

A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

THE COMMUTER

Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2002

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 33 No. 15

Rock Steady

Floater and Company do the Venetian

A & E: Page 7

Benton Center faces
new future

Page 3

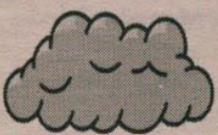
Students face
mounting debt

Page 5

Old World
charm

Page 6

WEATHER THROUGH THE WEEKEND



High: 55° Low: 43°

Wednesday



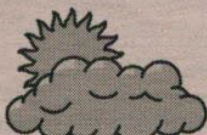
High: 56° Low: 39°

Thursday



High: 53° Low: 33°

Friday



High: 48° Low: 25°

Saturday



High: 46° Low: 27°

Sunday

Don't pray when it rains if you
don't pray when the sun shines.

—Satchel Paige

Source: Weather.com

PAGE TWO

OFF BEAT

Nyah, nyah, nyah

A 22-year-old fugitive from justice called the cops in Ticonderoga, N.Y., from his hideout in Georgia to taunt them and brag that they would never catch him. Au contraire. After he hung up, the police used the Caller ID system to track his whereabouts and then asked the Auburn, Ga., authorities to go get him. Then, the idiot called back a second time. While he was on the phone, the Georgia lawmen rang his doorbell and, when he went to answer it, arrested him.

Are we alone?

Chu Mei-feng, 35, a minor Taiwanese politician, was secretly filmed in her bedroom having sex with a married man. Hidden pinhole cameras were allegedly installed by her estranged boyfriend, the former mayor of Hsinchu. The scandal exploded when a gossip magazine gave away videodiscs of the encounter inside each copy. Now, several of the principals are charged with undermining public morality, and the woman in question has embarked on a campaign to restore her tarnished image.

Return to me, my love

A Texas woman paid a folk healer to perform a ceremony designed to win back her ex-boyfriend. Police say the healer poured an alcohol-based cologne into a steel bowl, added the man's picture and an onion and put a match to it. The concoction flared up, burning the woman. The boyfriend has not returned.

Ooof, this is heavy!

Two men broke into the Moose Lodge in Fairbanks, Alaska, in the wee hours of the morning and stole a 500-pound safe, then tried to make their getaway on bicycles. They didn't get far.

I'm the victim here!

A 21-year-old man picked up a hitchhiker in Ohio who promptly robbed him of \$200. Now short of money, the driver made up his loss later by robbing two other people.

—From KRT News

Benton Center displays art

Artwork done by students in Dee Yarnell's portrait classes is currently on display at the Benton Center this month. The exhibit will run through February. Open hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays.

Readers invited to reading

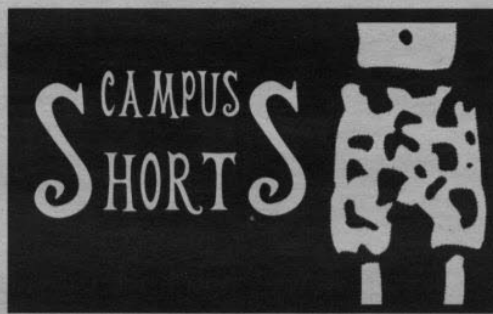
Come share with others on campus what you've been working on at a round robin reading. The reading, which is sponsored by the Valley Writers Series, will take place Wednesday, Feb. 27, from Noon to 12:50 p.m. in room 111 of the Service Center. The Service Center is located between the AHSS Building and the north-east parking lot.

Art livens up Library

An exhibition consisting of 10 works of art from China, Japan, and India is now on view in the Library display case.

Pieces include a life-size bronze head of Buddha from India, a Chinese painted scroll of "Poet in a Landscape", and an original early-20th century ink drawing of Buddha on a lotus blossom beneath the umbrella of heaven. Other objects include a 4-foot Japanese paper fan decorated in watercolor images of birds and flowers, two Ukiyo-e woodblock prints, and a Japanese short sword, called Ko-dachi, which was the type used by Samurai in feudal Japan.

All of these objects demonstrate the craftsmanship, use of complex pattern and line, and brush techniques common to the



art of the far East. These objects will be on display until March 4. Please announce to your classes and plan to stop by!

It's Nader v. Newt Thursday

The LBCC Student Programming Board is taking a bus of students, staff and faculty to Portland tomorrow to view the Ralph Nader/Newt Gingrich debate.

The debate is scheduled for 8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 21, at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.

The bus will leave from LBCC's Albany campus at 5 p.m. Riders should meet in Parking Lot 1, which is located on the south side of the campus and is the closest lot to Pacific Boulevard.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$15 for staff and faculty. Those who have already purchased tickets to the debate on their own, or who are not students, faculty or staff of LBCC, may follow behind the bus to Portland.

The debate is sponsored by Pacific University. The Current Events and Political Activities Department of the Student Programming Board is providing the bus.

For more information, contact Bret Furtwangler at 917-4963 or the Student Life and Leadership office at 917-4457.

Beaming up Susan

Susan Cowles will be conducting her second real audio broadcast from Antarctica tomorrow at 9 a.m. in room 105 of the Benton Center. Cowles, an adult basic education instructor, has been at Palmer Research Station in Antarctica since early January.

She is taking part in a program called Teachers Experiencing Antarctica and the Arctic and is sharing her experiences with her classroom and the community.

In tomorrow's broadcast, she will be joined with geochemist, Dr. Rebecca Dickhut, from the College of William and Mary's Institute of Marine Science.

Cowles is assisting scientists in their study of persistent organic pollutants.

CORRECTIONS

The Commuter erred when it identified Dan O'Brien as a former LBCC athlete in last week's story about the LBCC track team being eliminated by budget cuts. Retired math instructor Bill Siebler let us know that it was 1994 Olympic decathlete Dave Johnson, a Crescent Valley High grad, who trained at LBCC. Dave and Dan were the subject of a much-publicized rivalry in the 1994 Olympics, hence the confusion.

Siebler also pointed out that Tim Bright, a pole vaulter who competed in the 1984 Olympics, also trained in LBCC's track program, bringing to three the total of former LBCC track athletes who became Olympians.

The Commuter regrets the error.

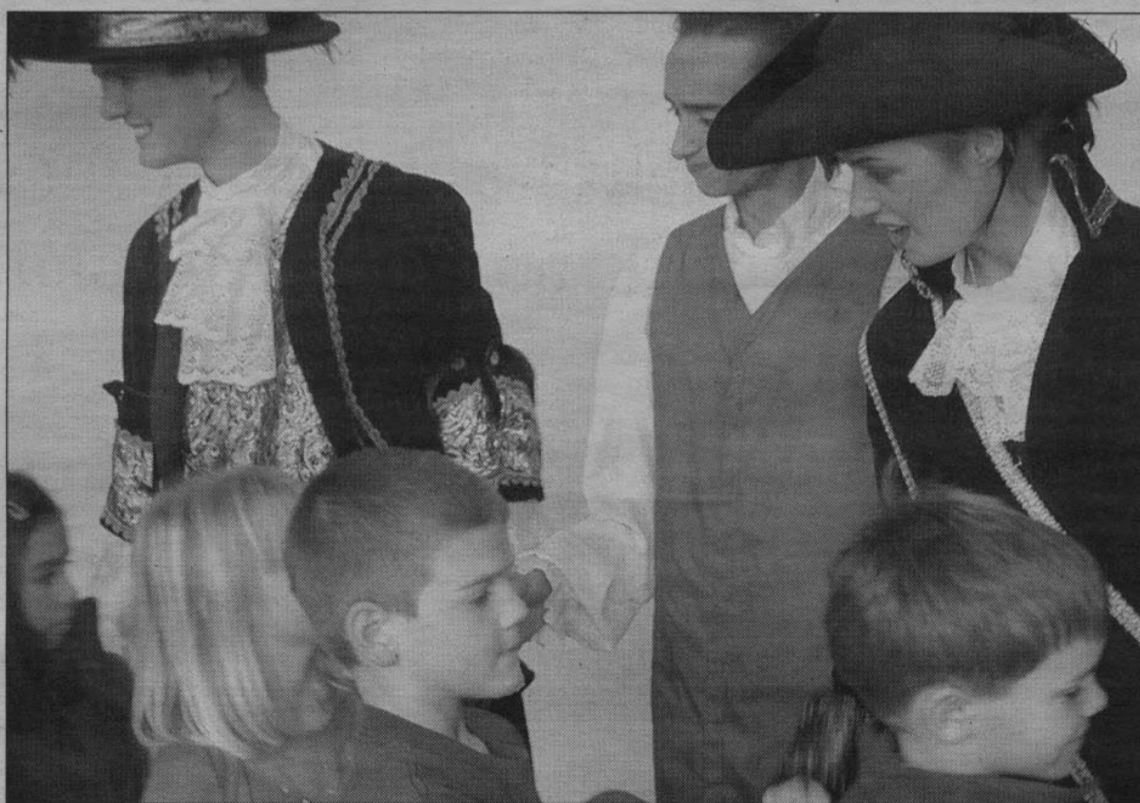


Photo by Stefanie Hessenkemper

Acting Out

Cast members Matt Helget, Scott Kingston, Lorelii Gutelius from "Shakespeare Can Be Fun" mingle with school children Tuesday following the second of the day's two performances in Takena Theater. Several thousand children will see the play before it closes next week. The only public performances are 3 p.m. matinees scheduled for this Sunday and for March 3.

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 Tri-lateral Commission. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them.

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Advisor, Rich Bergeman.

CAMPUS NEWS

Candidates in next week's ASG election meet the public today

by J. Oxley
of The Commuter

Today at noon, candidates for next week's Associated Student Government election will gather in the Commons to introduce themselves to the student body. Free soup and dinner roll will be provided.

"This is a good chance for the candidates to get out and meet the students so when the students go to vote they will know who they are voting for," said

Diana Barnhart, public relations secretary for the Associated Student Government (ASG). The deadline for filing for office was noon Friday. At that time, the following candidates had filed for ASG positions:

- Student Body President: Roxanne Allen and Darrell McGie
- Student Body Vice President: No candidates have filed
- Public Relations Secretary: Victoria Oke

"This is a good chance for the candidates to get out and meet the students so when the students go to vote they will know who they are voting for."

