

The Commuter

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Photo by Deborah Shelby

Class Schedule Shuffle

The second day of winter term found many students still puzzling over what classes to take, like these seen from the Takena Hall balcony. Students from the Introduction to Photojournalism course captured the hectic first few days of classes in pictures, which you can find on pages 6-7.

Muddying the Voters

Negative tone of Smith-Wyden campaign turns off some voters, energizes others

by Dorothy Wilson
of The Commuter

Mudslinging has characterized the campaign strategy in the race for the Oregon seat in the U.S. Senate race, much to the dismay of many voters.

"I just hate it, it makes me sick to my stomach," said LBCC student, retired teacher and registered Democrat, Edie Orner. That statement about sums up the reaction among many of the LBCC students interviewed who have been following the Smith-Wyden campaign.

Everyone should have their ballots by now; decisions need to be made and ballots returned by Tuesday, Jan. 30. Separating the fact from the fiction in the media blitz, however, may prove far more difficult than remembering to sign the envelope.

Orner said she would still vote for Democrat Ron Wyden because she feels he was forced into the negative campaign by Republican Gordon Smith's attacks. She also said she was comfortable with his stand on "the real issues."

But other students said they would not vote for either candidate because of the negative—and many felt—childish behavior in their televised ads.

In one of the many negative ads, Wyden accuses Smith of not paying overtime to workers at his frozen food factory—when in actuality, it was a mistake in payroll that was rectified. However, Smith's views on the issue of minimum wage violations belie his stated sympathy for the working class.

In another "sound bite," Smith accuses Wyden of trying to hide the fact he voted for cuts in Medicare and was

against welfare reform, when in fact senior groups did not oppose the minor changes Wyden voted for, and he does support welfare reform, although a gentler version than that supported by Smith.

LBCC political science instructor Doug Clark said the negative campaign has disappointed voters. "I would like to see a more reasonable and serious discussion of the issues," he said.

Clark said that in studying electoral politics he found the voting populace to have a kind of split personality. For example, polling data show that when voters were asked if they were most persuaded by issues or attacks, they answered issues. However, actual voting results reflect a different conclusion—people who use aggressive campaign tactics tend to win.

Clark went on to say that negative campaigns are "loud." They do not appeal to reason, but to emotion or base instinct. This type of campaign is directed at the undecided voters, those who are weakly identified with a political party. Nationally, the undecided or marginal voter comprises about 25 to 30 percent of the voting public, although this varies from state to state.

According to most media and political analysts, media image (whether or not a candidate has "stage presence," popular good looks or a polished presentation) plays a major role in who gets elected.

Some worried Wyden supporters agree. Orner, for instance, expressed her concern that Smith presents such a slick

(Turn to 'Mud' on Page 2)

"In its own perverse way, I think negative campaigning is beneficial because we get to see the worst side of both of them before we elect one of them."

—Dianna Howell

Drumming circle celebrates King's birthday today

by Jacob Schmid
of The Commuter

LBCC students and staff are invited to join percussionist Arthur Hull in the LBCC Commons today for a drum circle from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, the event focuses on the development of a cooperative community through teamwork.

Hull is providing 300 REMO drums for participants, and encourages people to bring their own percussion

instruments as well. No experience is necessary.

The Global Rhythm Tour: Community Drum Circle Experiences is an interactive event intended to bring together people of all ages, colors, and creeds in a "Rhythmic Consciousness."

An all-level hand-drumming workshop will precede the event, in which Hull will demonstrate rhythms drawn from Africa, the Caribbean and around the world. The workshop will be held from 10-11 a.m. in the Alsea/Calapooia Room

Hull will discuss the spiritual importance of rhythm in these cultures, and the use of the drum as a tool for empowerment, unity, and self-expression.

Hull has taught percussion at the University of California at Santa Cruz since 1979 and is on the advisory board for the Rhythm for Life Foundation. He has also been a performing artist for twenty years, working with renowned musicians such as Babatunde Olatunji, African Highlife Orchestras, and Mickey Hart of the Grateful Dead.

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Mudslinging causes politicians to sound insincere in campaign

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television persona while Wyden does not. Wyden himself said on a KOIN television debate, "I am not trying to win this election on my rugged good looks, or my great hair or anything like that."

According to The Oregonian, Smith spends \$140,000 more per week on ads than Wyden. Joe Trippi, Wyden's media analyst, told The Oregonian that Smith could buy any image he wanted. Trippi also said that Smith puts out three or four ads a week and that Wyden's team must then decide which one is most detrimental and respond to that one.

"In a close race, and this is a close race, the marginal voter is the key to victory," says Clark.

But for some like Joe Kruskamp, LBCC maintenance technician and registered independent, the campaign "isn't rough enough." He doesn't think either one of the candidates has a strong enough opinion, but says he will vote for Smith because he "sounds more sincere."

