

The Commuter

A Weekly Student Publication



Wednesday, Feb. 10, 1999

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

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The Groundhog Was Wrong

Photo by Justin Dalton

Soft, fluffy flurries greeted students Monday morning, but it didn't stick and eventually turned to the usual drizzle. According to forecasts, another heavy storm is headed for the mid-valley late Wednesday, and the upcoming holiday weekend promises to be a wet one.

Candidates for ASG, SPB must file by Friday

by Sean Leveque
of The Commuter

The filing deadline for seats on the Associated Student Government and Student Programming Board is Friday.

As of last week, 12 students have picked up applications for the eight ASG positions and 15 students have filed for posts on the SPB, which also has eight positions. Candidates for ASG will be elected in a campus-wide vote on Feb. 23-24. Applicants for SPB will be appointed following interviews.

If the number of applications taken out is any sign, more students are interested in running for office this year compared to recent years. In 1996 and 1997, only one person was on the ballot and in 1998 five people ran for the 12 seats on student council.

Candidates must fill out an application noting their background and answer eight questions about their points of view that may be included in an election pamphlet, which ASG hopes to publish prior to the election.

Candidates can give a speech at the Candidate Forum on Feb. 17, which will be held in the new student lounge on the second floor next to the Forum.

The newly elected officers begin work on May 1.

College gets advice on new campus signs

by Sarah Crauder
of The Commuter

Remember feeling a little lost on your first trip to the LBCC campus?

You probably weren't alone.

President Jon Carnahan reported that one of the most common complaints about the campus is that most people new to the school have trouble finding where things are.

All the buildings at LBCC look similar and there are few maps to tell people how to get where they're going.

Many committees have met over the years to try to resolve the issue, and a variety of signs were added at various times in the school's history to try to temporarily solve the problem, but there was never a comprehensive plan.

This year's signage committee has decided to get outside help. Using money set aside from a bond raised in 1994 for maintenance and capital projects, they've decided to hire a consulting company to advise what kinds of signs to put where in order to make it easier to find your way from point A to point B.

Such consultants are responsible for advising airports, malls, schools and other public places on where to place signs for maximum effectiveness.

LBCC is in the process of receiving bids from four consulting firms. The four bids will be opened on Feb. 18, and one will be recommended during the March board meeting where it will be voted on.

If all goes according to schedule, the consulting

(Turn to "Signs" on Pg. 2)

Elevator repair becomes top priority

Maintenance officials estimate elevator repairs will take two weeks and come at the expense of other projects on campus

by Schellene Pils
of The Commuter

The College Center elevator has certainly had its ups and downs over its 25 year life, but not the usual ones that people expect.

The troublesome elevator had been targeted for upgrading for some time, but new problems this term, including an incident in which a student was caught between floors, has led to it being shut down completely for the past few weeks.

This has inconvenienced many students, especially the disabled, and led to complaints from students that the college isn't doing enough to get the elevator back in service.

But maintenance officials told The Commuter this week that they are doing all they can to get it fixed as fast as possible, and have moved it to the top of their maintenance priority list.

"We could bandage it up and it would work until 2002," when it was originally scheduled for upgrading, said Brian Brown, dean of College Services Division. "We could maintain it on a shoestring."

But the better solution, he said, is to find the money to fix it permanently now. Maintenance has had to do a lot of budget juggling in order to work in the \$30-

Elevator

Out of Order
Use Stairs



\$35,000 that they project it will cost for repairs.

Brown said this is a ballpark figure at best, however, because the exact cost will not be known until

they get inside to look at the inner workings of the elevator.

Kevin Nicholson, head of maintenance, said the money has to come from the maintenance repair account,

which was set at a fixed amount at the beginning of the fiscal year. Although some have ques-

tioned how the college can afford to build new offices and other facilities but not fix the elevator, Nicholson pointed out that the construction funds cannot be used for repairs of existing facilities.

The construction funds are provided by a bond that LBCC cashed in to pay for the new restrooms, student offices, greenhouse and cafe that are being renovated

(Turn to "Elevator" on Pg. 2)



✓ Faces of LB

Two men find new hope in careers as welders

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Check This Out

You've got one more day to order flowers for that special someone for Valentine's Day. Visit the table in Takena Hall.

✓ 10 Dollar Mic

Corvallis band hopes to ride their horns to fame, fortune

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CAMPUS NEWS

Vandalized vehicle brings warning on overnight parking

by Brock Jacks
of The Commuter

A Subaru wagon was vandalized in LBCC's southwest parking lot on Jan. 20.

The vehicle belongs to a student who left it parked overnight.

Three of the vehicle's windows on the driver's side, the windshield and both headlights were broken, and one door was dented, according to Campus Security officer Vern Jackson. No dollar estimate of the damage was available.

The incident took place between 3 a.m., when the vehicle was last checked, and 8 a.m., when the incident was reported to Campus Security.

Jackson said students should realize that they park on campus property at their own risk, even though security officers do their best to watch out for vehicles. He said LBCC assumes no responsibility for the care and/or operation of any vehicle or its contents at any time while it is operated or parked on college property.

Students who have to park their vehicles overnight should leave information with the Security Office, said Jackson.

To contact the Security Office, call 917-4440.

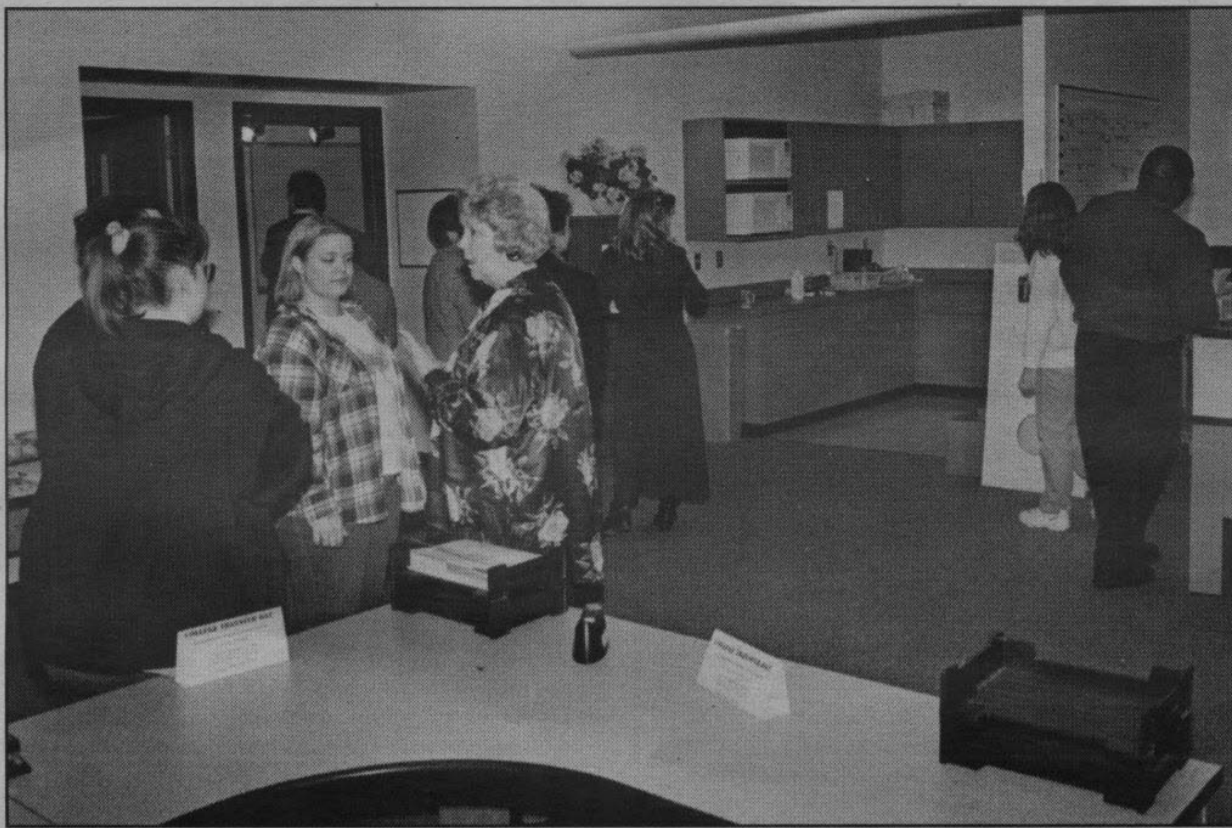


Photo by E.J. Harris

Welcome Mat Is Out

The Student Life & Leadership Office held an open house in its new location on the west side of the Forum. Dubbed The Student Union, the new facilities include SL&L offices and the Recreation Room on the lower floor, and The Commuter and Student Lounge on the second level. Upper floor offices are not yet ready for occupancy, however.

Elevator: College juggles schedule to repair elevator sooner

✓ From Page 1

or built this year. The maintenance money comes from a "general fund given to each department for different budget lines," said Nicholson. "Construction comes from a different source" and is even coordinated by different people.

To find money to pay for the elevator now will mean delaying other campus repairs that had been scheduled for this year, Brown said.

"In order to ensure the safety of the

students who use the elevator, maintenance is letting leaking windows go by choice. This has been placed on the top of the list," said Brown.

Also delayed will be improved lighting, cement work and railings that had been budgeted for this year.

Repairs will begin next week and probably take two weeks, according to Nicholson; although "it could go faster or take longer. It depends on what we run into."

He said parts are arriving this week from the East Coast and that a sub-contractor has been hired to do the repairs because his crew is not licensed in Oregon as elevator mechanics.

"We know it's a temporary hardship," said Brown. "We just want people to see it as getting something new."

Both the College Center elevator and the one near the Science Technology Building will also be getting a phone and intercom, which will bring them into

compliance with the American Disability Act.

"We're even going to improve the ease of evacuation of disabled people here at LB in case of an emergency by looking at adding another Evacutrac, maybe by spring, on the other side of campus," Brown said.

The Evacutrac is a portable device that carries wheelchairs down stairs. The college now owns one and it is currently located on the east end of the campus.

Culinary students serve up Valentine's Day lunch

From the LBCC News Service

The Culinary Arts students will be serving a Valentine's Day luncheon on Friday, Feb. 12 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Santiam/Alsea/Calapooia rooms.

The menu includes choice of soup or salad and one of the following entrees—herb crusted chicken breast with couscous, baby green beans, garlic puree and red pepper coulis, or seafood pan roast with rock shrimp, red rock mussels, clams, scallops, lemon pepper linguine and sherry

cream sauce, or grilled sirlion and shrimp with rosemary potatoes, asparagus, smoked tomato beurre blanc and bordelaise sauce. Dessert includes either chocolate pudding cake with raspberry essence and ginger cream or sour cream cheesecake with strawberry compote.

Dinner is \$9.50 per person and includes a beverage. To make reservations call the Santiam Restaurant at 917-4392, or e-mail chambea@gw.lbcc.cc.or.us. Seating is limited, so immediate reservations are recommended.

Signs: College hopes to improve access

✓ From Page 1

agency will begin its work in April and be finished by June. The signs deemed most important will be added over the summer in time for the fall term.

Any other recommended signs will be added as costs permit.

Parking permits may help ease burden of pregnant students

by Tina Flores
of The Commuter

If you're like most students, you drive past rows of empty handicapped spots just to end up parking in the nether regions of the LBCC parking lot, jogging to make it to class five minutes late.

However, if you are pregnant, this does not have to happen to you.

Pregnant students can get a two-week

handicapped parking permit that can be extended with a note from a doctor for as long as it's needed. Unfortunately, not many students seem to be aware of this possibility. According to the Campus Security Office, only one student has requested a permit for pregnancy this term.

Temporary permits are available in the Security Office, which is located

around the corner from the Business Office in the College Center Room 123. Applicants must bring their license number to be issued a two-week permit, and then must bring in a doctor's note to get the permit extended.