—Diana Barnhart

• Liberal Arts/Human Performance Representative: Arwen LeQuieu

• Student Services/Extended Learning Representative: Jonathan Champney

• Science/Industry Representative: Marilyn McGettigan and Veronica Johnson

• Business/Health Occupations Representative: Katrina Jackson

• At Large Representative: Anne Marie Ammon and

Michael Vandehey

The Candidate Forum will give students running for office an opportunity to voice why they feel they should be elected. After candidates have introduced themselves they will be asked one question devised by the election committee. If time permits at the end of the candidates' remarks, students will be able to ask questions.

Voting will take place online at the LBCC web site Feb. 26-27.

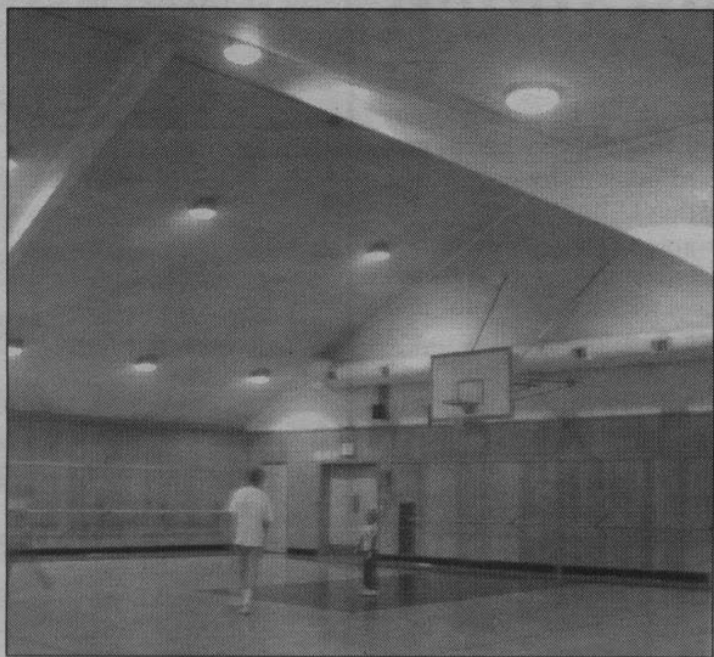


Photo by James Bauerle

The old gym at the Benton Center is expected to be demolished when the center is remodelled next year.

Benton Center to change look, improve facilities

Plans call for replacing gym, adding student lounge, learning center

by D.D. Malloy
of The Commuter

Inside the old Washington Grade School, a stately brick building dating back to 1924, Penny York's office walls display the blueprints for the new Corvallis campus.

York, director of the Benton Center, took a tour of the plans recently, pointing out features of the proposed campus, which include a two-story addition to the current building and an annex.

In the process the small gym will be demolished, an action that has upset some basketball players and dancers who currently use the gym.

The new facility includes a student lounge in a two-story atrium; a learning center with an Internet-access computer lab and other educational materials; a distance education two-way TV classroom; a ceramics classroom; and an activities center.

Construction is scheduled to start this December, and completion is expected in 2004.

The new learning center will be located on the second floor and student services will be relocated, with a shared office space available to counselors from the main campus to advise students. The new distance education classroom will allow transmission of lectures from Corvallis to the Albany and East Linn campuses. It will also have a digital projection system.

The activities center will be used by ballet, aerobics, yoga and special exercise classes. The studio art program will be located in a portion of this building.

"Our studio art room includes ceramics, and this space is now very small. Our kilns are located in a back building, and this has made it difficult. By providing a new sculpture and ceramics studio we will be able to offer a much better program," York noted.

At this time, fitness activities are located in the gym, which is scheduled for demolition. "The student lounge will be about where the gym is now," she pointed out.

"There are enough gyms and activity spaces in Corvallis for us to relocate these classes until the construction is completed," she said. York emphasized that the college is working closely with the Corvallis Parks and Recreation Department and other community entities to facilitate the construction in the best possible manner.

The 1924 former grade school will be preserved as a historical building and continue to be used.

For years Seventh Street, a short street through a quiet neighborhood, has been the access to the campus. The new campus access will be off Ninth Street, which will lead to a parking lot designed to accommodate more cars. Seventh Street will dead end at the center's property line.

"The new entrance will relieve the neighborhood of a lot of traffic," York said. The campus is bordered on two sides by Washington Park and will be integrated into the aesthetic aspects of the project. Neighborhood meetings are planned to provide citizen involvement.

The \$2.5 million expansion is being financed by a voter-approved bond measure. Final approval of the plans has yet to be made by LBCC and the city of Corvallis.

Students get a splash out of physics

by Heather Bristol
of The Commuter

Does jumping out of an airplane sound like your typical homework assignment? How about sitting at the bottom of a pool for four hours?

For the students of Greg Mulder, this is what they expect.

Yesterday, Mulder took his Linn-Benton Lebanon Center class to the Lebanon High School

swimming pool to perform underwater experiments.

Eighteen of his students will be underwater for approximately four hours, trying to figure out the speed of sound underwater using an underwater interferometer.

They will also be measuring pressure and depth relationships by using a water telescope. All the students have been provided with complete scuba-diving les-

sons and gear, courtesy of Emerald Dive Center.

When I asked Mulder what made him try these unusual experiments, he replied, "It's simple. We are learning how the universe works."

Mulder will also have his Albany class do the same experiments, but instead of the Lebanon testing site, they will be at the Aquatic Center in Corvallis.

Faulty wiring blamed for slow courtyard clock; no immediate solution in sight

by Karalynn Arkills
of The Commuter

The mystery of why the clock in the courtyard always has the wrong time has been solved.

When the construction began on the clock two years ago, the contractors, as well as the Facilities Department of LBCC, realized the wiring was not going to be able to run the clock properly because it was too old.

Construction went forward anyway because it was thought there was a way to bypass the problem, according to Duane Jensen of the Facilities Department.

The problem was the conduit, the galvanized steel piping that surrounded the control wires, was corroded because it was thirty years old, said Jensen. He said the plan to get around this was to install a transmitter that would control the time. Unfortunately, it did not work. All the transmitter did was make the clock run double time. Because of this, the transmitter was removed and the clock was hooked up to the original wiring.

"In order to completely fix the clock the entire wiring setup needs to be replaced, which

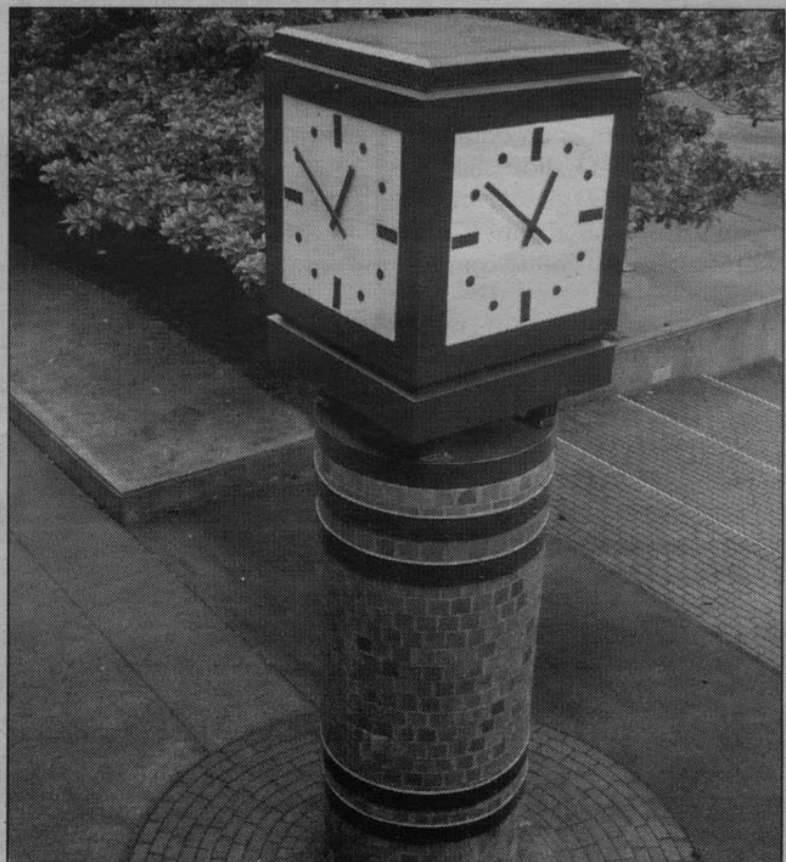


Photo by Jenn Geiger

After spending much of last term running fast, the courtyard clock has been consistently slow this term.

means tearing up the courtyard. We just don't have the money to do that," said Jensen.

Currently the Facilities De-

partment is trying to keep the time as close as possible to the real time, but it always ends up being behind.

ONLINE

What's in a name? On the web, not much

by Reid Kanaley
of Knight Ridder Newspapers

Timothy Lee of Seattle prompted some head-scratching two years ago when he said he turned down \$8 million cash and \$30 million in stock for the "cool.com" Web address he had registered years earlier for free.

Today, for lack of funding, the Cool.com site that Lee tried to build into a Web community for teenagers is a virtual ghost town. Its assets, including the once-hot domain name, await any interested bidder.

The market for simple, catchy dot-com names sure isn't what it used to be. Speculators who scarf up Internet domain names—the part of a Web address after the "www"—to resell for profit say top prices have fallen about 90 percent since the dot-com go-go era.

Gone is the craziness of the late 1990s, when business.com sold for a record \$7.5 million.

No wonder. A tour of Web sites built on some common, generic words shows that—as with cool.com—addresses are no key to Internet popularity.

Often, no site even exists. Addresses such as college.com, chairs.com and religion.com stand abandoned or unused.

Some other addresses bear no literal relationship to the kinds of services or information on the Web sites to which they deliver the curious.

Take fruits and vegetables, for example.