Even the Teamsters got into the fight running ads accusing Smith of safety violations at his plant that they claimed caused two deaths and several injuries.

Barraged by complaints from voters and with the Teamsters radio ads fueling the fire, Wyden recently publicly disavowed negative campaigning. He said he was "sick of the negative ads," and he pledged not to run any more.

Smith countered by saying that Wyden was still sending out negative ads in the mail. Wyden promptly pulled the mailing, even though it cost his campaign a small fortune to change the pamphlet. Then Smith announced that he would continue to defend himself and, in essence, could not guarantee a positive campaign.

Although the issues have taken a back seat in this campaign, an examination of the record shows Smith and Wyden poles apart on most of the top concerns of voters. Wyden has the support of women's rights groups, is pro-abortion, a gay rights advocate, consistently supports senior benefits, favors increasing the minimum wage and is the favorite of environmentalists.

Smith favors term limits, opposes abortion and gay rights, wants to change the Endangered Species Act to protect the logging industry, favors welfare and Medicaid cuts, and voted against an Oregon Senate bill that would have increased consequences for violators of minimum wage laws.

Clark said there are a number of venues where the real issues are being discussed and debated and that it is up to the public to use these sources. Newspapers, public television, network debates, the Internet and public meetings are all good sources for information, he said.

Clark also suggested that the public could demand cable companies to set aside more air time for programs in the public interest, like televised debates.

"Mainstream media time is expensive, with not much time to engage in reasonable, reflective discussion," he said. The tendency, he added, is to attack the character and image of the opponent, creating superficial distinctions that are aimed at that marginal voter.

ASLBCC representative Dianna Howell agreed. "In its own perverse way, I think negative campaigning is beneficial because we get to see the worst side of both of them before we elect one of them."

LB pushes to expand and better utilize its space

by Mary Hake
of The Commuter

Continual overcrowding at LBCC is generating a push for expansion to best utilize available space on campus. At the Dec. 13 board meeting, representatives from Lee, Ruff and Stark, a Portland architecture firm, presented two layouts which would create additional classrooms and office space, as well as make the building more accessible for the disabled.

Plan A proposed an addition across the front of Takena Hall. Plan B has a two-story Learning Resource Center addition east of Takena and south of the library. The second plan was preferred because it is more flexible and makes the courtyard the focal point of the campus, tying together the other buildings, said President Jon Carnahan.

The proposed addition would pro-

vide easier access to the library, offering an entrance from the courtyard. It also includes a centralized elevator and restrooms. Carnahan said, "This will create additional square footage without remodeling existing-use space and spending our money on stuff we've already got. It's a better investment."

Carnahan explained that when the college went to the voters with the capital bond measure, there were four areas it was interested in investing in:

1. Major maintenance and repair;
2. Equipment and technology ("to be state-of-the-art and to be sure we can compete");
3. Accessibility for the disabled (as required by law);
4. Renovation and reconstruction of existing facilities.

The first two areas have already been addressed and are covered by long-term

plans. The last two are coupled together, he said.

The college hired an architecture firm to incorporate ideas which were collected over a number of years and to centralize services. Carnahan said they asked architects, "How can we invest our money and get the biggest bang for the buck?"

Some of the needs considered were more computer-use space, flexible space available for seminars and workshops, more general classrooms and more faculty offices.

No decision has been made yet who, what, when or how, said Carnahan. The staff is now in the process of looking at plans and strategies for the best use of the proposed addition.

The two year long project will cost about \$100 to \$125 per square foot for a 20,000 square foot building.

Peace Studies class gears up for its trip to Berlin

Students conduct fund-raisers to finance participation in international peace conference

by Dorothy Wilson
of The Commuter

Peace is not only given a chance at LBCC, it is embraced and supported by a small but dedicated group of students under the auspices of the LBCC Peace Studies Program.

Every two years, a group of 10 or more students attend the International Peace Education Conference, which is held in various European countries. This year, Sept. 7-14, approximately 10 students will be going to Berlin, Germany.

Alyssum Lafky, one of the coordinators of the group, explained that the students themselves help raise funds for the trip.

At present they are involved in bringing the "Best of the Northwest Film Festival" to the LBCC Forum, a selection of short films to be shown in March that have been produced exclusively by Northwest film makers.

In addition to the event's importance as a possible fund-raiser, Lafky said this type of peaceful community involvement is important to the group.

The focus of the group has changed somewhat since the end of the Cold War. She said, "When we create an agenda now, we see that we have many conflicts and problems here in our own country. We are more turned inward in that way."

The students are addressing issues concerning child development and conflict on the streets. And, she said, students in other countries share some of the same concerns.