They will then be able to legally park closer to school buildings for the duration of their pregnancy, easing the burden on swollen ankles and aching back.

corrections

•On Feb. 3, a caption for a picture on the "Treasure Island" play on the front page of The Ticket misidentified a student. Pictured was Erin Purdin-Abrogast.

•On Feb. 3, a story in The Commuter might have left the wrong impression about the actions of a campus security officer. Jeffery Carl, who was assisting a man who had a seizure, did not leave the man's side before the ambulance arrived.

commuter staff

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

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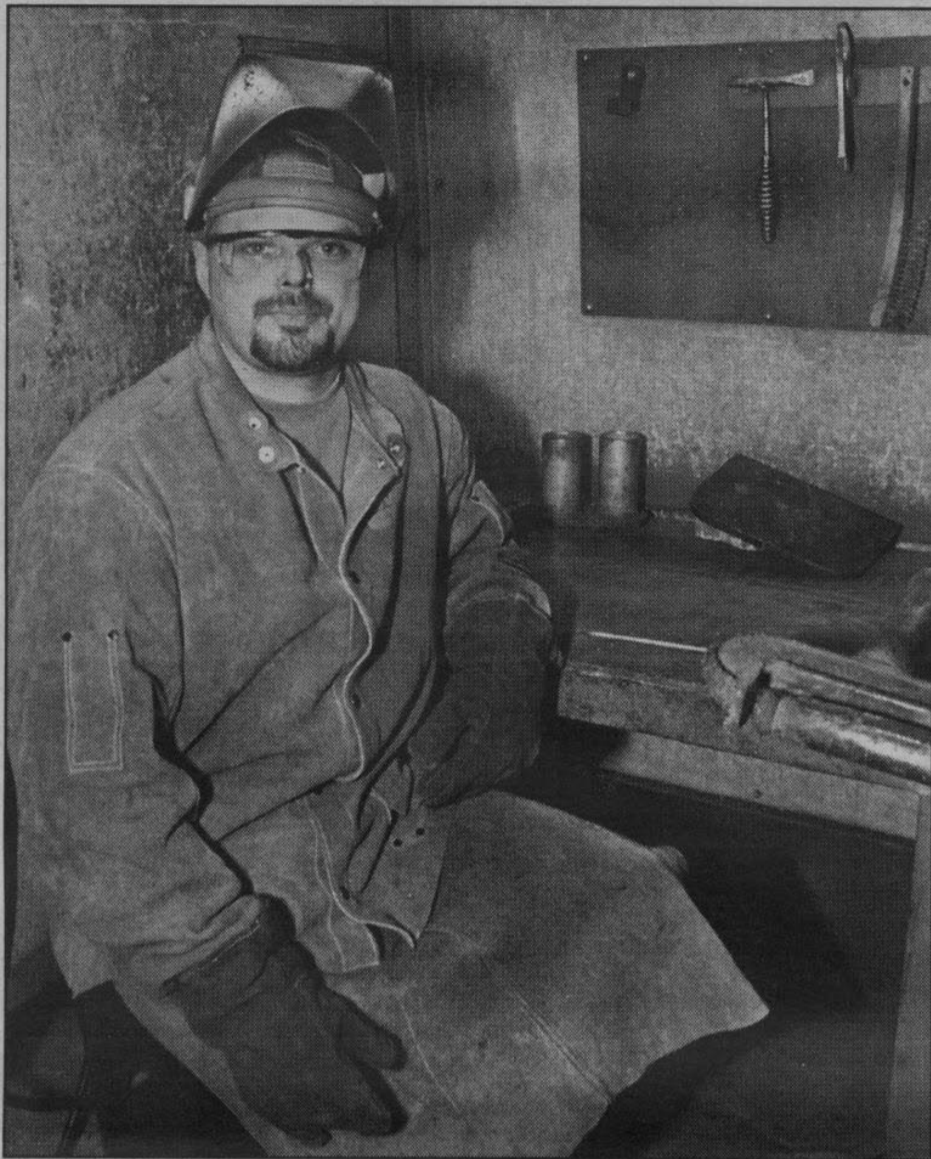
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IN FOCUS

Two men weld a new future at LBCC



All suited up for class are short-term welding students Kevin Burch (above) and Scott Hewitt (right). They are taking their future in their own hands with a little help from the LBCC vocational training program after being laid off from VERTEQ Plastics last year.

"I've always been fascinated by welding. The instructors here are great, and there are a lot of opportunities for metal fabricators."

—Kevin Burch

Photos by Jeremy Parker

by Schellene Pils
of The Commuter

When short-term welding students Kevin Burch and Scott Hewitt lost their jobs at VERTEQ plastics last year, they were both stunned.

Burch was a supervisor who depended on his job security and \$55,000-a-year paycheck that paid for things like a new baby and a several thousand dollar addition to his home.

Hewitt said he was three days from closing on the home he was planning to buy when the news of the layoffs hit. When the bank realized that he would be one of the people affected, the loan was canceled.

"It was like a slap in the face," said Hewitt, who was making over \$30,000-a-year working a 72-hour mandatory week. "There was no time to spend with our families," he said.

Although both students were offered jobs by the company in Santa Ana, neither wanted to leave Corvallis. "We really didn't want to raise our children in that environment," said Burch. "We enjoy Corvallis."

"I happened to notice there was an opening in the short-term welding class at LBCC," said Burch, and since many of the same principles apply in plastics production as they do in welding, they decided to "convert over to metal welding."

Arc welding is a welding process where an arc is struck between a consumable electrode and the work surface,

said Bill Eason, a welding instructor at LBCC. Oxy-acetylene welding is a process where the heat is provided by a flame that consists of oxygen and acetylene, and is used for lighter metals. It is used for body work, while arc welding is used more often for heavy metals.

"I've always been fascinated by welding," said Burch, adding that "the instructors here are great, and there are a lot of opportunities for metal fabricators."

According to Burch, the accelerated class involves a lot of "hands on training and very little book work." The class is several weeks long, and so far they've worked on things such as "fusing metal onto metal to make a solid bond," said Burch, as well as practicing controlling a puddle of molten metal.

The students are required to wear heavy leather chaps, jackets and gloves as well as a close-fitting metal helmet with a small square glass panel for safety whenever they are welding.

Eason said that he "would like to see the students get a job that would allow them to support their families and pay the rent," by the time they complete the course. He said they will be able to certify in accordance with some of the American Welding Society Codes after successful completion of the course.

"I'm so involved, I'm so interested," said Burch.



Metals High Technology Camp opens door to metals industry

From the LBCC News Service

LBCC is offering students interested in metals industry careers an opportunity to learn and earn this summer.

The Metals High Technology Camp will provide training to 15 high school or GED students, age 16 or over, from June 14 through July 16.

Industry sponsors will pay the student's tuition and provide a small stipend. The five-week summer program offers students an opportunity to learn about welding, machining, industry business practices, casting, metallurgy, computer-aided drafting and careers.

Students also earn contractor safety training (C-Stop) and forklift certifications, a weekly stipend, community college credit and paid work experience.

Metals Camp is an effort to meet the industry demand for entry-level employees, says Susan Boyanovsky, Oregon Advanced Technology Consortium

project coordinator, adding, "It's an industry with well-paying jobs. Welder-fabricators earn above average wages and benefits." Boyanovsky points to a 1993 American Welding Society survey that found welder/fabricators averaged more than \$30,000 a year. Oregon's average annual wage in 1994 was \$24,789, according to Oregon Employment Department data. The average annual wage in Linn County's primary metals industry is more than \$37,000.

The Camp is sponsored by local industry, the Benton-Lane-Lincoln-Linn Regional Strategies Board, LBCC and the Oregon Advanced Technology Consortium (OATC).

For an application form, call Susan Boyanovsky, OATC/Integrated Manufacturing Project Coordinator, (541)917-4607. Or write to OATC/EITD Project Coordinator, LBCC, 6500 Pacific Blvd. S.W., Albany, Ore. 97321.

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SPORTS PAGE

thayer's thoughts

Early peek at the Final Four

by David Thayer
of The Commuter

March Madness is one of the biggest events in sports. Every year, the NCAA chooses the 64 best teams to compete in a tournament to see who will make it to the Final Four. Last year it was Kentucky, Utah, Stanford and Duke. Even though it's only Feb. 10, it's not too early to ask: Who is going to make it to the Final Four this year?

My predictions are:

1. Connecticut. Led by forwards Richard Hamilton and Kevin Freeman, guards Khalid El-Amin and Ricky Moore, center Jake Voshkul and Coach Jim Calhoun, this team has been ranked No. 1 for the past few weeks. Hamilton is one of the leading scorers in the nation, while El-Amin and Voshkul provide points, rebounds and assists when the other teams focus on Hamilton. Their biggest game of the year so far was the two-point comeback win over ninth ranked St. John's.

2. Duke. This is probably one of the best teams that Mike Krzyzewski has had since the days of Christian Laettner, Cherokee Parks, Bobby Hurley, Antonio Lang and Grant Hill. This Duke team is led by Elton Brand, Trajan Langdon, Shane Battier, William Avery and James Carrawell. Langdon is the team's leading scorer and one of the best three-point shooters in the nation.

3. Stanford. They are probably second only to Duke in having the best backups. Their starters are also some of the best in the nation. Arthur Lee and Kris Weems are good three-point shooters and can steal the ball a lot, while Pete Sauer, Mark Madsen and Tim Young will pound the boards for points and rebounds. Coach Mike Montgomery will have his team ready for this game, especially after the huge loss to Utah last year.

4. Maryland. What else can you say about this team? They have surprised a lot of fans and other teams in the way that they play. Steve Francis has been a very big impact for the Terrapins, providing some of the best dunks for a guard in a long time. Terrell Stokes will give Terance Morris and Obinna Ekezie a lot of support with his power to get the ball past defenders for assists.

I believe that it will be Connecticut vs. Maryland in the first match-up, with Connecticut winning. Maryland will come close, but UConn is a better team and has a lot of seniors. The second match-up is Duke-Stanford. Duke will defeat Stanford because they do have the edge in bench players.

Reminder, be sure to attend the Fourth Annual Employee Appreciation Night tonight during the women's and men's games against Southwestern Oregon.

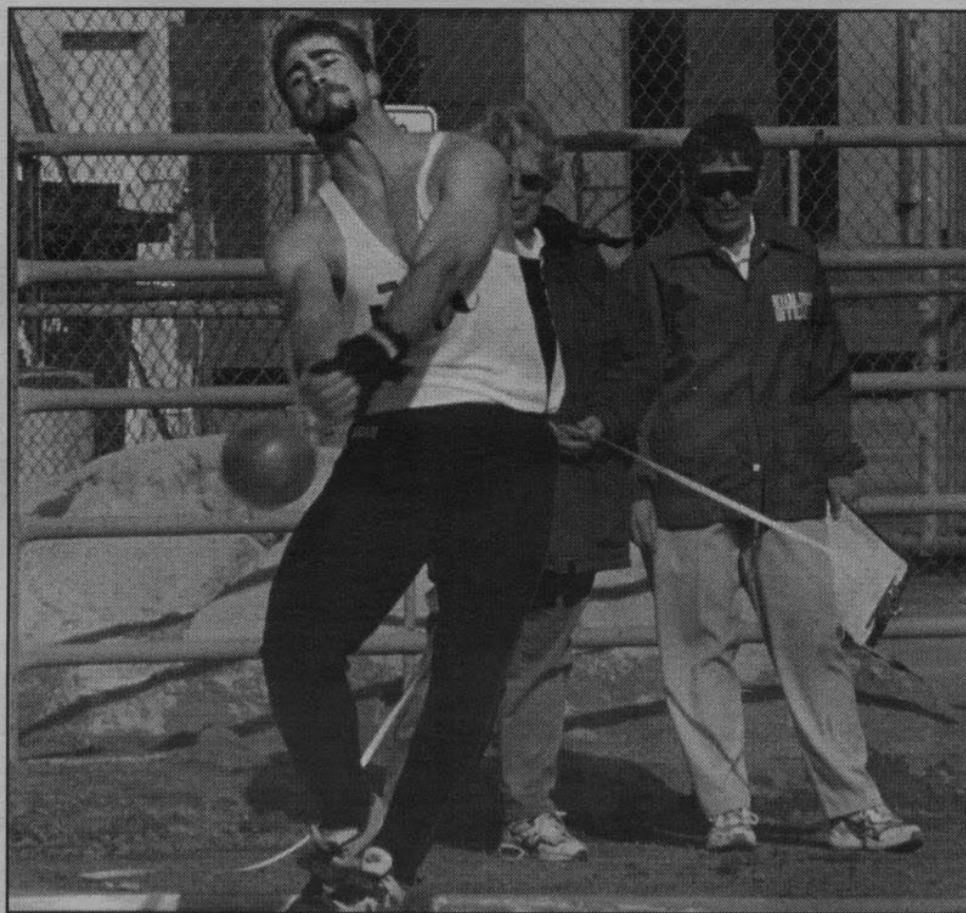


Photo by Brad Carman

Isaac Presley lifts the 35-pound weight for a throw of 38-10.5 at the Reno Invitational Indoor Track and Field Meet Jan. 30. The throw was a personal best for Presley.