Apple.com, of course, is the Mac computer site. Peach.com is the Web site of accounting software company Peachtree Software Inc. Orange.com belongs to an offshore wireless-phone company. The double-meaning date.com is a matchmaking site.

Those fruits at least seem to be lending themselves to useful purposes. Veggies do not do as well. Carrot.com is an oddball site showing 3-D slide shows (you can order 3-D glasses for \$1 a pair). Cucumber.com is an address for sale. Potato.com is dormant.

But there is broccoli.com, which is actually about—ta-da—nutritious broccoli, and how lovingly it is grown and bagged by the Mann Packing Co.

Flower.com and flowers.com

identify online florists. Addresses bearing the names of specific flowers, however, are less predictable. Daisy.com is a tribute to the venerable pellet gun. Lily.com is the site of a truck-leasing company.

Plenty of other addresses are right on their marks. For example, books.com is one entree to the Barnesandnoble.com Web site. Health.com gets you the online content of Health magazine. Money.com connects to the financial news site run jointly by CNN and Money magazine. Sex.com is a porn site.

A logical Web address was never the prerequisite for online popularity, as proven by search-engine address google.com, portal destination yahoo.com, and bookseller turned Web department store Amazon.com.

But generically named Web sites do generate "type-in hits"—traffic from people simply guessing at Web addresses. So owning sex.com is "no gold mine, but it's better than a sharp, hot stick in the eye," said Gary Kremen, who registered sex.com for free in May 1994.

In the most expensive Web address deal ever, a dot-com incubator called eCompanies paid about \$7.5 million for business.com in late 1999, and launched it as an advertising-supported search and portal site about business. "We quickly accumulated many impressions just based on our name alone, without any marketing," said Sarah Hughes, spokeswoman for Business.com. "Buying a generic URL actually did help us in our branding efforts."

ECompanies LLC has managed to keep business.com

online, but corporate upheaval and dot-com failures have sent some other Web addresses bouncing into new hands.

Toys.com was the property of eToys.com, a Web retailer that went belly-up last year before being bought by the parent of KB Toys. Wine.com is under new ownership, after the previous owner of the address, who paid \$3 million for it, went bankrupt.

University.com, which once traded hands for \$530,000, takes Web surfers to the home page of EntrePort Corp., an online training company whose stock traded recently at 6 cents a share.

Cool.com owner Lee, 29, now works as a consultant to an un-

related business. He said he was often asked if he regretted not selling the address when he was offered millions for it.

"I don't," he said recently. "It was quite a learning experience." The introductions of Web addresses with ".biz," ".info" and other endings—including a rollout of addresses ending in ".name"—have done nothing to diminish Web surfers' tendency to type in ".com" when making a guess at finding a Web site.

"Dot-com continues to remain the Park Avenue of addresses," said Patrick Burns, spokesman for VeriSign Inc., which keeps track of .com, .net and .org registrations.

COMMONS Menu

Wednesday

Prime Rib w/popovers
Pork Enchiladas w/pinto beans and Mexican rice
Spinach Lasagna
Soup: Billy-bi, Beef vegetable

Thursday

Chicken Ballotine w/Sauter sauce
Sushi
Pesto Penne w/roasted vegetables
Soup: Chili Mac
Cuban black bean
Salad: Chicken Taco salad

Friday

Chef's Choice

Monday

BBQ Ribs
Moroccan Chicken
Omelet Bar
Soup: Saffron Chicken
Vegetarian vegetable

Tuesday

Swiss Steak
Snapper en Papillote
Kolokopita
Soup: Chicken Consomme
Roasted garlic



752-BEAD

905 NW Kings Blvd

(across from Rice's - blue building on corner)

M-Th 10 am-9pm • F-Su 10 am-6pm

There's a new Bead Store in Corvallis!

LBCC students always get 10% OFF with ID!

- Basic beading instruction always free
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 - Numerous beading classes offered
 - Private group classes or beading parties - our location or yours!
- All chocolate half price during the month of February!

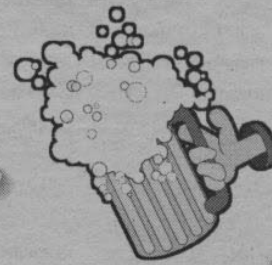
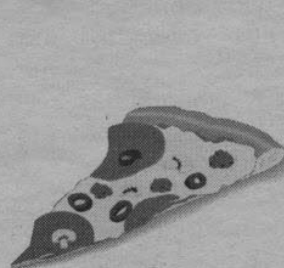
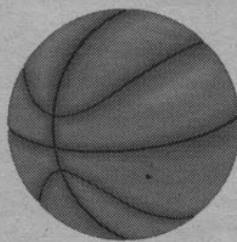
Linn-Benton Community College In-Rec Team Presents

PIZZA MUGGER SOCIAL!

Saturday, Feb. 23, 8:30 p.m.

Following the home basketball games in the gym.

It's simple: Free Pizza.
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Calling all artists



We are looking for students to be involved with art in the Courtyard Cafe

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CAMPUS NEWS

Experts advise students to keep loans to a minimum

The average LB grad leaves college with nearly \$6,000 in debt to go with the sheepskin

by Jeff Hall
for The Commuter

Many LBCC students will find more to life after graduation than a new career. An average of \$5,800 of accumulated debt will leave these hallowed halls right along with them.

"Convenience now may create a tremendous burden later," said LBCC Financial Aid Director Lance Popoff, who urges students to borrow conservatively and wisely.

"Our job is to get students as much money as they are eligible to receive or as much as they feel they need" within federal borrowing limits, Popoff said. But he pointed out that eligibility is determined on the basis of need, not the ability to repay.

Because the community college is the least expensive part of a student's four-year college education, Popoff said he recommends that community college students "keep their borrowing to a minimum."

However, requests for financial aid at LBCC are 26 percent higher this year than last. Popoff cited three possible causes: the economy, which has limited the ability of some families to contribute to student expenses; an increase in admission applications due to LBCC's low tuition; and growth among the 18-24 year old student population.

According to Financial Aid office documents, it will cost the average student \$9,021 to pay for tuition, fees, books, supplies and living costs in the 2001-2002 academic year. That represents a modest increase of less than one-half percent over 2000-2001 and is due to a small hike in tuition. The 2002-2003 budget is still under consideration.

With the national rate of inflation hovering at 2.5 percent, it is estimated that a student budget of \$9,000 from 1999 would need to increase by \$675 to keep pace with the same level of spending during 2003. With that kind of an increase, a gap is growing between what is needed and what can be awarded through federal loan and grant programs. As a consequence, students often turn to private sector loans and credit cards, which are expensive solutions.

According to a recent study, student use of credit cards on a national level is high and growing. Combine this with the requirement to begin repaying stu-

dent loans nine months after graduation, new car payments, day-care, and other living expenses, and you have a mixture that can lead to despair, desperation and depression.

Additional growth in borrowing may result if the state cuts the Oregon Opportunity Grant program during the special legislative session, which began last week to balance the state budget. A reduction would not lessen the amount awarded to each student, but would result in fewer grants being awarded, which may force still more students to borrow.

While all other sources of financial aid appear to be well-funded for next year, Popoff counsels financial aid applicants to file as early as possible to ensure their inclusion in all available state and federal programs. "That would be March," he said of the Oregon Opportunity Grand program.

More than \$3.4 million in federal Stafford and Perkins loans will be disbursed by LBCC to over 1,500 students during the 2002-2003 academic year, Popoff said. Another \$3 million will be distributed to 1,400 students in the form of Pell Grants.

The difference between loans and grants is that grants don't have to be repaid, but students sometimes confuse the distinction. Each year some students are dismayed to find that they had actually taken out loans during their years at Linn-Benton, Popoff said. Perhaps they confused loans with educational grants, he said, or maybe they didn't realize that the grants they applied for but didn't get were replaced by loans. Either way, it is a rude awakening.

"Read the materials," advises Popoff. "Know what you are doing." The staff of LBCC's Financial Aid office is available for consultation, and each aid request packet contains information the student must understand to protect their own



"Just be aware of what you're getting into. If you need less, borrow less."
—Lance Popoff



at an interest rate of 6 percent will grow in size to nearly \$5,000 at the end of four years. The monthly repayment amount would increase by 25 percent, as would the total amount of interest paid after 10 years of payments.

In order to reduce the default rate on student loan, the federal government offers forbearance programs that can extend the timing of the initial loan repayment by as much as 18 months after graduation. These programs are tailored to individual circumstances and fields of work. Consolidating student debt into one monthly payment is another option, allowing borrowers to better manage their loan repayment.

Seven years ago the LBCC default rate on Stafford loans was nearly one third of all borrowers, threatening the continuance of the college's federally subsidized loan programs. Today that rate has dropped to 2.7 percent, significantly below the federal average. Popoff credits much of this reduction to the institution of credit checks on students requesting loans and delaying disbursement to first-time borrowers.

"It used to be that someone could walk off the street, register and apply for and get a loan," Popoff explained. "Then after a few weeks, they'd leave."

Not anymore. First-time borrowers who show low points on their credit check are asked to prove their academic intentions for up to two quarters before being awarded a loan. Loans may then be awarded retroactively to reimburse the student's first-of-year expenses.

While tuition and other costs of education continue to increase, the faltering economy has set the stage for the trimming of grant programs. Borrowing to make up the difference may become a necessity for greater numbers of LBCC students. Creating a personal economic strategy can be one way to diffuse future burdens. Planning when and how much to borrow and developing a realistic forecast of how much you will be able to repay are parts of that strategy.

Loans are there if you need them, Popoff said. "Just be aware of what you're getting into. If you need less, borrow less."

interests.

If it takes a loan to complete an education, Popoff says it probably makes more sense than it does to take on debt for things that depreciate in value, like cars. Borrowing for a college degree can provide long-range benefits far exceeding the cost of the loan's interest.

While student debt averages \$5,800 for departing LBCC students, it is not unusual to find transferring students who are \$15,000 to \$18,000 in debt by the time they graduate, Popoff said. A large portion of this debt may be "unsubbed," he added — meaning the loans are not subsidized by the federal government yet are still under the umbrella of the Stafford Loan program.