Lafky, along with fellow student Kim Hale, will help prepare the delegation for the trip. Preparation not only consists of learning about the country and the logistics of international travel, but also includes development of peace and conflict resolution programs and activities on the LBCC campus and in the Linn-Benton community.

Meetings are open to all students and are usually held on Mondays at 2:30 p.m.

The room number will be posted on the bulletin board outside T-207.

For more information about the program, call Doug Clark, advisor of the group, at 917-4557.

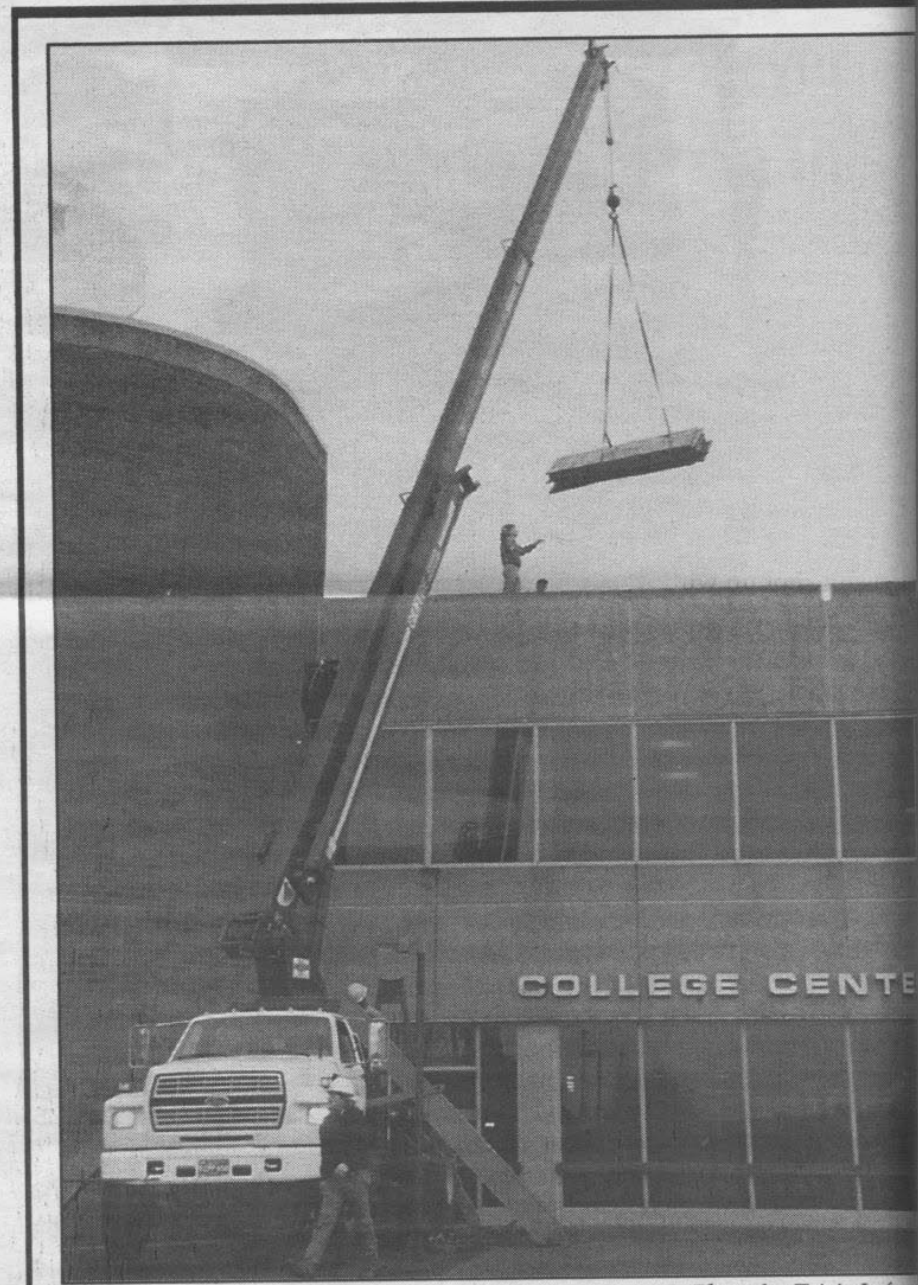
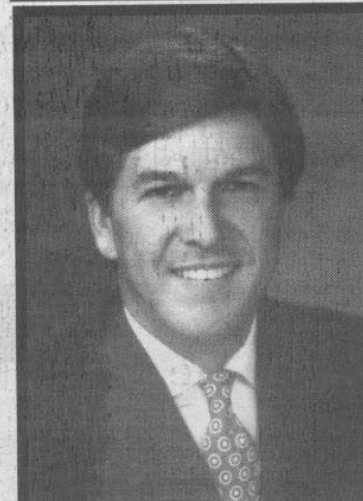


Photo by Tricia LaFrance

Hoist Away

An Umpqua Roofing crew moves material to the roof of the College Center so that they can later do repairs. Due to the difficulty of moving the nearby satellite dish at a time that will not disrupt classes, the actual work has been postponed until spring break.



