

THE COMMUTER

A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

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Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

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Power crisis jolts staff and students into conservation

College officials ask staff to turn off computers, lights when not in use to cut energy costs

by Michelle Mayo
of The Commuter

LBCC President Jon Carnahan is planning to ask employees to take some "common sense" measures to reduce energy consumption on campus.

In a meeting with the President's Council on Monday, school administrators made suggestions regarding the conservation of power in order to combat rising electricity and natural gas costs. According to Mike Holland, vice president of Administrative and Student Services, natural gas costs for December and January were 45 percent higher than they were last year at the same time.

"We're predicting a 35 percent higher gas and power bill by the end of this school year," Holland said. "So President Carnahan is going to suggest some moderate steps to curb spending."

Some of those steps would include asking faculty to turn off lights and computers after leaving the room, using space heaters as seldom as possible, and possibly turning thermostats down a few degrees.

Gov. John Kitzhaber last month began urging Oregonians to conserve en-

ergy in homes and offices. Since then, Pacific Gas & Electric and the Oregon Public Utility Commission has reported that this has helped produce a 5 percent decline in usage.

Due to the high power demand from California, governors from Oregon, Washington and Idaho have met to deal with the crisis. The Bonneville Power Administration has made a deal with California to ship power south as long as they have a surplus.

A recent analysis by Western Systems Coordinating Council found that the possibility of a power shortage in the Northwest is real this winter.

The lack of rain and a lower than average snowpack, coupled with California's inability to sell surplus electricity to Oregon (as it usually does in the winter), could make the Northwest's hydroelectric power more valuable. Currently, 75 percent of Oregon's power comes from dams.

The usage generated for January is approximately 24,000 average megawatts—enough to keep the lights on in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. Energy planners want a 5 percent reserve margin to keep in the comfort zone in case of an emergency.

John Savage, director of the state Office of Energy, previously said extremely
(Turn to "Power" on Pg. 2)

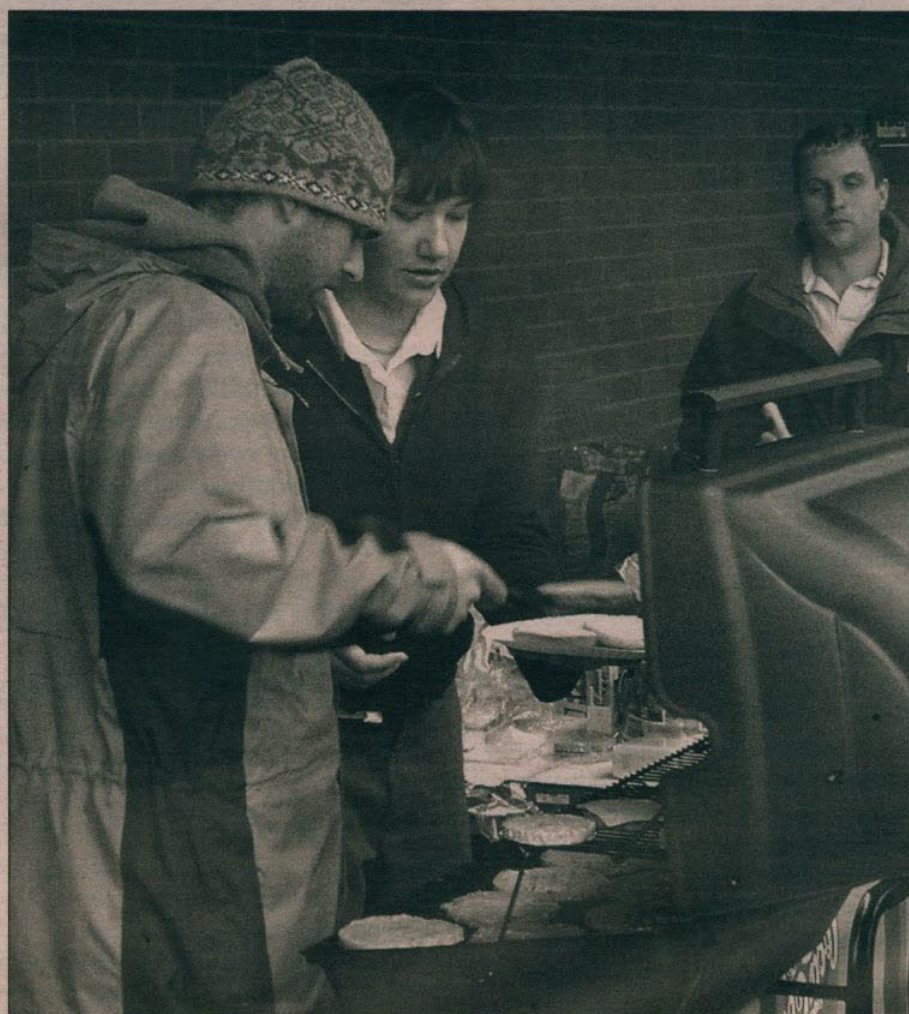


Photo by James Bauerle

'Frisbee Burger with Cheese, Please'

Brian Mogel and Nalisha Johnson serve up veggie and meat burgers during one of the Ultimate Frisbee team's fundraising barbecues last week. The team is trying to raise money for a tournament in Hawaii.

Online voting, board ticket take center stage in 2001-02 ASG election.

by Leon Tovey
of The Commuter

Ah, politics—the American past time.

As soon as we see the end of one election, we're moving on to another.

Of course, LB's 2001 Associated Student Government election will be nowhere near as contested, divisive or sleezy as the 2000 Presidential election, but it should still be pretty interesting.

This year's election will be held Feb. 27-28, and will continue the technological revolution begun during last year's election, when online voting was instituted

to supplement the traditional voting booths. This year voting will be done entirely online.

"There was interest in doing it this way last year," ASG President Todd Gifford said last week. "But the ASG didn't change the school's election code in time and we still had booths. But given the success of the online voting last year, we decided to change the code and go totally online with this year's election."

Another first in this year's election will be current vice president Jonathan Henderson's assembly of an election ticket. In the past, students running for the positions of president and vice president have run

together, but Henderson—who is making a bid for the presidency—hopes to run with a group of other students to fill all eight slots in the upcoming election. The group would campaign together, share the same platform, and (if all goes as planned) get elected together.

"I think it would be great to get a good balance in the positions and to run together as a team," Henderson said, adding that he'd like to split the ticket evenly between men and women candidates.

Henderson has already filled three of the eight spots on his ticket with current student ambassador Diana
(Turn to "Elections" on Pg. 2)



Photo by Leon Tovey

Bathroom graffiti is the most common form of vandalism on campus, according to officials.

Turn in a vandal, pickup free tuition

by Stacia Sage
of The Commuter

A reward of up to two full years tuition is being offered to anyone who provides information resulting in the arrest and conviction of anyone vandalizing Linn-Benton college property.

The vandalism of college property is against state law and punishable by a \$750 fine and 100 hours of community service.

Vern Jackson, manager of security at LBCC, says that although vandalism is down from previous years,

it is still a problem. Graffiti or "tagging" is the most common type of vandalism that occurs on campus. Graffiti on college property is photographed for evidence and is compared with police files. After photographed, all graffiti is painted over.

LBCC, along with an anonymous contributor, established the scholarship reward three years ago in efforts to curb the vandalism problem.

To report any suspicious activity contact Campus Security Department in the College Center or call ext. 4441.

IN THIS ISSUE

Underground Sound

Local bands like Downfallen are forging a new sound in the mid-valley

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Check This Out

Tonight is Employee Appreciation Night at LBCC. Drop by the Activities Center to show your support for the Roadrunners.

Shot Down

After defeating Lane, the Lady Runners fall to Clackamas

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CAMPUS NEWS

OFF BEAT

Close the other eye

During a Christmas Eve celebration at a home in Aurora, Colo., two young men went out into the backyard, and one of them placed a plastic cup on the other's head, the idea being that he would shoot it off, William Tell-style, with a 25-caliber semiautomatic pistol. Alas, the shot was low. The bullet hit the man in the forehead, killing him instantly. Police Sgt. Dan Mark said, "I have never seen anything like this in my 16-year law enforcement career."

Customs makes booty call

A 26-year-old woman was about to board a plane for London at Zimbabwe's international airport when customs officials detained her because she had an unusually large rear end. Closer inspection revealed that she had stuffed 14 pounds of marijuana into her panties. She was arrested on smuggling charges.

Don't dump on my Ford

A man in Wappapello, Mo., apparently doesn't believe in brushing the snow off the top of his vehicle, preferring instead to let it melt or blow off as he drives along. But, due to prolonged bad weather in the Midwest, a chunk of ice built up and built up on top of his van. When it finally blew off, it weighed about 500 pounds. It crushed the roof and windshield of a passing 1999 Ford Contour being driven by Andy Burnett who saw it coming. "I had about a split-second reaction time and thought, 'This is going to hurt,'" he said. The van driver stopped briefly but left without giving his name.

Where's my refund?

In 1989, Tollie Shealey of Cincinnati got the worst news a bachelor can get from his girlfriend: "I'm pregnant." But he owned up to his responsibility, and paid child support for the next seven years. Then, in 1996, the girlfriend's mother told Tollie's mother that another man had, in fact, fathered the child. A paternity test confirmed the joyous news, but due to a quirk in Ohio law, Tollie had to continue to pay anyway. Now, the Ohio Legislature has passed a new law letting Tollie off the hook.

Another gator community

A 10-foot-long alligator was stuck in an underground pipe in Boca Raton, Fla., for about a month. Curious people, who would drop by to gawk, gave the animal an appropriate nickname: "Drano."

—From the TMS News Service

ASG takes meetings on the road to centers

by Crystal Davis
of The Commuter

As part of an effort to involve students at LB's satellite centers in student government, the Associated Student Government (ASG) has recently made a plan to hold meetings in the centers, first of which was an outreach meeting held Jan. 24 at the Lebanon Center.

"We understand how vitally important it is for all students, regardless of where they attend, to be included with activities and student involvement," said ASG President Todd Gifford.

The next outreach meeting takes place on Feb. 7 at 3:30 p.m. at the Benton center. Each term, the ASG plans to hold at least one meeting at each of the centers, excluding the Sweet Home center because of the lack of size and facilities.

Last October, representatives of LB's

extended learning centers met with the ASG to discuss their concerns regarding the lack of student involvement in activities at the centers. In response, the ASG agreed to start holding meetings at the centers and also donated a refrigerator, microwave, and microwave cart to the Lebanon center, a microwave to the Benton center, and a brochure rack for each of the East-Linn Centers.

Another issue brought up in October regarded the need for better communication between students at the centers and the main campus—a situation the ASG has moved to rectify this term.

"It's as easy as a phone call," said Gifford. "If students would like to get a hold of us, they can call the general office and ask for any officers. I feel that it is the responsibility of center directors to work with the ASG to help make this happen.

Everything that comes to us, we make a point to address," he added.

The centers are also directly targeted with funds from the Special Project. This project allots \$5,000 to the centers, which is distributed evenly between all centers based on percent of full-time equivalency (FTE), which is a way to express the number of credits taken. Therefore, the money spent reflects on that percentage. "We'd like to make the students happy, but we also have to be financially responsible," said Gifford.

The ASG consists of eight board members. "We've made a concerted effort to actively involve students with all aspects of LBCC," stated Gifford. He, along with Vice President John Henderson, participated in a Welcome back table at the centers this term, which was well received by the students.

Election: Feb. 16 is deadline to apply for ASG candidacy

From Page One

Barnhart, Science and Technology Representative Mark Teschner and Byron Watson joining with Henderson.

The election will fill eight slots in the 2001-02 Associated Student Government—three executive positions and five division representative positions. The executive positions—president, vice president and public relations secretary—carry a three-term full tuition grant, while the representative positions—science & technology, business and health occupations, student services and extended learning, liberal arts and human performance, 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 building. The deadline to apply is 3:30 p.m., Feb. 16. Once the applications have been submitted, candidates can begin campaigning—a process that involves posting an assortment of colorful banners around campus and a candidates debate, which will be held at noon in the Commons on Feb. 20.

