

## ROCK ON WITH ART

Two LB staffers team up to show off the art of the concert poster in the Library  
Pg. 11

## PAIN AT THE PUMPS

As climbing gas prices burn consumers, bio-fuel advocates promote alternatives  
Pg. 6-7



Regular Mini Serve Gasoline	209 <sup>9</sup>
Pure Mini Serve Gasoline	219 <sup>9</sup>
Premium Mini Serve Gasoline	229 <sup>9</sup>
Diesel #2 Mini Serve	259 <sup>9</sup>

# The Commuter

a weekly student publication

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 36 No. 17

## Hand takes helm of ASG

**Rob Gibson**  
The Commuter

Starting this spring, ASG Center Representative Bill Hand will be taking over as the new ASG President of LBCC.

Hand is a 30-year-old student at LB, studying both business and engineering. He says the most important issue he hopes to address in his new position is the "lack of participation in student government" by regular students. Hand says he would like to see non-leadership students participate in ASG meetings, and says he would like students to know that they can come to

student leadership for help in resolving conflicts they may have at LB.

Also as part of his new position, Hand says he will be taking a more active role in lobbying for LB funds and looks forward to dining with legislators in Salem. Hand described the problems he sees in the budget: "I look around and notice we're poor," and yet, he continued, "we continue to expand the college with funds



Bill Hand

that might be better spent on academics."

Hand says that LB "is an awesome college," not only because it's affordable, but the students "get to learn more," partially due to our smaller class sizes. He praises leadership advisors for the help they have given to him and other ASG members, saying they are both very knowledgeable and provide excellent guidance, but that they let the students take complete control when it comes to the issues.

With regards to the LB cell phone policy, Hand acknowledges that while phones with

▶ Turn to "ASG" on Pg. 4



photo by Erik Swanson

Matt Stavang (left) races Stayton High School's chopper against LB welding instructor Dave Ketler last Thursday.

## LB opens doors to high school welders

**Jennifer Overholser**  
The Commuter

Last Thursday, after nearly 200 Oregon high school students congregated at LBCC to prove their welding skills, Stayton High School tested their student-built motorcycle in a head-to-head against two LB choppers.

It was a day of competition around the school, with contests being held in many departments, including automotive, metallurgy and drafting. This is a yearly event that aims at reaching out to high school students to show them different programs that LBCC has to offer, while giving them the real world experience of demonstrating their skill level in specific fields.

According to welding instructor Dave Ketler, 208 students registered and around 180 ended up competing in the welding contest.

Besides Stayton, the other high schools that students came from were Central Linn, Central, Ashland, Philomath, Roseburg, Thurston, Baker, Mountain View, Sweet Home

and Douglas as well as from Angell Job Corps.

Students competed in MIG and TIG welding, oxy-acetylene and shielded metal arc welding and in a general welding contest, which included blueprint reading. Around \$6,000 worth of prizes were donated by industries in the area, such as Miller and Lincoln Electric.

Students were awarded different types of prizes, such as welding equipment or portable CD players. Stayton's Jake Pearce received a grinder for his third-place finish in the MIG welding contest.

The first-place winners included Sweet Home's Josh McBride in the oxy-acetylene competition, Lebanon's Brian Sears for shielded metal arc welding and Central's Eric Coffman for general welding skills. Other first-place winners were Stayton's Adam Wall in novice MIG welding, Sweet Home's Zac Cochran in MIG welding and Baker's Keith Newman in TIG.

After the prizes were awarded in the Forum, Stay-

▶ Turn to "Welding" on Pg. 4



photo by Erik Swanson

Ukrainian delegates speak with political science students and guests Monday.

## Ukrainian delegates visit LB

**Nick Milhoan**  
The Commuter

Linn-Benton Community College, along with the Corvallis Sister Cities Association and Open World, a U.S. government exchange program, opened their doors and their minds to play host to a group of five Ukrainian delegates beginning Saturday afternoon.

The delegates paid a visit to LBCC on Monday. They sat in on a session about the U.S. Rule of Law in Doug Clark's Introduction to Comparative Politics Class, had lunch with LB President Dr. Rita Cavin and had an open discussion in the

Fireside Room.

"It's very exciting to have them here on campus," said Clark. "To have people from abroad come to LB and to a class like this is great. It's a perfect cap to a class that has talked about the Ukraine and Europe."

While visiting LB, the delegates were faced with questions not only from students, but from instructors as well.

"What is your view of U.S. leadership?" said LB student David Rickels.

"I didn't like the elections," said Judge Valentyna Antypets. "They were even worse than ours."

▶ Turn to "Ukraine" on Pg. 4

### WEATHER THROUGH THE WEEKEND

SOURCE: WWW.WEATHER.COM

high 62 low 43  
WEDNESDAY

high 66 low 41  
THURSDAY

high 69 low 40  
FRIDAY

high 65 low 36  
SATURDAY

high 57 low 34  
SUNDAY

Opinion.....2  
Local News.....5&8  
Campus News.....3&4  
In Focus.....6-7  
Sports.....9  
Poets Corner.....10  
A & E.....11-12

### INDEX



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# OPINION

**Send letters to The Commuter:**  
 Turn into Forum 222. Please sign them and  
 keep them at 300 words or less

## The Cost

He's a husband and a dad. A son and a sibling. A friend and a neighbor and a co-worker and a church member and a teammate and a mentor and a volunteer and a classmate and a voter. He's a comrade in arms, and an American hero.



Now multiply by one thousand five hundred.

## The Commuter: More than just a weekly student paper

Today I wanted to tell you all about this newspaper and what we do here, so I will start by explaining our weekly process.

First, the newspaper is produced each week. There are several writers, each of whom is a student here at LB. Some of the writers come from the News Writing class or the Feature Writing class. The other writers are considered contributing editors and news staff. There are editors responsible for several sections including photo, sports, and arts and entertainment. Of course, there is an editor-in-chief and a managing editor.

Story deadline is Friday afternoon. Stories usually come in at deadline for editing. On Monday, the copy editors read each story, making corrections to grammar and spelling. Then the paginator and graphics editor put the stories together with pictures selected by the photo editor. These are selected from many that have been taken throughout the previous week by staff members who have use of a digital camera. The ad manager contributes to this process by having the advertisements ready. Ad space is sold and the newspaper office depends upon the incoming revenue.

Tuesday evening, after each proof page has been printed, edited and finally corrected, the information goes to press, so the paper will be ready and available on Wednesday mornings. The production staff makes deliveries to newsstands on and off campus, so everyone has access to the paper.

Some weeks both Monday and Tuesday are crazy for all of us, but it always gets done. It is, at times, an environment of insanity but we all work together as a team. Our advisor, Rich Bergeman holds it all together.



Sometimes I wonder how he puts up with us. We can get loud and frazzled.

On occasion a mistake is made by a reporter. It happens. This, I'm sure, has to do with us all being students who are in the learning process. We are not hardened career writers. We are just beginning our journey. Some of us have high school newspaper experience and

some of us have none. Personally, I signed up because I struggled with writing. This experience has really helped me. I'm also glad I did it because I know about everything going on around campus.

Computers are available in the Commuter office for staff writers. Early in the week, it can be difficult to find a chair with all the writers using computers. We work around it though and help each other out.

Lately, we have been asked by students if they can write for the paper. Right now we are open to accepting stories, opinion pieces and letters to the editor. However, the editor-in-chief has final say on what is printed.

Soon, you will see help-wanted ads for next year's newspaper staff. Feel free to come in and complete an application. The newspaper needs students who can work Monday and Tuesday afternoons as these are the crucial days. If you have any questions, come by the office—some positions may pay with college credits.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Soldiers' families band together, pray for peaceful resolution

#### To the Editor:

Two weeks ago my family drove to Berkeley, CA to meet with co-founder, Cindy Sheehan, and others in the newly organized, Gold Star Families for Peace ([www.gsfp.org](http://www.gsfp.org)).

We are a group that prays daily for no new members. During WWI banners with blue stars denoted families with members in the service. As the tradition evolved, families whose loved one was killed covered the blue star with a gold star as a symbol of their sacrifice. Our gold star is for our nephew, Pfc. William Ramirez, who died last year in Baghdad at 19.

At this meeting we remembered our loved ones. Each story was filled with love, loss and unbearable pain. Several parents attending had lost their only child.

Yesterday, as American deaths surpassed the 1,500 mark, I could not help wishing that every American hearing that news could take just a moment to imagine what it would be like to be a Gold Star Family.

Think with love and pride of that young relative, a son or daughter, grandchild, niece or nephew, husband or wife, filled with life and potential. Feel the paralyzing agony of worry as they are swept away from you across the world to war. Wait with dread-filled anticipation for news. Experience the incomprehensible finality that they will never return alive. Bury that young person and all their hopes and dreams. Continue living each waking and dreaming moment with that ache that never eases, that no flag, medals or military pomp can gloss over.

1,500+ American families now live with this pain. Thousands more suffer loved ones severely injured physically and emotionally. Uncounted thousands of Iraqis endure it.

How many more mothers will have to mourn their children before we stand up to demand an end to the waste?

What is the magic number that will make Americans say, "Enough!"?

Whose child will have to die for our leaders to stop the killing?

It's time for people to imagine the pain. If they do not, it may become all too real.

Annette Pritchard  
 Oregon City

## EXPRESS YOURSELF

The Commuter encourages readers to use the "Opinion" page to express their views on campus, community, regional, and national issues.

Both letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be limited to 300 words.