"It's a privilege to give my wholehearted endorsement to GORDON SMITH, who will go to Washington as an independent Senator not beholden to special interest groups."

— Representative Larry Wells,
Legislative District 30, Jefferson

CAMPUS NEWS

College promotes executive assistant to new vice-president post

Holland retains title of deputy clerk while taking on added responsibilities as VP

Dr. Michael Holland was promoted to vice president for administrative and student affairs at Linn-Benton Community College, effective Jan. 1.

Holland, who joined the college last May as executive assistant to the president and deputy clerk, will retain his responsibilities as deputy clerk.

Holland has 24 years of management experience in higher education. Before coming to LBCC, he was interim dean of

instruction at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Ore., where he supervised curriculum, new program development and faculty and assisted with academic policy.

Before Treasure Valley, he served three years as president for the Community College of Vermont in Waterbury, which is the state's only community college.

Holland provided the college with overall direction and leadership, supervising budget and program development and establishing institutional priorities.

Holland's political experience includes service as commissioner in the

Oregon Office of Community College Services.

As commissioner and the lead state official in charge of state community colleges, he managed distribution of state operating and capital funds and represented community colleges before the legislature.

Prior to his five-year term with the Office of Community College Services, Holland served for seven years as associate dean at Willamette University College of Law in Salem, where his responsibilities included supervising adjunct faculty, student service programs and support staff.

In earlier years, Holland worked for two years as director of admissions and coordinator of education for Marylhurst College/Christie School, located in Portland.

He also served for two years as director of admissions, records and financial aid at Rogue Community College in Grants Pass, Ore. and taught high school for a year in Glide, Ore.

Holland has received a bachelor's degree in humanities and a master's degree in counseling from Western Oregon State College in Monmouth and a juris doctorate from Willamette University in Salem.

what students think

Bosnian mission fails to attract enthusiastic support from students

by Josh Burk
of The Commuter

Christmas for most people is a time when you can be with your friends and family, but for some this past Christmas was a little different. In December 1995, the United States troops were sent to Bosnia to try to help put an end to their civil war.

The decision to send U.S. troops to Bosnia was an extremely hard one to cope with because there are so many people with strong emotional beliefs about war and especially about this Bosnian war.

Sean Miner, an LBCC student from Corvallis, said, "I don't really like the idea of going to war, but seeing as how the people in Washington, D.C. sent them, they must be there for a good reason."

Jason McConnell, an Albany LBCC student, looks at the whole ordeal a little differently. "I haven't really kept up with what is going on over there in

"In the past we usually had something to gain from getting involved in another country's war, but in this case, it is just plain stupid."

-Harry Tomlon

Bosnia and I don't really pay attention to all of the hype about it, but as long as they are over there, I hope that they do their job and get back safely."

There are also strong arguments against our involvement in Bosnia. There are a lot of people who think we have absolutely no business in Bosnia.

Harry Tomlon, of Albany, has recently returned to school to get the education that he missed while he was in the military. "Having been in the military and

having gone to Saudi Arabia to fight in the Gulf War, I have my own views on the situation. In the past we usually had something to gain from getting involved in another country's war, but in this case, it is just plain stupid. We are just wasting our time and money and taking a risk of losing the lives of American troops. It's stupid."

Megan Sterns, of Albany, sees eye-to-eye with Tomlon. "I have been watching the news and reading the papers to stay caught up on all of the current happenings in Bosnia, but it seems to me like a joke. I think Clinton sent our troops into Bosnia to give him publicity. But as for those poor troops over there fighting to save their lives for nothing but exposure for Clinton, I feel bad. There is no way that I would want to be in their shoes. Hopefully, they will realize that this is a no-win situation and come home. Safely!"

Redesigned drain expected to ease flooding problems in FRC parking lot



Kevin Nicholson, head of LBCC maintenance, stands next to the new storm drain at the FRC building.

by Tricia LaFrance
of The Commuter

Over the last couple of years, water has been backing up in the Family Resource Center parking lot, so over winter break maintenance and facilities worked to correct the problem.

"Years and years ago, the FRC parking lot was a gravel lot for the tennis courts," said Kevin Nicholson, manager of maintenance and facilities. "We think that the storm drain went to a dry well, which was not able to accept heavy rain." Last month, a maintenance crew installed a new catch basin in the parking lot and then trenched and piped from that over to the storm drain system that is to the west of the Industrial C building," explained Nicholson.