Power: NW to be out of dark by 2002-03

From Page One

tight supplies are also expected this time next year. Savage added the situation should ease by winter 2002-2003 because of new generating plants now under construction come into service.



Photo by James Bauerle

They Test Titanium and Bake Cookies, too

Students in LB's Metallurgy program held a bake sale last week in Takena Hall to raise funds and improve awareness of the program's existence.

Volunteers needed for literacy workshop

by Ky Weatherford
of The Commuter

A workshop for volunteer literacy tutors will be held in Room 116 of the Workforce Education Building on Feb. 3 and 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The workshop will train volunteer tutors in English as a Second Language and also give them the skills to help students enrolled in Basic Skills and the GED program. Tutors will work with students at LBCC centers in Albany, Corvallis, Sweet Home and Lebanon in-

dividually or in groups.

Volunteers are needed for at least six hours a week and times can be arranged with the student and the supervising teacher. Tutor Coordinator Alice Spurling said the volunteers include retirees, college students, and professionals in the community. She also said that volunteering can be fun, personally rewarding, and can make a big difference in a student's life.

Volunteers can register by calling Alice Spurling at 917-4713.

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 Green Party. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them.

Address correspondence to The Commuter, 6500 S.W. Pacific Blvd., Albany, Ore. 97321; Telephone (541) 917-4451, 917-4452 or 917-4453; Fax (541) 917-4454; E-mail commuter@ml.lbcc.cc.or.us. The newsroom is located in Room 222 of the Forum.

The Commuter Staff:

Editor-in-Chief, Leon Tovey; **Managing Editor**, Lori Weedmark; **Contributing Editors**, Michelle Mayo, Ben Hughes; **A&E Editor**, Chad Richins; **Opinion Editor**, Angus McBrian; **Editorial Assistant**, Gelina Inches; **Photo Editor**, Christopher Spence; **Photo Assistants**, James Bauerle, Lisa Jimenez; **Sports Editors**, Christina Laramore, Jason Amberg; **Advertising Manager**, John La'Gere; **Advertising Assistant**, Derek Wakefield; **Pagination Coordinator**, Angus McBrian; **Graphics Editor**, Joe Ellingson. **Production**: Allen Garner, Stephani Gordon, Mary Jova; **Writers**: Crystal Davis, Barry Douglas, Amy Eastburn, Crystal Huff, Sean Leveque, Adam Pierce, Taiga Sudakin, Michael Taylor, Ky Weatherford, Kurt Madar, Stacia Sage, Beth Lyall, Eric Normandin, Justin Pittenger, David Miller. **Advisor**, Rich Bergeman.

CAMPUS NEWS

Expert reveals scholarship application tricks of the trade

by Beth Lyall
of The Commuter

Students applying for scholarships need to find a way for their application to stand out, even if it means doing a little bragging about yourself, a representative of The Oregon Student Assistance Commission told a crowd at last Tuesday's scholarship workshop.

Julia Keizur, a retired high school counselor, said she has read several applications in the time she has worked for the OSAC and used that experience to give students advice on how to submit a strong application.

To apply for scholarships offered through the state commission, one outline and two essays are required along with the application form. One essay is to be on the applicant's significant accomplishments, and the other essay is to explain the applicant's long term goals. Students shouldn't be intimidated if their



Photo by Leon Tovey

Students fill out applications for scholarships last Wednesday during the second of two sessions presented by the Financial Aid Office.

grades are not the best or if their major is undecided, she said—"People want to give money."

Commitment is what the judges are looking for, she said. The outlines should include all life experiences, goals and accomplishments. This can also help with the writing of the essays, Keizur said.

Use family, friends and co-workers for ideas. The school's LRC or Writing Center can assist you in writing the essays.

Writing the essays is the student's job and they should keep in mind they are getting paid the scholarship amount to complete the application, Keizur stated. The essays should show passion, some-

thing the student feels good about. In the essay students need to include what they learned, how they grew in character and how they have changed. Writing must be efficient and technically perfect. It would be best if you can relate your essays to each other.

The judges recognize fill, she stated, advising students to avoid padding just to fill the page or to make you look good.

Keizur also discussed the Ford Family Foundation, which awards 100 scholarships each year that cover 90 percent of the students' needs, including room and board, books and child care. Two types of scholarships are included—one for full-time students who are transferring to a four year college, and another specifically for single parents, which applies to many community college students.

The deadline for all scholarship applications to the OSAC is March 1.

Hoodoo ski trip open to first 10 students who sign up in SL&L Office

by Eric Normandin
of The Commuter

Student Life and Leadership is sponsoring a ski trip to Hoodoo ski bowl Saturday, February 10.

The trip is open to the first 10 LBCC students who sign up. The cost is \$20, which includes transportation, a lift ticket, and free breakfast.

The sign up sheet is located in the SL&L office, located next to the recreational room on the first floor of the student union.

The \$20 fee is due when signing up. A valid student identification card is necessary for this trip.

Those attending the trip will meet at 6:30 a.m. February 10th at Peak Sports on 2nd St. in Corvallis. Departure time is 6:45 a.m. The estimated return time is around 6:00 p.m.

For more information, contact the In-Rec Team in SL&L.

Seminars present on how to organize school life

by Ky Weatherford
of The Commuter

Students interested in improving their learning skills can attend free Survival Seminars every Tuesday at 12 p.m. for the next five weeks.

All of the seminars are located in Room 210 of the Learning Center and are 45-minute presentations on such topics as how to take tests, organize study groups, and cope with math.

"It's free, it's casual, and people can even bring friends that don't come to school," Seminar Coordinator

Sandy Fichtner said. "It's open for everybody."

Next week's seminar covers more efficient ways to read a text book. Other seminars are:

- Feb. 6: "When It's Not Multiple Choice." Kathy Clark speaks on how to be successful with essay questions and writing what really counts on the test.
- Feb. 13: "Studying With Others." Mary Browning teaches people how to make study groups effective and how to get the most out of study groups.
- Feb. 20: "Organizing Your Life."

Cheryl Alison shows participants how to schedule workloads and balance out your time.

• Feb. 27: "So Much Math, So Little Time." Rob Lewis and Chareane Wimbley-Gouveia help students improve math skills and conquer math phobia.

Snacks such as cookies and pretzels are provided and prizes are awarded. People can sign up in the LRC to guarantee themselves a seat, but it's not required.

Donations fail to meet goals for King canned food drive

by Ben Hughes
of The Commuter

The canned food drive implemented last week by Student Life and Leadership fell short of expectations, yielding only four contributions after one week of accepting donations.

This was the first time SL&L has attempted a food drive during MLK week.

According to Student Ambassador Nora Webb, after the holidays people

generally stop donating food, which creates a high need for food in January.

Webb added, "The whole focus during MLK week, on campus, is to do something for the community, and one of the issues we wanted to touch was hunger."

According to SL&L there were donation barrels at Tadena, the Commons and in the SL&L building. All donations were going to a Christian charity group known as FISH, which is named after the

early Christian symbol.

The four contributions contained 30 packages resembling items found in a college students cupboard, like refried beans, tuna, macaroni and cheese, tomato paste, instant lunches and instant rice.

All the donations are appreciated, but due to low participation it is uncertain if the SL&L is going to repeat this event next year.

Valentine's Flower Sale

Carnations can be ordered in the Student Life and leadership Office or at the table in Tadena 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

Winter Term Promotions for Bookstore Spirit Card Holders!

- * Pick up a free Blue Book on Feb. 5th.
- * Get your Valentine, a mylar balloon and a box of candy for free on Feb. 14th.
- * Show your card on Feb. 28th and get a free highlighter.
- * Come by March 13th, and get a free Big Bar Rice Krispie Treat.
- * March 1st - 2nd, get a free spiral notebook, with the purchase of 500 sheet filler paper.

Still don't have your Spirit Card? Come by the Bookstore today, and find out how to get one.

Items are available only while promotional quantities last. You must present you Spirit Card, to receive promotional items. For more details, please stop by the Bookstore.



Order your textbooks online at: www.bookstore.lbcc.cc.or.us



CAMPUS NEWS

OSU schedules events to honor Pauling

by Amy Eastburn
of The Commuter

OSU will host a series of activities in commemoration of the achievements of scientist Linus Pauling, a two-time Nobel Laureate and OSU graduate in chemical engineering.

February 2001 marks the 100th anniversary of Pauling's birth. He became not only a renowned scientist but a humanitarian and peace activist. In 1947 he pledged, "In every lecture that I give from now on, every public lecture, I pledge to make some mention for world peace." The William H. Nicholas Medal and the Willard Gibbs Medal of the Chicago section of the American Chemical Society were among many of Pauling's

awards.

"Many scholars believe Linus Pauling and Albert Einstein were the two greatest scientists of the 20th century," Steven Lawson of the OSU Pauling Institute said.

Linus Pauling died Aug. 19, 1994, from prostate cancer at the age of 93.

Activities that will take place this year in celebration of Pauling's achievements include:

- Jan 22-March 5: An exhibit at the OSU Memorial Union documenting Pauling's work.

- Feb 27: A public lecture on "Science and Conscience" by John Polanyi, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry.

- Feb 28: A symposium at OSU on

Pauling's influence on science and society.

- May 14: Ava Helen and Linus Pauling lecture on World Peace, featuring Betty Williams.

- May 14-15: A symposium on 50 years of structural biology to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the publication of the alpha-helix protein structure by Pauling, Robert Corey, and H.R. Branson.

- May 16-19: An international conference of diet and optimum health will be hosted by OSU Linus Pauling Institute in Portland, when the first \$50,000 Linus Pauling Institute Prize for health and research will be awarded.

The annual Linus Pauling Chemistry lecture will be held at OSU in October.

Swedish firm donates welding equipment to LBCC shops

From the LBCC News Service

ESAB (Elektriska Svetsnings-Aktiebolaget) x2Welding and Cutting Products recently replaced many of the college's aging collection of welding gas regulators, cutting torches and welding tips.

The donation, valued at the dealer's cost of about \$44,000, was installed in December and includes more than 40 gas flow regulators and cutting torches used in the auto technology, collision repair, metallurgy, refrigeration and welding shops on campus.

The company also recycled the worn out equipment its donations replaced,

packing off more than 740 pounds of brass to a recycling smelter.

"The cutting torches have some nice features, and the regulators are explosion-proof," said welding instructor Red Ayers.

ESAB is the world's largest manufacturer and provider of welding and cutting equipment and welding filler materials. Founded in 1904 by Swedish engineer and coated electrode inventor Oskar Kjellberg, the company now employs 7,800 people with sales offices in 31 countries and manufacturing plants in 16. ESAB's North American headquarters are in Florence, S.C.

Info session offered Feb. 7 on dual enrollment

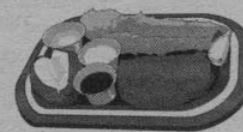
From the LBCC News Service

An information session on the LBCC/OSU Dual Admission and Enrollment program will be held in the Commons Wednesday Feb. 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Information on financial aid, advising and general administration will be available to students on a drop-in basis.

Free pizza and drinks will be provided.

Commons Menu Jan. 31 - Feb. 6



Wednesday

Pot Roast
Chicken Burrito
Grilled Vegetables with Quinoa
Soups: French Onion & Corn Chowder
Chef's Salad

Thursday

Liver & Onions
Croque Monsieur w/ Potato Salad
Grilled Vegetable Pizza
Soups: Cream of Tomato & Chicken
Noodle
Taco Salad.