Track & field athletes reach new heights

by David Thayer
of The Commuter

Two LB track and field athletes scored a couple of season bests at an indoor competition at the University of Nevada-Reno on Jan. 30.

Melisa Clements battled through a bout with the flu to get a 10-6 clearance on the pole vault for her best performance in college. Coach Brad Carman said this shows a steady progress toward high heights for Clements.





In the shot put and weight throw, Isaac Precely finished with a season best 39-8 in the shot put and a personal best in the weight throw at 11.86m (38-10.5). Luke Bjornstadt also did well in the weight throw, scoring 11.74m (38-6).

Ryan Parmenter and Helen Rarick each ran the indoor mile with times of 4:45.5 and 6:15.8 respectively.

In a recent survey, people were asked how we can improve our bus services and the survey said...

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-  Albany Amtrak Station
-  OSU
-  LBCC
-  Downtown Albany

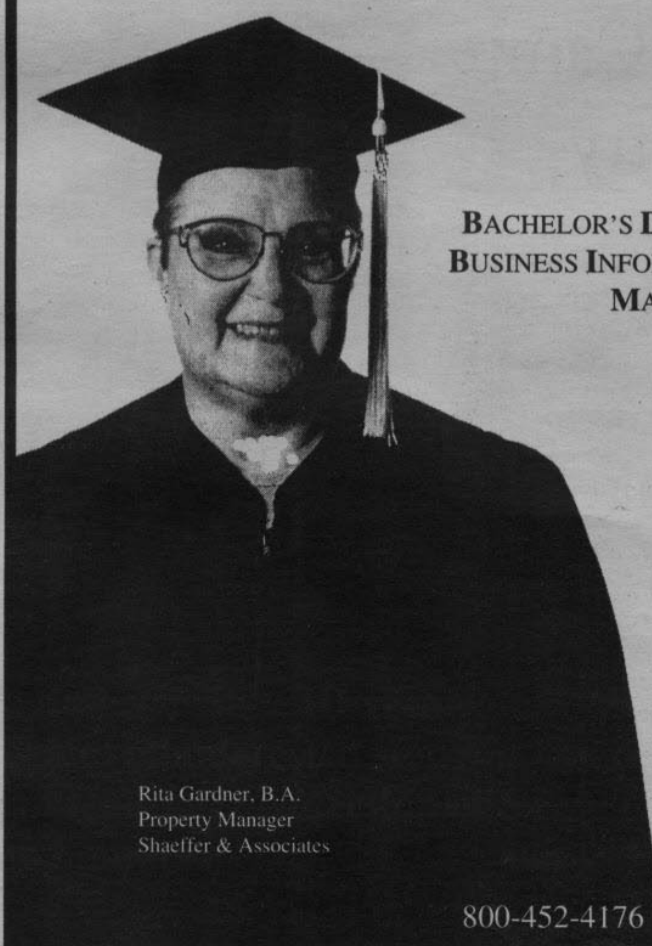


For more information, call 917-7667
Schedules are available at the Albany City Hall, Corvallis City Hall, LBCC, and the OSU Bookstore.
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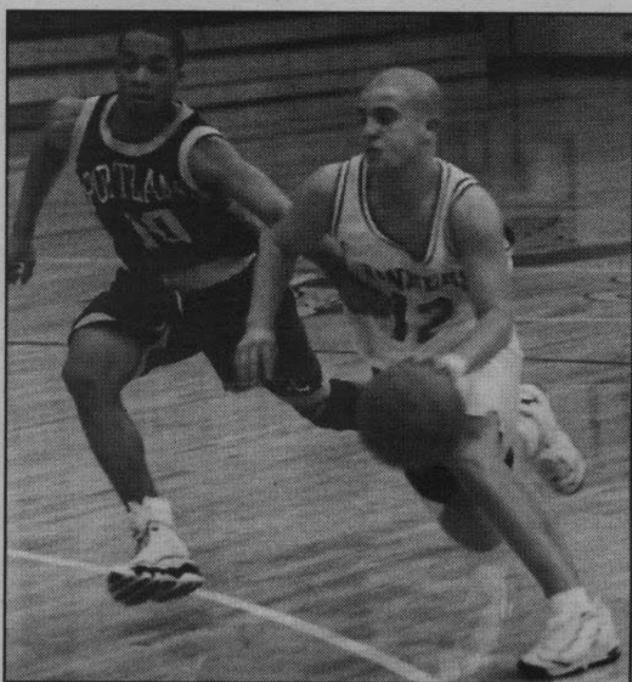


Photo by E.J. Harris

Hamilton Barnes drives past a Panther during Saturday's game in the Activities Center. Portland won the game 79-67.

Pair of losses hurts men's playoff chances

by David Thayer
of The Commuter

The Roadrunners dropped two games last week, losing in overtime to Umpqua on the road and getting hammered by Portland at home.

The Feb. 3 game against Umpqua was tightly fought. The Roadrunners claimed a 39-35 halftime lead but the Timbermen staged a comeback in the second half and sent the game into overtime. Umpqua then outscored LB 12-9 in the overtime period to claim the win, 91-88.

Marc Cordle led the Roadrunners in points with 24, connecting on seven of his 14 shots, three of five coming from behind the arc. Mike Aitchison and Dustin Hamann provided double-doubles, with Aitchison scoring 17 points and grabbing 14 rebounds while Hamann

"We are going to have to work on free throws, better intensity, better energy, better defense and better rebounding."

—Coach Randy Falk

scored 15 and collected 12 rebounds. Jon Fussell also provided 19 points and eight rebounds. Aitchison also had four blocked shots.

The Roadrunners hit 63 percent of their shots in the first half, but a dismal 33 percent in the second. LB did out-rebound the Timbermen 48-38.

On Saturday Feb. 6, the Panthers of Portland CC visited the Activities Center, hoping to avenge their loss in overtime to the Roadrunners 95-91 on Jan. 16. They did just that, defeating LB handily, 79-67.

The first half of the game was closely fought until the last few minutes. Portland would take an eight-or-nine-point lead, then the Roadrunners would fight back to be only down one or two points. But the Panthers closed out the half on a 8-1 run, taking a 39-30 lead at halftime.

The second half was a different story for the Roadrunners as Portland came out and dominated the game. LB did get it close at 44-38, but Portland was too much, and after being down only 10, the Roadrunner defense just collapsed.

Hamann led the Roadrunners in points with 17. Fussell scored 15 and Cordle 13. Aitchison only scored six points, but did lead LB in rebounds with 12. Shawn Gilliam led the team with three steals and Barnes dished out eight assists. The Roadrunners out-rebounded the Panthers 48-45, but Portland got 45 points off the bench and 22 points off turnovers.

Coach Randy Falk cited lack of intensity, poor free throw shooting and low energy at the end of the game as reasons for the loss.

"We are going to have to work on free throws, better intensity, better energy, better defense and better rebounding," said Falk.

The next games for the Roadrunners are tonight at 8 p.m. against Southwestern Oregon, then against Mt. Hood in Gresham on Saturday at 8 p.m.

The men are now 3-7 in league and 11-13 overall.

Women come back from defeat at Umpqua to overwhelm Portland CC

by David Thayer
of The Commuter

Losing streaks and injuries have put a damper on the Lady Roadrunners' season so far, but last week they overcame adversity in splitting two games, losing to Umpqua and beating the Portland Panthers.

On Wednesday in Roseburg, the Timberwomen outdid the Lady 'Runners the whole game, winning 91-54. Umpqua had a 43-26 lead at halftime, and scored even more points in the second half. The Timberwomen shot

"We have a lot of injuries and sickness, but they have been very confident about this game all week long."

—A.J. Dionne

very well, hitting better than 50 percent of their shots, while the Lady 'Runners shot only 27 percent on 21 of 81 shots.

McKenzie Fauth was the only Lady 'Runner in double figures, scoring 13 points. Eva Larsen led the way with eight rebounds, followed by Beth Nelson, who was coming back from a wrist injury suffered during the first league game, with seven rebounds. Opal DePue led the team with five steals.

The Timberwomen out-rebounded the Lady 'Runners 61-45 and dominated them in points off turnovers (22-13) and second-effort points (19-7).

Coming home on Feb. 6 seemed to be a good thing for the Lady 'Runners as they defeated the Portland Lady Panthers 69-57. The game was full of pushing and shoving late in the game, due to Portland's frustration of being down big and losing.

The Lady Roadrunners had things going from the start. They jumped out to an early 17-8 lead, then kept up their defense and shooting to take a 30-21 lead. LB went into the locker room with a 36-26 lead.

The second half was a lot closer thanks to better play from Portland, but the Lady 'Runners made sure that this was their game. Portland came out fast early, but LB just took it in stride and took their biggest lead of the game 61-43. That signaled the end for a Portland comeback.

Nelson was the Roadrunners' leading scorer with 18 points, followed by Jana Sissom with 14 and DePue with 12. Sissom led the team with nine rebounds. Leslie Boer helped out her teammates by dishing out six assists. The team didn't shoot very well and were out-rebounded 49-47, but they got 17 points off the bench.

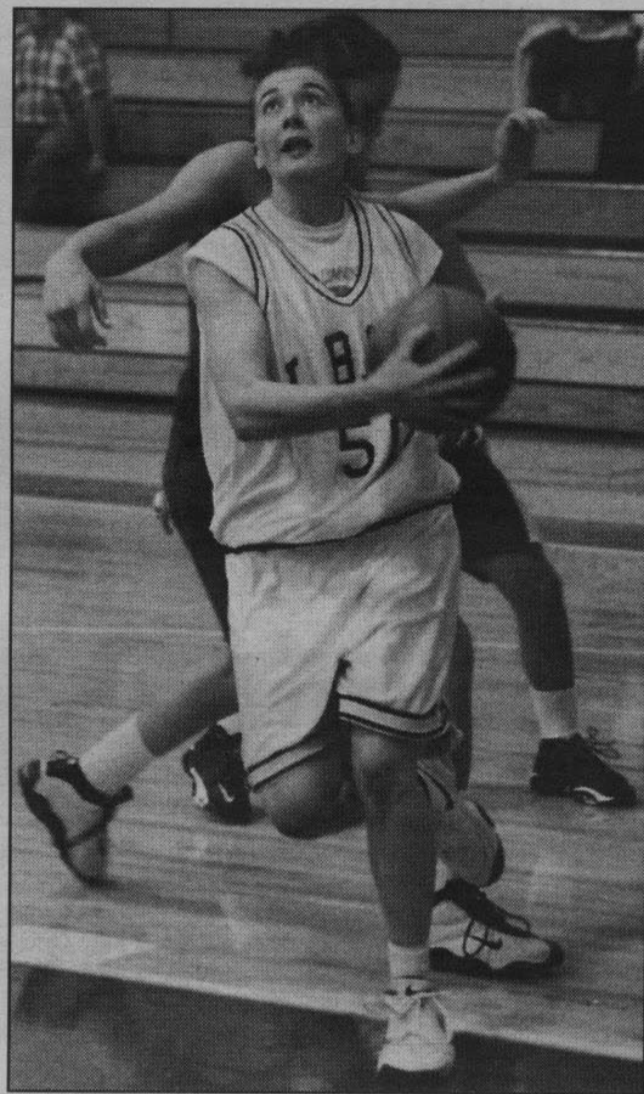


Photo by E. J. Harris

Opal DePue cuts to the basket with a Portland defender in pursuit. DePue scored 12 points in the Lady 'Runners second league win of the year Saturday over the Panthers.

