a 9-point win at PCC

Roadrunners fall to Umpqua before beating Portland, ending a five game losing streak

by Christina Laramore
of The Commuter

After splitting last week's games, the LB men's basketball team moved into sixth place in the Southern Division.

LB's new ranking comes after the Runners grabbed their second league victory of the season by beating Portland Community College, 77-68 last Saturday.

The Runners led 40-36 at halftime after shooting a season high of 53.3 percent from the field in the first 20 minutes of Saturday's game. The Panthers, who are ranked seventh in the Southern Division, shot a paltry 30.4 percent from field goal range after making only 14 of their 46 shots.

LB was hot from three-point range as well, shooting at a 50 percent clip while the Panthers managed only 21.4 percent from behind the arc in the first half.

The Runners also dominated the second half totals, once more outscoring the Panthers 37-32. LB shot 51.9 percent from the field, while Portland finished at 48.1 percent.

LB controlled the entire game, accumulating 53 rebounds, another season high for the Runners, while the Panthers could only muster 34.

Portland had 11 steals and forced 23 LB turnovers while committing only 13 themselves—forcing the Runners to run a tighter defense and execute their offense.

LB was led by JR Brusseau with 22 points. Brusseau was 7 for 10 from the field and 3 for 6 from three-point range. He added 7 rebounds.

Steve Blevins, who hasn't gotten a lot of playing time this year, accumulated 15 points, shooting 75 percent from the line to lead the Runners in free throw shooting.

David Michaelis scored 11 points for the Runners and grabbed 8 rebounds.