Friday

Chef's Choice

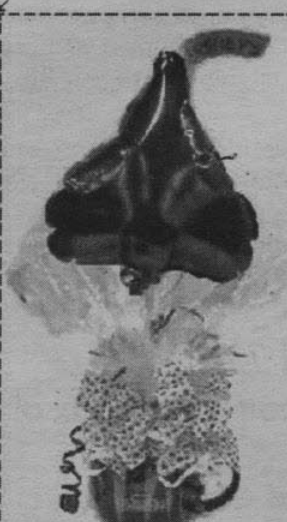
Monday

Baked Ham
Beef Goulash
Frittata
Soups: Potage au Pistou & Beef Barley
Tuna Nicoise Salad

Tuesday

Chicken & Dumplings
Chili Verde
Vegetable Strude
Soups: Puree Mongole & Albondigas
Grilled Chicken Caesar Salad

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



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!

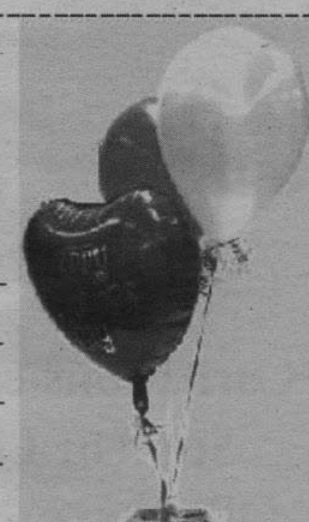
King sized Snickers bar, wrapped up, and finished off with a Valentine's balloon bouquet. \$3.98 each

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

Where: _____ Time: _____

Name: _____

Ordered by: _____ Ext: _____



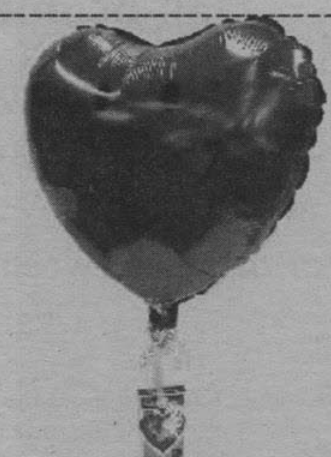
All ordering information is solely for Bookstore information.



Spirit Card Holders.

FREE Mylar balloon, and a box of candy hearts On Valentines Day!

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



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

LOCAL NEWS

USDA sets new rules as sales of organic foods rise

by Lori Weedmark
of The Commuter

Ionizing radiation. Genetic engineering. Sewage sludge. Pesticides. Herbicides. Feed lots. Pig factories. Chicken factories. Forced growth by hormone injections. Antibiotics for the hell of it.

Sounds like something out of a high school science class.

Unfortunately it's not. It's what's being done to our food supply on a daily basis, and it's what's finally being thrown out of the organic food market.

By this summer, food labeled "organic" will be just that—organic. Last December, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) established standards that finally meet the public and organic farming sectors view of what organic should be.

The final standards are significantly different from those proposed by the USDA three years ago. The original standards allowed the use of irradiated ingredients, sewage sludge and genetically engineered seeds.

Organic consumers and industry trade groups dedicated themselves to opposing these "organic standards" by sending the USDA 275,603 responses—which amounted to one negative comment for every minute the public comment period was open.

With organic food sales rising by 20 percent yearly since 1990, and sales from the 12,200 organic farms registered in the US reaching \$6 billion last year, the USDA could hardly ignore the outcry.

The First Alternative Co-op, a local organic food store on third street in Corvallis, has seen steady growth since opening their doors in 1970.

"People want good organic standards," said co-op general manager Michele Adams. "They want their food to be healthy and to be clearly labeled as well."

The final standards now state that no food can be labeled "organic" if sewage sludge or genetically engineered seeds have been used in its production or if any of the ingredients have been irradiated.

The standards also state that organic farms must have had no prohibited synthetic substances applied to the soil for at least three years before harvest of an organic crop. Soil nutrition and fertility must be managed through tillage and cultivation practices, crop

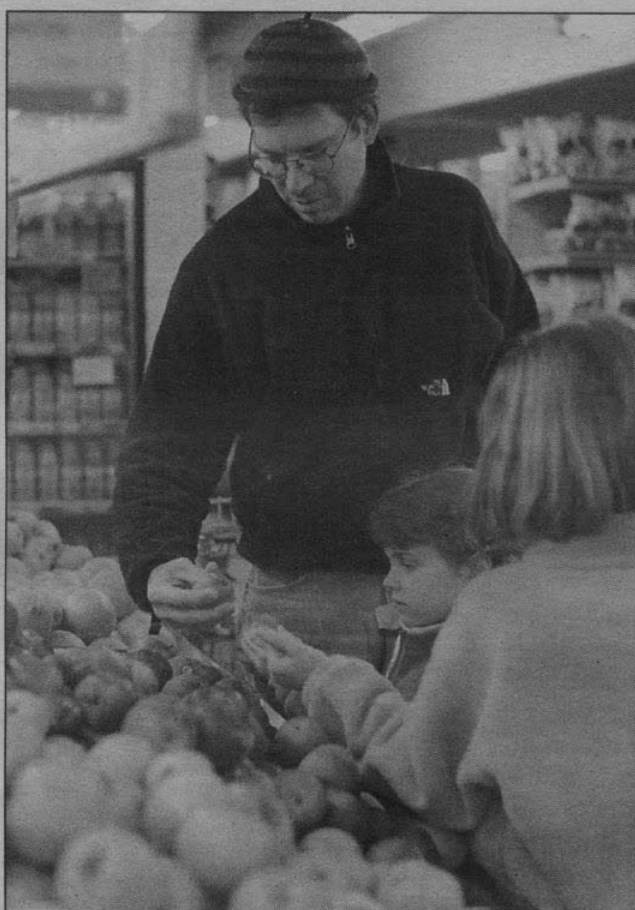


Photo by Lori Weedmark

Rob Wheatcraft of Corvallis and his two daughters look over the produce at First Alternative Co-op.

rotations, cover crops, and can be supplemented with animal and crop waste materials and some allowed synthetic materials. Allowed materials are listed with the USDA.

Standards have also been set for the production of meat, milk, eggs and other animal food products labeled organic. The animals must be raised under organic management from the last trimester of pregnancy. For poultry, it can be no later than the second day after birth. Livestock must be fed products that are 100 percent organic, with some vitamin and mineral supplements allowed. Organic dairy farms can use 80

percent organic feed for nine months followed by three months of 100 percent organic feed.

The animals may not be given growth enhancing hormones or antibiotics. To keep the animals healthy, preventative practices must be used which may include the use of vaccines. The animals must also have access to the outdoors, including access to pastures.

Farms that sell less than \$5,000 per year in organic products need not certify with the USDA, although they must abide by the national standards for organic products in order to label their products as "organic."

Oregon Tilth, an organic inspection agency, certifies and inspects farms and producers of organic foods for the USDA. Tilth inspectors visit sites that have been certified or wish to be certified. Inspectors then file a report which is used to decide whether the farm is in compliance with USDA standards. Tilth also accepts reports from independent inspectors.

"We as consumers really rely on the inspectors to do a good job and know the rules," said Gwendolyn Wyard, an independent inspector of organic farms.

According to Wyard, when the new labeling comes out this summer, consumers will see a distinct difference in the way the products are labeled and will need to educate themselves on the differences.

Shoppers can expect to see new organic labeling beginning in the summer of 2001, with the laws being fully implemented by the middle of 2002.

THE NEW ORGANIC LABELS

- "100 percent organic" —must contain only organic ingredients
- "Organic" — must be at least 95 percent organic by weight
- "Made with organic ingredients" —must contain at least 70 percent organic ingredients
- Products made with "100 percent organic," "Organic," or "Made with 70 percent organic ingredients" can use those terms on the front of the package, and the USDA seal can be used on packaging and advertising in the first two categories only—"100 percent organic" and "organic."

Scientists update recommendations for daily vitamin intake

by Taiga Sudakin
of The Commuter

People spending money on vitamin and mineral supplements may be in for some financial relief.

According to Dr. Robert Russell, professor of Medicine and Nutrition at Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston, most adults in the United States get enough vitamin A, vitamin K, chromium, copper, iodine, iron, manganese, molybdenum and zinc from their normal diets to meet the newly issued Recommended Dietary Allowances. "Those who do not get enough of these nutrients could do so by making modest changes in their diets," Russell added.

These findings are from the latest report on Dietary Reference Intakes from the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine, Washington D.C., re-

leased Jan. 9. The report is the fifth in a series that updates and expands on the Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDAs). Many of the RDAs have been lowered.

Russell also said the vitamin A value of the fruits and vegetables has gone down, referring to new research that plant foods provide half as much vitamin A as what was previously understood. Below are highlights of the report's new recommendations for vitamin A, iron, and zinc.

Vitamin A: choosing dark colored, green, orange and yellow fruits and vegetables is the key to getting adequate vitamin A from plant sources, according to Dr. Russell. He said "You can eat one-half cup of cooked carrots and get the full RDA for vitamin A." Non-plant sources of vitamin A include fortified

dairy products, oily, darker fish and organ meats such as liver. The new RDA for vitamin A is 900 micrograms daily for men and 700 micrograms daily for women.

Iron: the report sets the RDA at 8 milligrams (mg) a day for men and post-menopausal women, and at 18 mg a day for pre-menopausal women. Pregnant women, however, will likely need an iron supplement to meet the new RDA of 27 mg a day. Good sources of iron include red meat, fish, poultry, eggs, legumes and dried fruit. Strict vegetarians need to consume twice as much iron to meet the daily requirement because the iron in plant foods is less easily absorbed.

Zinc: the RDA for zinc was set at 11 mg a day for men and 8 mg a day for women. Zinc is found in red meat, seafood and whole grains. Also, a chemical in plants

called phytate hinders zinc absorption. Thus strict vegetarians may need up to 50 percent more to meet the RDA for zinc.

More information regarding the report on Dietary Reference Intakes can be found at the National Institute of Medicine's website, www.iom.edu.

LBCC students and staff can find many nutritious food choices on campus to enhance their diet. Gene Neville, manager of food services at LBCC, said the foods offered are based on the educational needs of the culinary arts students, customers' comments, sales and a "...mix of cuisines, styles and values."

It appears many students and staff take advantage of the fresh produce available on campus, because according to Neville, the salad bar is the most popular item at the Commons Cafeteria.

WANNA GO ?
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Available to the first 10 students

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For Ride, Ticket & Food

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Feb. 7th, Leave LBCC @ 4:30

Blazers VS. Sacramento Kings
Feb. 15th, Leave LBCC @ 4:30

Sign Up In Student Life and
Leadership Office

BLAZERS

VS.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Garageland

Underground bands struggle to reach surface

Story and Photos by Crystal A. Huff of The Commuter

The walls are clad in American flags, 'keep out' signs, and Kurt Cobain posters. Amps, guitars, odds and ends of unrecognizable equipment, and a drum set cover every square inch of floor save the space reserved for a plaid couch and a small refrigerator tattooed with band stickers. "RAGE" is mapped out with duck tape across the upside down flag that hangs above the couch.

The scene is an illustration of a kind of garage band counterculture not all that unfamiliar to Albany. Though "garage music" or "garage punk" in particular have been declared genres—the kind of music among today's local and underground bands have a wider variety of sound than any that can be heard on most radio stations. However, the goal is the same: to pursue a passion and create music for people who are fed up with an industry that has, overall, become futile and ineffectual except when it comes to money.

The room described above belongs to a band that has been developing their sound for about two years. The members are: Cole Street, vocals; Tyler Loy, guitar; Mike Wise, guitar; Colin Wise, bass; and Adam Fortier, drums. Street couldn't make it to the interview. The band (if they had to label themselves) said their music could be considered alternative. Their hope for the future is to cut a demo to hand out to people but the initial goal is to perform live more often.

According to the musicians the band doesn't have a particular message "unless Cole Street wants to send a message through his lyrics." Colin Wise added, "we all just wanna break stuff onstage but we can't do that right now—we don't have anything we can afford to break."

Aside from protecting their instruments from "The Who syndrome" the band is trying to come up with a name for themselves. Right now the naming choices are down to three: Seamless, Down Tribe, and David the Gnome. Seamless, at this time, is in the lead.