"I think it was a good team win," said Coach A.J. Dionne. "We have a lot of injuries and sickness, but they have been very confident about this game all week long. We had a little too many turnovers in the first half. We need to work on our rebounds."

The next games for the Lady 'Runners are against Southwestern Oregon here at Linn-Benton at 6 tonight, then against Mt. Hood on Saturday in Gresham at 6 p.m. The Lady 'Runners are now 2-8 in league and 6-11 overall.



Photo by Joey Blount

Hoopla

Last week's Schick 3-on-3 Tournament attracted nine teams for an afternoon of furious action in the Activities Center. Shown here are two teams in the opening round. When the dust settled, a team calling themselves the Players Club emerged as victors, and will go on to represent LBCC in the regional competition at Willamette University in Salem on March 6. Team members of the Players club are Josh Johnstone, Evan Pozniakoff, Norman Grock and Jared King. They won the title by beating The Shooters, made up of Brandon Curry, Rick Hollyburton, Robbie Hollister and Jamie Hollister.

'Irresistible': Derivative or Delightful?

'Simply Irresistible' is completely resistable

by Sarah Crauder
of The Commuter

If you recognize Sean Patrick Flanery, it's probably because you saw him star in "The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles."

Flanery was excellent in the role of the famous fictional archeologist in his pre-Ark of the Covenant days. Flanery was attractive, charming, sweet, adventurous, and, well, simply irresistible.

His new movie, however, is not.

"Simply Irresistible" is a confusing, rushed story that simply seems to be a vehicle to throw "Buffy The Vampire Slayer" Sarah Michelle Gellar on the big screen as quickly as possible.

The story is liberally borrowed from the book/movie "Like Water For Chocolate." In "Like Water For Chocolate," the heroine is forbidden to marry, but falls in love anyway. She is so tormented by this forbidden love that whatever she is feeling while she cooks is put into the fantastic food she makes. People that eat her food either become inflamed with her passion or made nauseous by her anguish and tears.

In "Simply Irresistible," the only thing that prevents Gellar's and Flanery's love is a difference in wealth and the fact that Flanery begins to think Gellar is a witch, which just seemed to be a hastily thrown together subplot designed to put this movie in the popular supernatural genre.

The movie was probably sold to 20th Century Fox with a summary like "Buffy the Vampire Slayer as a chef! But instead of a slayer, she'll be a witch!" Fox is right on the money.

"Buffy" groupies will probably flock to this film, and if they haven't seen "Like Water For Chocolate," which makes "Simply Irresistible" look shallow and sophomoric in comparison, they will go back to see it a few more times.

The screenplay was written by Judith Roberts, who was a lawyer at Warner Communications. Her background probably came in handy to know how much to alter the plot of "Like Water For Chocolate" without getting sued for plagiarism. It is fairly obvious that this is her first screenplay. The plot is typical

Hollywood fare, with few surprises and the dialog seems forced and stilted.

Who is the mysterious Gene O'Reilly (Christopher Durant), the man who orchestrates Amanda Shelton's (Gellar) and Tom Bartlett's (Flanery) first meeting? A friendly crab seller? A fairy godfather? An angel? Cupid?

A big deal is made out of the fact that the Southern Cross, Amanda's restaurant, has been in the same place for 70 years, and now may have to be shut down because business is bad, but at the end of the movie its future is never discussed. Will Amanda continue to work there now that she's a famous gourmet chef?

Will she work at Tom's restaurant?

Another problem with the film is that any part that isn't confusing is easily predictable. Anyone who has watched a few Hollywood romances will be able to easily trace the formulaic plot.

It seems hard to believe that people like famous playwright Christopher Duran and acclaimed actress Betty Buckley would be associated with a film this awkwardly written.

This film is supposed to be about magic—the magic of

good food and the magic of love. To whip up these kinds of magic, it requires time to create and time to enjoy what has been created, but this film rushes through its plot without taking time to revel in the magic of falling in love.

Even the soundtrack falls flat. There are a number of songs about magic, but none of them are magical themselves. The great Police song "Every Little Thing She Does Is Magic," has been redone for this movie by Shawn Colvin ("Sunny Came Home") and transformed into "Every Little Thing He Does Is Magic." Colvin is accompanied by only her guitar and sucks every ounce of magic out of the original song.

The actors work well with what they have, which isn't much. Gellar plays her part well and will be attractive enough for most guys to not completely regret choosing it as a date flick. Flanery is charming and attractive enough to acquire a following, giving him the power to demand quality movies.

This movie barely deserves a C.



The movie was probably sold to 20th Century Fox with a summary like "Buffy the Vampire Slayer as a chef! But instead of a slayer, she'll be a witch!"

Gellar's romantic comedy deserves an irresistible A

by Heather Wahlberg
of The Commuter

For all of you hopeless romantics out there, have I got a film for you. "Simply Irresistible," Sarah Michelle Gellar's new film, deserves an A.

In this movie, Gellar plays a young chef named Amanda who inherited a 70-year-old restaurant from her mother.

Unfortunately, Amanda doesn't have her mother's talent for cooking delicious food and the restaurant can't afford to stay open. Then she meets Tom Bartlett, a young executive starting a restaurant, played by Sean Patrick Flanery.

From the moment that he walks into her life, everything starts to change for what seems to be the best. Amanda's food is suddenly the best thing anyone has ever tasted and the restaurant is able to stay open.

There is one little snag. Whatever Amanda is feeling when she cooks also goes into the food, causing the person eating it to feel the same way.

From the very beginning, this film is packed with laughter and romance. There were a few scenes in the beginning when the music made it seem like a daytime soap opera, but that problem was quickly solved, and the emotional impact of the film was enhanced.

I feel that I must praise Gellar on her performance as well. I went into the film expecting a mediocre performance from her, after seeing a couple of episodes from "Buffy the Vampire Slayer." I was pleasantly surprised to find that she actually seemed to fit the role of Amanda.

While I haven't really seen Flanery in any of his past roles, I enjoyed his performance in this film. Of course, it doesn't hurt that he's good looking.

The cinematographer deserves a pat on the back for the excellent job that he did with this film. While I didn't quite catch his name in the credits, I'm sure he'll receive plenty of praise for his vanilla fog and picturesque food displays that made me hungry throughout the film.

Whether you enjoy a good comedy or are a hopeless romantic like me, you'll enjoy this film because it is quite simply, irresistible.



10 Dollar Mic tours the Northwest with heavy ska sound

by Amber Mcnamara
of The Commuter

Every band begins somewhere. For the members of 10 Dollar Mic it was playing at a house party for kids they knew at college. They have evolved tremendously since that first gig.

The four-year-old, horn-driven band is composed of seven members ages 18-24 years old. Paul Bowman, bari/alto sax; Eric Rollofson, guitar/vocals, Andrew Monaco, trombone/vocals, Ryan Sheldrake, trombone; Ben Kinkley, trumpet; Spencer Biegele, bass player; and Zach Wilkey, drummer.

The original band met at Oregon State University and most of the members either currently attend or once attended OSU. After buying a cheap microphone for \$9.99, they had a name and were on a roll.

They have played many shows with a range of crowds, from a benefit show with Meredith Brooks at Gill Coliseum with a crowd of 3,000 to a show at the Roselyn Theater with around 300 people in attendance. According to Bowman, a highlight was seeing an 80-year-old woman dancing and talking about how great the music was. "We play music for all ages" he said.

The band recorded their own CD, Rising Sun, which includes such favorites as Drinkin' Again, Kitty, and, Infiltration. The songs on the CD were written by Eric Rollofson, Jerome Monaco and Randy Rollofson. They are also featured on a compilation CD with nine other bands from Portland.

The band embarked on a one week mini-tour through Oregon and Washington "to see if we could handle it,"



Photo by Jeremy Parker

Eric Rollofson, guitar/vocalist, rocks the mic to an audience of 3,000 at Gill Coliseum last fall.

Bowman said. "The fans were really great and hooked us up every night so we didn't have to sleep in our cars," he added. He went on to explain that during the tour they had one evening with nothing scheduled. The group of guys (most likely adorned in suits) walked into a coffee shop and asked if they could play later that night. After handing out flyers, they ended up with a show of about 70 people. "It was one of the best shows on the tour," Bowman said.

Members of the band have a broad range of majors including music, economics, ancient Chinese anthro-

pology, and one member is in his last year of high school. Because the band is not yet self supporting, they also have a variety of jobs. Paul described himself as a "coffee jerk" which means he works at Java Crew in Keizer. Andrew Monaco works on a road crew and Eric Rollofson is a graphic design artist at a firm in Corvallis. Between school, work and practicing twice a week, these guys stay very busy and are about to make their schedules even tighter these next few months by doing some heavy promoting.

Their web page is expected to be up soon; they are going to be playing every week, and have music being published in several magazines. "We have made lots of sacrifices, but obviously it is rewarding because we are still doing it," Bowman said. "The greatest respect comes when you see a member in the audience singing your song."

When asked about wearing suits in almost every show Bowman said, "Bands are the trendsetters. Obviously it is all about music, but style is important."

Along with his success in the band, Paul Bowman is making his acting debut in a Hallmark special called "Night Ride Home." Originally he was just an extra, but wearing a suit came in handy and he was quickly cast as a pall bearer.

The band is working on material for a new CD. 10 Dollar Mic upcoming shows include: Feb. 11 at Tommy John's in Salem (21 years or older), Feb. 20 at CD Exchange in Lebanon, or Feb. 27 at Uncle Hungry's in Corvallis. For more information on upcoming shows call Paul at (503)304-0801.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Photos, painting sculpture in new gallery exhibit

A new exhibit featuring the work of three Oregon artists has opened in The Fine Art Gallery, located in the foyer of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Building.

Included are computer-generated photographs by Al Crane of Grants Pass, paintings by Laura Nugent of Portland and sculpture by Diane Smith-Hill of Portland.

Crane's work combines traditional photographs with text and other scanned items to create color images that are printed digitally on photo-quality paper.

"I generally begin with ideas that are based upon sketches and text that I have written in journal format," said Crane. "I combine my own photographs (old as well as new) with objects and still life arrangements."

Nugent describes her work as "layers of paint and wax (that) have been applied and removed using a palette knife and brush."

For Smith-Hill, "loneliness and alienation of the human condition" provide the impetus for her sculptures, which she says also attempt to "show the humanity and grace within us all."

The exhibit can be seen from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday through Feb. 25, with a closing reception for the artists on Thursday Feb. 24 at noon.



"Borrowed Memory #3" by Al Crane is in part of the current show in the LBCC Fine Art Gallery. Also exhibiting are painter Laura Nugent and Diane Smith-Hill. The show runs through Feb. 25.

Portland Film Festival offers alternative movies

The world arrives at Portland's doorstep for 17 days as the Northwest Film Center's 22nd Annual Portland International Film Festival screens from Feb. 12 through Feb. 28.