Dominic Robertson turned in his best performance of the season, delivering 4

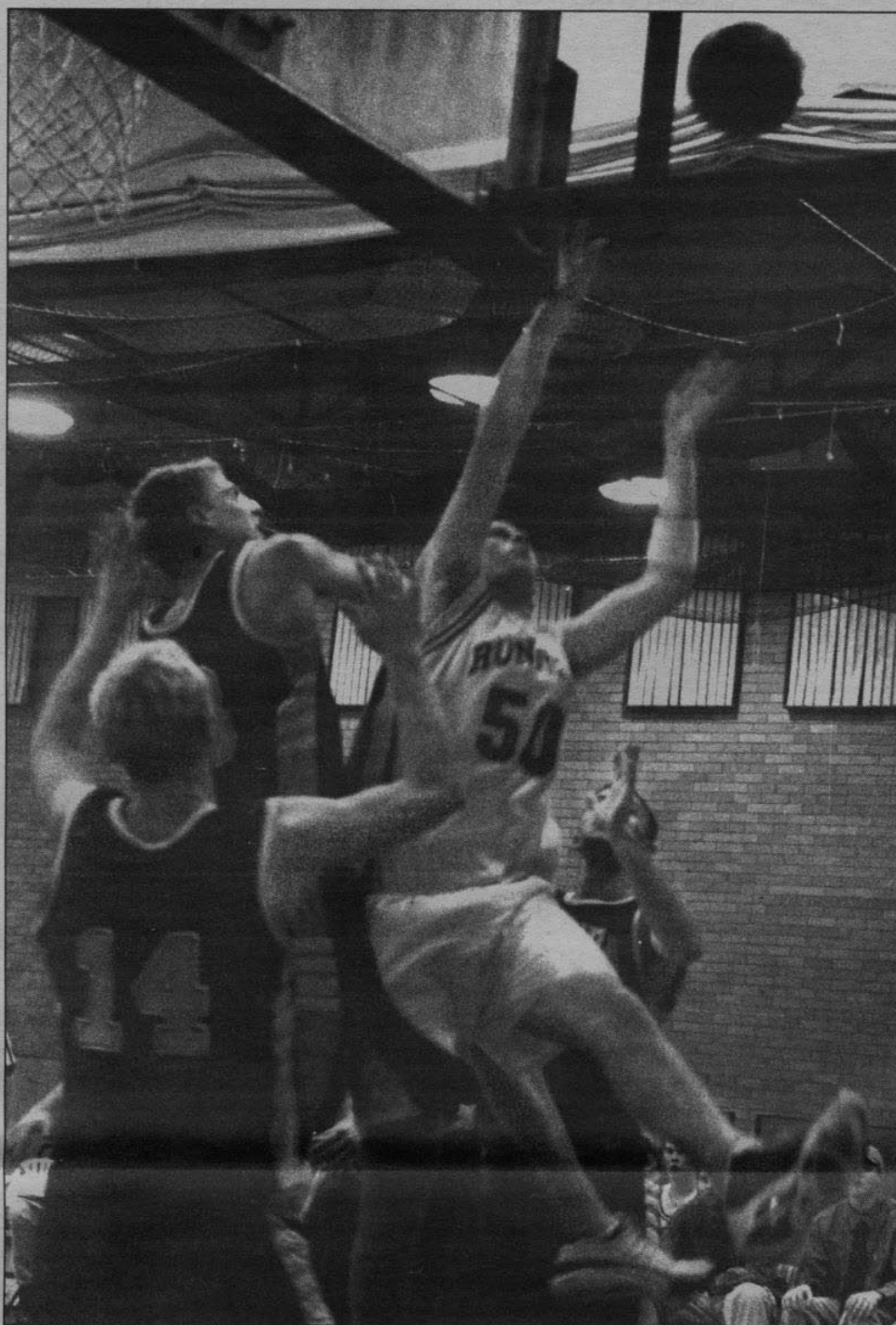


Photo by James Bauerle

LB's Paul Grock gets fouled hard as he goes up for two of his 8 points.

assists to lead the team, and grabbing one of the team's two steals that night. Robertson also had 7 points and 4 rebounds.

LB ended the game shooting 52.6 percent from the field. The Panthers were weak from the field, shooting 37 percent.

On Wednesday, the Roadrunners faced Umpqua Community College, who is currently ranked third in the Southern Division with a 5-3 league record. LB lost to the Timbermen for the second time this year 90-73.

The Runners were down by seven at

the end of the first half, shooting 45.2 percent from the field while the Timbermen shot only 41.9 percent from field goal range. LB also outscored Umpqua from the free throw line, shooting 75 percent while Umpqua shot 69.2 percent from the line. The Runners were outdone from behind the 3-point line, however, as Umpqua shot 50 percent to LB's 18.2 percent.

The Runners were led once again by Brusseau—who finished with 26 points—in their loss to Umpqua. He also added 9 rebounds and 3 steals to lead LB in their totals. Brent Gilder threw in another 15 points and 3 assists.

The game went back and forth all night long, with tough defense coming from both ends of the court. The Timbermen had 14 steals in the game—a total that led to the Runners' downfall. By contrast, LB had only 8 steals.

Umpqua was led by Elijah Jackson with 30 points and 6 assists.

The Timbermen woke up in the second half and ran their offense better than the Runners. LB shot only 48.5 percent from the field, while Umpqua dominated with a 57.5 field goal shooting average.

LB stepped up to the line, shooting 66.7 percent. Umpqua shot 57.1 percent from the free throw line.

Both teams pulled down 39 rebounds in the game, but the Runners led once more in turnovers with 20 to Umpqua's 12.

In the end, LB was outdone by the Timbermen in field goal shooting, coming out at 46.9 percent to Umpqua's 50.7 percent, and from three-point range shooting 6 for 20 while the Timbermen were 5 for 13.

The Runners were strong from the line as usual though, shooting 70 percent in the game to the Timbermen's 65 percent.

The Runners hope to grab another win tonight in Coos Bay, where they face eighth-ranked Southwestern Oregon Community College, which is 1-7 in league play.

Saturday, the Runners return home to take on the Mt. Hood Community College Saints, who is fifth in league with a 4-4 record.

Brusseau overcomes first-year knee injury to become LB team leader

by Christina Laramore
of The Commuter

JR Brusseau is hard to miss on the court.

The LB basketball star stands out mostly because of the Nike headband he wears and the tattoo of a basketball with his number, 32, and initials on the inside on his left forearm.

He's also hard to miss because of his unique playing style and motivation.

"I consider him a team leader because of his work ethic on the floor and also in the classroom," says Coach Randy Falk. "Not just because of his scoring. He tries to lead the team by example."

"I think I have a good relationship with the coach," said Brusseau. "He let's me give my opinion and he listens. We have a lot of respect for each other. That's one thing a player and a coach need."

The 6-foot-5-inch guard is a third-year sophomore who has been playing for the Roadrunners for two years. Brusseau played for the Runners his first year until he tore the cartilage in his right knee in practice the day before his first game, forcing him to surrender his position for the remainder of the season.