The last show the band did together was at Riverside Grange about a year



Members of the Albany band Seamless, Tyler Loy, Adam Fortier and Colin Wise (above) practice their brand of "garage punk," while not far away the group temporarily dubbed "Downfallen" practice their music (right). Brian Kaucher, Mat Hazelton, and Casey Meservey.



ago with local bands Kustem and Falling Up. Now, with a new lead singer, different sound, and a name—Seamless (or not), the band hopes to get enough material together to start doing gigs again in the summer. Fortier said, "We wanna show people our stuff, see if they like it, so we know whether to keep it or not—hear other opinions besides ours."

Everyone in the band agreed that most of their support has come from a fellow local band (also in "name transition") who blast away their Slayer-influenced sound not 10 minutes away from where Loy, Street, Fortier, and the Wise brothers jam.

Casey Meservey, guitar; Mat Hazelton, bass; Brian Kaucher, drums; Josh Barns, guitar; and Zach Pellet, vocals, started their garage band about six months ago. Barns and Pellet were unable to attend the interview but the rest of the band took time out from practicing to share a few quick words on the industry and the band's future goals.

"We are really intent on making a career out of this," said Meservey. Thus far the band, who are considering the name

'Downfallen', have played at parties and received a good response from friends and supporters.

On the state of music today Meservey said, "A lot of the bands, in the type of music we play anyway, all seem like they're copying each other—just making slight changes to the way their sound is and staying with that sound just because it's what's popular at the moment."

The members of Downfallen and Seamless agreed that local band communities, along with programs such as Napster, will hopefully give underground music a little bit of the glory that mainstream bands have been collecting for years.

Downfallen's first show will be with Kustem at the Venetian Theater in April. While marking your calendars please note that the band has to have a certain number of presages before the show can come off the ground—keep an out of for a date and time and be sure to buy tickets in advance.

As for Seamless, look for their name (which ever one they choose) later this year.

Fairbanks shows black-and-white photos

from the OSU News Service

"Cosmic Earth," an exhibit of silver prints by Washington photographer Bruce Barnbaum, will open Monday Feb. 5 in Fairbanks Gallery at Fairbanks Hall on the OSU campus with a reception and artist's talk at 6 p.m.

The exhibit runs through March 7.

Barnbaum's radiant black-and-white photographs of natural sandstone formations have a cosmic relationship to the forces of the universe. Originally Barnbaum's educational background was in mathematics and physics, and his goal had been to study the forces of nature at the sub-nuclear level. But a 1980 walk into Antelope Canyon on the Colorado Plateau changed the way he experienced the universe and led him to photography as a career.

In 1974 he received the Sierra Club's

national Ansel Adams Award for Photography and Conservation. In 1975 he founded the Owens Valley Photography Workshops, which were then followed in 1991 by the Photographic Arts Workshops offered through his own studio in Granite, Wash.

He published "Aftermath," a limited edition portfolio in 1979, and "Cathedrals of Man," a monograph of 24 images, in 1981. He is the author of "Art of Photography," published in 1994 by Kendall-Hunt Publishing Company. He has also been published in several popular magazines.

Fairbanks Gallery is open to the public weekdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. A free shuttle to the gallery is available to the public, leaving the south side of Reser Stadium on the quarter hour during gallery hours.



This view of Antelope Canyon by Washington photographer Bruce Barnbaum is part of an exhibit at Fairbanks Gallery at OSU.

BEHIND THE MIC

Johnson, Muldaur to play local venues in coming weeks

Thursday Feb. 1

Eric Johnson and Alien Love Child will be playing with The Derek Trucks Band at the WOW Hall (291 W. 8th, Eugene). Tickets are \$25.00 at the door.

Friday Feb. 2

In the Confluence Room at Big River Restaurant (101 NW Jackson Av, Corvallis) Geoff Muldaur will be performing at 8pm.

Friday/Saturday Feb. 2/3

At the Wild Duck Music Hall (169 W. 8th, Eugene) The B-side Players will be playing on the Feb. 2 (tickets \$8), and Yonder Mountain String Band along with Kerosene Dream will be playing Feb. 3 (tickets \$12).

Wednesday Feb. 7

Moe will be at the EMU Ballroom (U of O Campus, Eugene) on Feb. 7—tickets are \$17 at the door.

Wednesday Feb. 7

Iovino's Italian Restaurant (Corvallis) is going to have a dance night with DJ Toes, DJ Lunitin, and DJ Caleb on Feb. 7 starting at 10 pm. There is a \$2 cover and this show is 21+ only. On the 18th, Iovino's will be featuring live jazz with OM at 8 pm.

Thursday Feb. 8

For a more traditional sound, Irish Moonshine will be performing Celtic music at The Fox & Firkin (202 SW 1st, Corvallis) on the 8th at 9 pm. There is a \$2 cover charge.

Friday Feb. 9

Culture with special guests RA Scool and Balou the Sasquatch are also going to be at the Wild Duck on the Feb. 9 at 9 pm. Tickets are on sale at House of Records, Fastixx, and Lazar's.

Saturday Feb. 10

Liquid Foundation—a funk-rock trio from Santa Cruz—will be at Squirrel's (100 SW 2nd, Corvallis) on the Feb. 10. The show is 21+ only and there is a \$3 cover.

Saturday Feb. 10

The Venetian Theater (241 1st, Albany) will be featuring Latin music with Sabado Gigante at 10 pm on Feb. 10—\$15 dollars at the door.

Saturday Feb. 10

Also on the Feb. 10 is Deep Banana Blackout at the Wild Duck. 21+ only. Tickets are \$12 and available at Fastixx.

Every Other Monday

The Tone Sharks will be performing every other Monday starting with the first Monday in February at Interzone (1563 Monroe, Corvallis) at 7 pm.

—Compiled by Crystal A. Huff

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'The Little Mermaid' emerges for annual kids' show

Performing Arts Department brings popular Hans Christian Andersen tale to life at LB starting Feb. 15

by Adam Pierce
of The Commuter

The cast runs through the scene five times in 10 minutes as the actors jump, bow, curtsy and dance across the stage, playing to an empty audience.

But come Feb. 15 those seats will be full. During the next 15 performances, over 6,000 Elementary school students from all over the Willamette Valley will be used in to see Linn-Benton's production of William Glennon's "The Little Mermaid."

The play is based on the popular children's tale by Hans Christian Andersen, which also inspired the Disney movie. Director Jane Donovan said that the main difference between the two is that in this play the Mermaid and the Prince become friends instead of romantic partners.

Donovan says that she thinks it is a valuable lesson for the kids to learn that boys and girls can form friendships. Another important lesson comes later in the play, when Prince Ollie doesn't believe that he has what it takes to be King. The Mermaid shows him that he can be King if he just believes in himself, hopefully instilling into the younger viewers that they can accomplish big things even if at first they don't think they can.

The play, which runs 75 minutes, is the 26th annual children's show LB has presented. For the past 25 years the Performing Arts Department has been doing these shows, helping to give many of the children in atten-



Photo by James Bauerle

The pace of rehearsals is picking up as the cast of 'The Little Mermaid' prepares for opening day.

dance a memorable first introduction to LB, as well as generating revenue to help fund other theater projects.

Scott Kingston, an LB student and Corvallis resident worked with the choral director Hal Eastburn to expand and give original accompaniment to the music already supplied by the publisher. The play will also include an overture he wrote himself.

The cast will have more than 60 hours of rehearsal

"It's a lot more animated to do a children's show, you have to put a lot more feeling into the characters. It just takes a different kind of energy."

—Zac Knight

behind them before opening day. When added to the 17 full performances, that equals a large amount of time and energy put in by the cast and crew. Crystal Huff, stage manager and assistant director for the play says it gives her the "feeling of what it would be like to work in professional theater. It just gives you the feeling you're working on something big."

The challenges and rewards of doing a children's show are different than those of a show directed towards a more adult audience.

According to Zac Knight, who plays Prince Ollie, "It's a lot more animated to do a children's show, you have to put a lot more feeling into the characters. It just takes a different kind of energy." Donovan agreed. "Kids can tell, they'll talk if you're not being real."

Donovan doesn't expect to hear any talking in the audience opening day. She expects the show to be great, and as for her cast all she has to say is "I'm very lucky."

Tickets will be available starting Feb. 5 at the Takena Box Office and Rice's Pharmacy in Corvallis. There will be public performances on Sunday Feb. 25, and a sign interpreted performance Sunday March 4. Both performances will be at 3 p.m. with the March 4 performance serving as a benefit for LB's Performing Arts Foundation Scholarship Fund.

The 'Zone' energizes Monroe as locals wake up and smell the coffee

Products and services enliven atmosphere; push Interzone above coffee house standards

By Ben Hughes
of The Commuter

On the Monroe strip next door to OSU's main campus, the Interzone awaits. Loaded with fresh organic brew, music, hospitality and a grasp on atmosphere that most coffee shops lack, the Interzone remains one of Corvallis' hot spots.

Mostly known as a gathering station for doing home work, grabbing a "cup of joe," reading newsletters and literature, and playing board games, Interzone has finally found a piece of the music community. Last weekend, Zonogoers had the privilege of listening to or watching (depending on where you were standing) The Sodomites and their guests. The show was a success, packing the "Zone" inside and out.

"The music isn't a new attraction. When we first started playing bands it didn't seem that popular. But after we put carpet down over the concrete, the acoustics became much better and the



Photo by Lisa Jimenez

Andre Hatch and Micheal Jenne enjoy a board game and a cup of coffee at the Interzone cafe in Corvallis.

audience seemed to enjoy the sound more," says Bill McCanless, one of the owners of Interzone.

After the success of last week's show McCanless plans on throwing some new shows in February. "Hopefully we can get another Sodomites show and maybe the Tone Sharks next month," he said.

"The zone takes care of its own," William Burroughs wrote in "Naked

Lunch." and he wasn't far from the truth. The Interzone takes care of its customers as if they were old college buddies coming in from the snow. The warm smiles, conversation and speedy service is only part of the warm atmosphere flooding the Interzone.

As soon as you walk in the door you have the choice of two areas to rest your legs. On the left, a breakfast table setting

lightened by surrounding windows and upbeat colors. On the right, a retro setting that hosts various types of seating and lighting, which spotlights the assorted publications and board games. Interzone offers a scene for about any genre of personality.

The Interzone offers a better than average selection of pastries and coffee. But the kicker is, most of their products are organic, including some breakfast items and creamers. Interzone uses Pacifica Coffee Limited as their organic choice for coffee.

The coffee prices are about average, in comparison to larger competitors. Breakfast meals, which are served on weekends, contain mostly vegetarian plates that average between \$4.50-\$5.95. The prices are quite reasonable for the portions and for the peace of mind of eating organic food, which settles nice in the belly.

Even if Interzone didn't have great organic coffee, comfortable chairs, a plethora of alternative, live or recorded tunes, breakfast, and heart-warming service, something tells me that the "Zone" would still drag people in for a game of checkers and a tall house special.

Rivers topic of writers' series

by The Commuter staff

LBCC Valley Writers' Series presents Kathleen Dean Moore speaking on "Writing about Oregon Rivers" on Saturday, Feb. 3 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in Industrial A Room 201.

Moore is the chair of the Philosophy Department at OSU and the author of a book of essays called "Riverwalking." Each essay is a scientific meditation on a local river, including the Willamette, Santiam, John Day and Opal Creek.

She will speak to a Linfield Inquiry Seminar on, "The Literature of Western Rivers." The event is co-sponsored by

the Valley Writers' Series and is free.

LBCC's Valley Writers' Series started last fall, and has featured workshops, lectures and readings from local writers. Upcoming guests in the series will be LB English Instructor Jane Thomas, who heads up the Science Education division at OSU Press, and Dr. Eric Forsman, a U.S. Forest Service expert on the fate of the Spotted Owl.

Thomas will speak on Feb. 7 and Forsman will speak on Feb. 14. Both lectures will be at noon in Takena 213.

For more information, contact Peter Jensen at 757-4283.