Drop letters off at the Commuter office, Forum 222 or e-mail us at [commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu)

## The Commuter

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[www.linnbenton.edu/commuter](http://www.linnbenton.edu/commuter)

The Commuter is the weekly student-run newspaper for LBCC, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty, and Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of the authors.

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# CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus

## Student Ambassadors hard work earns scholarships

**Rob Gibson**  
 The Commuter

LBCC Student Ambassadors Amelia Cohn and Petr Horak have been selected as the 2005 All-USA Academic Team scholars.

Both students will be awarded \$1000 scholarships to be applied towards a four-year degree. In addition, they will be presented with a plaque by Governor Kulongoski next month.

Amelia Cohn is a second-year student at LB, studying pre-nursing. According to Cohn, she was uncertain of what she wanted to study after high school and took some time off from studying psychology at Western Oregon University.

After visiting a friend in the hospital and watching the nurses work, Cohn said that "they looked like they really enjoyed their job," and decided to pursue nursing herself. She says that she plans on transferring to Linfield to continue her nursing training and hopes to travel as part of her job when she finishes school.

Cohn is also a member of the equestrian team and likes to volunteer in her spare time. She says she learned about the All-USA Academic Team scholarship through the local Phi Theta

Kappa (PTK), an honors society dedicated to junior and community colleges.

Petr Horak is an international student from the Czech Republic. He says he came to the United States to visit a family friend, but when his short visit started going on six months, Horak decided to have his visa changed so that he could study here in the USA.

Horak says he faced some serious challenges as an international student. Horak explained that when he came into the country, he didn't speak any English at all and had to attend many classes at OSU to get a good grasp of the language. In addition to the language barrier, Horak says that he had to take many prerequisite courses at LBCC before he could even begin his major studies.

Like many international students, Horak says that finances have also been a large barrier



Amelia Cohn



Petr Horak

to taking classes. Despite all of the difficulties, however, when asked his opinion of LB, Horak said quite simply, "I love it." He described how when he first arrived at LB, he found that his advisor had scheduled him for an interview in the Student Life and Leadership office. "It was really scary," but continued by saying how greatly he appreciates how friendly everybody is, but is disappointed in the lack of tangible scholarships available to international students.

Horak explained how, like Cohn, he was accepted into the local PTK, but that he couldn't afford the membership fee. He said that he was looking into scholarships on his own when he discovered the All-USA Academic Team scholarship and applied for it.

Horak says he hopes to study health education after LBCC, but even with the scholarship, he might have to work for a year before continuing his education. Because of his financial situation, Horak says that he can't afford to take more than 12 credits a term and he still has another year left before he is finished with his AAOT program. He says he hopes to use his education to return to his own country and help people in need.

## Students look to spring break as time to escape and relax

**Lydia Nelson**  
 The Commuter

With winter term ending and spring term looming ahead, only one thing separates the two: spring break.

Since the local ski resorts are lacking snow because of unusually warm and dry winter weather, some students plan to travel for spring break. "I'm going to Tahoe for snow boarding, since there is no snow here," said Shannon Ewers, an LBCC student.

There are, however, a few ski options available for those not wanting to head out of Oregon. Mount Ashland in Southern Oregon has a base of 62 inches and is 92 inches on top. The ski resort is located just eight miles off of I-5 and offers all day skiing at \$36 for adults and \$29 for juniors and seniors. For more information you can visit their web site at [www.mtashland.com](http://www.mtashland.com).

If you just want to see the snow and not have to take to the slopes, you can visit Oregon's only national park, Crater Lake, which offers hundreds of miles of cross-country skiing trails and a gift shop and restaurant to warm up in. The North entrance to the park (closest to LB) is closed, so you will have to go to the main entrance located on Highway 62.

If you're planning on heading out of town as well, some web sites, such as Expedia.com, have packages that include round-trip airfare and a hotel for as low as \$250. For students who don't need the hotel, several airlines offer out-of-season rates, when they lower the airfare.

If you want to stay in the area, Portland is hosting several events to help entertain. The Spring Beer and Wine Fest is scheduled March 25-26, and offers a gourmet food court, a smoking

tent, as well as opportunities for sitting, strolling, and the ability to purchase unique items offered by exhibitors and arts & crafts vendors. More information can be found at their web site [www.springbeerfest.com](http://www.springbeerfest.com).

The Lane Events Center is scheduled to host the area's largest flea market with more than 300 tables having items for sale, according to [www.ohwy.com](http://www.ohwy.com). Otherwise known as the Piccadilly Flea Market, this is the place to go if you're interested in unusual items. The flea market is scheduled for March 20, and admission is \$1.50 per person.

For parents who are at a loss as to how to occupy their children during the week, the Portland Children's Museum is having activities all week described as Spring Break Aways. Art activities and special performances make the Children's Museum a great escape every day during Spring Break, according to their web site, [www.portlandcm2.org](http://www.portlandcm2.org). Activities are provided with paid admission to the museum.

For more simple activities, Portland's OMSI has an Animal Grossology exhibit filled with the more extreme aspects of zoology, according to their web site, located at [www.oms.edu](http://www.oms.edu).

Also, the Woodburn Tulip Festival begins the last week of winter term, and continues through April 16.

Over 18 acres of tulips and daffodils are on display at the Woodburn Gardens. Admittance is free Monday through Friday, or \$5 for the whole family on the weekend.

Some students plan to stay in the area, such as Brittney Novak, who plans to "play poker and sleep in." Debbie Farmer, Novak's classmate, decided that she is painting the cupboards in her kitchen and working in the yard.

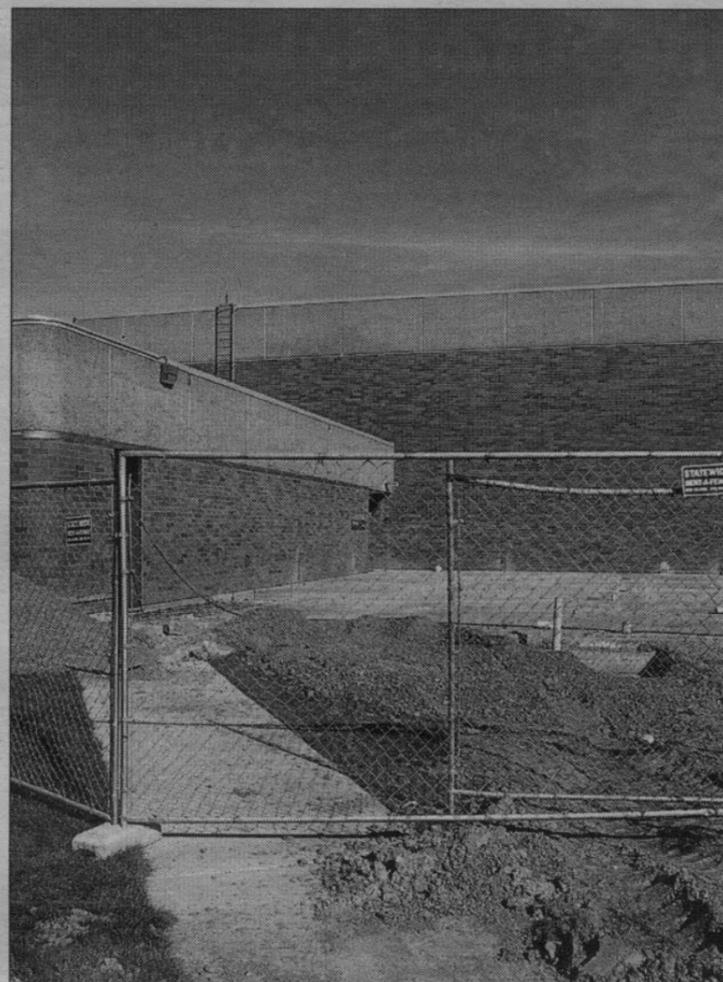


photo by Erik Swanson

The southwest corner of the Activities Center is the site of sporadic construction this winter as the building undergoes expansion.

## Activities Center getting larger weight room

**Katie Powell**  
 The Commuter

The students at Linn Benton Community College will see results from the construction of the activities center in January 2006.

The construction plan began a year ago after talk of not enough space for students in physical education classes, said Kevin Nicholson and Jim Bell, coordinators of this project.

In the new building there will be a weight room which will be 4,000 square feet. It will include free weights and new machines, said Nicholson. "New machines are being purchased for this room and I estimate that there will be fifty percent more equipment for students," said Bell. The weight room will have lots of glass so students will be able to see outside, while enjoying a workout, said Nicholson. The best thing about the addition to the activities center is that the new building will be air conditioned, as the old activities center is not, it is going to be great in the summer time, they said.

The old weight room in the activities center will become an aerobics room, and so hardwood floors will be put in. This will open up the gymnasium for more open gym and activities such as basketball. Currently all the aerobic classes are being held in the gym, which takes up a lot of time that could be used for other things, they said.

The opening of the new build-

ing will allow room for bigger classes. Right now the class sizes are 25-30 students, with the new building classes will be able to accommodate 40-45 students, said Bell. In addition to the new weight room there is a small classroom being put in the building. This classroom will be used for first aid classes and other physical education, said Bell. By having one classroom free up another, it sort of starts a domino effect allowing room for more classes on campus, said Bell.

The cost for the new building is roughly \$5 million. The funding for this expansion comes from bond money, Nicholson explained. About four or five years ago taxpayers approved a measure for capital construction, which was approved for \$19 million. They money is only allowed to be used for construction, and not for any other objectives, said Nicholson.