But the injured freshman never gave up and continued to work on his game, constantly improving in the eyes of his coaches and teammates.

The 21-year-old Central Oregon native was born in Bend, but grew up in LaPine. He played basketball for

four years at LaPine High School; three years on the varsity team. He gave all of his time to the sport, and even quit playing baseball when he got into high school so that he would have more time to devote to basketball.

"I've always focused all my time on basketball," Brusseau said. "That's all I ever did in high school was play basketball."

Brusseau credits his mother and uncle with inspiring his passion for the game.

"My mom was really good in high school and I idolized my uncle. They both pushed me a lot to keep after it," Brusseau added.

Brusseau has been essential to the Runners' offense and defense for the last two years. According to Falk, the sophomore guard is "very good and obviously a very good scoring threat. He rebounds extremely well also."

Brusseau's decision to attend LB instead of a four-year college was at least partly based on the isolation of the area he grew up in.

"I come from LaPine," Brusseau noted. "So I was not recruited very heavily. And I have family down here."

So far, this is Brusseau's best year here at LB. He leads the team in scoring, rebounding and free throws.



JR Brusseau

On Jan. 27, he scored a season high 39 points against Clackamas. Through 19 games, he has accumulated 244 points. He averages 12.8 points a game and is 78 percent from the free throw line, the highest percentage on the team.

Brusseau also performs well defensively, having accumulated 108 rebounds—averaging 5.7 boards a game. His impressive numbers are a product of his quickness, agility and effort, as well as his confidence in himself and his team.

"Every time I step onto the court, I think we are going to win," said Brusseau. "I have all the confidence in my team—I just don't think my team has confidence in themselves."

Brusseau feels that his game has opened up a lot since the beginning of the season because he's no longer affected by the pressure of being one of only three sophomores on the team.

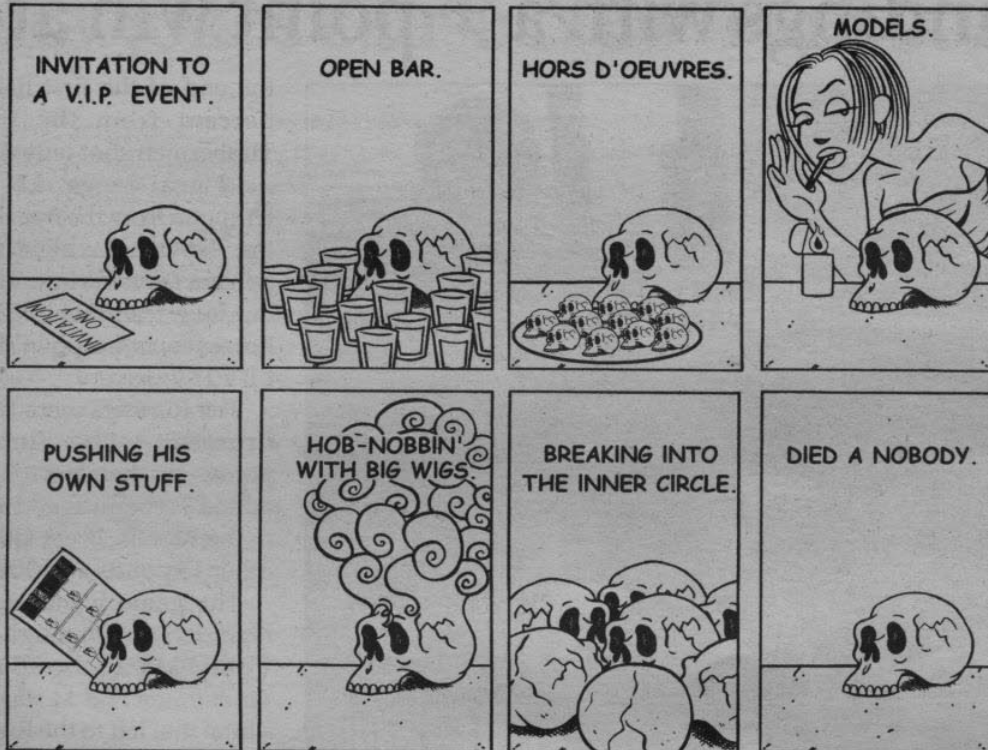
Brusseau hasn't declared a major, but is thinking of going into elementary physical education, and he doesn't know exactly what his plans for next year are. He wants to attend either Western Oregon University or Southern Oregon University.