Nearly 100 new films from established and emerging filmmakers are being shown, offering an opportunity to see movies hard to find in regular theaters.

This year the festival anticipates the arrival of the 21st century by presenting seven independent films, each a prophetic tale of what could happen when we enter the next century. Also on tap are a number of works submitted for this year's Best Foreign Film Oscar and a selection of short works.

The festival will take place at the Northwest Film Center's Guild Theatre and Regal Cinema's Movie House and Broadway Theaters, all located in downtown Portland.

Tickets are \$7 for general admission and \$6 for film center members. There is a \$125 festival pass available, and a \$25 student 5-film pass. Advanced ticket sales begin Feb. 8 and may be purchased from the Portland Art Museum Box Office at 1119 SW Park Ave.

For additional information call (503)221-1156.

LB's Valley Writers offers lecture, slide show and poetry

From the LBCC News Service

The Valley Writers is offering a new event for poetry lovers. "Exploring Oregon Poetry," Saturday, Feb. 13 from 1-1:45 p.m. will feature poets Josephine Bridges and David Johnson.

From 2-4 p.m., poet and writer Walt Curtis will present "Beautiful Willamette: A History of Oregon Poets," his slide show and lecture that helped initiate the resurrection of neglected Oregon literary figures.

Both events will be held in the Alsea-Calapooia Room. Total cost for both programs is \$15 general admission, \$10 for students and seniors.

Josephine Bridges grew up in New England and

moved to the south coast of Oregon in 1979. Her poetry and prose have appeared in the "Oregon English Journal," "Fireweed, Lilliput Review," "Bandon Undertow," "Haight Ashbury Literary Journal," and the "Southwest Oregon Community College Beacon."

Last fall, Bridges self-published a short collection of poems in a postcard format. She has also completed a book-length manuscript called "The Only Word There Is." David Johnson, a native Oregonian, has published poetry in "Fireweed," "The Bandon Undertow," and "Foreground Magazine."

Johnson's collaborative book of poetry, *Confluence*, was a finalist in the 1993 Oregon Book Awards. A

journalist and freelance writer for over 30 years, Johnson has been published widely in Northwest newspapers and magazines.

Walt Curtis, author of numerous small press books, recently published an expanded version of "Mala Noche," the source and title of Gus Van Sant's first feature film. Curtis also hosts "The Talking Earth," KBOO-FM radio's longest-running program.

In 1991, Curtis received the Stewart Holbrook Award for Literary Arts for his contribution to Oregon literature. He is represented by, and often exhibited in, the Mark Woolley Gallery. Curtis is a founder and secretary of the Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission.

Win Free Tickets to the Portland Opera!

As they Present

Faust

Cut this out and bring it to the New Student Union.

Drawing will be at 12:30 Friday, Feb. 19th in the Student Union

You must be present to win. Students only please!

Name: _____

The Opera will take place February 20th, 7:30 p.m. at the Civic Auditorium in Portland.

Eugene Asian Festival



February 13, 1999

9-4 p.m.

Eugene, Ore.

A day full of activities centered around Asian culture

This is an annual event and one of the largest Asian Festivals in the United States. Transportation and lunch provided for the first 12 students who sign up in the Student Life and Leadership office, in the Student Union building.

Van Departs: 9 a.m.
Van Returns: 4 p.m.

For any information contact Brandt Schmitz in the Student Life and Leadership office.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'Treasure Island' sails into Takena Theatre next week

By Larry Bulling
LBCC News Service

Long John Silver, the charming rogue of pirate lore, sails again in LBCC's children's theater production of the Robert Louis Stevenson's "Treasure Island," which opens next week.

This classic tale of pirates and hidden treasure has fascinated generations not only for its swashbuckling adventure, but also for the interplay between Long John Silver and Jim Hawkins, the young lad swept into an adult world of perilous adventure.

"We've captured the highlights of the novel and kept faith with the language and story line," says director Jane Donovan.

The hour-long stage version, created by Corvallis Story Theatre Ensemble director Jean Bonifas, splits the story into three main scenes. The first takes place in the Admiral Benbow Inn, the Hawkins family establishment where Jim Hawkins encounters Cap'n Billy Bones, keeper of the much-sought-after treasure map. The next scene shifts to the deck of the Hispaniola, the ship that carries Jim, Squire Trelawney, Dr. Livesey, Cap'n Smollett and Long John Silver—hired on as the ship's

fast facts

When: Feb. 19, 20, 26, 27 at 7 p.m.
Feb. 21 and 28 at 3 p.m.

Cost: \$3 for children and \$5 for adults.

Where: Tickets available at the LBCC Takena Theatre Box Office Monday through Friday 12-3 p.m. and at Rice's in Corvallis. Remaining seats will be sold two hours before curtain time. Tickets may be reserved by calling 917-4531.

cook—to Treasure Island. The last scene is the island stockade, where the good guys and bad guys have their showdown over the map and treasure.

The nine-member cast includes many veterans of LBCC performances playing a total of 15 parts, some of which call for a complete personality shift. Lebanon resident Derek Jones portrays both the desperate "Cap'n Billy Bones" and the ever-proper and by-the-book "Cap'n Smollett." Corvallis resident Tina Empol plays

"Mrs. Hawkins" and pirate "O'Brien." Christopher Champ, also of Corvallis, does turns as "Blind Pew" and "Ben Gunn."

In the lead roles, Corvallis resident Trent J. Suing plays the peg-legged charmer "Long John Silver." Luke Butler of Brownsville portrays "Jim Hawkins," who grows up quickly from a wide-eyed innocent to a brave young man who saves the day. Hawkins also serves as an on-stage narrator for some of the scenes.

Albany residents in the cast include Aaron Grow as "Israel Hands"; Garwin Hadder as "Black Dog," "Alan," "Joyce" and "Morgan"; and Joshua Ransom as "Dr. Livesey." Lebanon resident Eric Gasten Czernowski plays the pompous blabbermouth "Squire Trelawney."

The actors, richly costumed in period dress by William Earl of OSU's University Theater, perform on a set designed by technical theater director Bruce Peterson, who also designed the lighting. LBCC graduate Nathaniel Elder designed all the sound effects from parrots to cannon fire. Sword fight scenes were choreographed by H.P. "Bud" Drake. Destiny Hallmark of Albany serves as stage manager and Erin Purdin-Arbogast as director's assistant.

Broadway hit 'Fiddler on the Roof' comes to Hult Center for the 35th anniversary

A lavish new production of "Fiddler on the Roof" opens at the Hult Center - Silva Concert Hall on Tuesday, March 2 at 8 p.m., for three performances. Directed by Sammy Dallas Bayes, the 35th Anniversary "Fiddler on the Roof" brings to life all the deeply emotional and comic magic of the Broadway original. Tickets now available at the Hult Center Box Office and all Fred Meyer FASTIXX outlets or charge by phone at 682-5000 or 1-800-992-8499. For groups of 20 or more, call Susan at 744-1962.

An audience favorite for 35 years, "Fiddler on the Roof" tells the uplifting story of Tevye, a poor Russian struggling to raise three defiant daughters in a rapidly changing world. Told through exuberant dance and earthy comedy, the story of Tevye and his family is one of perseverance and deep faith in the face of disappearing traditions.

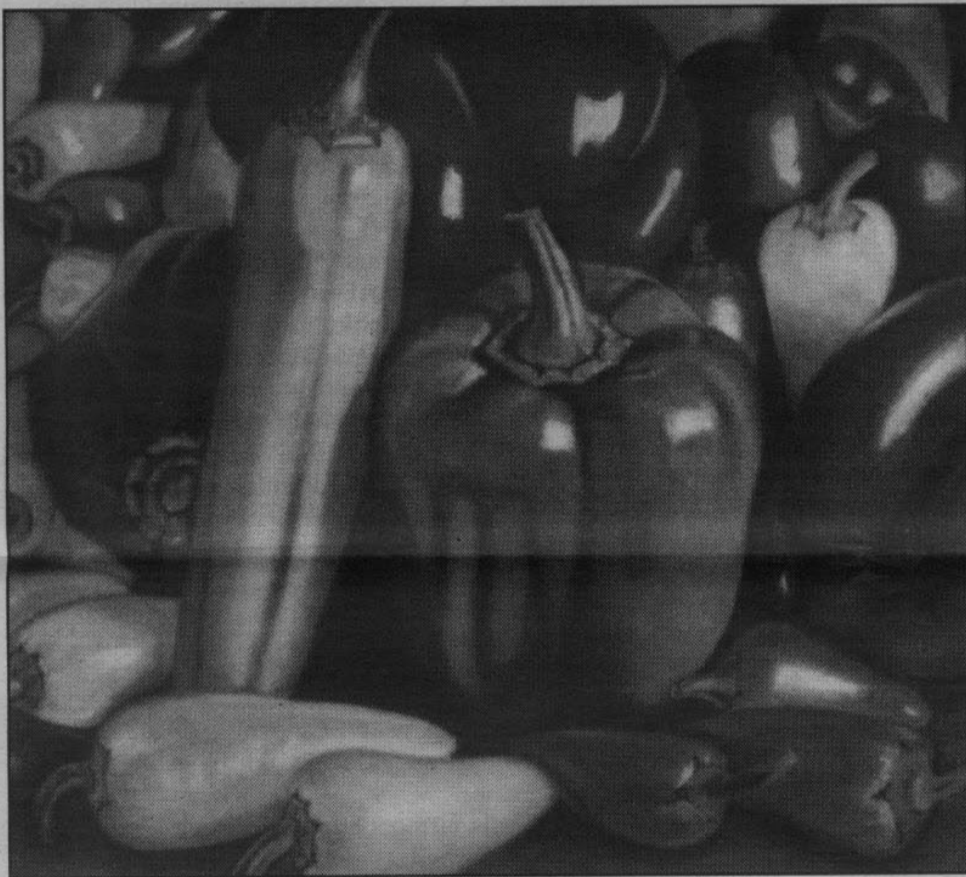
Starring acclaimed stage veteran John Preece as Tevye, the show features a cast of 30 of New York's finest theater talent. Preece, who will play his 1,000th performance on the tour de force role in this production, has received rave reviews across the country for his moving portrayal. The new "Fiddler on the Roof"

recreates all the dynamic Tony-winning elements of the Jerome Robbins' original production.

"Fiddler" began life in the 1960s when librettist Joseph Stein began adapting the stories of Sholem Aleichem which had been beloved since they were published in 1896.

The pedigree of talent assembled to create "Fiddler" was astonishing: lyricist Sheldon Harnick and composer Jerry Bock had won a Pulitzer Prize for their musical "Fiorello!"; director/choreographer Jerome Robbins had already created the dances and/or the direction of such landmark performances as "West Side Story" and "Gypsy", and producer Harold Prince had presented "West Side Story" and "Pajama Game" before his 30th birthday.

Its score has produced several show tune standards, including "Sunrise, Sunset," "If I Were a Rich Man," "Matchmaker" and "Tradition" that have been recorded by everyone from Robert Goulet to Robert Merrill to Arthur Fiedler. The original cast album alone sold well over 14 million units, making it one of the best-selling recordings in Broadway history.



The Visual Arts Club is selling greeting cards of members' work to raise extra funds. The piece above is by Milissa Wilson and the one below is by Suzanne Buhler. Both works are pastel on paper.