Popoff discourages "unsubbed" loans because they begin charging interest immediately. Students can choose to delay paying the interest by charging it back into their loan account—a process called "capitalizing" — but the compounding effect of interest can be dramatic. For example, a capitalized \$4,000 unsubbed loan taken

Come for some free FOOD!

Associated Student
Government Presents
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Come hear what the
candidates have to say
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Photo by Stefanie Hessenkemper

Dancers from The Corvallis Belly Dance Guild take the stage at The Old World Deli in Corvallis every Wednesday at 8 p.m. for a free performance.

BELLY DANCE

It's more than hips and drumbeats for Corvallis guild

by Twila Skelley
of The Commuter

The lights dim as a rhythmic drum beats over the speakers. Somewhere at the back of the room finger cymbals chime in unison and a belly dancer emerges from the curtains, making her way through the crowd to the stage.

It's Wednesday night at the Corvallis Old World Deli, where the Belly Dance Performance Guild has been taking the stage at 8 p.m. every week now for the last 12 years.

The women of the guild formed together as a non-profit organization as a way to make themselves known and to educate the public about the art form of the dance.

Belly dancing was introduced to the Victorian public of 1893 at the World's Fair, by a dancer named Little Egypt (although it is not known if her dancing was authentic or if she was a fraud). Originally, belly dancing was called Beledi, meaning dance of the folk or country.

"Belly dance is a dance of isolation," states Vicki Swing-Higham, local guild member and LBCC belly dance instructor. "I assume the audience was making fun or playing with the name and started calling it belly dancing."

Many forms of dance have an associated language and names for each move. This is not so with belly dancing. Belly dancers listen to their music and the moves flow, but there are definite areas of the body for each move. For instance, if a dancer's arms are out to her sides, most likely her hands are facing up.

A dancer tries to evoke emotion from her audience. If the dancer is moving in a slow snake like motion, the crowd will hiss in appreciation. The hiss is an American addition. There is also a sound called the Zaghareet, an extremely high pitch shrill the crowd will make at a time of excitement in the music and dance.

"The Zaghareet is a form of enjoyment, whooping and hollering really," said Swing-Higham.

Belly dancing can be categorized as ethnic or cabaret. In ethnic dancing, the dress is more tribal. The dance is flat-footed and the dancers will commonly wear coin jewelry and perform in groups.

Cabaret style is a more Vegas, Americanized



version of the dance. Performed on stage under lights to make the glittery, colorful costumes sparkle, Cabaret usually is performed solo.

Other styles of belly dancing are; Turkish, Arabic, Egyptian, and Moroccan.

"I think it is hard to say any form of the dance is pure to one region, because of travel and in-

fluence," Swing-Higham stated. "Where it originated is really not known."

Belly dance is, as any dance, an art form. Throughout the years, because of misinterpretation of the dance, belly dance has been lumped into the same category as exotic dancing.

"There is an influence in our culture not to move certain parts of our bodies," said Swing-Higham. "Our belly is one of those parts."

She mentioned that she believes many people are not comfortable with their bodies. When they are subjected with somebody else's belly, they project their own unacceptance.

"I can understand that, and so does the guild, so we try to make our audience as comfortable as possible," said Swing-Higham.

Swing-Higham also explained that at the Old World Deli, where they have been performing for the past 12 years, the audience knows what to expect, they will dance with their belly showing at the deli. However, if they are doing a public performance elsewhere, and are certain the audience is more conservative, they will wear veils and shawls to keep themselves more covered.

"We are sensitive to our audiences," she said. "Besides, we want them to focus on the dance, not our bodies."

Belly dance classes are held almost every night of the week in the Corvallis, Albany and the Lebanon areas. The classes range from beginning to advanced. Students are taught about isolation of movement, veils, costume, finger cymbals and the history of belly dance.

Swing-Higham smiled and said, "The best part about dancing is that it is like a good movie: happy, sad, introspective and I can just get lost in it. The music has so much heart."

The LBCC Performing Arts Department presents its 27th annual children's play:

Shakespeare Can Be Fun! *Twelfth Night* For Kids

Sunday, February 24 and Sunday, March 3rd at 3pm
Takena Theater • Adults ~ \$6; Children under 18 ~ \$3
Tickets sales begin Feb. 4 at the box office or by phone. All seating is reserved.

Children's Theater director Jean Bonifas weaves members of the audience into this fast-moving, delightful and faithful rendition of the story of "Twelfth Night" by William Shakespeare. The actors take on a variety of roles as they recreate a comedy of love and mistaken identity assisted by sailors, soldiers, farmers and townspeople drawn from the audience. "Twelfth Night" for Kids is adapted from the Shakespeare Can Be Fun! book series by special permission of the author, Lois Burdett.

*Sunday, March 3, is sign-interpreted and is also the benefit performance for the Performing Arts Foundation Scholarships.

Visit our Web site: <http://cf.lbcc.cc.or.us/depts/performart>

Takena Box Office:
Takena Hall, room T-104A.
Hours: Monday – Friday,
8 am–noon and 2–3 pm.
For our 24-hour reservation/
message line, call 917-4531.

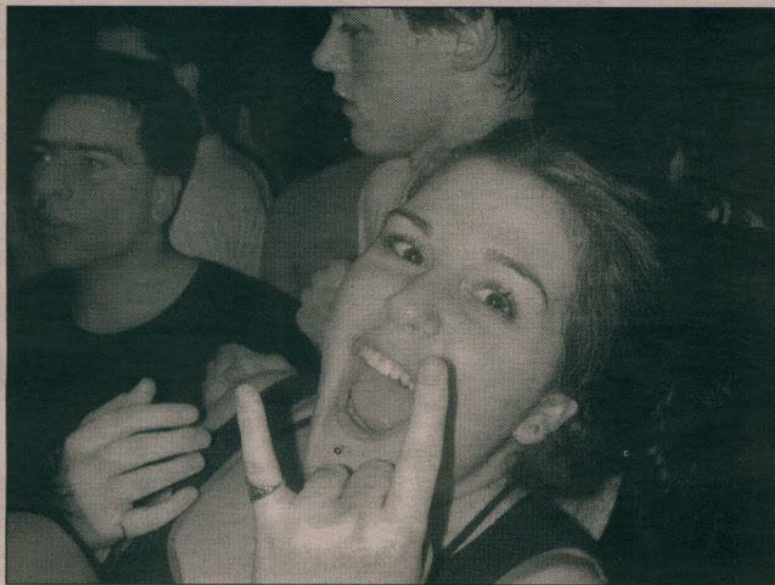


If you need disability accommodations, please call 917-4561 (9 a.m.–3 p.m.) at least one week in advance. LBCC is an equal opportunity institution.

Want to see more?
More Floater show
pictures on the Web.

www.lbcc.cc.or.us/commuter

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Rock Lives

Old-school headbangers mosh with pierced Gen-Xers and rock to the beat of Floater

Story and photos by Chad Richins
of The Commuter

If you are one of the many music fans who like their tunes a little harder, faster and darker than what you usually find on the radio or TV lately, and you've been wondering "Where the #^% my rock at?" we have good news.

If you are tired of listening to commercial radio love ballad bands that all sound like Creed (who sounds like Pearl Jam) and if you are sick of the no-talent teenage pop diva of the month program, take heart young punks and gen-x hold-outs, because rock is not dead.

The recent rock show at The Venetian Theater in Albany, with Eugene band Floater headlining, felt like finding a faint pulse on a patient that had been declared D.O.A. by music writers, MTV and the music industry in general.

The sheer weight of guitar riffs and drum beats seemed to have pulled every rock fan in the area to the Venetian last Friday. The all-ages show drew a packed house of black clad ex-headbangers who were awesomely arrayed in their old school rocker attire and a host of pierced and tattooed youngsters who looked like they had saved up baby-sitting money for show tickets and black lipstick.

Even the upstairs over-21-only bar was pretty full; a surprise since the only beer they had on tap was Budweiser.

Also in attendance at the Venetian show on Friday were the usual contingent of muscle-bound, angry young men who just can't wait to get into another mosh pit and work out their homo-erotic angst on smaller men, or if these are

not available, women. I may be old enough to wear earplugs when I am standing next to a speaker cabinet, but even when I was 15 I don't remember wanting to shove my way around a crowd of guys like a pit bull on meth. Different strokes for different folks, I guess.

Floater, the reason most people were at the Venetian that night, had the largest contingent of fans in the crowd and played a great show with good sound balance and stage presence.

The band made a good case with their well-developed lyrics and musicianship that they are a contender for a breakthrough band, when and if hard rock ever surfaces again atop the mosh pit that is the very competitive music business.

The Venetian, for a small-town venue, is a great place to see a show. The relatively small size of the place allows less widely known bands to pack the house and feel like stars for a night and also allows local rock fans to get up close and personal with the bands and the music.