Several schools including Western Oregon, Pacific and Northwest Christian are currently scouting him.

"He has tremendously improved and continues to improve each game," said Falk. "His best years are yet to come."

FUNNY PAGE

THE ADVENTURES OF SKULY BY WILLIAM MORTON ©MCMXCIX
SCHMOOZIN' SKULY



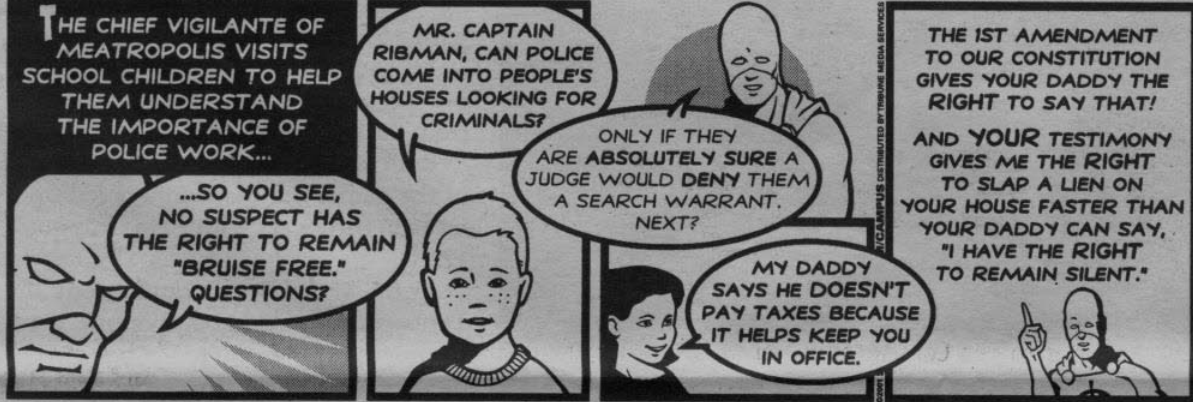
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DITHERED TWITS by Stan Waling



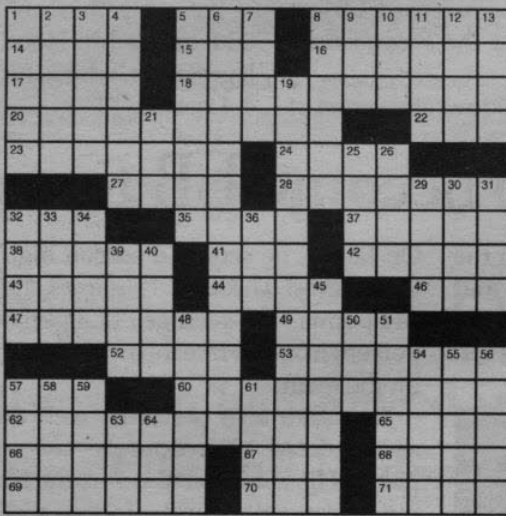
CAPTAIN RIBMAN in Listen To The Children



by Sprengelmeyer & Davis

CROSSWORDS

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2/10/01

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 5 Removed clothes
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 7 Succulent herb
 8 Nogales nap
 9 11 of calendars
 10 Lemon ending
 11 Medicinal quantity
 12 Not fooled by
 13 Snug spot
 19 Snooze soundly
 21 Fork in the road
 25 "QB VII" author
 26 "___" It
 27 Romantic?
 29 Shades
 30 Popular cookie
 31 Camp abode
 32 Wapitis
 33 Noncleric
 34 Academy Award winner of 1936
 36 Golf score
 39 Diver's milieu
 40 River in Tuscany
 45 "General Hospital" extra
 48 Infant's bed
 50 Director Howard
 51 British sailors
 54 Give the game away
 55 Boredom
 56 Begin
 57 Harrow's rival
 58 Fan blade
 59 Vigoda and Burrows
 61 In ___ (altogether)
 63 Ignited
 64 Corner pipe

CLASSIFIEDS

SCHOLARSHIPS

Accounting Students: The NSA (National Society of Accounting) awards an average of 30 scholarships per year. Information and applications are available in the Learning Center (LRC 212) and on the internet at www.nsacct.org. Applications, official transcripts and appraisal form must be received by **March 10, 2001**.