The building is anticipated to be done this fall, said Nicholson, but won't be available for student use until classes start in January 2006. "The construction workers have just finished pouring the concrete and the next step is the steel work," said Bell. Some of the facility and staff at LBCC worked together to put together the best design for the new activities center. They were the design team, said Nicholson. The role of Bell and Nicholson in the expansion have already been played out but now they say "we are just along for the ride."

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# CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Scholarships

For more info about the scholarships listed below, please visit the Financial Aid Office, Takena 117.

### USA Funds Access to Education Scholarship

Time is running out to apply for the USA Funds Access to Education Scholarships. USA Funds will award renewable scholarships to qualified students for the 2005-06 academic year. Scholarship application deadline is March 15, 2005. To see if you qualify to apply, visit USA Fund's website at [www.usafunds.org](http://www.usafunds.org).

### 2005 Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center Auxiliary Virginia Welch Scholarship

Each year the Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center Auxiliary awards scholarships to men and women who plan to pursue a career in a medically related field in a hospital setting. Complete scholarship requirements and applications are available at the Financial Aid Office, Takena 117. Completed application must be postmarked by April 29, 2005.

### For Sale

#### Furniture For Sale

Dining table and 4 chairs- \$50.00; Entertainment center- \$20.00; Sofa with leg extentions, \$50.00; Full-size bed w/frame- \$25.00; small t.v. cabinet w/space for DVD & VCR- \$20.00; Computer desk- \$35.00; Two glass topped tables- \$5.00(for set); Other misc. kitchen items-negotiable. For more information, contact Doug at 812-1587.

## ASG: Ready for action

### ◀ From Pg. 1

cameras and instant messaging might be used by some students to cheat, he thinks rules like the cell phone policy should be left up to instructors.

Hand says he thinks he will graduate next year. He also added that he's looking into college after LB, but says he hasn't decided and is considering OSU, OIT, and PSU. He says he wants to study environmental engineering and possibly do charity work in foreign countries building clean water sources in high-risk areas.

According to Hand, he didn't expect to be involved with leadership when he first started going to classes and playing baseball at LB, but says he feels that his experience in the past coaching football, baseball, as well as other volunteer work, has steered him toward leadership positions.

In addition to all of his leadership and volunteer work, Hand said he is also employed remodeling houses.

## New module makes transfer easier

**Katie Powell**  
 The Commuter

The new Oregon Transfer Module will go into effect fall term, allowing students to transfer to a university or another community college without losing any credits along the way.

The new module consists of 45 credits that will allow students to transfer after one year instead of staying two years to gain the AAOT, which is a transfer degree that consists of 90 credits.

The new module will not replace the AAOT, said Vice President Ed Watson. It was made for students who are undecided as to what they are going to do in

the future.

This will be a guideline for students who aren't sure what they want to do but want to gain general education credits, said Watson. The AAOT does not meet all students needs because many end up transferring in the middle and lose credits, which in turn costs them time and money.

With the new one-year transfer module, if a student decides to stay at a the community college after the first year he or she can still work on their AAOT and transfer to a university after they are finished. But if they decide to go somewhere else, they can take the module with them and

start off right where they left off without losing anything.

This module came about because many students were not staying the full two years at one school to complete what they started. They would transfer elsewhere and lose the credits because the other school had a slightly different program.

The Oregon Transfer Module includes the following course work, which is equivalent to three academic quarters: two courses of writing, one course of speech, one course of college-level mathematics, three courses from arts and letters, three from social sciences, and three from science/math/computer sci-

ence, with at least one being a lab class. All courses must be passed with a minimum of C- or better and must be worth at least three credits. Students must also have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 when the module is posted.

The one disadvantage of this module, Watson said, is that students might assume that it will fulfill more than it does. It does not replace the AAOT, and students should meet with an adviser prior to taking any classes to insure that every requirement is being met, he said.

"Although I think this will be effective, I don't believe that anything replaces good advising," said Watson.

## Welding: Student-built choppers face off

### ◀ From Pg. 1

ton students made their way to the back parking lot for the long-awaited mini chopper face off with their rival and inspiration, Ketler, riding a chopper he and former LB welding student Hunter Klee built last year.

Second-year LB welding student Nick Marsh rode a chopper that he built last year for a project in his fabrication and repair class, taught by Dave Schmitke. Ketler and former Stayton student Matt Stavang, now in his first year at LB, traded off the lead a couple times in several races across the parking lot. Afterward, Ketler declared that Stayton's bike was faster, conceding the victory.

Ketler originally got Klee involved with building a small version of a chopper motorcycle, which neither had done before. Marsh became interested in building his own. He said that he and Klee ended up competing for who could finish first, and that they started up their motors close to the same time, at the end of last fall.

According to Stayton welding instructor Dale Sunderman, Ketler took



photo by Jennifer Overholser  
**Nick Marsh sits with the chopper he built in his fabrication and repair class.**

his chopper to their high school to show it off and left a burn mark on their classroom floor. Within two weeks Stayton welding students started to build their own, which took 89 days, over 600 hours and cost \$550 for parts that weren't donated by businesses, Sunderman said, with 24 students working together to build it.

LB's Marsh described his experience building his own mini chopper for the first time. He explained that the hardest thing for him was not knowing how his ideas were going to turn out. He said that he ended up asking Klee a lot of questions. The rear axle

also presented him with some challenges. He didn't have to buy very many parts for his motorcycle, so the cost ended up being around only \$350. That included the disc brakes and motor, both \$60, as well as the flame seat and a few other parts. The motor is the same kind used in golf carts. The rear fender came from a trailer. He altered it to make it fit and added some design elements. He designed the foot pegs and machined them out of aluminum and then spray painted the chopper black.

Marsh first became interested in welding when he was attending Central Linn High School in Brownsville, when he would pass by the welding shop and wonder what they were making in there. He started to ask questions and found himself involved with it.

"I just kind of liked it in the beginning," he said.

He has been involved in several welding projects outside of school, including making lamps and tables. He sold a table and a wine bottle holder to the Urban Grind coffee shop on 22nd and Sandy in Portland, which his uncle built.

"I just always kind of had a thrill for doing stuff with welding and metal," Marsh said.

## Ukraine: Legal reps tour state judicial system

### ◀ From Pg. 1

After answering this question, the delegates continued to talk about U.S. politics, however they were careful with their answers and tried to switch off of the topic, which the students in Clark's class said they did well.

Many of the questions asked of the delegates pertained to their views of the election held last November in the Ukraine, how they feel about the European Union and how laws in the U.S. are similar or different from that of the Ukraine.

"What is the least crime you can do and still go to prison?" said LB student Brooke Mathis. "Burglary, and then it depends on what you take," explained Antypets.

While discussing crime and prisons in the Ukraine, one of the delegates mentioned that only about five percent of all

cases that end up in court are dismissed.

Another student asked if they should join the European Union and if they identify with them. The common theme from the group was that they hope the Ukraine is on the right track to eventually be a part of the EU, but there are so many requirements to being a part of this and the Ukraine first wants to establish its own history and take their time in doing so before making any decisions like joining the EU.

When asked about the elections that just took place and how they felt about the Orange Revolution, the delegates said that no one was prepared for what had happened and that it wasn't really a revolution as it is called by the media.

It was more of a chance for Ukrainians to have their voice

heard and to establish a democratic society. They also pointed out that the vote count was done in a different way than it was supposed to, and that because of the falsification, the Ukrainians exercised their rights to protest peacefully in Kiev.

"We don't want to be cheated," said one.

The theme of their visit is the rule of law and it will give the delegates a chance to visit and see American law enforcement and the judicial system at work. Their program is based upon their desire to learn about other countries and learn about civil society here in the U.S.

Of the five Ukrainians visiting, four are lawyers. Two of them are judges, one is a legal researcher and a staff member to the Ukrainian parliament, another is the director of a nongovernmental organization

on human rights and one is a facilitator for the group.

Prior to coming to Oregon the delegates spent two days at the Open World orientation in Washington D.C.

Yesterday the delegates observed a criminal case at the Oregon Supreme Court, had a tour of the Supreme Court Chambers and visited Willamette University College of Law.

Over the next few days they will visit the Benton County Courthouse, sit in on juvenile hearings, meet with the Benton County commissioners, visit a drug treatment center, and tour the Benton County Sheriff's Office and county jail in Corvallis.

"It's a real privilege to have them here," Clark said. "They will probably be pretty satisfied with the various experiences they will have this week."

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# LOCAL NEWS

News on happenings around the valley including Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon, Philomath, Sweet Home and Tangent

## Biology students battle blackberries for wildlife

**Dan Wise**  
 The Commuter

It's an unseasonably warm morning early in March, and the members of Melissa Kilgore's LBCC biology class are getting firsthand knowledge of stream restoration at the Chintimini Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Lewisburg, north of Corvallis.

"These guys should know in the future they should not plant blackberries," said Kilgore. She has gathered these students to help in an ongoing, and seemingly never-ending, project to take back the center's land from invasive blackberries and to plant native species such as big-leaf maple, Oregon ash and cascara. The main focus has been a stream bed running through the property.

"You should have seen the huge patch of blackberries when we started," she said. Kilgore and another person started this project three years ago as part of the Master Watershed Steward Program through the OSU extension service.

Through her association with Chintimini, her students are provided with an opportunity for extra credit helping out with projects at the center.