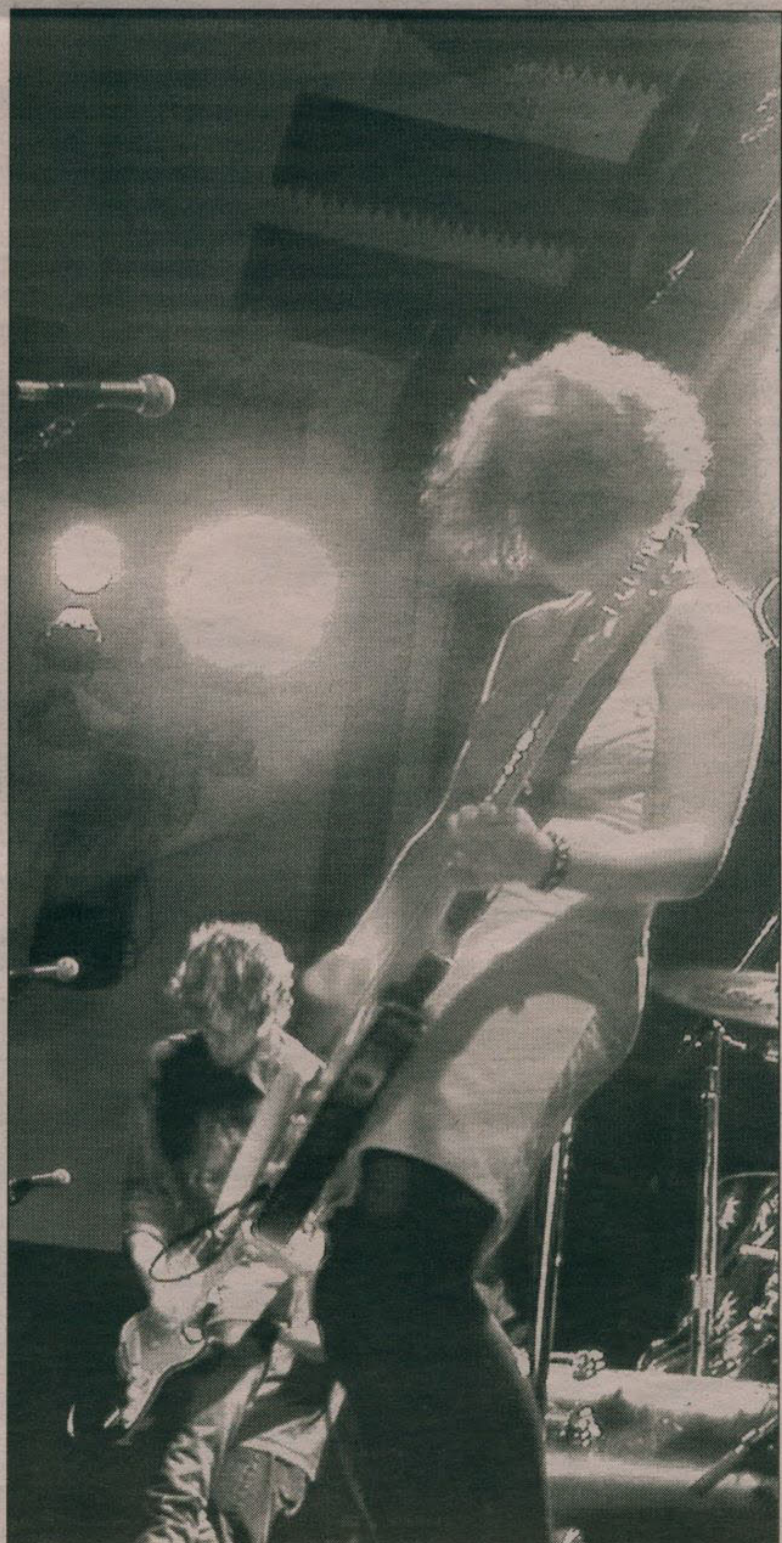
Opening act Alkai Diggins earned the crowd's respect and showed off their power chord muscles as well as their frontman's vocal talents, but the bass-heavy attack drowned out the rest of the band and listening to it felt like being at a bus stop when a car with more audio equipment than engine rolls by.

Actually, this band had a lot going for them compared to the second band, the Godlings, who turned in a mediocre and almost completely forgettable set, except for the fact that they had an attractive female guitar player—there's something about a six-string player in a party dress that always makes me smile.



A pit filled mostly with angry young men work out their rage in the usual most fashion at last Friday's Venetian concert, which headlined with the Eugene band Floater. One of the opening acts was Godlings (below), whose lead singer was a crowd favorite despite the band's forgettable set.

Robert Wynia, the lead singer for Floater, belts out one of the Eugene rock band's tunes at last weekend's Venetian concert, which proved that rock isn't quite as dead as some might think. Floater pulled in a large crowd, filling the Albany music hall with rock fans of all ages.

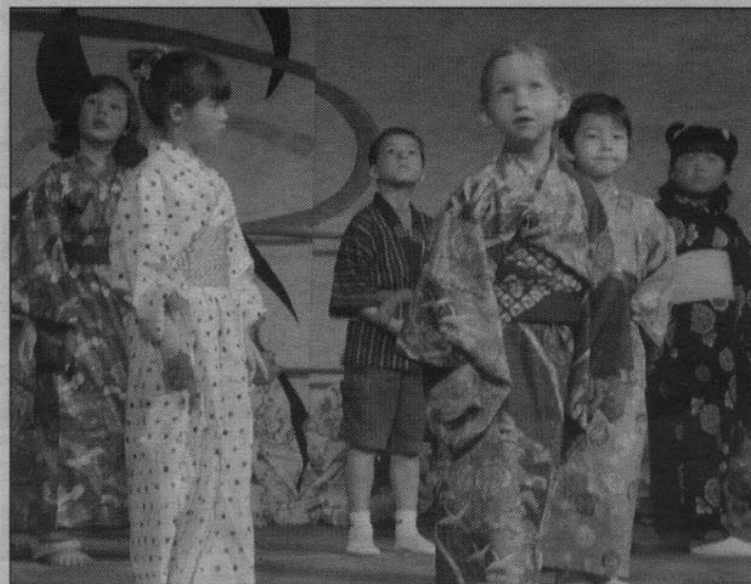


ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

ASIAN FEST



Photos by Chad Richins



A small handful of LBCC students took in the annual Oregon Asian Celebration in Eugene last Saturday thanks to a free trip sponsored by Student Life & Leadership. The students spent several hours shopping for Asian goods, watching performances and sampling Asian foods from Pakistan, India, the Philippines and other countries. Stage performances included lion dancers, a fashion show and music.

LB students compete in Chocolate Fantasy

by Lydia Eaton
of The Commuter

The Corvallis Arts Center is sponsoring a Chocolate lover's heaven once again. The Chocolate Fantasy and Art Auction will be held at OSU's CH2M Hill Alumni Center on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale through the Corvallis Arts Center for \$25 per person.

This event is the largest art auction in the mid-valley that features original artworks. The interest is primarily visual arts, but there is a focus on other arts as well. The Art Auction itself has been happening for more than 50 years, and was joined with the Chocolate Fantasy in 1990.

Not only will unlimited chocolate sampling be served at the Chocolate Fantasy, but also hors d'oeuvres, and wine sampling. Companies participating in the event are from all over the mid-valley: Allann Bros. Coffee, Big River, Burst's, Cornerstone Bakery, Orchard Heights Winery,

LBCC Culinary Arts Club, and New Morning Bakery to name only a few. In all there are 11 chocolatiers.

This will be the second year that Linn-Benton's Culinary Arts school has entered the Chocolate Fantasy. Last year they came in second in a competition for the best dessert, and are hoping to do well again. There are approximately six students who will be involved.

The dessert itself will not be served at Linn-Benton, but all of the preparation will be done here. The Culinary Arts school is still finalizing its choice of dessert and has narrowed it down to one or two recipes.

Another feature of this event is model painting. Partially-clothed models pose for artists as they are being painted. The models then sit or stand as living statues. This year's featured artist is Sidney Rowe. All proceeds from this event will go toward furthering art education.

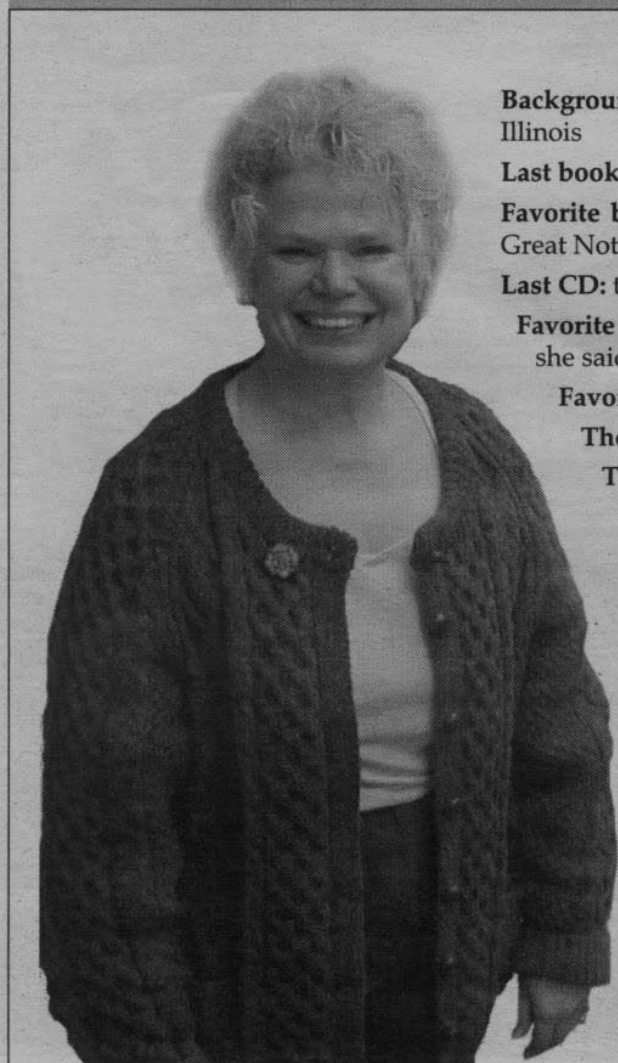
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Students

A & E PROFILE: JANE DONOVAN



Background: raised in the Midwest, Minnesota and Illinois

Last book read: "Women of the Silk", a Chinese book

Favorite book or Author: Ken Kesey, "Sometimes a Great Notion"

Last CD: the latest Sting album

Favorite CD: "I like Phoebe Snow and Ella Fitzgerald," she said.

Favorite Movies: Anything at the Avalon

Theater: Shakespeare

TV: "Frasier", "West Wing", "The Education of Max Bickford" and PBS' "Masterpiece Theater."

Magazine/Newspaper: "I read the Oregonian every day and sometimes I love to read the Wall street Journal."

Painters: Impressionists

Heros: Mother Theresa of Calcutta, my three daughters

Famous people met: has heard Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton speak.

Message to the world: "From Mother Theresa, People are surprising and problemsome, love them anyway."

Future plans: "I'm deciding what I am going to do when I retire; travel, volunteer."