"Now we are waiting for the heavy rains," he said.

The FRC storm drain project was one of several projects on campus that were corrected using bond monies.

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Reviewer selects Hollywood's best and worst of 1995

by Ben Cole
of The Commuter

Since every movie reviewer in the country has been putting out a best and worst list, I thought I would too; especially since I disagree with most of them.

First, a qualifier. The only movies on my list are ones that I've spent money on (wasted money in some instances). Otherwise "Mighty Morphin Power Rangers" would probably be toward the top of the "worst of" list and "Nixon" or "Toy Story" may have made my "best of" list.

The Best of 1995

5. "Get Shorty." This was a well-made, well-written, extremely funny take-off of gangsters and the written business. John Travolta does an extraordinary job as Chili Palmer, a hit-man who wants to get into the movies.

Chili is tough, intimidating, and won't let anyone push him around, but has the enthusiasm of a kid in a candy store when he's around anyone involved with making movies. After beating up a former stuntman who now works as a bodyguard for an L.A. mobster, Chili proceeds to help him up, dust him off and engage him in a conversation about the movies he's been in. The supporting cast, that includes Danny Devito, Rene Russo and Gene Hackman, also does an exquisite job.

4. "Seven." This movie has something that is rarely seen: an unhappy ending. I'm not going to ruin it for those who haven't yet seen it, but it'll shock you; I know it shocked me.

Brad Pitt and Morgan Freeman star as two cops trying to stop a murderer trying to complete his masterpiece: seven murders in seven days, all based on one of the seven deadly sins. I have to warn you, some of the crime scenes are not for the weak at heart. They are gruesome and realistic.

I like the fact that "Seven" had a dreary ending, because life doesn't always have happy endings, and thus the movie is more true to life than most movies in this genre. Though it was a little depressing, I'd like to see more films like "Seven" because it was well thought-out and contained great performances by Pitt and Freeman.

3. "Apollo 13." Now this was an accomplishment. A film that everyone already knew the ending to before the film even came out, but still managed to keep people on the edge of their seats. "Apollo 13" is the true story of a near disastrous mission to the moon more than 20 years ago.

Though the film had some excellent performances, most notably from Ed Harris, the really amazing part of this film were the special effects. It should be noted that not one scene used NASA footage. All the space scenes were done by using either models or computer graphics.

Ron Howard deserves special mention for directing yet another spectacular film. Why he hasn't won an Oscar for best director yet is beyond me. Maybe this year the academy will finally give him the recognition he deserves.

2. "Casino." Martin Scorsese's epic about the Teamsters' running of Las Vegas casinos in the late 70s and 80s was extremely entertaining and also educational. I had no idea that the kinds of things documented in this film actually occurred. (Yes, this is based on a true story.)

"Casino" describes the operation of the casino, and how the teamsters got away with sending large cuts of the profits back to the mob bosses back East without anyone knowing about it. Joe Pesci and Robert DeNiro, as usual, give outstanding performances. The real shocker, for me at least, was Sharon Stone's phenomenal portrayal of Robert DeNiro's junkie wife. Before this film I didn't think she could act, but now I think it's just been the roles she's been getting. Hopefully, she'll get better roles in the future.

Since "Casino" came out, a lot of people have been comparing this to Scorsese's "Good Fellas," which he directed a few years ago. Because they both are about mobsters, and both star Robert DeNiro and Joe Pesci, this is a valid comparison. In my humble opinion, "Casino" is a much better film.

Although "Casino" is a three-hour movie, more than half-an-hour longer than "Good Fellas," the plot is intriguing, so it seems shorter. "Casino" shows why Martin Scorsese is one of the premiere directors of his time.

1. "Braveheart." The best film I saw all year! This three-hour epic is about William Wallace, a Scotsman who single-handedly led Scotland to victory over the British army during the Middle Ages, allowing them to gain freedom from the British for about 200 years.

Although Wallace was a real person and Scotland did defeat the Brits, not much is known about Wallace's life, so this movie is fiction. Mel Gibson, in the best performance of his career, plays Wallace, a peaceful man who was forced into battle to avenge the death of his soon-to-be bride at the hands of British soldiers.

At first Wallace was all-but-alone in his battle against the Brits, but as time passes, more and more Scots were inspired by Wallace's bravery and they join him.

One of the most impressive things about this film were the battle scenes, which contained literally hundreds of men with all sorts of medieval weaponry doing battle in the middle of huge grassy plains. Hundreds of extras were needed to film these scenes, and the choreography is simply amazing.

Like "Casino," this is another long movie that seems much shorter than it actually is because of the fast-paced and involving storyline. Hopefully, the Oscar people will realize what a great achievement this film was and at least nominate it for best picture.