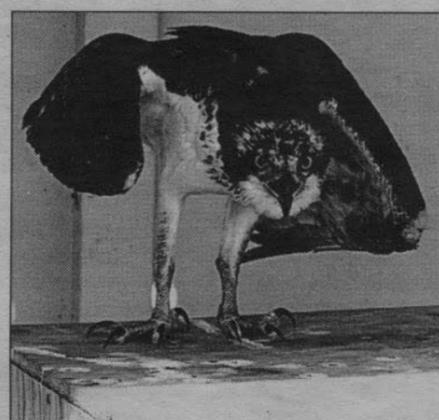
In addition to clearing brush and planting, the students have been doing painting, construction and numerous other tasks. One of the projects was to provide hunting practice for rehabilitating hawks by building an area to contain live mice.

"Thousands of hours have been donated over the years," said Kilgore.

The beneficiary of those hours is the Chintimini Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, a non-profit, public service organization licensed by the state and federal governments to provide care for injured and orphaned wild animals.

Jeff Picton, executive director, started the center in 1989. He owns and lives on the five acres off Lewisburg road that contain its extensive facilities.

In addition to several buildings holding cages for rehabilitating injured animals, there is a well-outfitted surgery room equipped to do almost any type of operation. Picton is qualified to do most surgeries but has several local veterinarians that volunteer with the more complicated cases.



photos by Dan Wise

**Chintimini Wildlife Rehabilitation Center Director Jeff Picton and LBCC biology instructor Melissa Kilgore (at left) oversee the work of biology students who are removing blackberry bushes as part of an ongoing stream restoration project at the center's Lewisburg site. The center cares for injured wildlife, like the osprey above, with the goal of releasing them to the wild.**

The center relies heavily on volunteers. "We take care of more than 700 animals a year and that takes a tremendous amount of labor," said Picton. Over 100 volunteers donate more than 10,000 hours a year to keep the center running.

Even with those volunteers, the center has a hard time making ends meet, running at a deficit most years, according to Picton. It costs an average of \$100 for each animal the center takes in.

Sizable donations several years ago had been making up the difference, but the money ran out last year.

Fortunately, as a result of a letter he sent out and articles in the local media about the center, 100 new members signed up and the current membership increased its giving. A family membership is \$25 and many donate additional money. "All this took in about \$35,000," he said.

Unfortunately, continued funding remains the big

**"We take care of more than 700 animals a year and that takes a tremendous amount of labor."**

▶ Jeff Picton

problem, he said. There is money available for projects and equipment, but none for labor.

"It is so nice when we can afford paid staff," said Picton, who shoulders most of the responsibilities when money is tight. The center can usually

afford paid staff only during the busy seasons of spring and summer and then only part-time, he continued.

"There are always people out there like me that are going to do this anyway," observed Picton, commenting on the possible reason for the reluctance of government to fund staff at the center.

Melissa Kilgore and her students, combined with many other volunteers are crucial to the survival of the center. They allow Picton to perform his specialized duties,

caring for the wild animals brought to the center.

Adrienne Custer is an Associate of Arts major at LBCC and is one of Kilgore's students. She has brought her

husband, Jeremy Boaz, to help out and is making a big dent in a patch of blackberries that is threatening to overtake the native trees.

"I've always wanted to volunteer at Heartland Humane Society, but I would have gone broke from taking home animals," she said. "This seemed like a safer place, although I was eyeing a goose I saw here."

"I'm immune to poison oak," said Kristie Harrington, a horse management major, while diving into a patch surrounding a larger tree. She is taking the class as an elective.

The 10 to 12 students who showed up on this day toiled all morning and finally took a break to enjoy some pizza provided by an appreciative Picton.

They later were given a tour of the center and shown how their labor contributes to the successful operation of the center.

While he is paid for his efforts, he is not, by his own admission, getting rich. His rewards come from the satisfaction of helping animals, his interaction with the volunteers and seeing them realize the importance of wild animals in their lives.

"What is so fun, is this whole sense of creating a community," said Picton.

## Warm weather, lack of flakes dampen ski season

**Brian Moore**  
 The Commuter

Many skiers and snowboarders agree that the winter of 2004-2005 has been one of the worst years ever for ski resorts in the state of Oregon.

Ski resorts such as Mt. Hood Meadows, Ski Bowl, Hoodoo, and Willamette Pass have taken huge hits financially thanks to the lack of snow. In fact, Willamette Pass is only open on weekends now due to the lack of customary visits.

Mt. Hood Meadows has received a 60 percent decline in the amount of ski visits this year. Last year, the mountain received more than 425,000 visits.

The mountains snow pack is 30 percent of normal, and many jobs at the resort have been cut.

The annual payroll at Meadows is \$4.5 million. The payroll is expected to go down 30 percent. Meadows employs about 1,000 people in a normal winter.

When the mountain was closed in January for 18 days thanks to some warm rain melting most of the snow, they had to layoff 900 employees, but they hired back 600 once the mountain got more snow.

Local communities from Sandy to Government Camp have seen their economies suffer from the lack of skiers and snowboarders traveling through their towns.

**"I don't think it is worth it to drive for two hours and pay \$39 for a ski ticket for terrible snow."**

▶ Mike Hutchison

boarder and a student at LBCC, used to be a frequent visitor of Mt. Hood Meadows, but he hasn't been snowboarding that much because of the terrible winter season.

"I don't think it is worth it to drive for two hours and pay \$39 for a ski ticket for terrible snow," said Hutchison. "I don't like snowboarding when I can see some trails without snow."

Hoodoo has also experienced the effects of a warm winter. Lo-

cated on the summit of the Santiam Pass on Highway 20, Hoodoo has to not only worry about competing with Willamette Pass and Mount Bachelor, but they must get a decent amount of snow to at least be competitive.

In a recent newsletter on the Hoodoo web site, President Charles Shepard has been saying that the media is giving a bad perception to the snow conditions on his mountain.

"We have had a lot of sunshine the past couple of weeks," said Shepard. "In fact we have had a lot of sunshine all winter long."

Shepard agrees that the snow could be better, so he is promising all current skiers and snow-

boarders who have a season pass a discount for next year's season passes. Hoodoo is expected to close for the season March 27.

Mt. Bachelor has been benefiting from the lack of snow from the other ski resorts. Bachelor's snow base is currently 61 inches, which is way lower than its average base of 150-200 inches.

John Moore, an Albany resident with a season pass at Bachelor, thinks the weather has been very nice recently, but he believes the season will end earlier than expected.

"Ever since the beginning of February the weather has been very nice," said Moore. "Out of 20 days I've gone skiing, 13 have had some sunshine."

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IN FOCUS



photo by Erik Swanson

Remember the days when we thought \$1.93 was highway robbery?!

# With rising gas prices,

## Biofuel advocates descend on Capitol steps, arrive in environmentally-friendly cars

**Cynthia King**  
 The Commuter

Longtime local biodiesel activist Justin Soares took his biofuel love to a new level last Wednesday by traveling to the state Capitol to lobby for the fledgling biofuels industry. Fifteen Corvallis residents, driving eleven biodiesel powered cars, traveled by caravan to the Capitol for the lobbying effort.

The Biofuels Lobby Day, organized by the Oregon Environmental Council and Sequential Biofuels, a biodiesel distributor, was the first time Oregon biofuels advocates had ever descended en masse on the Capitol.

The purpose of the event was to encourage legislators to support a package of bills promoting development of the biofuels industry in Oregon. The seven bills, co-sponsored by Rep. Jeff Kropf, R-Sublimity, and Rep. Jackie Dingfelder, D-Portland, are supported by an unusual coalition of environmental groups and farmers, including over 70 environmental groups and the Oregon Farm Bureau.

In an interview at his Corvallis shop the day after the Salem trip, Soares was visibly energized by the experience. He said that talking to the elected officials had given him "hope for the world."

Soares, who has worked as a grassroots biodiesel activist since the year 2000, said that he had never considered lobbying before last week's event. He spoke with Sen. Frank Morse, Republican from Albany and Rep. Kelley Wirth, Democrat from Corvallis.

Soares said that Rep. Morse gave him his word that he would keep an open mind when considering the package, although he had some questions about the bills, economic impacts. Rep. Wirth said that she was "on board" and asked what she could do to help. "It was empowering to realize that democracy is that within reach," Soares said. "I didn't realize that I could make an appointment with my elected officials and that they would listen to me," he continued.

The legislative package aims to create tax incentives and exemptions to support the emerging biofuel industry in Oregon,

including incentives to grow biofuel crops such as canola or mustard and to develop biofuel production plants. The bills also aim to expand markets for biofuels by setting a statewide renewable fuel standard, which would require that a certain percentage of fuel used in the state come from renewable sources.

Ethanol and biodiesel are the two main biofuels included in the bills, both vegetable based. Ethanol, a form of alcohol, can be produced from many plant sources, including corn, wheat, crop residues or wood pulp, and mixed with gasoline for a cleaner burning fuel. Biodiesel, a fuel produced from oil seed crops such as canola, mustard or soy, can be mixed with petroleum diesel or run alone in most diesel engines, with few to no modifications of the engines required.

Soares, who runs the Greaseworks auto shop in Corvallis and helped to start the Corvallis Biodiesel Cooperative, a biodiesel bulk purchasing club, said that biodiesel has tremendous growth potential, since it has been time and scientifically-tested and the transition from petroleum diesel is "easy and seamless". Soares said that he offered Sen. Morse a free tank of biodiesel for his diesel pick-up, confident that once the senator experienced the reduced emissions of biodiesel, he would support the biofuels package. Biodiesel is estimated to have 60-90 percent fewer emissions than regular diesel, which is the largest contributor of toxic air pollution in Oregon, according to the Oregon Environmental Council.