Visual Arts Club raises money with card sales

by Keirsten Morris
of The Commuter

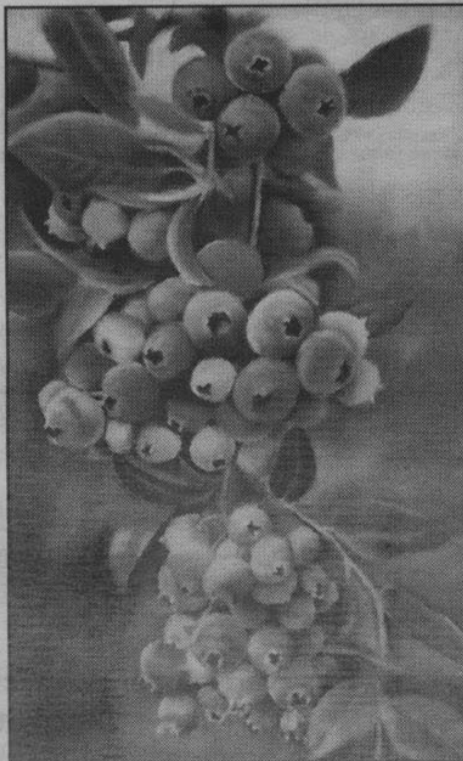
Greeting cards that showcase the work of past and present LBCC visual arts students will go on sale next week in the bookstore.

The cards feature illustrations and typographical designs in either greeting card or postcard formats. The postcards are printed in color on glossy paper and the greeting cards are color images mounted on sturdy cardstock that are blank inside and include an envelope.

The cards are available for around a dollar apiece, and can be purchased either individually or in assorted six-packs. Proceeds benefit LB's visual arts club, which is open to all students majoring in fine arts, graphic arts, digital imaging and photography.

"The cards promote the department, the quality of the student's work and the school. It's basically reaching three levels," said Jim Johnson, president of the visual arts club.

The students put the cards together as



an extra-curricular activity, not as a specific class, and advisor John Aikman lended a hand when needed.

"It's given us a real-world experience. It's not an assignment—it's real work," said Johnson.

The cards feature the work of Jon Walusiak, Shelley King, Suzanne Buhler, Milissa Wilson, Emily Hagen and Tracy Lopp.

SPEAK YOUR...

Use the Commuter's Opinion Page to tell the world where to get off. Write a letter to the Editor. Sign it. Seal it and drop it off at College Center Room 210. And watch the feathers fly next Wednesday.

Win a Winner

@\$*#&%!"

LBCC
The Commuter

CLASSIFIEDS

SCHOLARSHIPS

Umatilla Electric Cooperative is offering seven \$800 scholarships to students who reside or whose parents' primary residence is in the UEC territory. More information and applications are available at the Career Center in Tadena Hall or by calling 1-800-452-2273. Deadline is March 1, 1999.

The Women's Overseas Service League is offering scholarships to women students in public service or military careers in amounts ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 annually-may be renewable. More information is available at the Career Center in Tadena Hall. Application deadline is March 1, 1999.

The Grand Chapter Order of the Eastern Star of Oregon is offering \$500 scholarships (Leslie S. Parker Memorial Scholarship) to female students who have completed two years of satisfactory college work. Applicants need to request an application packet on or before March 31, 1999. More information is available at the Career Center in Tadena Hall. Application deadline is April 1, 1999.

The Oregon Fire Chiefs' Association is offering the Neil Hamilton Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to those students studying Fire Science courses. For applications and more information, contact the Career Center in Tadena Hall. Application deadline is March 5, 1999.

Western Utilities Supply Company is offering three scholarships for the amount of \$750 per year to students enrolled in a two year program in the waterworks field. Criteria and applications are available in the Career Center in Tadena Hall. Application deadline is April 15, 1999.

St. Elizabeth Health Series Auxiliary of Baker City, OR will award a scholarship of \$1,500 to a graduate of Baker City High School or a current Baker County resident who has at least a sophomore status by September 1999. The Applicant must be enrolled in a health care field, such as, RN, LPN, Radiology or Medical Laboratory Technician, Occupa-

tional, Physical or Respiratory Therapy of similar areas. Additional info and applications are available at the Career Center in Tadena Hall. Completed application deadline is April 15, 1999.

The Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation Memorial Scholarship is offering scholarships for the 1999/2000 academic year. The amount of the scholarship varies from year to year. Previously they have ranged from \$750 to \$1,500. Applications and information are available in Tadena Hall. Deadline is April 1, 1999.

Conner Scholarships based on academic achievement are available for various business degree majors. Available in Business Building B-111. Application deadline is March 19, 1999.

The Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children is offering two \$400 and two \$500 scholarships to students and professionals seeking education or training in the Early Childhood Education field, serving children birth to eight. Additional information and applications are available at the Career Center in Tadena Hall. Application deadline is March 10, 1999.

The OreALS Scholarship Fund Inc. is offering scholarships to students who are preparing for the career as legal support staff. These scholarships are 40 percent based on financial need. Information and applications are available at the Career Center in Tadena Hall. Application deadline is March 31, 1999.

The Zonta Club of Corvallis is awarding five \$1,200 scholarships to LBCC students for the 1999-2000 academic year. Applicants need to be currently enrolled undergraduate students at LBCC with prior life experience, demonstrate interest in working to improve the legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional status of women. Additional information and applications are available at the Financial Aid Office in Tadena Hall. Completed application deadline is April 10, 1999.

The Women's Shipping Club of Portland

Scholarship Fund is awarding five \$1,000 scholarships to students in the fields of international business or maritime affairs. Additional information and applications are available at the Career Center in Tadena Hall. Completed applications deadline is April 15, 1999.

FOR RENT

Share a lg. comfortable home in a quiet country setting 1 1/2 miles from LBCC. Own private room and share 2 other floors of this nice house w/ other adult. \$300 includes utilities, garbage and phone - Barn on site available w/ horse stables. No smokers, no drugs, no pets. 928-9363 after 5 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS

Learn to play the Scottish Bagpipe. Professional instruction, call Ronn at 752-0646.

BAKESALE- Lots of Goodies! Thursday Feb. 11th, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Tadena Hall.

HELP WANTED

CWE Internship-We have Cooperative Work Experience (CWE) jobs. They are PC Computer Support (for computer degree students) and Enviromental Technician (for science, enviroment and engineering students). Both are part-time and pay well and would look great on your resume. See us in Student Employment (T101) for more info.

Maintenance Supervisor (Halsey)-Do you have lots of maintenance supervisor experience especially in a pulp mill? This full-time position pays \$54-81,000/yr DOE. See us in T101 for more info.

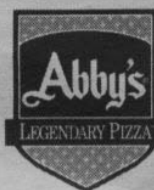
Contract Expeditor (Albany)-Here's that local, full-time Metallurgical job you have been waiting for. Put that associate degree to work at a local specialty metal manufacturer and get paid competitive salary plus benefits. See us in Student Employment (T101) for more info.

Monteith House Museum Curator (Albany) Do you love to research and have computer skills? Does Albany's history do something

for you. See us in Student Employment (T101) for more info.

Pantry Chef and Assistant Chef-Passenger cruise ship on location somewhere between Mexico and Alaska. If you are 21 and have cooking experience see us at Student Employment (T101).

**MID-WEEK MADNESS!
MONDAY - THURSDAY
Giant Pepperoni \$10.⁹⁹**



3033 Santiam Hwy.
Albany
928-9311

Open 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.

COUPON

\$3.00 OFF
Any Giant Pizza

Dine-in or delivery!
Please mention this coupon when ordering. Not valid in combination with any other special or offer. Good at any Abby's location.



COUPON

\$2.00 OFF
Any Large Pizza

Dine-in or delivery!
Please mention this coupon when ordering. Not valid in combination with any other special or offer. Good at any Abby's location.



ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS

IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONCERNING ASLBCC STUDENT ELECTIONS

Dates to remember:

Feb. 12- all applications for ASG and SPB are due

Feb. 17- ASG candidate forum to be held at **noon** in the new student lounge, all students are encouraged to attend and question the candidates

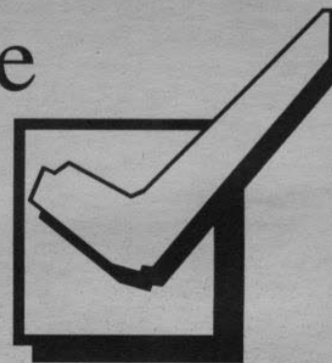
Feb. 23-24- all students vote in Tadena Hall from 8:00 - 3:30 and 5:30 - 7:30

vote...vote...vote...vote...vote

when you vote, you earn the right to complain

Feb. 23-24

8:00 - 3:30 & 5:30 - 7:30



Volunteers are needed to help with the voting process; duties include ID verification, students initial and check off, staffing of voting booth area. Any and all interested students can contact Jon Alex, Election Committee Chair, at the new Student Life and Leadership office, 917-4457.

Please leave your name and number

brock jacks

MTV goes down the tubes with its current programs

by Brock Jacks
of the Commuter

I've just about had it with MTV these days. I'm sick of their current format.

Don't they play music videos anymore? Even when they do play videos, they're pretty lame. Exactly how many trite pop bands do we need to choose from?

If I hear of one, just ONE more boy band I may well lose my latest meal. I mean come on, we've already got the Backstreet Boys, 'N Sync, Five and 98 Degrees. And I don't think there are a lot of people who can actually tell the difference between these highly choreographed chips off the New Kids on the Block.



Whose idea was it to eliminate shoving the majority of MTV's afternoon music videos into a little show called Total Request Live? Usually you can't even see the entire video, and they're always interrupted by someone "down in Times Square" saying how much they love the video as text scrolls across the screen.

This ridiculous show is about claiming to play what people vote in. I don't know about that, because from the looks of the daily Top 10, there are an awful lot of pre-teen girls voting these days with the rest of the voters being die-hard Korn or Manson fans.

And have you seen the new VJs? Carson Daly hosts Total Request Live. This guy looks like the water boy from your high school football team. You know, the annoying little dude everyone just kind of shooed away and the girls never liked.

To further his offense, Carson is even dating Jennifer Love Hewitt, whom he most certainly does not deserve. I won't even go into MTV's new acquisition of Jesse, the gangly strung-out junkie who occasionally pops on screen to scare the daylights out of comatose viewers everywhere. I bet he's doing a little dealing on the side down there in Times Square.

They need to post a warning whenever this guy is going to come on the screen so we can change the channel.

Since MTV no longer really plays music videos, they've got plenty of time for more commercials. It seems like MTV is one big commercial for either Lutz, Arizona Jeans or Mountain Dew. Basically, you're looking at around one minute of commercials for every minute of actual programming.

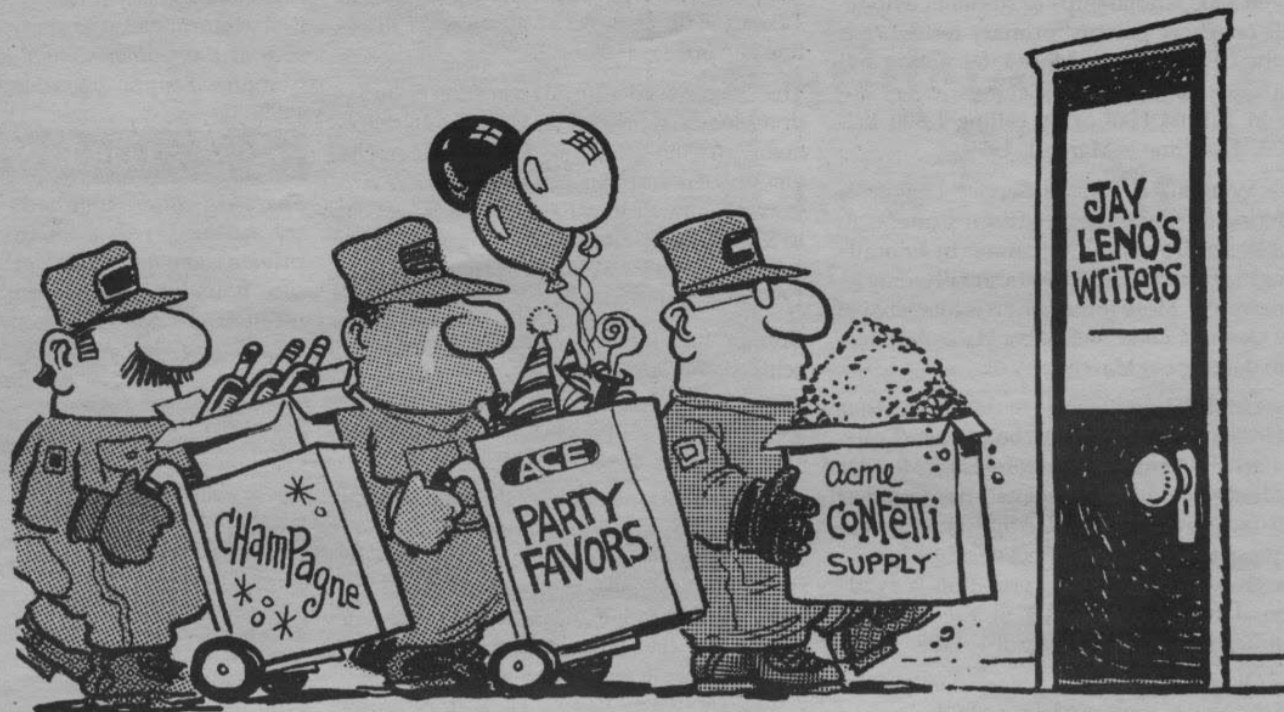
Of course, let us not forget Real World and Road Rules or was that Real Rules and Road World? Whatever, same thing. A bunch of whiny people on a bus or in a house are forced together and go through trials, whine a lot and end up being inseparable friends. Real World, ha! Yeah they give them a \$10 million beach house and put a camera crew in there, this is the real world, folks!