SOU Transfer Students: Southern Oregon University is accepting applications from transfer students for the Laurels Scholarship and Diversity Scholarship. Eligibility requirements, additional information and applications are available at the Learning Center (LRC 212). Applications must be received by **March 1, 2001**.

Phi Theta Kappa & Students w/ a 3.5+ GPA: Hobart and William Smith Colleges are accepting applications from transfer students to apply for admission and scholarships. Additional information is available in the Learning Center (LRC 212) and on the internet at www.hws.edu. Application for admission, supplemental scholarship application and official transcripts must be received by **April 1, 2001**. Earlier submission of materials is strongly encouraged.

WANTED

NEVER ENOUGH TIME?
 TOO BUSY WITH STUDIES?
 NEED SOME EXTRA \$\$\$?
 CHECK THIS OUT
 Call Toll Free 1-888-224-1106.

A few good women. "CHOICE" (Creating Her Own Individual Challenges

And Experience) is a program for girls, age 11-17, targeted to develop good self-esteems, confidence & full potential. Women volunteers needed to meet once a week with a group of girls from various Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon & Sweet Home highschools. Good experience, looks great on resumes. Call Terese @ 753-7888 for more information.

Roomate for large apartment in downtown Albany. No Alcohol/Drugs. \$200/month + 1/2 utilities. 926-7767

Help: \$250 reward for information and return of stolen Polaris Yellow Sand tires. Stolen Jan. 26th River Side Drive 928-3887 Leave Message.

HELP WANTED

CUSTOMER SERVICE with opportunity for advancement. \$12-16/hr. Benefits provided. Immediate Openings. PT/FT with flexible scheduling. Call (888)819-4160.

Violence in our community affects us all. You can help stop the cycle of abuse by volunteering at the **Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence**. Call or E-mail Cathleen for more information, and application at 541-758-0219 or cardv@proaxis.com.

Administrative Assistant (Corvallis)-Are you the proficient secretarial type? Here is a full-time job for a bank. They are looking for someone who is knows Word, Excel and Power Point. If interested, please see Carla in Student Employment in Takena 101.

Computer Application Specialist (Albany)-This part-time position requires some computer applications training. You will work 3-5 days a week during

the summer season and hours decrease during the fall and winter term. Salary is \$8/hour. See Student Employment (Takena 101) for more information!

CWE Accounting Assistant (Corvallis)-This non-paid position is looking for an accounting student. You can work flexible hours between 7:30am and 4pm and you will receive on-the-job experience and CWE credit. Could possibly become a permanent position after graduation! See Carla in Student Employment (Takena 101) for your referral!

Local Recruiting #2 Disney is back at LaSells Stewart Center (corner of Western and College Drive by OSU) looking for college students to work in one of Disney's locations to gain practical experience, attend seminars and share living arrangements with students from other countries. This recruitment will be Tuesday, Feb. 13th at 6pm; be prepared and be dressed appropriately to interview after the presentation.

FOR SALE

'89 Red Volkswagen Fox, 4 spd., 4 cyl., 4 dr., Runs Good, must sell, \$700 OBO. Call 541-757-9766 or 541-917-4450 ask for Gelina.

Two electric guitars for sale with soft cases. Call 541-812-1587 ask for Doug.

MISC.

Mexico/Florida Spring Break Airfare, hotel, parties daily Leisure Tours Call Now! 1-800-584-7533

GET A LIFE

On lying dates, smelly boyfriends and friendly girlfriends

Q "I went out with a guy and we went to dinner. Then he took me home. Nothing happened on the date. A day later his friends tell me that he told them we slept together. This is a huge lie. What should I do?"
—From *Damaged Reputation*

She says:

Umm, that really sucks—but the best I can say is revenge is a dish best served cold. I know you want the cure-all solution, but the more you say you didn't do it, the more guilty you look. Do a little damage control, say, "yeah we attempted to do the deed, but it didn't really work (know what I mean)."

He says:

I have to advise against revenge, even though the lie is heinous. If you get into a war of lies with a liar, then people will see you as cut from the same cloth as he. My solution would be to completely disassociate yourself, take the high ground, and try to pick better dates. That way you are seen by others as above the sort of thing he is doing.