In addition to air quality benefits, supporters of the biofuels package cite potential benefits to the state's economy and a reduced dependence on foreign oil.

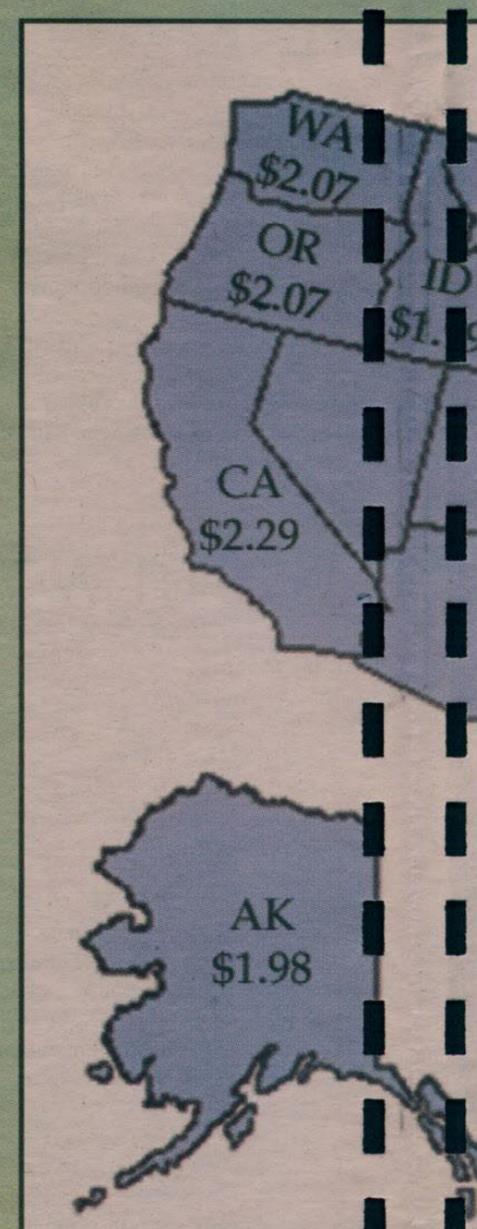
Although Oregon's climate is poorly suited to large-scale soybean production, canola and mustard are good candidates for rotation with grass seed, one of Oregon's main crops.

A similar legislative package was introduced in 2003, but failed to pass, lacking broad support. With a diverse bipartisan coalition supporting the 2005 package, biofuels advocates are hopeful that this year will be different.

Unleaded Gas Prices in the Area	
Station Location	Price (as of Tuesday)
ARCO Pacific Blvd. Albany	\$2.06
ARCO Corvallis	\$2.05
Shell Pacific Blvd.	\$2.13
Shell Hwy. 99 E Corvallis	\$2.09
Shell I-5 & Hwy. 34	\$2.16
Fred Meyer Albany	\$2.06
Chevron Hwy. 20 N. Albany	\$2.13
Chevron Airport Rd. Albany	\$2.19
Chevron Hwy. 34 & I-5	\$2.19
Chevron 4th St. Corvallis	\$2.19
Wilco Hwy. 99 Tangent	\$2.13
Union 76 Santiam Hwy. Albany	\$2.11
Union 76 Hwy. 20 Corvallis	\$2.11
Towne Pump Kings Blvd. Corvallis	\$2.07
Leathers Fuels I-5 & Hwy. 34	\$2.01
Texaco I-5 & Hwy. 34	\$2.13
Costco Albany	\$1.99



Many LB students pass by these gas stations and are expected to...



# As Oregonians look to alternative fuel

## OPEC to blame for rising gasoline prices

Nick Milhoan  
The Commuter

With the worldwide demand for oil growing at its fastest pace in 16 years, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries has seized the opportunity to raise the price of crude to near record highs, which has caused consumers to pay at the pump.

"It's crazy," said LBCC student Lynn Snyder. "I can't believe prices are this high, and I can barely afford to drive my car anymore."

OPEC controls the majority of the world's oil supply and has shot the price of crude oil up to near \$53 a barrel. It's expected to rise even more over the spring and summer months, when demand for gasoline increases.

OPEC states that because of the recent cold weather in the Northeast, and with the world consuming around 79 million barrels a day, that it has no choice but to up the price of oil. This has not set well with many officials in the U.S., including Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden, who has urged the Bush administration to lobby OPEC harder to lower gas and oil prices, which he says have

"clobbered" consumers.

According to the AAA, the average price for a gallon of unleaded gas in the U.S. had climbed to \$1.97 on Tuesday, and is rapidly approaching the record high set last May of \$2.06 a gallon.

Statewide and locally, however, prices have surpassed the record highs set last year. AAA reports that Oregon's average price is now \$2.07 a gallon, up from our record of \$2.04 last year. Here in the mid-valley prices range from \$1.99 to \$2.59 a gallon.

"They play this game every spring," said Ron Smith a local gas station owner.

Historically, gas prices are actually low when adjusted for inflation.

tion. If you take inflation into account and go back 25 years, we would be looking at gas at \$3.08 a gallon, according to the Energy Department.

With the summer months upon us it is expected that prices will continue to climb before motorists get any relief. According to a recent CNN report, gas prices will surpass the national high sometime next week and could be near \$2.50 to \$2.75 a gallon by the time the summer months arrive.

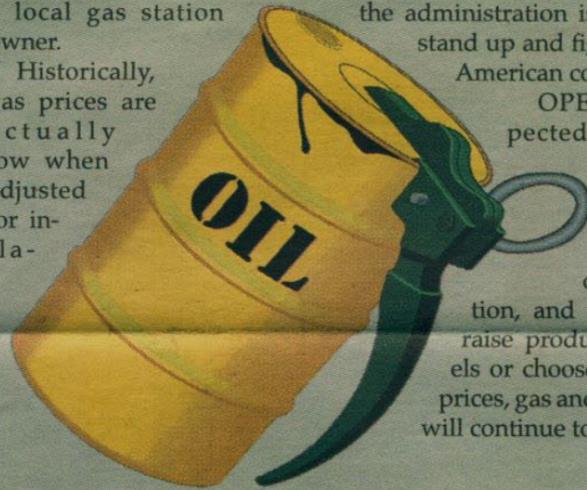
"OPEC is going to look out for OPEC," Wyden said during a recent Senate floor speech. "The only question is whether the administration is going to stand up and fight for the American consumer."

OPEC is expected to meet again March 16 to discuss oil production, and until they raise production levels or choose to lower prices, gas and oil prices will continue to climb.



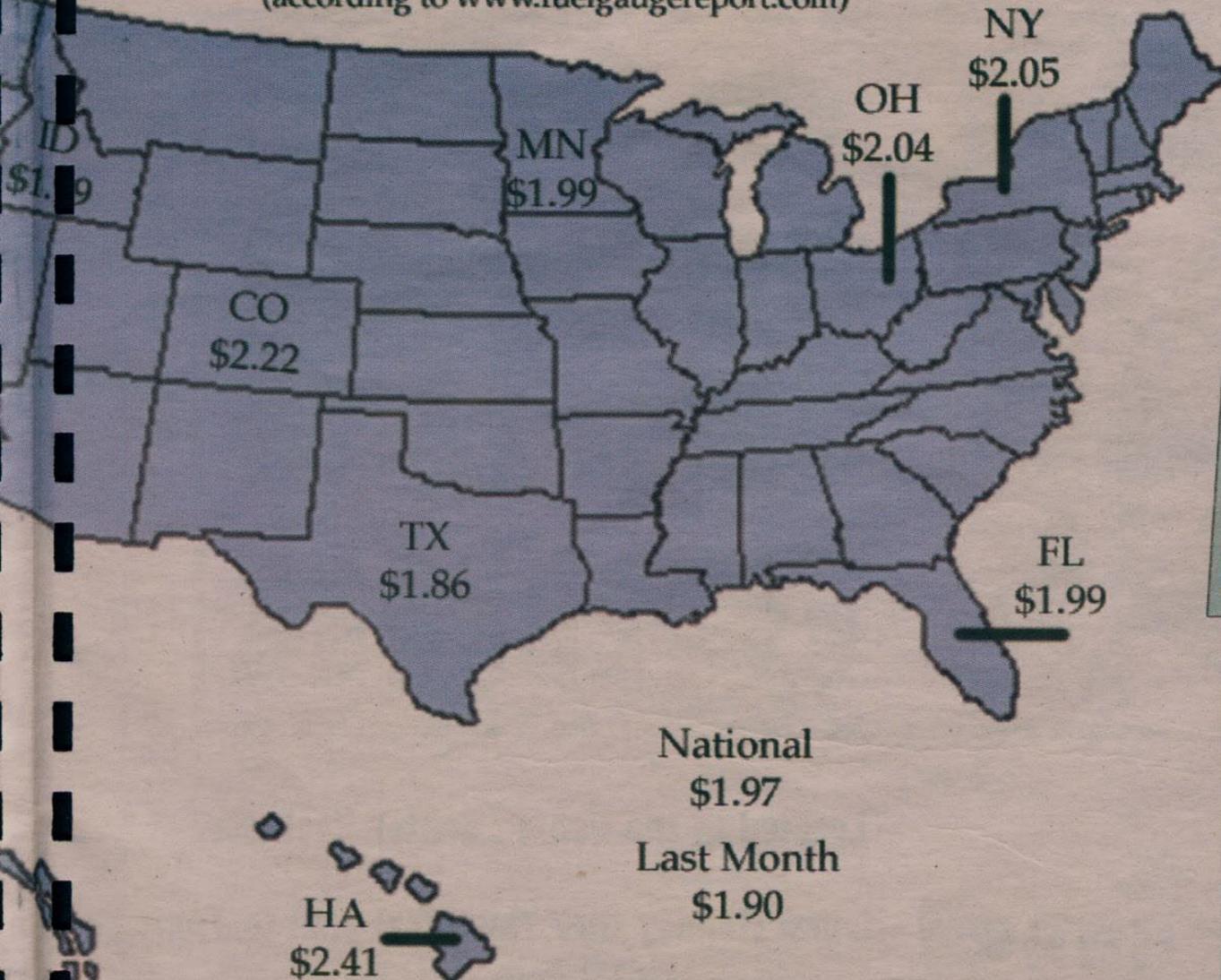
photo by Sheena Bishop

these gas stations on Pacific Blvd. in Albany everyday. Over the last several months, gas prices have climbed from around \$1.75 a gallon to over \$2 a gallon at these and other stations. Many consumers are expected to continue this rising trend.