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Downstairs in the College Center • Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8-6 Fri. 8-4

LOCAL NEWS

New shelter aids troubled youths

by Wendy Chasteen
of The Commuter

Troubled youths can get the help and support they need at the new youth shelter located in Corvallis.

"Jackson Street Youth Shelter is a mellow place where the kids can relax," said David Clark. Clark is the manager at the shelter, which is located at 555 NW Jackson Street in Corvallis. The Jackson Street Youth Shelter is a large home donated by local attorney, Steven Black.

Youth from ages 10 through 17 are referred to Jackson Street

by several local agencies. The shelter has had five beds available since September, 2001, and hopes to have four more available soon. The atmosphere is peaceful and clean, and food is offered twice daily, there is a 9 p.m. curfew, but no lock-down.

People in that age group that feel they need to flee a crisis, remove themselves from drug abuse, or are in violent situations, can go to their school counselor for information regarding the youth shelter.

Jackson Street is able to help them get the resources they need

to maintain or achieve a healthy life.

The staff at Jackson Street do their best to mentor the youth. "I want them to feel safe and cared for. I want them to have a place to go," said Clark.

Provisions such as school supplies and clothing are available as well. Clark's desire is that the community becomes more aware of the Jackson Street Shelter.

The shelter will accept pre-approved contributions and appreciates what has already been given.



Photo by Jenn Geiger

Dave Clark is shelter manager at the Jackson Street Youth Shelter in Corvallis.

New study helps children make wise television choices

OSU's Project REViEW involves nearly 200 local elementary school children

by Suzie Downing
of The Commuter

*TV teaches, TV teaches
You and me, you and me.
What will TV teach you?
What will TV teach me?
Time to choose, time to choose.*

Local elementary school children sing this fast-paced jingle every week as part of a new project designed to teach them how to make better TV viewing choices.

A number of local-area schools are taking part in a study called Project REViEW, Reducing Early Violence, conducted by OSU Associate Professor of Psychology Lawrence I. Rosenkoetter and his wife Sharon, associate professor of human development.

Their program, which introduces children to the wise use of television, is currently being taught at North Albany, Wilson, Mountain View, Jefferson, Garfield, Lincoln, Adams, Inavale and Philomath elementary schools. It involves 187 students in the first through fourth grades. Next year approximately 400 will participate.

"Wise use of television is important because TV teaches people how to live," said Rosenkoetter. "Wise use of TV by children includes restrictions in both the content of viewing and the quantity of viewing."

Television is a powerful teacher, Rosenkoetter said, pointing out that more than 1,000 research studies implicate heavy TV viewing of violence as a major risk factor for children, contributing to the likelihood that they will act aggressively and/or engage in criminal behavior during childhood or young adulthood.

"The possibility of these negative outcomes increases when young children identify with violent TV characters and seek to act as the television personalities do," said the author of one 1992 study.

"Also, young children and those with developmental delays frequently fail to realize the unreality

of televised actions and commercial messages."

The children don't care about the specifics—but they seem to enjoy the activities that include song, puppetry, art, games, videos and guest speakers. In one lesson the instructor teaches the children to talk back to the TV when it shows an inconsistent, inappropriate or unrealistic behavior.

"Let's pretend something! Now what I want you to do is show us how to talk back to the TV when it shows the wrong consequence, when it is not real," she says. "Ok, let's imagine that the TV character wants to drive quickly to the next block, but the light is red? Would he just run the red light to get there faster? If the TV showed somebody doing that, how would you talk back to it?"

The project takes place during school hours and is

part of the students' curriculum, although in order for the children to be interviewed and serve as subjects in the study, they must have their parents' permission. Success will be measured by their viewing habits: Are they watching less violent programs? Do they identify less with violent TV characters? Have their attitudes changed in the direction of having greater concern about the level of violence on TV? This information will be gathered by questionnaires administered one-on-one.

The Northwest Health Foundation and the U.S. Department of Education are funding Rosenkoetter, who has worked at

OSU for the past three years. Together they have contributed \$850,000 for the five-year project, although 43 percent comes right off the top to help run the university.

Although data analysis continues and nine-month post testing has not yet occurred, Rosenkoetter said that initial findings show very significant change in children's attitudes toward TV viewing, their time commitment to TV, and their behavior related to program selection.

"ALL TV teaches kids, not just so-called educational television," stressed Rosenkoetter.

*TV teaches, TV teaches,
You and me, you and me.
TV teaches helping.
TV teaches hurting.
Time to choose, time to choose.*

"ALL TV teaches kids, not just so-called educational television."

—Larry Rosenkoetter

Local wildlife center seeks help after snow damage

by Mark Mackey
of The Commuter

A snow storm earlier this month damaged the outdoor aviary at Chintimini Wildlife Rehabilitation Center outside Corvallis when snow built up on the roof and collapsed it.

The aviary is a critical part of the center because it provides 9,000-cubic-feet for flight rehabilitation and habitat. The roof collapse puts help for many injured and orphaned spring songbirds in jeopardy.

It's also an unexpected financial blow to the nonprofit wildlife center, which depends solely on private contributions. The center was founded in 1989 and serves a 4,000-square-mile area. Chintimini receives no government funding, although it is li-

censed by federal and state departments of fish and wildlife.

With spring around the corner, the center must rebuild the aviary before the rush of the injured and orphan birds this spring.

People who want to help can take out a \$25 family membership or donate needed items from the center's wish list. Donations help ensure continued professional care for injured and orphaned wild animals and contributions are tax deductible.

For more information on donations or items to donate you can contact the center by calling 541-745-5324, by e-mail at cwrc@proaxis.com or by writing to Jeff Picton, executive director, at PO Box 1433, Corvallis, OR 97339



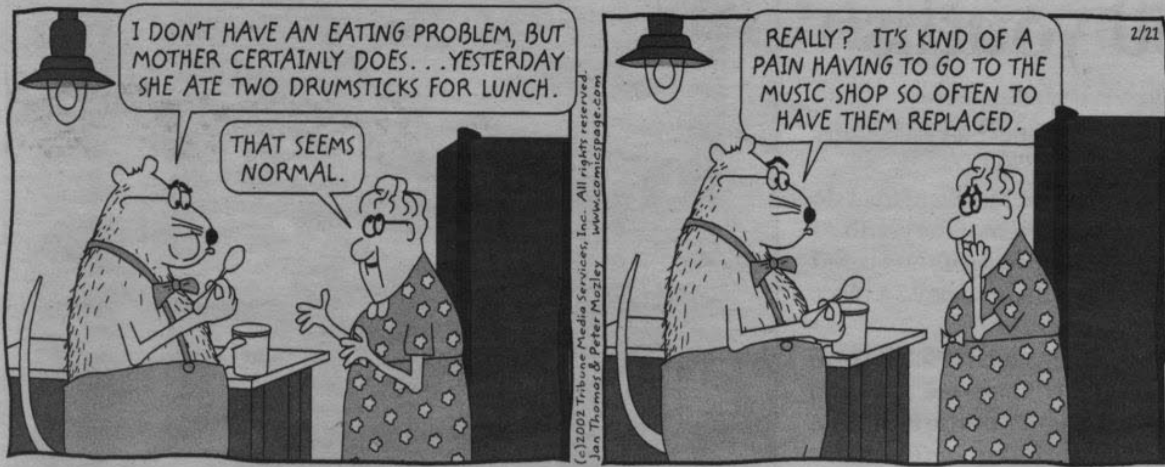
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FUNNY PAGE



CLASSIFIEDS

SCHOLARSHIPS

Attention Students: Located in the Learning Resource Center are many different scholarships. Some of the latest available applications which have just recently come in are:

- Order of the Eastern Star
- Essay contest - Atlas Shrugged
- National Italian Foundation
- St. Elizabeth Health Services
- Southern Oregon University
- Meridian Park Hospital Auxiliary - Geraldine Stephenson
- Oregon Logging Conference
- American Water Works Association/ Pacific Northwest Division
- Oregon Fire Chief's Association
- Neil Hamilton Memorial
- Prenursing and Nursing Scholarship

To find out if you are eligible and what the requirements are for each of these and others which are available, visit the LRC 212 today.

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Wood futon frame and mattress. Great Condition. Works great for couch or bed. Queen size. \$60. Call Amanda ~ 738-8840

Nickel/Silver mix Evett closed hole flute. Excellent condition, great beginning student flute. Nice tone. \$225. Contact Lydia Eaton, 929-5368

1990 Honda Accord LX, \$4100/OBO, bought for \$4900 in '00. 4-door, 165K, burgandy. All power, sun roof. Clarion CD player, bonus speakers, alarm, new alternator, brakes & battery. Great Condition, runs like steel. Caitlin 738-6880

Black, Plastic Vito Clarinet, comes with case. Great for beginning players. In great shape, have questions call Gelina @ 757-9766, \$150/OBO

'98 Honda CR250 motorcycle. Like new, comes with paddle. \$3500/OBO. Call 438-4176 for more info.

Storage Depot. 111 NE Davidson St. 5x5's, \$24. 5x10's as low as \$32, prepay 6mths, receive 10% discount. Secure Sight. Call Denise at 928-7777.

HELP WANTED

2002 Career Fair - Time to mark your calendars for Tuesday, April 9 10:30am-2:30pm! Lots of employers come to our fair to talk to our students about their organizations and some are even hiring. This is a great opportunity to network and possibly get a job. All this will be down in the Activities Center (Gym). For more info, see our web address: www.lbcc.cc.or.us/sservices/ca

reer/careerfair or contact Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (T 101).

IT Technician (Corvallis) #1254 - If you have a 2 yr Computer-related degree or equivalent education and experience, this part-time position is for you. This job is 5 hrs/day, M-F, and pays \$9.33-11.24/hr. See Student Employment (T101) for requirements and more information on this great opportunity!

Bank jobs #1253 - We have three bank jobs in Corvallis and one in Albany. All are full-time positions. Also there is full-time Client Services Trainee #1239 in Albany & pays \$8/hr. These jobs and more, come in and sign up with Student Employment! See Carla in the Career Center (T101) for more info!