The Worst of 1995

5. "Batman Forever." My main problem with this movie is the same one I've had with every Batman feature film—it's not enough like the comic book series. Anyone who says that the comic book version of Batman is just for kids and the movies are more "mature" and the plots better obviously hasn't read Frank Miller's great "The Dark Knight Returns" or

"As for Eddie Murphy, I don't know where it all went wrong with his career, but he better do something fast because people are getting tired of these mediocre films when we all know he can do better."

Grant Morrison's "Arkham Asylum." In these books Batman is shown to be a real person. He gets hurt, both physically and psychologically.

"Batman Forever" is yet another attempt by Hollywood to make Batman more of a stereotypical "kiddie"-targeted superhero by making Batman nearly invincible and the villains funny and lovable.

I couldn't believe what the makers of this film did to Two Face (Tommy Lee Jones). In the comic book, Two Face, is a highly disturbed, highly unstable character who is constantly battling between the good and bad sides of his personality. In the movie, he's a laughable character constantly spouting cute little one-liners.

And whose bright idea was it to make Robin instantly know everything there is to know about crime fighting so he could immediately become Batman's partner? The comic book Robin had to go through months of training before he could even try on the tights.

All in all I wish that Hollywood would make a Batman movie dark and gritty, the way Batman's supposed to be.

4. "Vampire In Brooklyn." Eddie Murphy used to be funny. What happened? "Vampire In Brooklyn" is yet another horrible Eddie Murphy movie that does nothing to get him back on the comedy pedestal he was on in the early 80s.

The movie tries, but there aren't many funny scenes, or scary parts either. And since this was billed as a horror-comedy, it's not very good. About the funniest person in this dismal film is Kadeem Hardison, who should continue to pursue comedy, but find better films to be involved in.

As for Eddie Murphy, I don't know where it all went wrong with his career, but he better do something fast because people are getting tired of these mediocre films when we all know he can do better. Look at "48 Hours" or "Trading Places." These are the types of films he should get back to doing.

Not only was the script full of not-funny jokes and not-scary situations, the film had some major editing problems. In at least two scenes, the stage lighting was visible and other parts of the production crew were

visible, like a microphone dangling over the actors' heads in one scene. The funniest thing about the movie was that the editing people didn't even catch these bloopers before sending the movie to the theaters.

3. "Johnny Mnemonic." With the availability of advanced computer effects to use in movies, more and more movies are filled with lots of computer generated eye candy without a storyline to support all the special effects. This is my problem with "Johnny Mnemonic." The film looks great, it has a computer-generated "laser whip" and a long computer-generated finale, but somewhere the plot got left behind.

What there is of the plot goes like this: Johnny is a guy with a hard drive inside his head, and he downloads information to his head and delivers the information to his clients, without getting killed by the bad guys. And he teams up with a super-smart dolphin to save the world at the end of the movie.

Not only is the plot virtually nonexistent, but the acting is horrible. Keanu Reeves plays the ridiculously emotionless Johnny, and does a terrible job at it. I don't think Keanu is much of an actor anyway, but at least he's usually working with talented people who make him look good, however, this time he was working with a crew that cared more about the computer effects than good acting or a plot line.

2. "Highlander III." I hope this is the last "Highlander" movie. How the producers could take a very cool movie like the original "Highlander" and make a series of sequels almost as annoying as the "Police Academy" films is beyond me. These guys should quit now before they totally tarnish the first film forever.

Basically, the storyline of these movies is about a group of immortals who can be killed only by each other and only by having their heads chopped off. These immortals are each trying to kill off each other because the one left standing gets to become "normal" and can then die like a normal human. In the first film Conner MacLeod (Christopher Lambert) wins, but then some more of the immortals are discovered so his normal life gets taken away and he becomes immortal again. Same thing from two to three.

The really sad thing about part III was that the writers couldn't even come up with an original storyline. It's a carbon copy of the first film except with a different villain and far worse acting. Part II was bad, but at least it was different than the first film.

1. "Waterworld." This film gets the worst movie of the year award because it could've and should've been so much better than it was. This was the worst film in a long time for Universal Pictures. The film cost roughly \$200 million and made about \$80 million. Why did it do so poorly?

For one thing, the movie was boring. It's about a mutant man who can breathe underwater (Kevin Costner) who lives in a world where the polar ice cap has melted, leaving the world one big ocean with land except for a mystical place called "Dryland." Costner befriends a woman and her daughter and they go off looking for Dryland.

Of course, there is a villain to impede their progress played by Dennis Hopper, the only half-way enjoyable character on-screen. Our supposed heroes don't go along very well—Costner's character is a mean man who seemingly hates everything and everybody including his traveling companions.

This is supposed to be the hero of the picture, character that I wished would've fallen off the boat and drowned (though that would be impossible because he breathes underwater).