### Average National Gas Prices

(according to www.fuelgaugereport.com)



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# LOCAL NEWS

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## LB grads open Alsea Café

Cynthia King  
 The Commuter

Next time you're heading down Highway 34 toward the coast, do LBCC alumnus Jack Nath a favor and stop in at his new restaurant, the Alsea Café.

Nath, who graduated from LBCC culinary school, "a million years ago," opened the Alsea Café last September, and is working hard to keep it going during the slow winter season.

"I just hope we can make it to tourist season," Nath said.

Nath and another LBCC grad, John MacVicar, completely remodeled the place before opening it last fall. The atmosphere is cozy, with freshly painted yellow walls, booths lining the periphery, a wood-fired stove and a game room. The finish-

ing touches are being put on a 20-tap bar, which Nath expects will be open by June.

The restaurant serves standard fare for breakfast, lunch and dinner, with a focus on burgers and pizza. Quality food and good service are what Nath seeks to provide. He makes the pizza dough fresh daily, using only fresh, high-quality ingredients.

Nath, who said he hasn't seen the outside of the restaurant walls for six months, seemed slightly surprised that the restaurant didn't become a financial success immediately after opening.

He said that every restaurant he's worked at previously has experienced an immediate increase in profitability upon his arrival.

Before opening the Alsea Café, Nath ran the kitchen at McMenamins in Corvallis and served as a consultant to The Fox and Firkin. The Alsea Café is his first startup venture.

Nath is counting on tourist season to pull the restaurant through. It is possible, he conceded, that Alsea, a town of 1200, simply cannot support a restaurant the size of the Alsea Café. Nath said he will likely expand the cafe menu during tourist season by offering traditional French cuisine, in addition to the usual fare.

While the café is not yet financially solvent, it has the potential to become a community fixture. A steady stream of locals come into the café to chat, to have a beer, and sometimes grab a bite. The restaurant donates \$3 from



photo by Kyla Hoyt  
 Andrea Hildebrand serves Corey Gula and Shorty Bowen on a busy Friday night at the Alsea Cafe, owned by former LB culinary students.

the proceeds of each pizza to the local library construction fund, and has already raised \$450 for the project.

Nath is looking for skilled line cooks for the breakfast shift, and may seek LBCC students for the job.

The Alsea Cafe is open Tuesday 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Wednesday-Friday 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-8 p.m., and Sunday 8 a.m.-7 p.m. The schedule will likely change with the arrival of spring. Call 541-487-4422, for more information.

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# SPORTS

Coverage of competitive and recreational activities at LBCC, as well as from around the state and nation

## Boston, New York figure to battle for AL pennant; NL up for grabs

**Jake Rosenberg**  
 The Commuter

The 2004 Major League Baseball season was one for the ages, and as spring training leads us to the beginning of another 162-game season, baseball fans can only hope for anything close to a repeat of last year's exciting drama.

Although Boston had a clean sweep over St. Louis to win their first World Series in 86 years, the Red Sox and Yankees gave us an American League Championship Series that needed no encore. We start off the 2005 season preview with a division-by-division analysis beginning with the one that contains those two power houses.

The winner of everything this year could very well be Boston or New York. But first, one of those teams has to take the AL East. The Red Sox added Edgar Renteria while retaining most of their championship roster and pitching staff over the off-season. They may have lost starting ace Pedro Martinez to the Mets but replaced him with former Yankee hero David Wells. The great rivalry was in no need of rekindling but now appears to have escalated into one of the greatest in all of sports. New York will try and take the upper hand now that Randy Johnson has joined their usual all-star caliber roster.

The Baltimore Orioles finished a distant 23 games behind the two division front-runners last year and hope to improve upon that after adding slugger Sammy Sosa. The young squads of the Tampa Bay Devil Rays and Toronto Blue Jays will try to contend with the O's for third place.

The AL Central always seems

to be a division that is up for grabs, and it's been grabbed by the Minnesota Twins for the past three seasons. Cy Young winner Johan Santana heads a very stable pitching staff that will have to combat division foes such as Frank Thomas' Chicago White Sox and the young and talented Cleveland Indians.

The Detroit Tigers managed to not finish last in 2004 thanks to key pick-ups like catcher Ivan Rodriguez. They will try to make it a trend and keep the rebuilding Kansas City Royals in the division's basement.

The AL West has been one of the more surprising divisions in recent years. The Anaheim Angels have stockpiled talent, such as Vladimir Guerrero, over the past two seasons following their 2002 championship and figure to be in the playoff mix come October.

The Seattle Mariners hope for a return to playoff contention this year after the signings of Adrian Beltre and Richie Sexson to anchor the infield corners and power spots in the batting order. Manager Mike Hargrove is counting on a repeat performance from ML batting champion Ichiro Suzuki to lead his team's rebound effort.

The Rangers could also contend in the West if Alfonso Soriano can get comfortable in his first full season at the Texas hot spot. The Oakland Athletics have always managed to have a strong minor league talent base to depend on, but this year they may have to reach deep into their farm system in order to offset some key losses.

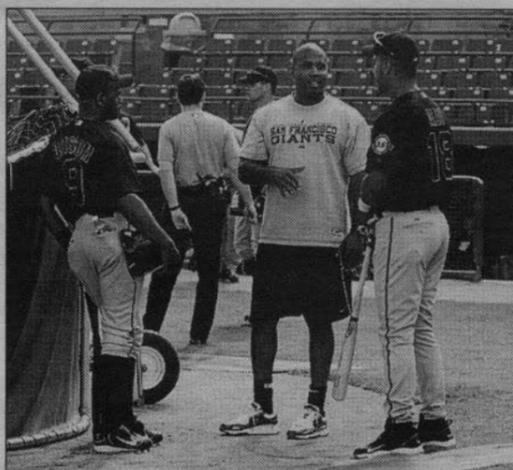
Ageless wonder John Smoltz has been around to see all the Braves, 15 consecutive division crowns and will aid Mike Hampton and Oakland defect

Tim Hudson by returning as a starter.

After a miracle run in 2003 to win the World Series, the Florida Marlins are now hoping for a return to prominence and will get close competition from Jim Thome's Philadelphia Phillies and the New York Mets. The Mets not only landed Martinez from Boston, but top free-agent outfielder Carlos Beltran from Houston as well. Last and certainly least to mention are the Washington Nationals, formerly the Montreal Expos. After losing 28 more games than they won last year, a change of veteran players' as well as nickname and scenery, hopes to spark the franchise back to respectability.

The Cardinals beat out NL Central foe Houston in a thrilling seven-game NLCS that went almost unnoticed due to the attention that the ALCS gathered. Albert Pujols of St. Louis will look to somehow improve his amazing numbers and lead the Cards past Houston again. The 25-year-old cornerstone is the early favorite to "de-Bonds" the NL MVP award.

Chicago and Cincinnati remain close in the rearview. The Cubs are backed by starters Kerry Wood, Mark Prior and Greg Maddux, while the Reds are led by their power-trio of Sean Casey, Adam Dunn and the injury-plagued Ken Griffey Jr. The Pittsburgh Pirates and Milwaukee Brewers remain the cell-dwellers in the Central as both appear to be in a perpetual stage of rebuilding.



Barry Bonds has drawn lots of media attention this spring training season. photo courtesy of KRT

## LB gets no-hitter

**Jake Rosenberg**  
 The Commuter

LB baseball got off to a great start Saturday by sweeping a double-header against Centralia in exhibition action at The Dalles.

Freshman Robert Stevens got his Roadrunner career off to a good start by striking out 10 batters and throwing a no-hitter in the opener. It was a scoreless contest through seven innings before Ian Opsal hit a sacrifice fly, allowing Kenny Strate to come in with the winning and only score.

Game 2 followed with Opsal starting on the mound. He tossed 4 1/3 hitless innings before Kyle Atchley came in from the bullpen to replace him because of a minor knee strain. Atchley pitched just as admirably, giving up only two hits and no runs to keep the 1-0 lead and secure the win.

After not allowing a single run and only two hits through the first two games, LB started Corey Faltyn against Skagit Valley on Saturday and gave up seven runs in the second inning. The Runners managed only one run once again and fell 8-1. The later game Saturday began with goose-eggs across the board through six before both squads scored three runs in the seventh. Two of LB's came on a single by Ryan Savage, who went 4 for 6 in the game.