How necessary is MTV News after all? I mean it's not like it's a good source of real news. It's a three minute broadcast which basically tells about music news. As anchors there's Serena Altschul who looks about as interested as I did in 10th grade science, or Kurt Loder who was apparently resurrected from the dead in some dark ritual.

I won't even bite into Loveline or Daria; I think I've said enough. If you watch MTV you know what I'm talking about. It's time MTV cut the corporate hogwash and got back to the basics.

"I want my OLD MTV!"

STAR TRIBUNE
SACK



NEWS ITEM: DAN QUAYLE ANNOUNCES PRESIDENTIAL BID

letters

Uncivilized educational system annoys reader

To the Editor:

What is education? Is it to learn or to grow?

If it is to learn, what lesson is the education system trying to teach?

If it's to grow, is it a select few? If it's both, is it to bring the students up or down?

I was watching "Camelot." What I learned was that a saint was revered higher than the king, queen or even the priest during King Arthur's time and that was civilized.

Today we revere cheaters higher than our president and that is civilized.

Whoever is in this position as a cheater can break, make or take the place of authority. I thought our country wouldn't stoop to becoming cowards. It is sad that we as a nation squander our riches and prize possessions for a moment of talk.

I think that the reason the honest do not talk is because it's against the rules.

Communication was, is and always will be for the selected few who drive a Porsche. What if everyone drives or walks?

An innocent or honest person isn't given freedom, but time.

People of character, individuality and genuineness are bound in chains of being real, simple and pure, while the conceited and greedy manipulate themselves up to the top with deception and dishonor, and our nation allows it and it begins at the bottom with the education system.

Why am I writing this letter?

Because I believe that our general education systems have betrayed us.

From the beginning to the end, if it remains this way, it has prosperity, happiness, justice and freedom but here's the trick, in whose time frame?

From U.S. beginning to now, it has led us into the deep waters of a vain hope. I thought our country would go the distance and beyond, but it has settled for the selected few.

I am disappointed that I risked my life, health and fortune for a season to invest in education and in return I received void. Failing school I would think has much to do with the system behind the education, but who am I to judge?

Then as I look at my con-artist neighbor and find she/he is my executioner, I guess what I am trying to say is why are the simple, honest, loyal and real fighters begging for mercy while the ones stabbing them in their back are laughing and plotting for the next attack.

Education is not suppose to be the battleground. I thought it was the (holy grounds) nurturing realm.

I wonder, is our education turning into combat?

This letter brings me to tears to confess that I messed up school like many others around the world for what?

Because I can't handle the pressure? Do you tell a baby he/she cannot handle the pressure? I am not a baby but education is a mother. Is it abuse or tough love? From this day on I know the truth about the education system, "Dog eat dog." I was taught well. I was told of the stories, but now I know that story.

Good luck to all the dogs in the running, for our country has chosen to cheat by taking the best rather to take the strides and creating new beginnings for the worst.

There are no saints among us for if there was I would not be writing this letter to you today. The education system is not civilized at all.

Keisha Merchant

Student inspired to defend Jesus Christ and truth

To the Editor:

The point of this article is to re-establish TRUTH with clear words and to make myself feel I'm doing something for the betterment of humanity and myself.

As much as the majority hates to hear it: Jesus Christ is God's son. He died to save humanity from its sins and to make it possible for anyone who believes in him to have everlasting life. To those who say to me, "Luke, how can you believe all of that Jesus stuff without proof? What concrete proof do you have?"

To that I say, "In a worldly sense, there is no proof of God or his son." I only know one thing these days, Jesus is God's son who came into this world to die for our sins.

It all comes down to faith. Jesus said in John 20:29, "Blessed are those who haven't seen me and believe anyway."

The cosmic truth is that mankind cannot understand God's plan; if we could, why hasn't one great man throughout history explained every question of time, physics and the universe? Not to mention what happens to us after we die.

It is not in our present capacity to understand or comprehend God's plan, as much as man's egotistical mind tries. How can people dare to say, "Why do so many innocent people suffer and die?" This statement is so incredibly limited. What is the time span of one human life in comparison to a being that has been in existence for eternity? How can we attempt to know and explain God's plan; are human beings equal to God?

"So what about these wise men (philosophers), these scholars, these brilliant debaters of this world's great affairs? God has made them all look foolish and shown their wisdom to be useless pride. For God, his wisdom saw to it that the world would never find God through human brilliance, and then He stepped in and saved all those who believed His message, which the world calls foolish and silly." (1 Corinthians)

Luke Bjornstadt

OPINION PAGE

benjamin sell

Procrastination plagues students both at school and in everyday activities

by Benjamin Sell of The Commuter

There is a new epidemic sweeping this country. It affects mostly the young, oftentimes destroying their jobs, ruining their academic standing and just generally screwing up their entire existence.

It's dark, it's evil and it's the thing that damn near kept me from writing this very column.

The evil which is normally only spoken of in hushed whispers in the back of dark classrooms, that is the evil of which I speak. The foul temptation that is procrastination (cue ominous sounding music).

The symptoms are easy to recognize.

Given all term to finish a paper, your basic procrastinator will continually put it off until the night before it is due, then hurriedly throw it together in an all-night frenzy. This, of course, means the work will be substandard, which in turn means the grade given will reflect that.

Over time, if not corrected, this "last minute" approach to doing things will ultimately lead to the procrastinator's academic demise.

Of course, this rule does not only apply to term papers; normal assignments can also fall victim to the curse. Overnight assignments are often put off until about 10 minutes before class when they are scribbled frantically and often turned in incomplete.

Everyday life is not immune to the curse of procrastination.

Your basic procrastinator will find any reason to put off any menial task that he must accomplish. His oil will not have been changed in eight months because he "just hasn't had time." His car will have a layer of dirt an inch thick accumulated on it because it hasn't been washed since the last time the oil was changed. His room will have a layer of clothes covering the floor, bills will be laying around unpaid, not because he doesn't have the money, but because he hasn't gotten around to going to the post office and buying stamps. The bed will be unmade until the time comes to wash the sheets, and even then they are not thrown back on until minutes before bedtime. The calendar on the wall will be at least two months behind, and in some extreme cases, for the wrong year.

Procrastination is just being too lazy to start something that absolutely has to get finished.

Note to self: finish this later.



CGP Daily Cartoonist



commentary

Defining masculinity in the 90s is tough

by Ashley Bach of The Oregon Daily Emerald University of Oregon

The image of an ideal '90s man ranges from feminine to fiendish, but most men lie somewhere hopelessly in-between.

A friend of mine likes to talk about all the women he's slept with, about all the hearts he's broken and about how he really doesn't care about those things very much at all.

He's a poster boy for men behaving badly, and that's the way he likes it — no smiling in photos, no commitments, no confessions. He's a brick wall of masculine energy.

But like so many men, he's really a big sissy.

Fashion is a priority, bottles of cologne fill the bathroom and it takes him 30 minutes to "sculpt" his hair on a quick day.

For a guy who cares about so little, he seems to put a lot of stock in what people, especially women, think of him.

Sadly, he is a model to live by for most of his species. We men like to play up our independence and love for sports and hanging with the guys, but deep down we're more emotional, conscientious and insecure than we care to admit.

Don't agree? Then witness the rise of the men's magazine. Not so much Playboy or Penthouse, but new kids on the block such as Details, Maxim and Gear. Hidden behind those photos of beautiful, buxom women are articles containing tips on everything from "how to make her scream your name in bed" to "picking the perfect suit for that big interview."

The mags reinforce men's perception that they're all young, hip and handsome, while at the same time calming their fears that they're not attractive, not masters of the bedroom and not chiefs of the "war-drobe."

The magazines present a paradox because they know that's how men are.

Many men—my friend for starters—would dispute

all of this, of course. They'd say that a lot of guys are secure in themselves and that they certainly have no need for petty reassurances at the newsstand. I won't try to pin down the demons of a 40-year-old married father, but in the realm of 20- and 30-somethings, it's a sure bet that insecurity reigns supreme.

To make matters worse, many men don't understand what they feel, or why they do the things they do. Ask any of the former sports heroes pumping iron in your local gym why they do that every day, and most won't be able to give an answer any more solid than "To get huge?"

In the end, they may be there to impress women or fulfill some diluted image of what a man needs to look like, but articulating that fact, probably because it's so baffling, usually proves difficult.

The mass media spew images which affect men just as profoundly as women. Guys' collective fears and obsessions also come as much from external sources as they do from within. American males are torn between a society that values symbols of harsh masculinity, such as the Rat Pack, but also pushes them to constantly redefine their role in a post-feminism world.

Fortunately for men, they aren't the only ones who can't figure out exactly what constitutes "a real man." Even the most die-hard feminists shudder at the thought of a bunch of spineless, ultra-sensitive she-men walking around.

All of this puts men, especially us young guys, in a bit of a quandary. We'd no doubt help ourselves a lot by just being ourselves, and responding to concerns from the fairer sex as they come up.

But I'm not going to pretend that doing so is easy.