Q I have this problem with my boyfriend of three years, he has bad body odor. I don't know if he wears deodorant; however, he does have some in his medicine cabinet. I have told him that he smells and he'll take a shower, but an hour later it's back. How do I tell him without hurting his feelings?"
—From *Smelly Situation*

She says:

Humm...maybe you should find out what he's eating. Try getting him to eat more fruit. Fruit like pineapple will make him taste better, maybe it can make him smell better too. If not, move on—how can you expect to be intimate with someone who always smells bad?

He says:

Well, you've been with him for three years, he must mean something to you. Plus—hasn't your nose adapted yet? You must weigh the problem with his odor, with the options at hand. If you love him, stink shouldn't matter that much. There is always cologne and different deodorants that may work more effectively. This is not as much a relationship problem

as it is a fragrance problem.

Q "My girlfriend and I have a great intimate relationship but she has this annoying habit of grabbing my package in public. It wouldn't bother me, but she does it all time and has done it in front of my family. I love her very much but asking her to stop because of my embarrassment might affect our sex life. What should I do?"
—From *groping in front of Granny*

She says:

Sounds like public affection turns her on. I think a compromise is in order. Take her to a movie theater and this way she can get the rush of grabbing your pack-

age in public and you can still feel comfortable in the dark. Let her know that in front of the family is off limits but you're willing to negotiate—hopefully she is too.

He says:

First, you need to tell her exactly how you feel. Second, if she doesn't like your suggestion, compromise with her. Ask her to take you somewhere a little more private for your package-grabbing moments.

Q My best friend of 5 years has been seeing this guy for the past 3 years they plan on getting married, the other day he made a pass at me and grabbed me. How do I tell her, or should I?
—From *a concerned friend*

She says:

I disagree, I think you should tell your friend. I would be honest with her and maybe have him in the room when you tell her, start out with I was very uncomfortable when you touched my butt. If it happens again she has this to look back on.

He says:

If there weren't any witnesses, it's your word against his. That won't fly over well with your friend. So set him up with another chance to hit on you. Except this time bring a tape recorder.



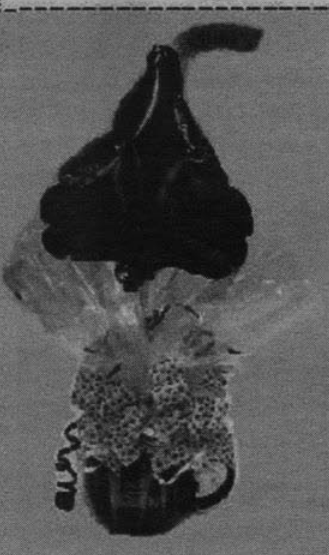
Email questions to The Commuter at genderbattles@yahoo.com

—Compiled by Michelle Mayo and Ben Huges

Make this Valentine's Day something special by getting gifts from the Bookstore!

Simply fill out order form for the bouquet you want, and turn in to the Bookstore before Valentine's Day. Or come by the Bookstore, and fill out an order form there.

Pre-order before Tuesday, Feb. 13th, and get free delivery!



Hugs and Kisses for your Valentine!

LBCC mug filled with Hershey's Hugs and Kisses topped with a kiss shaped balloon and gift wrapped. \$7.98 each

Pick up: _____ Delivery: _____ Pre-paid: _____

Where: _____ Time: _____

Name: _____

Ordered by: _____ Ext: _____



A Valentine fit for a king!

King sized Snickers bar wrapped up and finished off with a Valentine's balloon bouquet. \$3.98 each

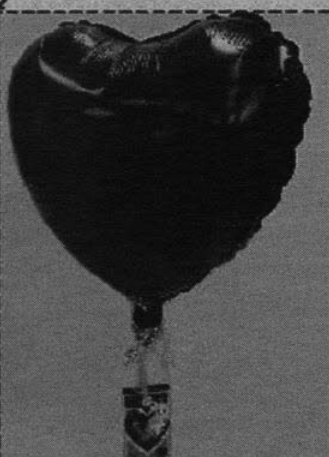
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Where: _____ Time: _____

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All ordering information is solely for Bookstore information.



Spirit Card Holders.

FREE Mylar balloon and a box of candy hearts on Valentine's Day!

Must present Spirit Card to receive items. Available only while promotional items last

Classic Spc. Balloon Bouquet!