Michael Myhre pitched nine strong innings before the bullpen gave up two runs in the 13th to eventually lose 5-3.

Coach Greg Hawk said he was concerned about the Runners' lack of offensive production. "We need to string more hits together and get better fundamentally on the base paths to bring those runners in."

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**April 8, 2005**

NOTE: you may be required to meet with your advisor before you apply, so **don't wait until the last minute!**

You can print a graduation worksheet and graduation application from LBCC's web page, [www.linnbenton.edu/admissions](http://www.linnbenton.edu/admissions) and click on "forms." Select the name and year of the form you wish to print. You must use a worksheet from a year you took courses. You may also pick up forms at the Admissions Office.

Caps and gowns will be available to order in Takena Hall on April 27 and 28. They will be distributed May 31 and June 1 in Takena Hall.

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# CREATIVE SPHERE

A place for artists and writers,  
 both students and staff, to  
 showcase their work and words

## I Just Want To Spend Time with You

I climbed the last step and there was the gun that previously saved me in which inevitable has taken my life by the hand of another gang member,  
 I gasped for air and choked on my own sinning blood,  
 I remember what the last thought that was going through my head,  
 That if by one chance I could just spend time with you,  
 That I could be with my limitless King of Ages,  
 My Lord Jesus Christ,  
 My last movement was in prayer,  
 But the ten gunshots weren't what killed me,  
 It's the pain that I will never see the face, hear the voice, or touch the hands of my Creator,  
 Listen to the flying voices in the wind,  
 They speak of glory and power,  
 But most of all it speaks of a nameless fear that covers our hearts in

joy and glee,  
 We can die for any reason, but know I died for Christ!

## My Heart

At the Corner of my heart I began to fall apart  
 And cracks form and break further into my  
 Own Foundations, in all could cause me to crumble,  
 I see no explanation for my sinful deeds and  
 Hope of a contemplation of the purest degree  
 And how could I not believe in me and my  
 Surprise that's just what I need, to look up and  
 Worship my lord for he is the greatest forever more  
 And how am I lost in my sin, when I even look to  
 The lord for a way again, a way out of pain and  
 Suffering, all I may need is disciplined faith where  
 Once again I may fall in place, to the place where

God offers me to be, now I see a hear full of only  
 Love and Desire for the Lord our savior a master  
 Of decision and vision, behold the people of the world  
 Can now see that sin should never be apart of you  
 And me, that love and desire is the only way to  
 Let our hearts rest in peace!!

## Even the Best of Writers Need to Erase

Taken by the hear of another  
 I think, "to be or not to be," is the question  
 I see as a writer some things that we would like to erase  
 But I never wanted to really do it  
 You know!  
 Self slaughter!  
 I choose to live  
 I choose to be all I need to be  
 I choose to be humble man of God  
 With the choice  
 I know I would choose God

Over any "art" the world could generate!  
 Even if I refused to believe I would still have a chance to be redeemed  
 But I do believe  
 And all the truth God has given me  
 Has grown into a tree of branching fruits  
 I am near overflowing  
 I need to share this love with another  
 I bring myself to pray for my sister in Christ  
 I see the next day she was feeling well  
 But I NEVER knew my prayers could be so essential  
 I remember to pray for everyone, Even myself  
 I need to do rather than say  
 Believe rather than just pray  
 Submit yourself to God  
 For he will use you  
 And never give in to keeping one's writings the same  
 I may need to change the spelling

Or the grammar  
 Or even the format  
 Then and only than will it be  
 Whatever one wanted it to be.

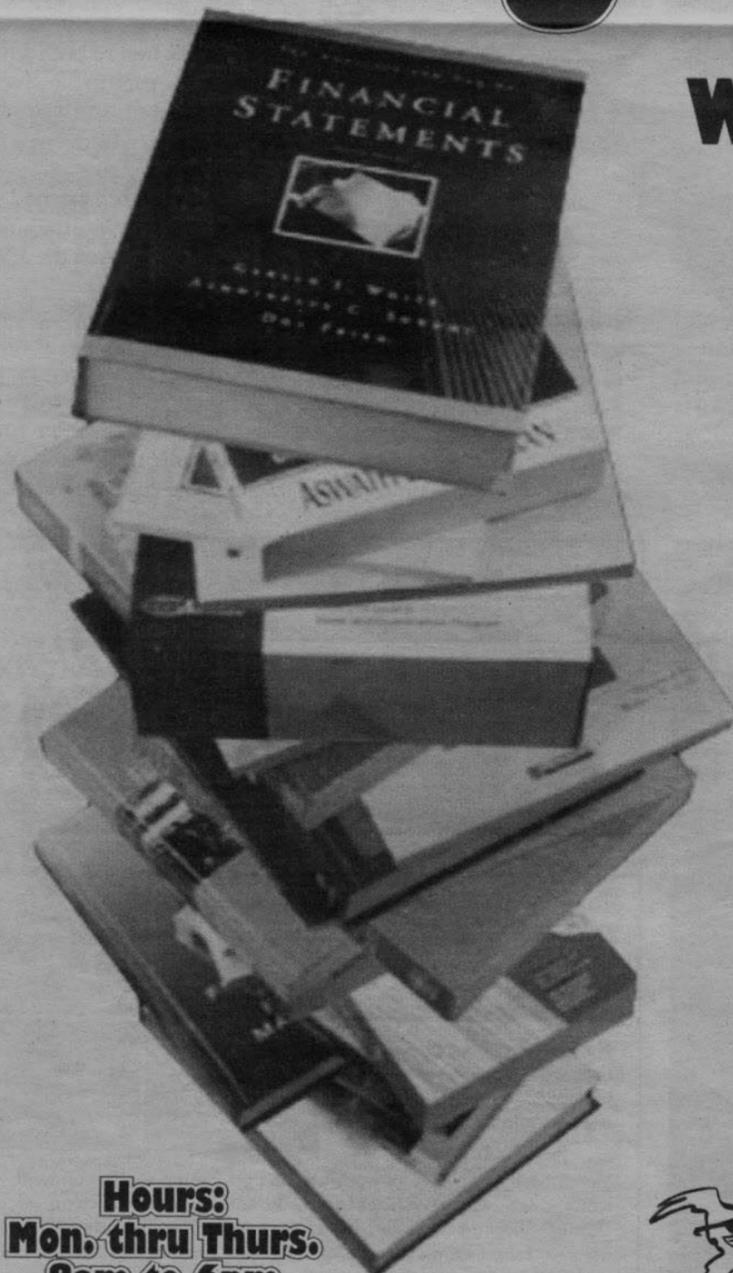
**Benn Anderson  
 Corvallis**

The Poems on this page do not necessarily reflect the views of The Commuter or LBCC.

They were submitted by the writer for publication. The writer is not affiliated with The Commuter in any way.

If you would like to submit poetry to The Commuter for possible publication you can drop it off at our office inside Forum 222 or send an email to commuter@linnbenton.edu. All submissions must be received by Friday at 3 p.m. and are subject to Editor approval.

# why wait?



**We're Open Spring Break!**  
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 thru  
**March 25**

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 commuter@linnbenton.edu

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Information about plays, movies, books, artwork, and other entertaining or artistic endeavors

## Library exhibits 50s and 60s rock 'n roll poster art

**David Rickels**  
 The Commuter

Art instructor Gary Westford and library technician James Creighton have collaborated to create an exhibit in the LBCC Library that takes the viewer back in time to early music eras both in the Northwest and in the Bay Area.

One half of the exhibit consists of rock posters from the Haight-Ashbury acid rock era that helped make San Francisco the birthplace for the Summer of Love. The posters are part of an accumulation belonging to Gary Westford. They were collected while he lived in the Bay Area.

"The music posters from this era are truly works of art," said Westford. The artwork from these posters feature such bands as the Doors and other great acts including the Summer of Love concert that filled venues such as the Fillmore Auditorium and the Winterland presented by Bill Graham, and the Family Dog at the Avalon Ballroom managed by Chet Helms.

Graham and Helms recruited some of the best graphic designers in the area to create the posters that are now considered works of art. Wes Wilson, Victor Mosco and Alton Kelly among others created works for such acts as the Grateful Dead, Creedence Clearwater Revival and Jefferson Airplane.

Soon a more diverse group of artists began to play the clubs. Some of these artists included Miles Davis,



photo by Erik Swanson

**The graphic art of music posters from the 50s and 60s is the focus of an exhibit in the Library.**

Bo Diddly, B.B. King and others.

"These posters that were originally tacked to telephone booths to promote concerts are now a part of history," Westford stated.

The other half of the exhibit is a collection of concert posters and newspaper clippings that have been collected by James Creighton from the Cottonwoods Ballroom.

The Cottonwoods, located between Albany and Lebanon, was a place to showcase some of the best talent in the country.

"The Cottonwoods was the place to be," said Creighton. "It was one of the biggest dance halls in the valley. Some of the top acts of the fifties came through there, acts like Bobby Darin, the Coasters, the Drifters—even Chuck Berry played the Cottonwoods."

A few years ago Creighton started researching the history of the famous dance hall and was able to contact the owner of the hall. From there he was able to obtain posters and pieces of the dance floor.

"The dance floor at the Cottonwoods was legendary. There were tales that the floor had springs under it to help the people on it move more smoothly. There are many tales like that out there," said Creighton.