CWE Office Clerk (Wah Chang, Albany) #1251 These great part-time jobs are 20hr/wk, provide great work experience and you get Cooperative Work Experience also! One job is 8 am-12 noon, the other 1-5 pm. If you have completed two terms working towards an office degree, see Carla in Student Employment in T101 to get your referral.

MISCELLANEOUS

Do you need tutoring help with writing assignments? Call me...35 years writing/editing experience. Reasonable rates. Karen Randolph 757-9013

DITHERED TWITS by Stan Waling

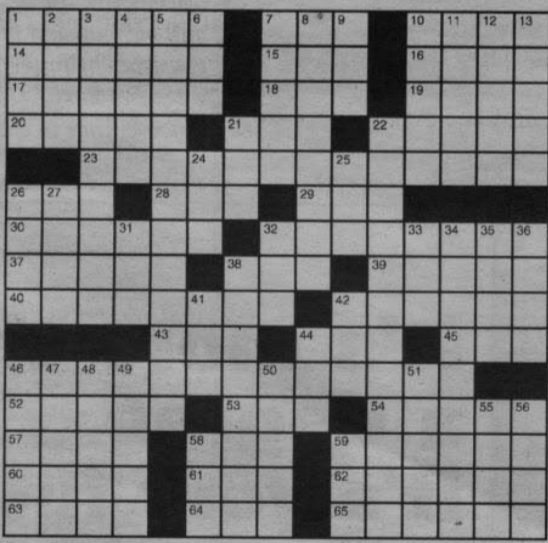


Early Geodesic Man



Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Mass leader
 - 7 Mechanical linkage device
 - 10 Earth lump
 - 14 Charge with gas
 - 15 Pridfulness
 - 16 Son of Leah
 - 17 Battled belligerently
 - 18 Cup rim
 - 19 Mineral veins
 - 20 Malice
 - 21 Even now
 - 22 Bundle-of-joy bird
 - 23 Triples
 - 26 Tanguay of vaudeville
 - 28 Today's LPs
 - 29 Twitch
 - 30 Designers' IDs
 - 32 Subway drivers
 - 37 Worthless nonsense
 - 38 Besmirch
 - 39 Peachy-keen!
 - 40 Grace
 - 42 Words of wisdom
 - 43 Carpet
 - 44 Psychic power
 - 45 Org. of Flames
 - 46 Accepted responsibility
 - 52 From within
 - 53 Actor Kilmer
 - 54 Second airing
 - 57 Von Bismarck or Klemperer
 - 58 Precious one
 - 59 Landed manor
 - 60 Difficult journey
 - 61 Three in Italia
 - 62 Appeared threateningly
 - 63 That woman's
 - 64 Terminus
 - 65 "The Afterglow" painter
- DOWN**
- 1 Puppy feet
 - 2 "...they shall—the whirlwind—"
 - 3 Easily nettled
 - 4 Third planet
 - 5 Avoid
 - 6 Turner or Knight



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Solutions

7 LIMO RIDER, perhaps
 8 RABBLE-ROUSER
 9 SWABBY'S STICK
 10 TEXTILE
 11 THE KING OF FRANCE
 12 OPEN TO VIEW
 13 FLOPPIES
 21 AFFIRMATIVE REPLY
 22 EVE?
 24 BEGLEY AND WYNN
 25 PERCH
 26 HAMBURG RIVER
 27 COLORADO RESORT
 31 OMELET ITEM
 32 SULTRY WEST
 33 N.T. BOOK
 34 LARGE, POWERFUL COMPUTER
 35 DEPICT DISTINCTLY
 36 MR. COWARD
 38 1972 CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT
 41 CHURCH SISTER
 42 DUNDERHEAD
 44 SUBSURFACE SHOCKER

46 CANINE, e.g.
 47 BIZARRE
 48 WEB-FOOTED CRITTER
 49 ECCENTRIC ONES
 50 TITLED
 51 ALLOW TO BOARD
 55 COLORADO TRIBE
 56 BEATY AND BUNTLINE
 58 PHONE CO.
 59 WALLACH OF "THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN"

THE ADVENTURES OF SKULY BY WILLIAM MORTON ©MMII DRAW SKULY

- 1) RULE IN PANEL BORDERS AND A HORIZON LINE.
- 2) DRAW AN ELLIPSE FOR THE GENERAL SHAPE OF SKULY.
- 3) ADD GENTLE ARCED LINES FOR THE BRIDGE OF THE NOSE AND THE "MUZZLE".
- 4) DRAW BEAN SHAPED EYES, HEART SHAPED NOSE, PICKET-FENCE TEETH, AND CURVES FOR FRONT, SIDE AND ASS LUMPS.
- 5) TAKE BREAK FROM DRAWING FOR A RICH CHOCOLATE DONUT AND OPTIONAL TALL GLASS OF COOL REFRESHING MILK.
- 6) RESUME DRAWING. ADD FINAL SURFACE DETAILS AND FILL IN SOLID AREAS.
- 7) ADD "WACKY" PROPS, HATS, AND ACCOUTREMENT TO HUMOROUS EFFECT.
- 8) THROW IN TOWEL. UTILIZE PHOTOCOPIER TO REPLICATE ALREADY EXISTING ARTWORK.
- 9) COMPOSE WITTY PUNCHLINE ABOUT LAPSED MORTALITY.

Something Something
 Something DEATH
 Something Something

SPORTS PAGE

Roadrunners lose back-to-back games but still in playoff hunt

by Greg Cero
of The Commuter

In what was the most crucial week in the men's basketball season so far, the Runners dropped back-to-back games to top opponents, putting their playoff hopes in jeopardy. Now the Roadrunners do not control their own destiny and will need some help from other teams in the league to get into the postseason.

After a loss last Wednesday on the road to Lane and then a 79-65 home loss to Chemeketa on Saturday, the Runners (5-6, 10-14) have now lost three in a row and are in fifth place. The top four teams will go on to the postseason.

With three games left in the regular season, the Runners can ill afford to drop another in that stretch. The team they trail, Chemeketa, holds a favorable schedule the rest of the way and they carry the advantage of the tie-breaker over Linn-Benton.

Saturday's loss to Chemeketa in the Activities Center will be looked at as a pivotal point in what has been an up-and-down season for the men's

"We're definitely not out of things yet, we can't get down on ourselves or let up. But we do need some help from other teams here in the end."

—David Michaelis

team. Entering the game, the Runners and Chemeketa were tied in fourth place

The game did not start out as planned as the Runners fell victim to an opening 18-4 run by Chemeketa. But LB

did not back down, going on a 17-5 run of their own to cut the lead to two. They trailed by seven at halftime but were never able to make a serious stab at the lead in the second half. Lack of free throw attempts and good shooting by Chemeketa kept the Runners at bay.

LB sophomore David Michaelis led all scorers with 24 points, while Nate Marks and Kraig Schuler had 12 and 13 respectively.

"We're definitely not out of things yet," said Michaelis. "We can't get down on ourselves or let up. But we do need some help from other teams here in the end."

The Runners' next three games are all at home. First up tonight is Umpqua, currently in last place in the league, and then the No. 1 and 2 ranked teams, Clackamas and Southern Oregon, come to the Activities Center.

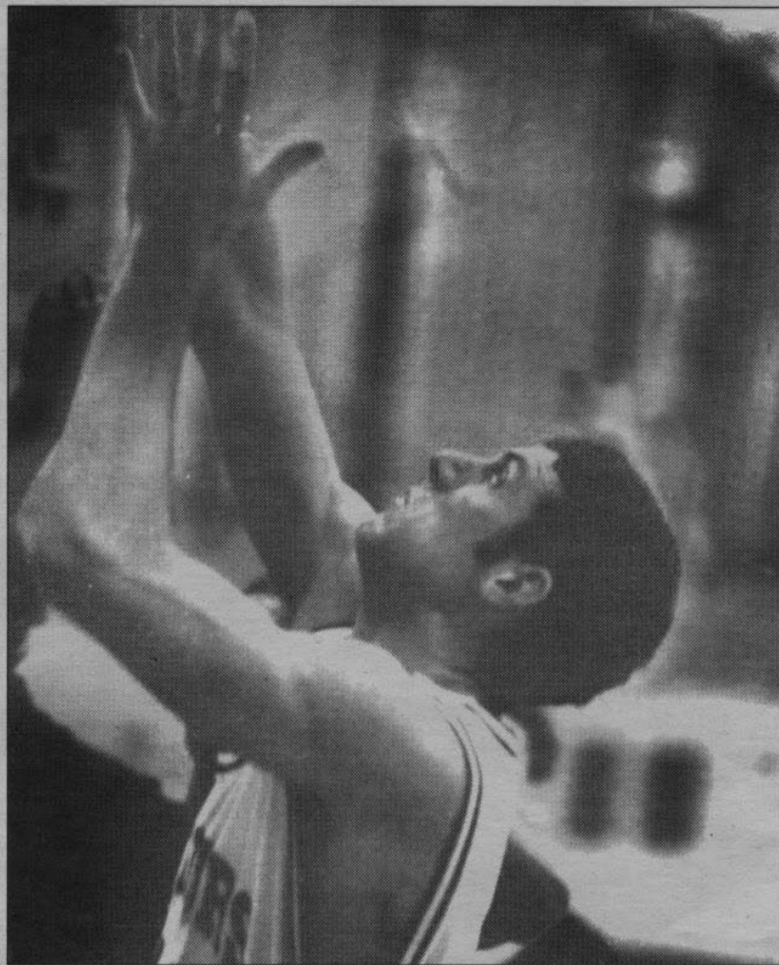


Photo by James Bauerle

Sophomore Dave Michaelis led all scorers in LB's loss to rival Chemeketa Saturday with 24 points. LB's next game is tonight (Feb. 20) in the Activities Center against Umpqua.

Lady Runners can't ride out Storm; now face uphill battle

by Jered Reid
of The Commuter

The Linn-Benton Lady Runners had a tough time last week, losing two games in the NWAACC Southern Division.