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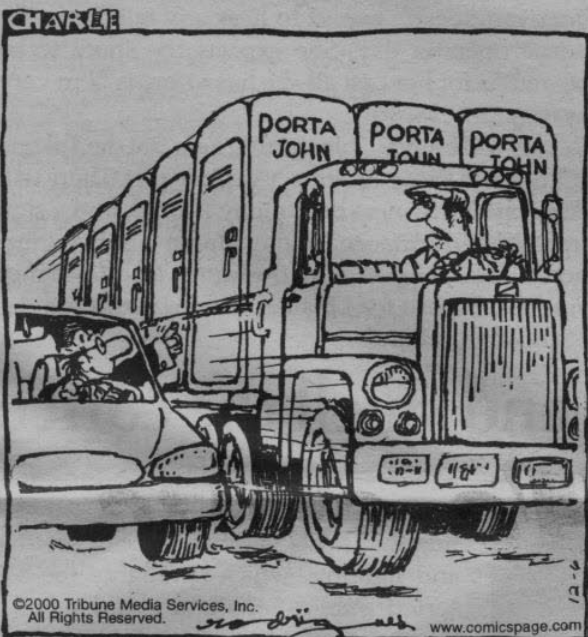
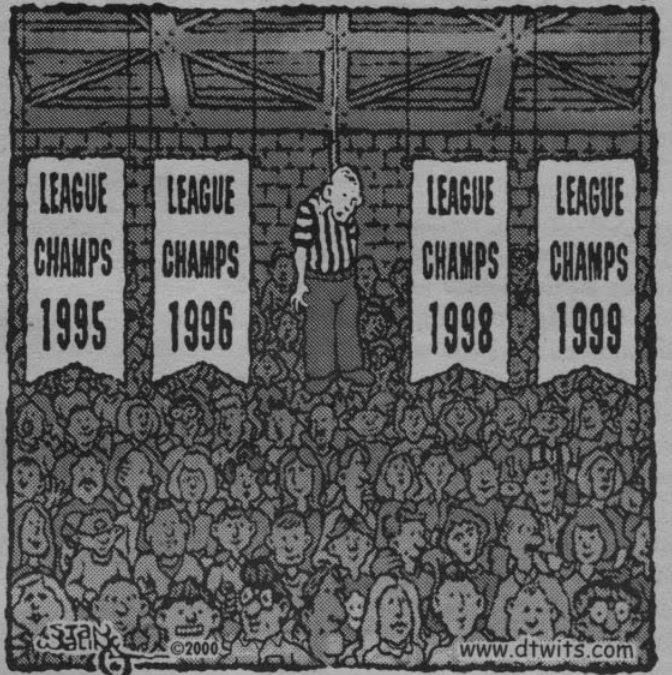
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THE ADVENTURES OF SKULY
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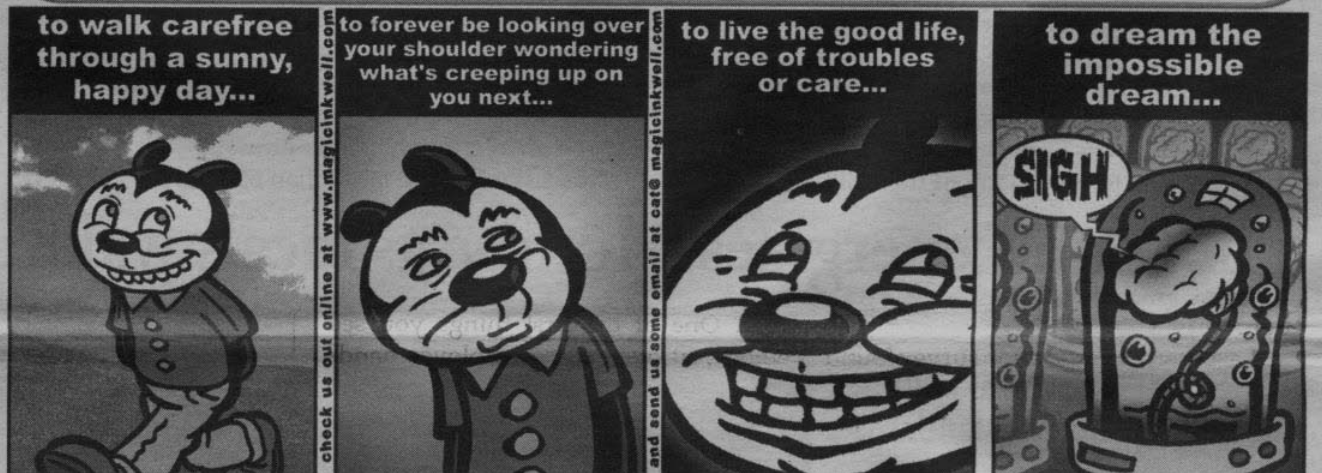
DITHERED TWITS by Stan Waling



"Are you nuts — I ain't pullin' over so you can use a Porta-John!!!"

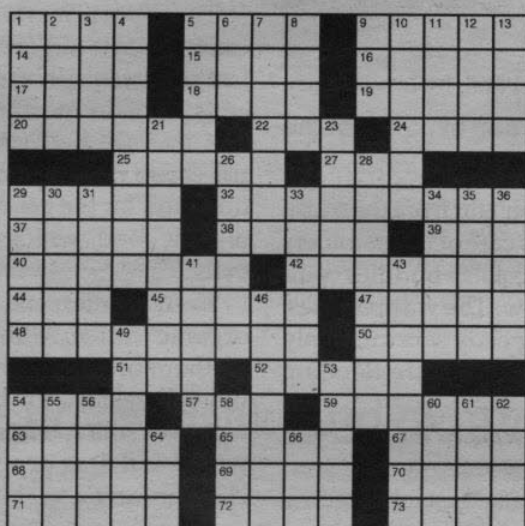
fritz THIS WEEK'S ADMITTEDLY BIZARRE EPISODE: "what is your reality?"

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CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Kind of jockey or brake
 - Wine container
 - Night hunter to be
 - Choir part
 - Mane man?
 - Chicago airport
 - Push-button forerunner
 - Supply of BB's
 - Climbing device
 - Arrangements
 - & others
 - Trial by fire
 - Botch
 - Honest man?
 - Astronaut turned senator turned astronaut
 - Filled with wonder
 - Watched a tape again
 - Track gatherings
 - Com serving
 - Middle of the road
 - Having a will
 - Very dry, as wine
 - Dash to pieces
 - Desert springs
 - Peevishness
 - Uncorks
 - Writer Buntline
 - Rich or Worth
 - Work gang
 - Needle hole
 - Categorize
 - Swift
 - Seth's son
 - Siamese, today
 - Stage type
 - Farm parcel
 - Orange coat
 - Like an unkempt lawn
 - Notices
 - Oxen link



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1/31/01

Solutions

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| 6 Objective | 7 Anybody | 8 Windsor or bowline | 9 Alley in comics? | 10 Blanch | 11 Better than never? | 12 Love god | 13 Hiker's shelter | 21 Summit | 23 Blanche's leader? | 26 Humiliate | 28 Woodwind instruments | 29 Get a hold on | 30 Embankment | 31 Put up | 33 Leash | 34 Discontinue | 35 Consumed | 36 Apply bandages | 41 Test score | 43 Wall hanging | 46 Systematized | knowledge | 58 Affirmative votes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 Kind of jockey or brake | 15 Mane man? | 16 Chicago airport | 17 Push-button forerunner | 18 Supply of BB's | 19 Climbing device | 20 Arrangements & others | 22 & others | 24 Trial by fire | 25 Botch | 27 Honest man? | 29 Astronaut turned senator turned astronaut | 32 Filled with wonder | 37 Watched a tape again | 38 Track gatherings | 39 Com serving | 40 Middle of the road | 42 Having a will | 44 Very dry, as wine | 45 Dash to pieces | 47 Desert springs | 48 Peevishness | 50 Uncorks | 51 Writer Buntline | 52 Rich or Worth | 54 Work gang | 57 Needle hole | 59 Categorize | 63 Swift | 65 Seth's son | 67 Siamese, today | 68 Stage type | 69 Farm parcel | 70 Orange coat | 71 Like an unkempt lawn | 72 Notices | 73 Oxen link | 60 Buckeye State | 61 Line of cabs | 62 Powerful trend | 64 Calendar component | 66 Mispickel, e.g. |

CLASSIFIEDS

SCHOLARSHIPS

If you are willing to write a 550-word essay, these scholarships may be for you! The Mensa Educational and Research Foundation sponsors an annual essay contest. Additional information and applications are available at the Learning Center (LRC 212). Application and essay must be received by **January 31, 2001**.

Attention ALL STUDENTS: The ESA (Epsilon Sigma Alpha) Foundation has scholarships available to ALL students. Additional information and applications are available in the Learning Center and on the internet at www.esaint.com/esaf - click on the scholarship application link. Applications and official transcripts must be received by **February 1, 2001**

Chemical/Environmental Engineering or Computer Programming Students: The Washington Pulp and Paper Foundation is offering 25 scholarships for students who are planning to transfer to the University of Washington. Eligibility requirements and applications available at the Learning Center (LRC 212) or by contacting the Washington Pulp & Paper Foundation at the University of Washington, Box 352100, Seattle, WA 98195-2100, e-mail: wppf@u.washington.edu or check their website at <http://depts.washington.edu/wppf> or phone: 206-543-2763. Applications must be received by **February 1, 2001**.

Horticulture Students: The Oregon Nurserymen's Foundation is accepting applications for 2001-02 scholarships. Applications are available in the Learning Center (LRC 212) and on the internet

at www.nurseryguide.com/onfform.shtml. Applications, official transcripts and three letters of recommendation that support your interest and ability in horticulture must be received by **April 2, 2001**.

HELP WANTED

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 an application at 541-758-0219 or cardv@proaxis.com.

Reward \$250.00 For information and return of stolen Polaris yellow sand tires stolen Jan. 26th from Riverside Drive. Call 928-3887 and leave a message.

Residential Program Specialist #672 (Corvallis)--If you are interested in working with individuals in a residential program and earn \$7.96-\$8.46 per hour, these positions are for you. They are looking for full-time and part-time people; hours vary. If interested, please see Carla in Student Employment in Takena 101.

Cook Supervisor #677 (Albany) This part-time position supervising inmates during the meal production has hours that can be flexible. The hours are 4am-12:30pm or 10am-6:30pm; can be week-ends--will work with you. You need to have one year food service experience or classroom instruction. See Student Employment (Takena 101) for more information!

General Labor (Albany)--This position wants an independent trustworthy per-

son to work part-time 3-4 days a week from 6:30-10:30pm cleaning local business offices. You need to have a good driving record. See Carla in Student Employment (Takena 101) for your referral!

Local Recruiting #1 Yellowstone recruiter will be at Corvallis Super 8 Motel, 407 NW 2nd St. on Wed., Jan. 31 from 2-6 pm. Please don't call the motel! #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 to interview after the presentation.

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NATIONAL NEWS

Studies fuel debate over effectiveness of drug testing

by Charlene Oldham
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

Those who want a job in America with Plano-based Electronic Data Systems Inc. must hand over a hair sample for drug testing — in addition to a well-crafted resume and solid references.

Across the Canadian border, however, hair samples aren't required at EDS locations.

"Because of cultural differences, it's not as accepted there, and we would no longer be considered a preferred employer," said EDS spokeswoman Leslie Hueholt. "It would apparently impact our ability to recruit in Europe and Canada."

Drug testing may also be losing popularity in the United States. Thanks to historically low unemployment rates, large numbers of job-seekers are refusing the tests as an invasion of privacy and turning to employers who don't require them, according to the American Management Association. At the same time, researchers are finding that drug testing doesn't deter drug use or boost productivity as much as it was hoped in the 1980s, when they first were used on a large scale.

"As a result, there has been a statistically significant decline in testing," said Eric Greenberg, director of management studies for the New York-based management association. "It seems logical to assume that comes, in part, because of concerns over recruitment and retention."

Last year, an association survey found that about 66 percent of U.S. companies required some kind of pre-employment drug screening. That's down from a peak of 81 percent in 1996, Greenberg said.