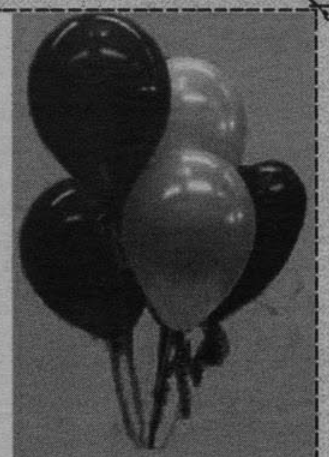
Your choice of any mylar balloon, plus four latex balloons, arranged in a perfect Valentine's Day bouquet. \$6.00 each

Pick up: _____ Delivery: _____ Pre-paid: _____

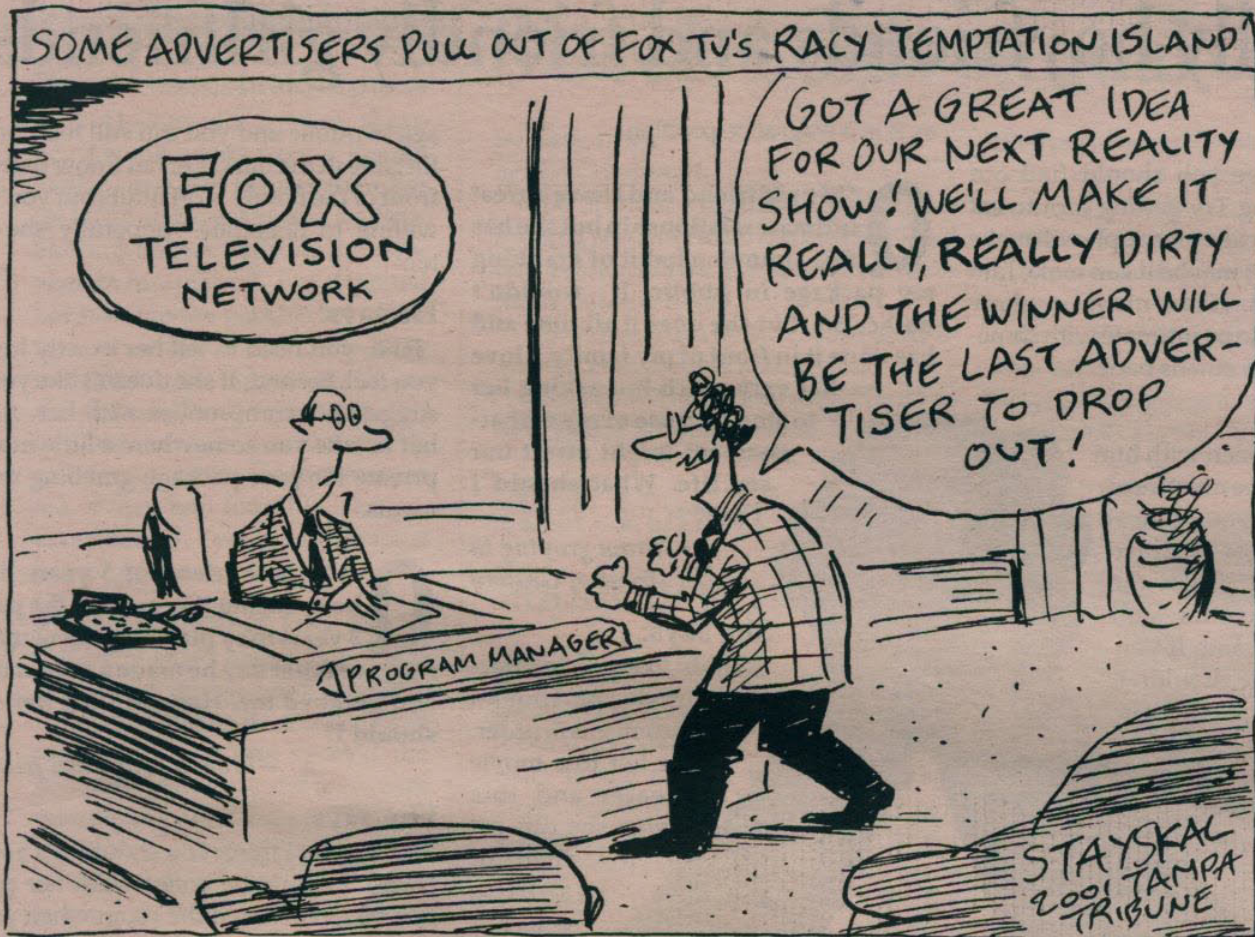
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OPINION



ALL THE RAGE

Building a better world without a blueprint

by Leon Tovey
of The Commuter

Before I embarked upon my quest to become a liberal pundit, I worked in construction.