And another thing, for \$200 million there sure weren't many expensive special effects. This film looked like it should've cost about \$30 million to make. The only special effect that I saw that might've cost a little bit was a huge sea monster that was only on screen for about two seconds.

As I said before, this should've been an immense better picture in the hands of a better film crew. It was an interesting story idea and with more likable characters and a more exciting plot this probably could've made it to my "best of" list, but unfortunately it had neither.

Well there you have it—my picks for the best and worst films for 1995.

This upcoming year should be an exciting year in movies. I'm looking forward to it, hopefully you are too.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Laura Zaerr, concert harpist, offers music appreciation class

Concert harpist gives Sunday evening classes at Boccherini's Coffee & Tea House in Albany

Tricia LaFrance
The Commuter

Sunday evening, the weather outside Albany's Boccherini's Coffee & Tea House was chilly and wet, but the atmosphere inside was warm and harmonious. When LBCC students gathered around small black tables sipping herbal teas and lattes listening to harpist Laura Zaerr demonstrate music technicalities.

They also heard snippets from recordings of "Thus Spoke Zarathustra" by Richard Strauss and "Maple Rag" by Scott Joplin as they tried to figure out rhythm, pitch and syncopation.

Zaerr (rhymes with jar) moved her portable harp around the students as she played Scottish tunes and jigs so that they could see the harp strings move and hear the various sounds it made.

The modern concert harp that Zaerr plays for symphony concerts and with the Eugene Opera is about 70 inches tall and rests on the base of a pedestal.

One of the oldest known stringed instruments, the harp existed in several Near Eastern civilizations. In the 19th century, the harp appeared in Ireland, where it is now a national symbol.

The harp is one of the most difficult instruments to play, Zaerr has said, but it attracts students because they can pluck a few strings and create a musical sound. Last fall Zaerr taught a harp group class of 11 students at LBCC, which included a performance for nursing students and residents.

Zaerr, who comes from a musical family, began harp lessons at age 10 with Sally Maxwell of the University



Photo by Tricia LaFrance

Laura Zaerr performs on the harp at Boccherini's in Albany as part of her music appreciation class. Students are expected to attend at least five musical performances for the class.

of Oregon in Eugene. Her father, Joe, retired Oregon State University forestry professor, plays bass in the OSU/Corvallis Symphony. Her mother, Lois Marie, teaches piano. Also included in this musical family is brother Jon, of Bend, who is a classical guitarist and sister, Linda Marie, who writes poetry and teaches

medieval studies at Boise State University in Idaho.

Zaerr graduated from Crescent Valley High School in 1978, earned a bachelor's degree in harp music from the University of Oregon and then went on to study at the University of Rochester in New York, where she earned a master's degree from the Eastman School of Music.

She also studied a year in Paris with Bertille Fournier. In July, Zaerr will present a lecture/recital on "Music from the Courts of France" at the American Harp Society conference in Tacoma, Wash.

Zaerr's latest compact disc "L'autre jour," features music of the late 18th and early 19th centuries performed on the Challiot harp with Portland musicians Phil and Gayle Neuman. Zaerr has made five recordings of her own compositions and other works for harp.

Her Music Appreciation 161 class, which began Sunday at Boccherini's Coffee & Tea House, 208 First Ave. S. W., will meet from 6 to 8:50 p.m. each Sunday for ten weeks, Jan. 14 through March 17. This class, which focuses on the technicalities of music and composers, will also be offered again during spring term.

Since music is a live art form, students are expected to attend five performances outside of class. Many musical performances in the Albany-Corvallis area are free of charge.

On Sunday, Feb. 25 at 7:30, a concert featuring California harpist Kim Robertson will be held at the Majestic Theater, 115 S. W. Second St., Corvallis.

And on Saturday, March 2, at 8 p.m., "Sacred Dances," featuring harpist Laura Zaerr, with pianist Lois Marie Zaerr, will be at the First Presbyterian Church, 114 S. W. Eighth St., Corvallis.

Music Appreciation is offered for credit or non-credit. For more information about evening music classes, contact the Albany Extended Learning and Evening Services office, 917-4840.

Eloquent Umbrella accepting submissions for 1996 issue

Mary Hake
The Commuter

"The Eloquent Umbrella," LBCC's annual literary publication, has extended the deadline for submissions to its 1996 issue. Poetry and prose will be accepted until Jan. 26. Artwork and photographs may be submitted until Feb. 1. The journal will be available for purchase this spring in area bookstores, including the LBCC bookstore.

This is the fifth year that "The Eloquent Umbrella" is being produced by the literary publication class (WR247), which is offered winter term and taught by Linda Smith, who is an author, poet and editor, as well as a part-time writing instructor in LBCC's English department.