"Today, the low unemployment rate—about 4 percent—might have human resources managers considering the old adage: 'Don't ask questions if you don't want to hear the answers,'" he said.

Proponents of testing argue that drug users cost U.S. businesses as much as \$100 billion in lost productivity every year. And there are additional costs related to firing drug-using employees and rehiring and training their replacements.

"Why hire on a problem?" said Becky Vance, executive director of Drug Free Business Houston. "It costs a lot of money right now to fire someone. You are going to have to pay big time in recruitment costs and training."

But a 1998 analysis from two economics professors at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, N.Y., found that drug testing can sometimes stymie worker productivity. Dr. Edward Shepard, a co-author of the study, which surveyed 63 computer equipment and software firms, speculated that the lower productivity is the result of a distrustful office environment created by drug testing.

"I've never really seen a study showing testing would have a positive effect on productivity," Dr. Shepard said. "It

costs a lot and doesn't get you much, if anything."

Charles Alvison, a corporate drug-testing consultant, also said the drop in drug tests may be due to managers of the baby boom generation who have a different attitude about drug testing than their older predecessors.

"Because a lot of executives grew up in the '60s and '70s, they've been through that phase, and they understand that drug use is not necessarily the same as drug abuse," Alvison said.

That more casual attitude is particularly prevalent at start-up companies, where managers are hungry for both employees and extra cash.

Vance's agency advocates a drug-free policy that includes written guidelines, supervisor and employee training, testing and an employee assistance program that can help employees who have a drug problem.

Such comprehensive approaches result in lower drug-positive tests than programs that rely on testing alone, the American Management Association has found.

That's one reason that drug testing isn't likely to disappear from the workplace. Drug testing also has become as much a part of corporate culture as vacation time and sick days, said Alvison, whose Oklahoma City-based company, testclear.com, advises companies and individuals about drug-testing policies.

"I think it's well-rooted in the culture now. One of the first things you see when you open some employee handbooks is the drug-testing policy," Alvison said.

Still, companies are all over the board when it comes to drug testing:

At carriers such as Dallas-based Southwest Airlines Co. and Houston-based Continental Airlines Inc., the Federal Aviation Administration requires pre-employment and random testing of "safety sensitive" employees, including pilots, flight attendants and mechanics. Last year, Southwest did 9,150 pre-employment screenings and 3,028 random tests, said spokeswoman Kristin Nelson.

Brinker International Inc., the Dallas-based restaurant company, only tests

"I've never really seen a study showing testing would have a positive effect on productivity. It costs a lot and doesn't get you much, if anything."

—Dr. Edward Shepard

workers who drive as part of their job, unless managers suspect an employee is using drugs. The company has considered wider testing, but it found the rate of return would be "minuscule" compared with the costs, spokesman Tim Smith said.

Some retailers, including Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and Home Depot Inc., require

pre-employment drug tests for prospective employees. Home Depot applicants must take a drug test within 48 hours of a job offer and can't start work until it comes back negative, spokeswoman Mandy Holton said.

Papa John's International Inc. does background checks for prospective pizza managers and checks driving records of its delivery people, but doesn't screen for illegal drugs.

"We do not have a drug-testing policy and have never had one," said Karen Sherman, a spokeswoman for the Kentucky-based company. "In the quick-service food industry, the turnover is so high that you could have someone tested, and they could be gone before you get the results back."

In future issues The Commuter will present a new advice column featuring questions about relationships and sex. The questions will be answered from both the male and female point of view.

The best questions, serious or not, will be answered in the following week's paper. When writing questions, use some writer's etiquette so we can print the entire question.

Drop off questions in The Commuter Office, Room F-222, right by the Multicultural Center.

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SPORTS PAGE



File Photo

Heather Carpenter holds LBCC's hammer record.

Former LB track star awarded scholarship to University of Wyoming

by Justin Pittenger
of The Commuter

Former LB track star Heather Carpenter has moved away from Albany and onto the University of Wyoming.

Carpenter, who excelled in the Hammer Toss, received a scholarship which covers 75% of her tuition and expenses at UW. She garnered the interest of many major universities by winning the 2000 Northwest Association of Community Colleges hammer throw championship with a throw of 163 ft. 1 in.

After graduating from Stayton High School in 1999, Carpenter came to LB to major in Horse Management and pursue a career as a massage therapist for horses. Prior to coming to LB, Carpenter had been throwing the discus for eight years, but Coach Brad Carman saw that she had "good balance and quick feet." This made her a natural for the hammer throw.

After receiving her degree in Horse Management, and breaking the LBCC and NWAACC records for the hammer throw Carpenter was looking to move onto a major university.

She had committed to the coach at Colorado State University, but changed her mind when that coach decided to take a job at the University of Wyoming.

Carpenter began classes at UW at the beginning of the winter term, and will start her track career with the start of spring term this year.

SL&L sell tickets to see Blazer games; seats still available

by Sean Leveque
of The Commuter

Student Life & Leadership is offering Blazer Tickets to LBCC students for two games this season- Feb. 7 against the Seattle Super Sonics and Feb.15 against the Sacramento Kings.

There are 11 seats available for each trip; still four seats available for the Supersonics game and seven seats still available for the Kings game.

The cost for each trip is \$10 per person, and covers tickets, the ride and food. The van will depart from LB's east parking lot at 4 p.m. and will return at 11 p.m. for each of the trips

The event is being sponsored by SL&L and tickets can be purchased in the SL&L office.

LB losing streak continues as men drop 2

Despite Brusseau's 51 points in two games, Roadrunners are trampled by Titans 76-47 and clawed in catfight with Cougars 122-95

by Christina Laramore
of The Commuter

"At times it resembled a WWF wrestling match," said LB men's basketball coach Randy Falk of Saturday's home game against Clackamas Community College.

The Runners 122-95 loss to Clackamas came hard on the heels of a 76-47 loss to Lane on Wednesday. The losses dropped their league record to 1-5 and their overall record to 2-17, putting them in seventh place in the eight team league.

Against the Cougars, LB had three technicals and one player ejected. Clackamas also had three technicals in the game-two on the same person.

Casey Campbell, Paul Grock and LB's bench all received technicals, and Campbell ended up being ejected from the game after he pushed a Clackamas player away who scratched him across the face in a loose ball rumble. The referees considered the push a thrown punch and tossed Campbell from the game.

At the half, LB was down 59-43 after shooting 44 percent from field goal range in the first half to Clackamas' 48.6 percent. In the second half, the Runners shot 62.5 percent to finish the game at 54.4 percent from the field while Clackamas shot 64.7 percent to end the game at 56.3 percent from field goal range.

The Runners were led by JR Brusseau with 39 points, 7 rebounds and 3 assists. Steve Blevins added 14 points, 4 rebounds and 4 assists.

The Runners shot 37.5 percent from the line, led by Brusseau who went 11-for-12.

"This was the hardest we played all year and that was good to see," said Falk. "We decided this was how we need to play for the remainder of the season."

This realization came after a 29 point loss to Lane on Wednesday.

Against the Titans, who are second in league with a 5-1 league record and 14-6 overall record, LB ended their game shooting 40 percent from the field, right behind Lane's 47.5 percent field goal shooting. The Runners outscored Lane in free throw shooting, going 4-for-16 from the line to Lane's 2-for-9 shooting.

LB was down 39-16 at the half after shooting 31.6 percent from the field while Lane finished the half at 41.9 percent from the field.

LB was led by JR Brusseau with 12 points and pulled down 5 rebounds. Brusseau was followed by Doug Marshall with 11 points. David Michaelis and Brent Gilder led the team in assists with 3 apiece.

The Runners had 23 rebounds, 9 assists and 2 steals, while

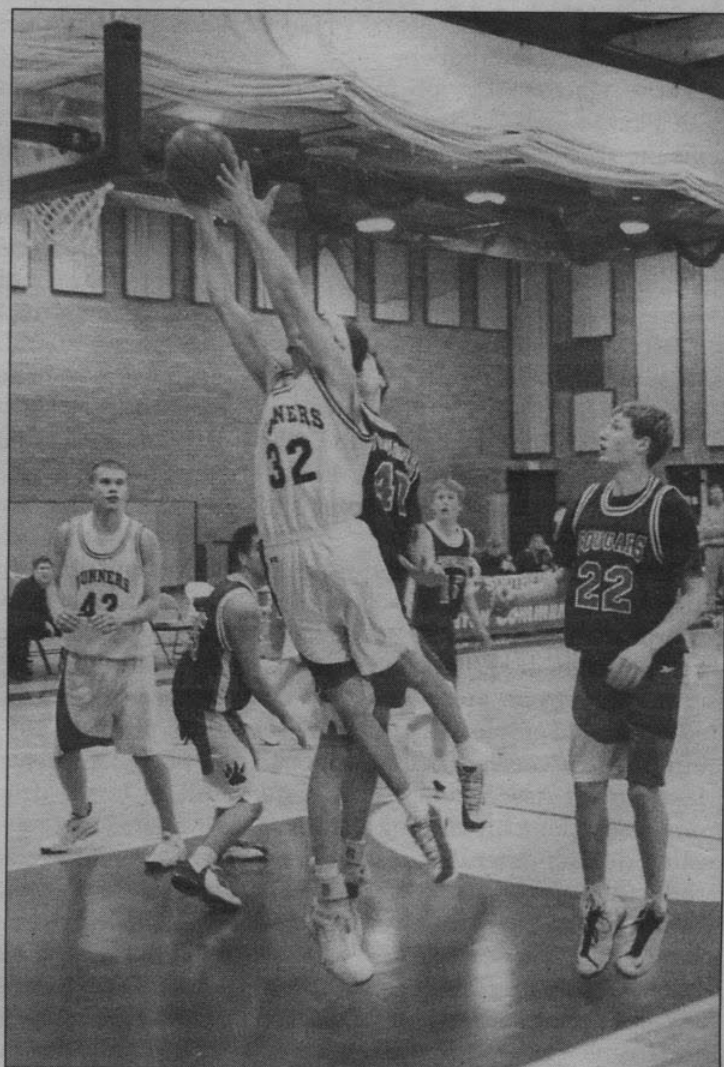


Photo by Christopher Spence

JR Brusseau goes up for 2 of his game-high 39 points in last Saturday's home game against Clackamas, which the Runners lost 122-95. Brusseau also pulled down 7 rebounds and dished out 3 assists. On Wednesday against Lane, Brusseau was again the leading scorer, this time with 12 points in the Runners' 76-47 loss.

Lane had 37 rebounds, 18 assists and 18 steals.

Campbell is currently averaging 12.7 points a game, totaling 152 points in 12 games.

Michaelis totaled 132 points so far in the season, averaging 11 points per game.

Brusseau has totaled 67 rebounds so far in the season, averaging 5.7 boards a game, and is 33-42 from the free throw line bringing his average to 79 percent.

LB will face off against Umpqua (who is fourth in league standings with a league record of 3-3) at home tonight and then travel to play Portland (who is sixth in league with a record of 2-4) on Saturday.

Campbell leaves Alaska for life as a Roadrunner

From Anchorage to Albany, freshman has stellar start but struggles as league play starts

by Christina Laramore
of The Commuter

"In Alaska, playing basketball is what you do," says LBCC basketball player Casey Campbell. "It's dark all winter long, so there are no outdoor sports."

Campbell, a 6-foot-5-inch freshman wing from Sitka, Alaska, has played basketball for most of his life; he says he never wanted to do anything else. Born in Anchorage, where his father coached high school basketball, Campbell was exposed to the game at a very early age.

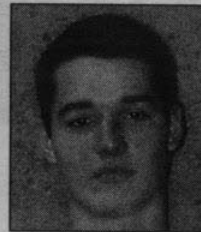
He played basketball at Sitka High School for four years and was on the varsity team for three of those years. In his senior year at Sitka he received an all-conference award for his playing.

So how did this Alaskan native end up in Albany, Oregon?