Eventually Westford and Creighton wanted to display the posters and other memorabilia in a museum setting for others with the same interest in music history.

"The ultimate goal is to set up a museum in the summer of 2007. This will be the 40th anniversary of the Summer of Love," said Westford about his acid rock collection.

At the same time Creighton is always looking for more word-of-mouth stories about the Cottonwoods, and wants people with interesting information to contact him at creighj@linnbenton.edu. The current exhibit in the LBCC library will be up until the end of the winter term.

## Sweet Home once again site of annual Celtic celebration

**Nick Milhoan**  
 The Commuter

To help celebrate Saint Patrick's Day and to celebrate the Celtic culture, LB's Multicultural Center held a traditional Celtic Celebration last Wednesday.

Special guests Bob Teter and Greg Downs were on hand to help bring the Celtic culture to light and to broaden awareness of their annual Highland Games and Celtic Celebration held every August, on the fourth weekend, in Sweet Home.

Downs stated he started the games in Sweet Home because there were no games in the Willamette Valley. Before

Sweet Home began, the closest games were in Portland, Bend and Winston.

Thanks in part to the Sweet Home games getting bigger, and because no other games are scheduled around that time, they are able to get over 20 different clans and vendors, as well as true Irish and Scottish dancers and people directly from London.

"The outfits you see on us are extremely modern," said Teter. "If you go to Europe and visit older established clans, their outfits are nothing like this."

Teter and Downs said that the Kilts run around \$200 to \$350, but that more fashionable, less casual Kilts can cost over \$600.

The clans that get together that we see around in parades and events are more modern and are similar to clubs. Also they are not required to have a name associated with that particular clan.

There are similarities and differences between the Scottish and Irish cultures. Scottish clans go by your family name, where as Irish go by area or county. However, both are working together to put these games together.

"We don't see the same stuff in America as they do in Scotland and Ireland," said Downs.

Downs also stated that because Ireland is one of the fast-

est growing countries, the people there are trying as hard as they can to reestablish the country's heritage.

"The queen recently disbanded the last true Scottish regiment," said Downs.

Also at the celebration was traditional Irish food that consisted of a cheesy potato dish (similar to scalloped potatoes), as well as three different cheeses served with saltine crackers

Events held at the Sweet Home games include a saber toss where opponents try to toss a 15 to 150 pound saber and get it to flip end over end. A hammer toss is another event. The throwing of the Sweet Home Stone is an

interesting event when those in attendance try to throw a 135 pound stone. The record for this event is 15 feet.

The Sweet Home games are also home to Oregon's Highland Wrestling Championship.

There will be information on hand at the games for those interested in learning more about their Scottish or Irish heritage. Folks at the games can look up last names and trace where a family began as well as where they ended up.

For more information about the games you can call the Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce at 541-367-6186 or visit them at [www.sweethomechamber.org](http://www.sweethomechamber.org).

## Eugene artist presents talk on Thursday

LBCC News Service

Eugene artist Craig Spilman will present a lecture, including slides of his work, on Thursday, March 10, at noon in the Fireside Room, located on the second floor of the College Center.

Spilman is currently showing a retrospective of his work in the AHSS Gallery, "A Look Back: 30 Years of Work." He is a former instructor of printmaking, drawing, painting and design at Lane Community College.

A reception will immediately follow his lecture in the AHSS Gallery. The event is open to the public.

The Spilman exhibit may be viewed until April 1. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**LBCC MAIN CAMPUS**  
Commons  
 MAR 9 - MAR 15

- **WEDNESDAY:**  
 ENTREES: *Chef's Choice*
- **THURSDAY:**  
 ENTREES: *BBQ Chicken, Paella, Grilled Vegetable Wrap*  
 SIDES: *Baked Beans, Sauteed Peppers and Onions*  
 SOUPS: *Mulligatawny, Tomato Soup*
- **FRIDAY:**  
 Chef's choice
- **MONDAY:**  
 ENTREES: *Kung Pao Chicken, Pork Chops, Vegetable Pizza*  
 SIDES: *Mashed Potatoes, Risotto*  
 SOUPS: *Beef Noodle, Cream of Asparagus*
- **TUESDAY:**  
 ENTREES: *Sloppy Joes, Buttermilk Baked Chicken, Vegetable Lasagna*  
 SOUPS: *Tortilla*

**WEEKLY MENU**

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## CALENDAR

# THE VIBE

Albany Public Library Main Branch 1390 Waverly Dr. SE Albany 917-7580	Sat, March 26 How to have a wedding without spending a dime (or at least very little) with local author Kristin Meador 2 - 3:30 p.m. Free
The Beanery 500 SW 2nd. St. Corvallis 753-7442	Sat, March 12 Ian Priestman 7:30 p.m. Free
Chinook Winds Casino Resort 1777 NW 44th St. Lincoln City 1-888-CHINOOK 541-996-5825	March 18-19 BB King 8 p.m. \$30- 60  March 11-12 Comedy on the Coast Dave Anderson and John Diresta Host: JP Linde 8 p.m. \$12
Downtown Corvallis Association 754-6624	Sat, March 12 Rhapsody in the Vine- yard (a Downtown Wine Walk) Businesses will host wineries from through- out Oregon & tasting \$5 purchase of glass & I.D. bracelet required
Linn-Benton College Russell Tripp Center 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW Albany 917-4461	Thurs, March 10 Winter Concert: Out of Africa LBCC Concert & Cham- ber Choirs 7:30 p.m. \$5
Willamette Valley Vineyards 8800 Enchanted Way Turner 1-800-344-9463	March 12 - 13 Oregon's Annual Wine, Cheese & Pear Jubilee Featuring locally pro- duced wine, cheese & pears. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. \$5 includes free wine glass
Kaufman Center 996 Jefferson Eugene 541-686-6136	Thurs, March 17 St. Patrick's Day Family Festival Celebration Celebrate with an eve- ning filled with live music, songs, stories and dancing. Enjoy a parade, shopping and Irish foods. 5 - 11 p.m. \$5 Adults \$2 Children under 13

Compiled by Megan Pickens

Get your event in The Vibe. Send all information to The  
 Commuter, Attn: Vibe Editor at least one week in advance.



photo by Erik Swanson

Culinary student Melissa Blair serves Sandra Houser and Mary Swanson at Friday's Winter Banquet.

## Culinary students cook up elegant evening at annual Winter Banquet

Brenda Ranzenbach  
 The Commuter

The Culinary Arts department hosted their annual winter banquet last Friday night, here at the LBCC campus in the Commons.

The evening began as guests were taken to their seats by formally attired wait staff. Tickets were sold in advance of the evening, so most guests were seated at tables reserved in their names. Tables were set for groups of four to eight, with some open seating available.

The decor was elegant in its simplicity. There were white linen tablecloths and napkins and each table was set with a centerpiece containing a single red rose.

The traditional meal included prime rib, baked potato and seasonal vegetables. Rolls were available on the table as well. Accompanying the regalement was a 2003 Australian Merlot from the winery of Outback Chase. For those who passed on the wine, sparkling apple cider was poured.

Before the relaxing evening came to a close,

the department served for dessert a carrot cake with cream cheese frosting. Coffee was poured with this sweet dish.

The evening's ensemble was entirely student orchestrated. The Culinary Arts students planned the meal, decorated the tables, prepared and served the food and cleaned up afterwards.

"I was happy to get dressed up to enjoy a fancy dinner for an inexpensive price," said Anne Hancock, an education major at LBCC. The 252 guests were diverse and included students, instructors and folks from many walks of life.

The surrounding communities were invited to attend as the Marketing and Publications Department advertised all over the Willamette Valley. "We had people come from as far away as Salem," explained Laurie Chang of the Culinary Arts Department.

The next event hosted by the Culinary Arts Department is planned for May 26 and 27. This French Banquet will be held in the Santiam Restaurant and the Alsea/Calapoia Room.

## Choirs take audience on trip to Africa

Christy Harshman  
 The Commuter

The LB choral department is preparing to take a journey "Out of Africa and Around the World" during their winter concert on Thursday. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Russell Tripp Performance Center.

This concert will feature the concert choir under the direction of Susan Peck, and the chamber choir under the direction of Hal Eastburn, both instructors of music at LB.

The focus of the concert choir's performance will be on African and African-American music, according to Peck. Students will be singing in four African languages, with drums, shakers, claves and clapping accompanying their songs.

The concert choir, composed of 22 LB students, has been working since the start of winter term learning music that is "primarily aural tradition," according to Peck, "with songs passed



on without being written down."

"If you can talk, you can sing. If you can walk, you can dance," according to an old African saying. Peck said this is evident in the rhythmic music as students are "working as a community to sing."

The chamber choir, made up of an auditioned group,

includes 17 students who will be performing songs from European, Asian and American traditions according to Peck.

Songs of the European tradition are represented by music from Baldassare Donato, G.B. Marini, Orlando di Lasso and Howard Helvey in the program. "Mirage on the Gobi Desert" reflects the past and present state of the Mongolian nation.

American tradition will be seen through a collection of hymns arranged by Carol Barnett from "The Sacred Harp," a publication dated 1835.

Swedish tradition will conclude the evening with the carol, "Domaredansen" (The Judge's Dance), arranged by Drew Collins.

Tickets for the performance are on sale for \$5 at the LBCC box office or at Gracewinds Music in Corvallis. Tickets may be purchased at the door one hour prior to performance.

For more information, contact Susan Peck at 917-4550 or the theater box office at 917-4531.