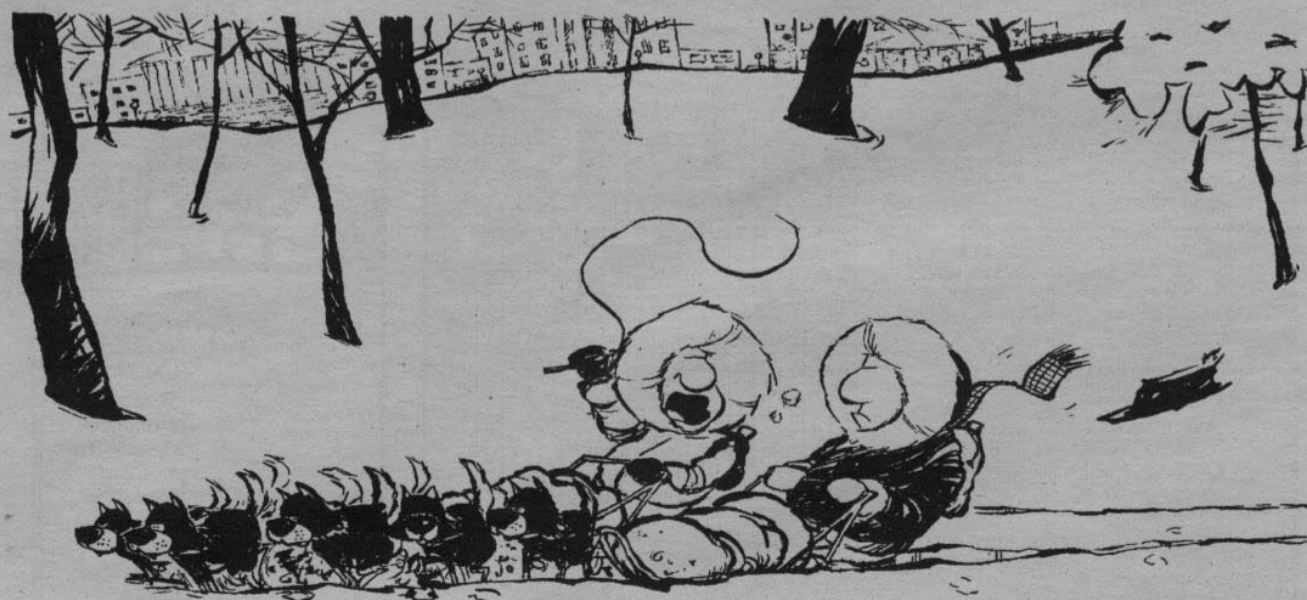
For all the women out there at a loss for words about our many deficiencies, I urge a bit of understanding. Sure, we're guilty of creating a lot of our own problems, often comically so. But we also have the hardy task of living among confusion, where masculinity is a valued commodity, but often measured only in doses.

EXPRESS YOURSELF

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their opinions. Commentaries and letters on campus, community, regional and national issues are welcome.

Submissions may be in the form of letters to the editor or, for topics that require deeper analysis, guest columns. All letters received will be published, space permitting, unless they are considered by the editor to be potentially libelous or in poor taste. Guest columns should be approved in advance by the editor. Readers wishing to submit a guest column are asked to first discuss their idea with the editor.

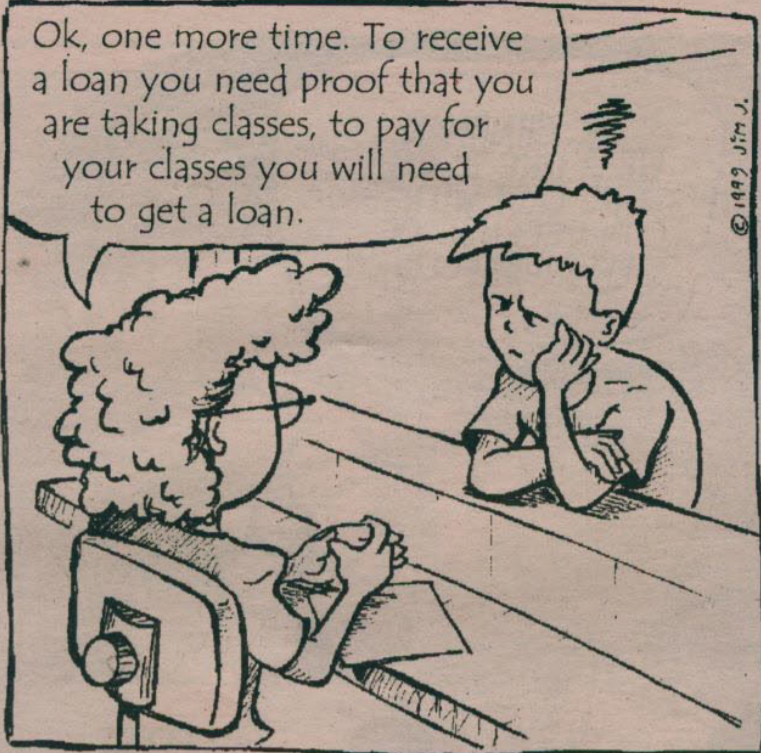
Letters should be limited to 250 words or less, and will be edited for length, grammar and spelling. In order to confirm the authenticity of letters, they must be signed, with phone number and address included.



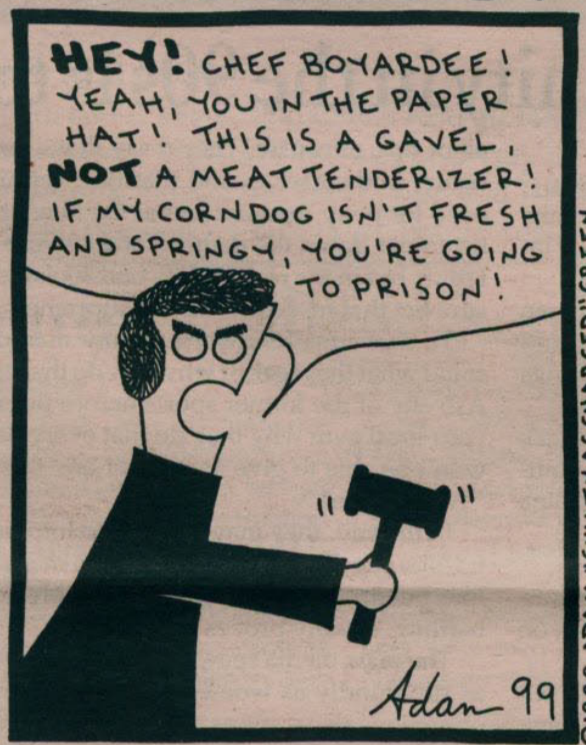
"WELL, IT'S QUICKER THAN TAKING THE BUS TO CLASS."

CGP Daily Cartoonist

LOONEY LANE



IN THE FOOD COURT WITH JUDGE JUDY



Free Floppo!

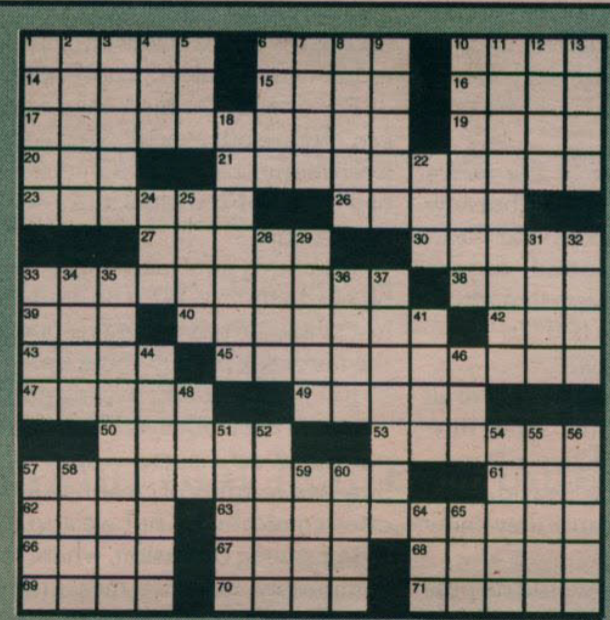
A satire featuring Emily Bellamy



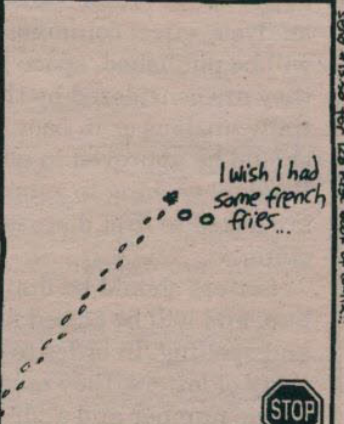
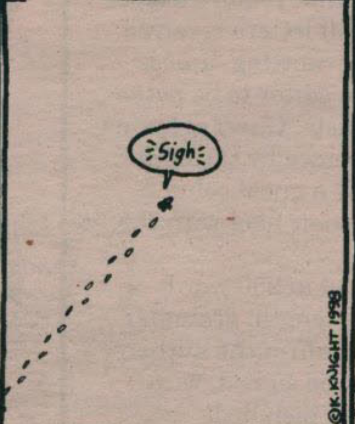
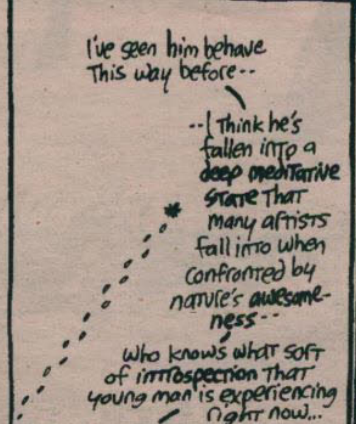
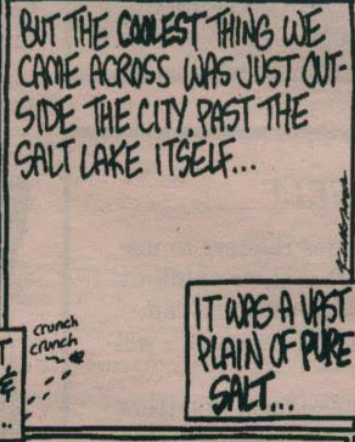
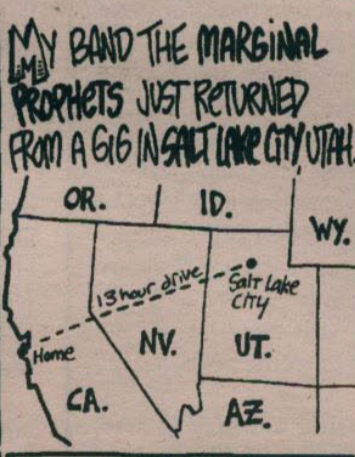
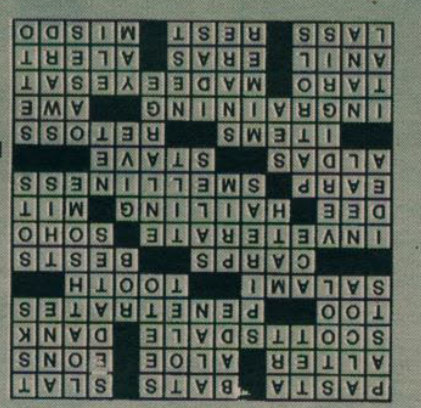
The Einsteins by Matt Tediach



- ACROSS**
- Trattoria fare
 - in the belfry
 - Venetian blind part
 - Change to fit
 - Cosmetics ingredient
 - Millennia
 - Phoenix suburb
 - Moist and chilly
 - In addition
 - Pierces
 - Italian sausage
 - Fang
 - Nit-picks
 - Outdoors
 - Deep-rooted
 - London district
 - Ruby of "Raisin in the Sun"
 - Saluting
 - Cambridge sch.
 - Wyatt of the Old West
 - Rancidity
 - Robert and Alan
 - Barrel slat
 - List components
 - Flip do-over
 - Fixing indelibly
 - Dumb-struck state
 - Poi base
 - Gave a come-hither look
 - Indigo dye
 - Periods
 - Danger drill
 - Highland girl
 - Take five
 - Accomplish incorrectly
- DOWN**
- Times gone by
 - Aluminum company
 - Counter perch
 - Vietnamese holiday
 - Knack
 - Summoned, old-style
 - Shepard or Greenspan
 - For rent
 - Take care of
 - Puts to sleep
 - Abhorrent
 - Beheaded
 - Boleyn
 - Tongue-clicking sounds
 - Bridal wreath and meadowsweet
 - Stick up
 - Unreturnable serve
 - SAT test section
 - Dainty
 - Merchant's figures
 - The one here
 - Barflies
 - Brainchild
 - Actress Patricia
 - Green patina
 - Pinball goof
 - Make bigger
 - Play
 - Recon missions
 - Final profit
 - of Marmara
 - Silent actor
 - Trap
 - Possible mirages
 - Turf-covered land
 - Heated conflict
 - Slighted type: abbr.
 - Granny
 - Lupino and Tarbell
 - Snug spot
 - Edible tuber
 - Samuel's teacher



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