"I have friends that go to Oregon State University, and I wanted to play basketball," says Campbell. "LB is closest to OSU and I can play basketball and be around my friends."

"I felt I was playing pretty well for awhile—but now I could play a little better. It'll come around though, I'm not worried."

—Casey Campbell



Campbell's major is undeclared so far, though he is thinking of going into business or sports. He is interested in writing sports, but feels his grammar isn't exactly where he wants it to be.

Eventually, Campbell wants to attend either Western Washington, a Division 2 school, or a university in Oregon. He has family in Washington so by going to a school up there he could be closer to them.

Campbell does want to transfer to a four-year school to play basketball beyond Linn-Benton, and if he continues playing the way he has in the preseason this year, that shouldn't be much of a problem.

Campbell played well in the pre-season, leading the Roadrunners in almost every game in points, and usually hitting at least one three-point shot. Campbell scored his highest game total against Cascade Community College, totaling 20 points to add to the team's 75 points.

He was 5 of 17 from the field, and hit 9 of his 10 free throws. Campbell went 1 of 4 from the three-point range.

Since the season has started though, Campbell has had some trouble getting back into the groove of things due to his long Christmas vacation in Alaska.

Currently, Campbell is ranked on the NWAACC website for scoring and three point shooting. He is averaging 12.7 points per game, scoring 152 points in 12 games.

From three-point range, he is averaging 37 percent. Campbell is 20 for 54 in 12 games.

He says he feels his game will start getting better once he begins to play a little more this season.

"I felt I was playing pretty well for awhile—but now I could play a little better," he said. "It'll come around though, I'm not worried."

SPORTS PAGE

BOX SCORES

Men's Games

LANE 76, LBCC 47

LBCC (47): Michaelis 1-4 2-2 4, Hutchings 0-0 2-2 2, Marshall 4-8 3-4 11, Campbell 2-6 0-0 5, Gilder 1-4 0-0 3, Brusseau 3-7 4-4 12, Blevins 0-4 0-0 0, Coats 0-1 0-0 0, Rodgers 1-1 0-0 2, Grock 4-5 0-1 8. Totals 16-40 11-13 47.

LCC (76): Colley 0-20-00, Kerlin 2-40-04, Axelsen 2-5 1-1 5, Peterson 5-11 5-5 16, Best 0-2 0-0 0, Morrow 3-8 3-4 10, Hoyt 0-2 0-0 0, Fitas 6-7 0-0 12, Lellebo 1-5 0-0 2, Brautigam 8-13 6-7 22, Pinkston 1-1 1-2 3, Smith 1-1 0-0 2. Totals 29-61 16-19 76.

Halftime—LBCC 16, LCC 39. 3-point goals—LBCC 4-16 (Michaelis 0-3, Marshall 0-1, Campbell 1-4, Gilder 1-2, Brusseau 2-5, Blevine 0-1), LCC 2-9 (Colley 0-1, Kerlin 0-1, Axelsen 0-1, Peterson 1-3, Best 0-1, Morrow 1-2). Total Fouls—LBCC 18, LCC 13. Total Rebounds—LBCC 23 (Brusseau 5), LCC 37 (Peterson 5). Assists—LBCC 9 (Michaelis 3, Gilder 3), LCC 18 (Kerlin 8). Turnovers—LBCC 22, LCC 9. Blocked shots—LBCC 1 (Blevine), LCC 1 (Brautigam). Steals—LBCC 2 (Michaelis, Brusseau), LCC 18 (Brautigam 5). Technicals—Marshall, LBCC bench.

CLACKAMAS 122, LINN-BENTON 95

CCC (122): Tondreau 3-11 5-7 11, Campbell 8-12 6-8 22, Struve 2-4 0-0 4, Tabisz 4-7 3-4 11, Kuebler 12-19 5-8 31, Lennox 0-24 5-4, Fisher 6-9 3-5 18, Gritters 2-3 6-6 10, Bussy 2-2 4-7 8, Lohrey 1-2 1-2 3. Totals 40-71 37-52 122.

LBCC (95): Michaelis 4-7 2-2 11, Marshall 1-8 2-2 4, Gilder 2-5 3-7 7, Brusseau 13-19 11-12 39, Blevins 6-8 1-3 14, Coats 2-4 5-6 11, Rodgers 1-2 0-0 2, Grock 2-4 3-5 7, Hutchins, Campbell, Marks. Totals 31-57 27-37 95.

Halftime—CCC 59, LBCC 43. 3-point goals—CCC 5-11 (Tondreau 0-2, Kuebler 2-3, Lennox 0-1, Fisher 3-5), LBCC 6-16 (Michaelis 1-2, Marshall 0-3, Gilder 0-1, Brusseau 2-5, Blevins 1-2, Coats 2-3). Total fouls—CCC 27, LBCC 32. Fouled out—Lennox, Marshall, Rodgers, Grock. Rebounds—CCC 37 (Campbell), LBCC 33 (Brusseau 7). Assists—CCC 27 (Campbell 9), LBCC 20 (Coats 4). Blocked shots—CCC 2 (Lohrey 2), LBCC 2 (Michaelis, Blevins). Steals—CCC 19 (Campbell 8), LBCC 8 (Michaelis 2, Gilder 2, Blevins 2). Technicals—M. Campbell, C. Lohrey, C. Campbell, P. Grock, LBCC bench.

Women's Games

LINN-BENTON 98, LANE 74

LBCC (98): Wright 9-15 8-9 33, Rickert 3-8 3-4 9, Pass 6-15 3-5 15, Dexter 1-5 6-8 9, Torresdal 5-8 1-3 11, Ward 2-6 6-6 10, Strohm 3-4 0-1 6, Scott 1-2 0-0 2, Starker 1-1 1-2 3. Totals 31-64 28-38 98.

LCC (74): Pippa 1-4 1-2 4, Isbell 3-7 5-10 11, Gilbert 6-21 3-3 18, Terry 5-10 3-4 13, Tagney 4-10 2-8 10, Roth 1-6 1-4 3, Robertson 2-5 1-2 5, Jacobson 1-3 0-0 2, Thomas 1-2 2-3 4, Young 2-4 0-0 4, Carlson 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 26-72 18-36 74.

Halftime—LBCC 42, LCC 27. 3-point goals—LBCC 8-14 (Wright 7-10, Dexter 1-3, Rickert 0-1) LCC 4-22 (Gilbert 3-12, Pippa 1-2, Jacobson 0-1, Young 0-1, Robertson 0-2, Roth 0-4). Total Fouls—LBCC 24, LCC 30. Fouled out—Wright, Rickert, Roth. Total Rebounds—LBCC 50 (Ward 12), LCC 45 (Tagney 10). Assists—LBCC 10 (Dexter 3), LCC 12 (Gilbert 3). Turnovers—LBCC 25, LCC 20. Blocked shots—LBCC 0, LCC 1 (Young). Steals—LBCC 12 (Rickert 5), LCC 16 (Isbell 5). Technicals—Roth.

CLACKAMAS 100, LINN-BENTON 86

CCC (100): Kettles 9-12 5-8 25, Juarez 5-14 6-8 18, Lane 3-4 0-0 8, Kooch 3-5 1-2 7, Lee 7-8 2-3 16, Steen 5-8 12-15 23, Redner 0-0 0-0 0, McBride 1-2 0-0 3. Totals 33-53 26-36 100.

LBCC (86): Wright 3-8 2-3 10, Rickert 9-14 2-2 24, Pass 6-11 6-7 18, Dexter 3-9 0-1 8, Torresdal 6-14 1-2 13, Strohm 0-2 2-2 2, Ward 2-5 3-3 7, Scott 2-2 0-0 4, Starker 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 31-65 16-20 86.

Halftime—CCC 41, LBCC 41. 3-point goals—CCC 8-14 (Kettles 2-2, Lane 2-2, Juarez 2-6, Steen 1-2, McBride 1-2), LBCC 8-16 (Rickert 4-4, Wright 2-5, Dexter 2-6, Strohm 0-1). Total Fouls—CCC 16, LBCC 25. Fouled out—Wright. Total Rebounds—CCC 37 (Kooch 10), LBCC 26 (Torresdal 7). Assists—CCC 23 (Steen 6), LBCC 18 (Wright 5). Turnovers—CCC 20, LBCC 14. Blocked Shots—CCC 1 (Lee), LBCC 1 (Torresdal). Steals—CCC 9 (Kooch, Lee, Steen 2), LBCC 10 (Torresdal 3). Technicals—None.

STANDINGS

Men	League	Overall
Clackamas	5-1	18-2
Lane	5-1	14-6
Chemeketa	4-2	12-7
Umpqua	3-3	8-11
Mt. Hood	3-3	9-11
Portland	2-4	6-14
Linn-Benton	1-5	2-17
SW Oregon	1-5	6-13
Women	League	Overall
Chemeketa	6-0	15-4
Umpqua	5-1	17-3
Clackamas	4-2	15-6
SW Oregon	3-3	8-12
Linn-Benton	3-3	14-6
Lane	2-4	12-9
Mt. Hood	1-5	5-15
Portland	0-6	5-15

LB women topple Titans; bitten by Cougars

by Jason Amberg
of The Commuter

The Lady Runners split two big games last week, beating the Lane Titans on Wednesday 98-74 before falling Saturday to the Clackamas Cougars 100-86.

The Runners brought an immense amount of intensity to Eugene with them as they fought off injuries and stormed to a 42-27 halftime lead. Improved shooting attributed largely for the early lead as LB shot 47 percent from the field in the half and 48 percent for the game. It was the first time in three games that the Runners had managed to shoot over 40 percent in a game.

Freshman wing Christin Pass was recovering from a sore shoulder, injured against Chemeketa on Jan. 20. Starting guard Summer Wright is suffering from a severely sprained wrist, injured in the same game. But it was the torn ACL of star forward Dusty Damon that hurt the most. Damon, who entered the game as the team's second leading scorer and rebounder, was injured in practice last week before the Lane game and will be out for the rest of the season. To complicate matters further, backup point guard Nicole Scott injured her ankle against the Titans.

Apparently Wright's sore wrist didn't have an effect on her shot Wednesday as she scored 33 points including 7 for 10 from behind the three-point arc.

"I'm real proud of my girls," said Coach A.J. Dionne. "It was their first game without Dusty. These things can affect a team very easily. They realized that they needed to step up and fill in the gaps."

"With Summer shooting so well, it made our offense easier," Dionne continued. "She was just in a zone."

Freshman forward Robyn Ward had her best game of the season with her first double-double of the year scoring 10 points and grabbing 12 rebounds. Pass also notched a double-double as she scored 15 and snared 11 rebounds of her own. Wright's 33 points were the most by a Lady Runner this season.

On Saturday the Clackamas Cougars rolled into the Activities Center for another big game. The game was tight throughout and the teams were tied at 41 apiece at the half.

Rickert gets the point; leads Lady Runners on court

by Jason Amberg
of The Commuter

Christy Rickert may be one of the shortest players on the court, but she may also be the most important. The 5-foot-4 Rickert is the starting point guard and the catalyst in the Lady Runners offense.

After playing four years on the varsity squad at Rex Putnam High School, and breaking into the starting lineup late in her freshman year, Rickert felt that she was ready to take on a new challenge.

"I always dreamed of playing college ball," she says.

While being recruited by schools like Willamette University and Simpson College (Calif.) and other NWAACC schools such as Chemeketa and Mt. Hood, Rickert chose to attend Linn-Benton.

"I think that she wanted to play right away. Here she could come in and help," explains Coach A.J. Dionne. "I told her she would be my player. She'd run the show. I never promised a starting position, but I knew her competitiveness would show and she'd win the starting spot."

Dionne's confidence proved well-founded when Rickert won the starting spot before the season started. She has been the leading scorer averaging 13.7 points per game.

"She's got the whole package as a player," says Dionne.



Photo by Christopher Spence
Summer Wright drives past a Clackamas defender for an easy lay-up in Saturday's loss to the Cougars. Wright scored 10 points in the game after scoring 33 in the victory over Lane on Wednesday.