The Lady Runners are now 5-6 in league and in fifth place. LB is one game out of fourth place, which is where they need to be to get a berth in the NWAACC Championship Tournament held in Pasco, Wash., March 8-11.

Head Coach A.J. Dionne's team started last week by playing its last regular season road game against the third place Lane CC Titans.

Despite a double-double night by Rebecca Torresdal, the Lady Runners came up short, falling 56-74.

At the end of the first half, the Titans were leading 25-24, as both teams shot poorly from the field. LB went 7 for 31 in the half, while Lane went 11 for 37. Both

teams came out in the second half shooting tremendously better, as both teams each shot over 40 percent, but the 49 points Lane put on the board in the second half was too much for the Runners to overcome.

Sophomore Torresdal had a terrific night, scoring 17 points and grabbed 10 rebounds. She also led the team in steals, with three. Christy Rickert posted 11 points and grabbed six rebounds of her own. Enterprise graduate Linzi Strohm also scored in double figures, finishing with 10 points, and freshman Janine Dionne hit three three-point field goals to finish with nine points. On the defensive side, Breanna Johnson blocked three shots.

After the loss to Lane Wednesday, LB was tied for fourth place with Chemeketa, but that lasted only three days, as Chemeketa came to the Activities Center

Saturday and bumped off LB in a thriller.

The score was close throughout the game, with neither team managing more than a six-point lead. But in the end, it was Chemeketa getting the win 76-71.

At halftime the two teams were even at 31, but midway through the second half, the Storm grabbed the lead 46-44. Dionne then drilled two three pointers, giving the Lady Runners a 50-44 lead, which they extended to six points with just under five minutes to play. However, Chemeketa went on an 8-1 run to grab the lead 66-65 before Dionne ended the Storm rally by hitting another three-point field goal to put the Runners up 68-66. But Chemeketa was able to grab the lead back with under two minutes to play and with under 30 seconds to play were clinging to a 74-69.

After a lay-up by Johnson with 20 seconds remaining, LB was within three.

After the Storm missed two free throws, the Runners had one more shot with 18 seconds on the clock. LB got the ball to Dionne to shoot the three, but the Storm never gave her a good look at the basket, and went on to win the game.

Linn-Benton had four players score in double figures. Johnson lead the team with 16 points, while Dionne, Torresdal and Christin Pass all ended up with 13 points. Strohm lead the team in rebounds with seven.

The Lady Runners have three games remaining in the season, and all three of the games will be played in the Activities Center. That should assist the Runners in their quest to make playoffs, although it will not be easy.

This week LB will play both Umpqua and Clackamas, who are No. 1 and 2 in the Southern Division and have a combined 19-3 record in league.

ON DECK

Wednesday Feb. 20

Who: Umpqua Timbermen
When: 5:30 p.m. men
7:30 p.m. women
Where: Activities Center

Saturday Feb. 23

Who: Clackamas Cougars
When: 4 p.m. men
6 p.m. women
Where: Activities Center

STANDINGS

Men's Standings	
SW Oregon	10-1
Clackamas	8-3
Lane	8-3
Chemeketa	6-5
Linn-Benton	5-6
Mt. Hood	5-6
Portland	2-9
Umpqua	0-11

Women's Standings	
Umpqua	10-1
Clackamas	9-2
Lane	8-3
Chemeketa	6-5
Linn-Benton	5-6
SW Oregon	4-7
Mt. Hood	2-9
Portland	0-11

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OPINION



COMMENTARY

U.S. hypocritical in treatment of Taliban

By Thomas McGeary
of The Commuter

The third Peace Forum discussion, led by LBCC student Tina C. Empol, focused on the holding and treatment of Taliban prisoners from the war in Afghanistan in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Empol pointed out that the United States has refused to abide by the 1949 Geneva Convention, which provides specific guidelines for the treatment of prisoner combatants and is part of the law of nations. Two NGOs (non-governmental organizations)—Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International—both do not support this decision of the Bush Administration. It is not clear whether the prisoners are being adequately provided for or if they are being tortured.

The administration validates its actions by not recognizing the Taliban as a legitimate government. Not recognizing their human rights is a denial of peace.

According to Peace Studies member Matt Martin, this lack of recognition is somewhat hypocritical be-



Thomas McGeary

cause in previous years, the United States provided aid for the Taliban during the war with Soviet Union. The conversation also dwelled upon the recent release of two Saudi nationals into the custody of Saudi Arabia and the resulting implications of favoritism toward the Saudi government.

The overall tenor of U.S. involvement in the Muslim world was challenged at the forum. I noted that Bush's labeling of Iraq, Iran and North Korea as an "axis of evil" has led to the polarization of nations, causing the anti-terrorism coalition to break apart.

For example, Russia and France have both issued statements that they consider Bush's true intentions suspect. British papers have labeled the U.S. involvement in Afghanistan as "Enduring Hypocrisy" rather than "Enduring Freedom," again questioning the motives behind this war.

On Nov. 8, 2001, Bush declared in a speech to the nation that the bombing of Afghanistan was a "war to save civilization itself." This rationalization for U.S. military actions is juxtaposed with the U.S. refusal to abide by the world's humanitarian laws—a contradiction that explains why the United States is mistrusted by other nations.

Let's not wave the flag in world's face

By E.R. Shipp
New York Daily News

I fully understand Norman Mailer's pique with his fellow Americans - especially since the Winter Olympics opened in Salt Lake City.

Mailer, in a series of interviews that ran in British newspapers earlier this month, expressed his exasperation with what's passing for patriotism in post-Sept. 11 America.

"America has an almost obscene infatuation with itself," he told The Daily Telegraph. "Has there ever been a big, powerful country that is as patriotic as America? And patriotic in the tinniest way, with so much flag-waving? You'd really think we were some poor little republic and that if one person lost his religion for one hour, the whole thing would crumble. America is the real religion in this country."

We do appear to be going overboard. I do believe that some people are trying to outdo their neighbors for dramatic displays of the flag. And others, especially immigrants from those parts of the world forever etched in our psyches as bastions of terrorism, are feeling not-so-subtle pressure to demonstrate their allegiance to the United States by mounting flags, too.

During the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympics, it really struck me that the "U.S.A.! U.S.A.!" rah-rahing had hit a new—and uncomfortable—level. Pop singer R. Kelly sang about Americans being "the greatest." That was very, well, impolite to the athletes, fans

and dignitaries from around the world—not to mention the billions watching on television across the globe—kind of like inviting guests over for dinner and spending the entire time bragging about yourself.

The tussle over the display of the tattered flag from Ground Zero bordered on tastelessness, too. For a while, it was touch and go, with a sizable contingent of super-patriots demanding that the American athletes march in with the wounded banner as a symbol of American defiance and resilience.

Fortunately, the matter was resolved when the International Olympic Committee permitted an honor guard of police, firefighters and U.S. Olympians to solemnly carry the flag into the stadium during what turned out to be a moving ceremony that was, in the end, bigger than America.

Fundamentally, however, this is American boosterism in overdrive.

On some college campuses, there is a kind of counterpatriotism underway, with students protesting the war effort in Afghanistan and the possible abuse of the rights of Taliban and Al Qaeda soldiers taken into custody by the U.S. Some superpatriots criticize their dissent as dishonorable.

But again, as Mailer told The Guardian: "My feeling is that you're patriotic about America if you're obsessed with America because it's a democracy and its obligation is to improve all the time, not to stop and take bows and smell its armpits and say, 'Ambrosia!'"

EDITORIAL

Budget crisis causes grief that could have been avoided

The recent budget crisis that is forcing painful budget cuts not only at our college but also at local, state and national governments is all the more discouraging because it could have been avoided.

All the misery and disruption that has been caused in people's lives, and all of it yet to come, could have been forestalled if more conservative accounting practices had been implemented. The current model of tax-and-spend, credit-and-cover is what has gotten us into such financial trouble.

At a national level, the now-famous vaporizing surplus is the best example of accepting unrealistic predictions of continuing surplus, followed by dramatic action in the form of a \$1.35 trillion tax cut, and then holding the reins while the economy takes a huge nose-dive and the surplus vanishes.

This kind of accounting was also used at Oregon State University where the athletic department experienced an influx of millions of dollars of cash and still spent more than they took in, ending up still mired in millions of dollars in debt.

In November of 1997, Mark McCambridge, then interim vice president of finance and administration told the public that, "We've taken a hard look at the way we do business and have come up with a workable plan to balance our operating accounts." The attempt was to erase some \$5.7 million in debt over six years. By 1998 the debt had reached \$8.2 million. Four years later, the program and the university are still trying to explain how they failed to achieve their goals and why they are still broke.

On a state level, the projected budget numbers that drove budgeting in the last regular session of the Legislature now seem comical, in a tragic sense. The projected revenue shortfall for the state is more than \$800 million.

Now that the policy of boom and bust has caught up with us, we turn around and tell the teachers of Oregon that we can't hold as many classes, that some of them will have to be fired and that in these tough times everyone has to help out and take the brunt of the cuts. Then we tell the people who buy alcohol and tobacco that they might have to take some of the brunt, too. But where is this fiscal mindedness in good times?

When the money is flowing in we need to be conservative and say, "let us put some of this money away for a rainy day. Let us be cautious about big budget surplus predictions because the money is not in the bank yet. And let us have a real accounting procedure so that financial giants like Enron don't topple like houses of cards."

On a local level, we here at LBCC have to deal with cuts. It is unfortunate and it was avoidable, but here it is.

So schools and other public institutions will have to cut back staff, materials and maintenance budgets, and real people will have less money for mortgage payments, health insurance and grocery bills. Things will be tight, but they will get better. When they do get better, we need to remember these times and not spend our children's future like drunken gold miners or real estate speculators.

We cannot speculate on our future. It has to be built on fiscal responsibility and sound financial planning.

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.

All letters received will be published, space permitting, unless they are considered by the editor to be potentially libelous or in poor taste.

Drop letters off at the Commuter office, Forum 222 or email us at commuter@ml.lbcc.cc.or.us