I was involved with every aspect of building—from pulling levers in a big yellow machine that dug the hole for the foundation, to pulling the trigger on the compressed-air-driven gun that nailed the asphalt shingles in place. At one time or another, I did it all.

It's an amazing feeling to build a house—even those boring crackerbox tract houses that you see going up everywhere these days.

I once heard that Jesus was a carpenter. I'm no Christian, but if there is a God, I do believe that her son would be a carpenter.

There is a feeling of accomplishment and immortality that comes with the knowledge that something you created with your own hands will stand for years and bring joy to people long after you have packed up your tools and moved on.

Sometimes I miss that feeling.

So this week, instead of tearing down the administration, or answering the real or imagined insults leveled at me by others, I'm writing something that I hope will stand and bring people joy after I have turned off my computer and moved on.

I'm trying to build something here, and I don't have a blueprint. I have a whole lot of raw material and a rough idea of what I need to do with it. So let me tell you what I see.

I see a world poised on the edge of destruction and a world that is doing just fine.

I see people who have everything they've ever wanted who really have nothing at all.

I see a country so fat with technology, information and economic stability that it is starving for love, knowledge and social equality.

I wonder how a nation that is so physically wealthy can be so spiritually and intellectually impoverished.

I see greedy old men who help the world almost in spite of themselves, and idealistic kids whose attempts to save a few trees or a rare bird can kill a community.

I see people talking passionately about peace who have never known war, while people who have never known anything else have given up hope.

I see a lot of rain clouds.

I wonder if there will be a drought this summer.

I see people living in huge houses overlooking urban squalor and cops gunning people down because the wallet they're reaching for has a black man's driver's license in it.



Leon Tovey

I see a whole lot of green grass that should be covered with running, laughing children, but isn't. Instead it's a golf course; a place for fat old men who got wealthy off the sweat of others to wear funny pants and chase a little white ball around all day.

I wonder if they know that golf is NOT a sport.

I see 13-year-old girls looking at magazines that teach them to hate themselves.

I see therapists licking their chops at the money they will eventually make off of those girls.

I see your beer-drunk 16-year-old brother with his braided goattee and his whole life ahead of him like a thunder cloud.

I wonder if he's the one who stole my car stereo.

I see a new president who looks very much like a previous president—although it's hard to say which one.

I see a wrinkled old woman looking with a mixture of love and exasperation on a house full of children and grandchildren who visit way too often. (That's the way it should be, anyway.)

I see 18 inches of Utah fresh on a January morning.

I wonder why I'm not wearing my skis.

I see a whole lot of good lumber being wasted so that a few selfish people can make a quick buck by building a second-rate world that only profits them. For some reason, the building inspector is nowhere to be found and these few people are getting away with a lot of violations.

I wonder what I can do about it.

I see a world of unlimited possibilities and very limited hopes.

But tell me, what do you see?

Silence
Consent.

Use The Commuter's Opinion Page to tell the world where to get off. Write a letter to the editor. Sign it, seal it and drop it off at Forum Room 222. And watch the feathers fly next Wednesday.

WHAT STUDENTS THINK

What do you think of the 'students' rights' bills proposed by Rep. Betsy Close?

Two bills recently introduced to the Oregon Legislature by Rep. Betsy Close (R-Albany) would prevent state universities from requiring students to take classes not directly related to their major, and allow students to choose alternatives to required courses that conflict their moral beliefs. The Commuter asked several students what they think about the proposed legislation.

"I think it's a good idea because you're getting something directly related to your area of study. On the other hand I think it's a good idea to explore other topics of interest—especially if you are a young student."

—Danny Sheets, speech/communications major



"I don't think students should take a class if they don't want to or if it conflicts with their morals."

—Macy Omstead, elementary education major

"That's true (that students shouldn't take a class if they don't want to), but if you don't know what you want to be and are just floating around it's a good idea to take different classes."

—Tiffany Hance, undecided



"It's kind of general (the bill). Part of the reason they have you take extra classes is to broaden your horizons, to give you a better foundation. I'm an engineering major so the classes that they require is where the girls are."

—Alex Mench, mechanical engineering major

"I think it defeats the purpose of education. That's what we are here for—to learn."

—Robert Gable, nursing major