The Cougars sent cherry-pickers on most shots and the Runners were slow getting back resulting in easy lay-ups. The result was 57.7 percent shooting in the first half for the Cougars and an even better 66.7 percent in the second to finish over 62 percent for the game. Meanwhile, the Lady Runners were shooting well too, finishing the game over 47 percent. The Runners also forced 6 more turnovers than they allowed.

"We took good care of the ball, but when we did turn it over it was at crucial times, when you can't turn it over," lamented Dionne. "It came down to about 45 seconds where we were up one and then down six."

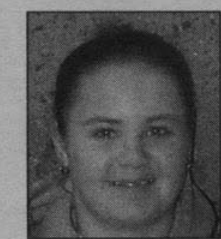
The game was close, within 5 or 6 points, until late in the game when the Roadrunners were forced to start fouling. Unfortunately for LB the strategy wouldn't pay off this time. The Cougars knocked down their free throws and the Runners were unable to convert their opportunities.

Freshman guard Christy Rickert led the way for the Runners with 24 points. Pass helped with 18 and freshman forward Rebecca Torresdal added 13 points and seven boards.

The Runners will play Umpqua tonight at 6p.m. in the Activities Center, before traveling to Portland on Saturday.

"She's got the whole package as a player. Quickness and footwork, and she's a good ball handler. I could tell that she had potential as an offensive threat, and she's good on defense, too."

—A.J. Dionne



Christy Rickert

"Quickness and footwork, and she's a good ball handler. I could tell that she had potential as an offensive threat, and she's good on defense, too."

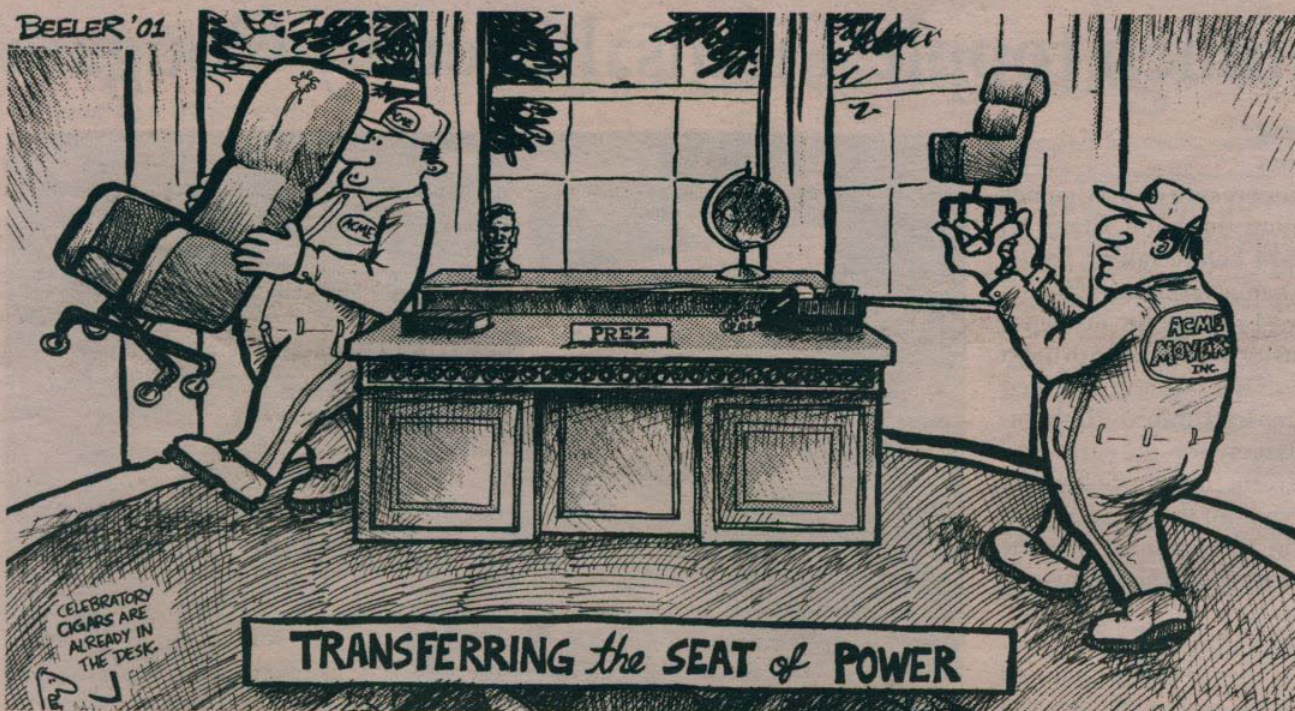
The coach continues to see more in the way she performs on the floor as well.

"She's feisty and aggressive and has a little attitude, which I like to see from the point," Dionne says. "We have a connection, which is important between the coach and the point guard. She's my coach on the floor. She reminds me of myself when I played. She sees the floor well—you can't teach that. She works until the job is done."

So what's in the future for Rickert? She is currently undecided on her major, but she hopes to move beyond LB eventually. The possibility of playing at the next level is something no one is ruling out for her.

"To go somewhere, she needs a lot of growth and has time to get there," Dionne says. "But she'll go somewhere."

OPINION



COMMENTARY

Gag rule unfair to 'Third World' women

by Trudy Rubin
Knight-Ridder Tribune

On George W. Bush's first day in office we got a hint of what the new brand of American compassionate conservatism may mean for poor women in Third World countries.

It isn't pretty. And it should make American women sit up and take notice, too.

The first substantial act of the new president was to restore a ban on foreign aid to family-planning groups that offer any abortion-related services. "I think there's widespread bipartisan support that there should not be taxpayer money used to promote abortion," said presidential spokesman Ari Fleischer.

Promote abortion? Let's take a look at what the Bush ban really means.

We are not talking here about preventing U.S. aid money from paying for foreign abortion procedures — that has been illegal since 1973. Zero U.S. dollars go to pay for foreign abortions.

No, this funding ban is about something truly pernicious. It requires any Third World family planning agency that accepts U.S. aid to agree to muzzle itself on the subject of abortion when it talks to women or lobbies on issues concerning women's reproductive health.

With good reason, international family-planning organizations call the ban the "global gag rule."

The gag rule can prevent a Third World health service from counseling a desperate woman on where to get a safe, legal abortion. The law also prevents such groups from providing legal abortion services with "their own non-U.S. funds." This, in a world where 80,000 women die yearly of botched, illegal procedures and hundreds of thousands more are injured, according to the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy.

The gag rule can also prevent family planning agencies that accept U.S. aid from lobbying to rectify draconian abortion laws. For example, in El Salvador, where abortion is illegal even if the pregnancy will cause a woman's death, an agency couldn't urge legislators to revise laws to save women's lives.

Or take Nepal, where any act of abortion is punishable by imprisonment. The Family Planning Association of Nepal (FPAN) would have to halt its campaign to reform a law that put 13-year-old Min Min Lama in prison for 20 years — because she had an abortion after being raped by a relative.

Of course FPAN could choose to forgo U.S. family planning aid, or opt to stop lobbying. But why should America force agencies in poor countries to make such a hideous choice?

In a country like Nepal, thousands of poor women desperately need family planning advice and access to contraceptives, which can reduce abortions. FPAN wants to help. But how can it give up the equal obligation to help girls like Min Min Lama, or to save other women from the horrors of illegal abortion?

And how can Americans, who champion free speech, tell Nepalese family planners they must forgo their right to lobby their own parliament, or to hold rallies, or print articles in the media — all as a precondition to

get U.S. aid for family planning? Does conservatives' belief in free speech stop at the water's edge?

In fact, the gag rule is beloved by conservatives who are frustrated that they haven't been able to get a U.S. ban on abortion. First imposed in 1984 by Ronald Reagan, the gag rule was lifted in 1993 by Bill Clinton, but Republican legislators held up repayment of U.S. arrears to the United Nations until Clinton reinstated it in 1999. It was dropped again late last year but Congress gave the next president the power to reinstate it before Feb. 15.

No doubt President Bush acted so quickly in order to pay off his base. Abortion foes were gathered in Washington to protest on the 28th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court ruling that legalized abortion.

They might have been a tad disturbed that Attorney General-designate John Ashcroft, a ferocious abortion foe, told the Senate Judiciary Committee that he didn't think it was on Bush's agenda to overturn *Roe v. Wade* or that Laura Bush told an interviewer she didn't think *Roe v. Wade* should be reversed.

So President Bush threw them a sop. But that sop restricts the speech and political activity of poor Third World women in ways our Constitution would never permit here.

In fact, the gag rule provides Bush's first foreign-policy test. In his inaugural address, the president said America would remain engaged in the world "without arrogance." He also said we would speak to all nations "for the values that gave our nation birth." If he meant any of those fine phrases, he should exercise his wide discretion in enforcing the funding ban.

We can hardly advance our values by denying their practice to poor Third World women. If abortion foes can gather in Washington to urge an end to *Roe v. Wade*, why should U.S. aid be made contingent on gagging foreign women who want to lobby in their own countries?

That, indeed, would be the height of political arrogance.

I AM NOT A LIBERAL

Liberals miss point: it's the system, stupid

by Angus McBrian
of The Commuter

Clinton's out, Bush is in and I'm going to have a headache for the next four years.

Don't get me wrong; I wasn't excited about the prospect of Gore taking office either. In fact, I was one of those people trying to emphasize the similarities between the two candidates during the election campaign.

Of course, I am aware of the horror that is Dubbya. His cabinet picks have already signaled an assault on personal freedoms and civil liberties, not to mention the natural environment. He is also clearly a corporate president, supportive of and beholden to the interests of corporate leaders.



Angus McBrian

Bush's supporters are excited that he is going to reverse the so-called liberal legacy of the Clinton administration and maybe restore some "integrity" to the White House. Meanwhile, his critics have already taken to the streets, running around like chickens with their heads cut off, predicting the end of the world.

Those chickens are why I'm getting a migraine. Those individuals and groups concerned with what are widely termed "liberal agenda items" are going to be spending a lot of energy over the next four years "fighting" the Bush administration over the details of these issues.

Business will be booming for so-called liberal and progressive charities. Fear will incite checkbook activists across the country to donate funds for the war effort. That ringing in my ears is the requests for donations I'm already receiving in the mail. And "war effort" isn't an exaggeration, more than one liberal pundit has already used this term in a rallying cry against Bush.

The problem with all of this is what some call the great-man-of-history syndrome. Bush is a personality; it's easy to focus on him. Just as our history books do, we tend to focus on leaders and figureheads when we talk about history and, in this case, when we talk about the need for change.

The recent election is an excellent example. It provided a setting for the discussion of many of society's ills. But that discussion was all in the context of how the president figured into the mess. "If our guy can just get elected, then all the ills of the world will be solved." Even those radical enough to support Ralph Nader fell victim to this.

I've got news for you. If you're concerned about widespread poverty, environmental degradation, women's rights, "minority" rights, disappearing social services, inaccessibility of health care or the rise of corporate power then no President of the United States is ever going to fit the bill.

In Clinton era terminology: it's the system stupid. Capitalism with a capital "C."

The real similarity between Bush and Gore was that they were both ardent capitalists. This may be an obvious point, but it's an important one nonetheless. It is the logic of capitalism—and its pursuit of profits and growth over human rights and the environment—that is killing the planet.

But a president didn't decree capitalism, and one won't repeal it.

So, you can scream bloody murder at the likelihood that the Bush administration will despoil the Alaskan wilderness; you might even stop it from happening. You can fight tooth and nail to protect women's reproductive rights. You could even get some protection of labor and the environment into the next trade agreement.

But these will be bandages, not cures.

I've got a headache because I can tell that the drumming of the liberal political machine isn't going to let up in the foreseeable future. Meanwhile those bandages aren't going to stop the hemorrhaging that is the environmental crisis and the growing gap between the global rich and poor.

Silence
Consent.

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the world where to
get off. Write a letter
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it and drop it off at Forum Room
222. And watch
the feathers fly
next Wednesday.