"The class is a collective, cooperative effort," said Smith. "Class members each have an equal say in selection. There is no hierarchy."

The class also tries to involve different departments on campus, such as graphic design, electronic imaging, art, photography and English. Class members collaborate on all phases of production, including selecting manuscripts and artwork, design and layout, and promoting and distributing copies in the spring.

The magazine grew out of creative writing originally published annually by The Commuter. This section, called "Tableau," became a separate publication in 1987. It was first put together by a volunteer group of students and instructors in English and journalism before the English department reinstated the publication as a co-curricular program, making it eligible for student fees to pay for printing costs. Old editions of "The Eloquent Umbrella" are available in the vertical files in the library.

Before 1992, contributions were limited to LBCC students and faculty members. Now, all residents of Linn and Benton counties are also eligible to submit their original works for consideration. "The Eloquent Umbrella" requires only one-time rights and previously published material is acceptable.

Poetry should be typed single-spaced. Fiction and nonfiction, up to 1500 words, should be typed double-spaced. Black-and-white artwork, up to 16-by-16, should be unframed. Black-and-white photographs must be no smaller than 4-by-6 and no larger than 8-by-10. The contributor's name and address should be on each page or on the back of art and photos.

Mail or deliver submissions to "The Eloquent Umbrella," AHSS-108, LBCC, 6500 S.W. Pacific Blvd., Albany, Ore. 97321, along with a self-addressed stamped envelope and a short biographical statement.

For more information, contact Smith at 753-3335.

LBCC Gallery features two local artists

The LBCC Art Gallery is exhibiting works by two local artists Jan. 16 to Feb. 9 in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Building.

The exhibit is free and open to the public 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. There will be a closing reception for the artists Feb. 9, 6-8 p.m., during Albany's Second Friday Art Walk.

Corvallis artist and illustrator Mark Allison creates flowers and landscape interpretations in multiple media of breath-taking color. His works explore and express the connections between art, music and spirit in a manner similar to that of Vasily Kandinsky.

"The painting process," says Allison, "involves balancing of all the areas of color tones, staying tuned to the overall feeling and color key, much like improvising on a musical instrument. When the color chords and composition resolve and energy seems to pulse from the painting, it is complete."

Allison is a member of Artists in the Sky and the Corvallis Art Guild; he also is a mentor for the Vistas and Vineyards

Artists on Location group and a part-time art teacher for LBCC's Benton Center. He is currently working on several commissions, logo designs and book illustrations. He recently finished a large mural for Electric Beach, a tanning parlor in Corvallis.

Albany artist Michael Moore's pastels, often monumental in content and style, apply bold, living colors to the land, sea and skylines of the Willamette Valley and Oregon coast. He strives to achieve things that surprise or that catches and keeps the viewer's attention.

"I love the color intensity and the contrasts between light and dark that can be achieved with pastels," says Moore.

He is an exhibiting member of the Northwest Pastel Society, Corvallis Art Guild, Illustrated Garden Gallery Cooperative and Corvallis Art Guild.

Later in the year, Moore and his nurse/artist wife will be showing their works in Good Samaritan Hospital in Corvallis and in Boccherini's coffee shop in Albany.

Can you recollect a night at the movies that didn't break the

If you answered no, it's time that

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EXPRESSIONS



Photo by Tricia LaFranco



Photo by Aaron Bengtson

Long lines extended outside the bookstore for four days' last week as officials tried to keep the store from being overcrowded with students looking for textbooks. At left, bookstore librarian Wilma Henderson helps student Tabitha McCarb pick out her textbooks during the first week of school. Lines were also in order of the day at the registration windows in Takena Hall, below.



Photo by Tricia LaFranco

An LBCC groundskeeper shovels wet leaves from the courtyard last week in an effort to spruce up the campus for the return of students. Grounds crews were kept especially busy over the holiday break cleaning up after the December wind storm, which blew down limbs and damaged a satellite dish, but did no major damage. In addition, workers removed trees from the north parking lot where roots were lifting the pavement.



Photo by Michelle E.

EXPRESSIONS

BACK TO SCHOOL

Long lines, busy classes, parking hassles greet returning students

The Albany transit system bus loads up with students outside Takena Hall as the first week of classes comes to an end Friday. The Linn-Benton Loop bus also serves LBCC. It offers discount coupon books (20 rides/\$16) and term passes to all students. And it seems like it's been harder to find parking spaces this term than last fall, it may not just be your imagination: The 4,962 full and part-time students registered this term is about 100 more than last fall. Counting non-credit students, winter term enrollment totals 7,837 so far, 11 percent higher than last winter term. For one student—Stephanie McCracken, below—it's never too early to start on homework. McCracken was found working on her math 20 problems in the Learning Center on the second day of the term.

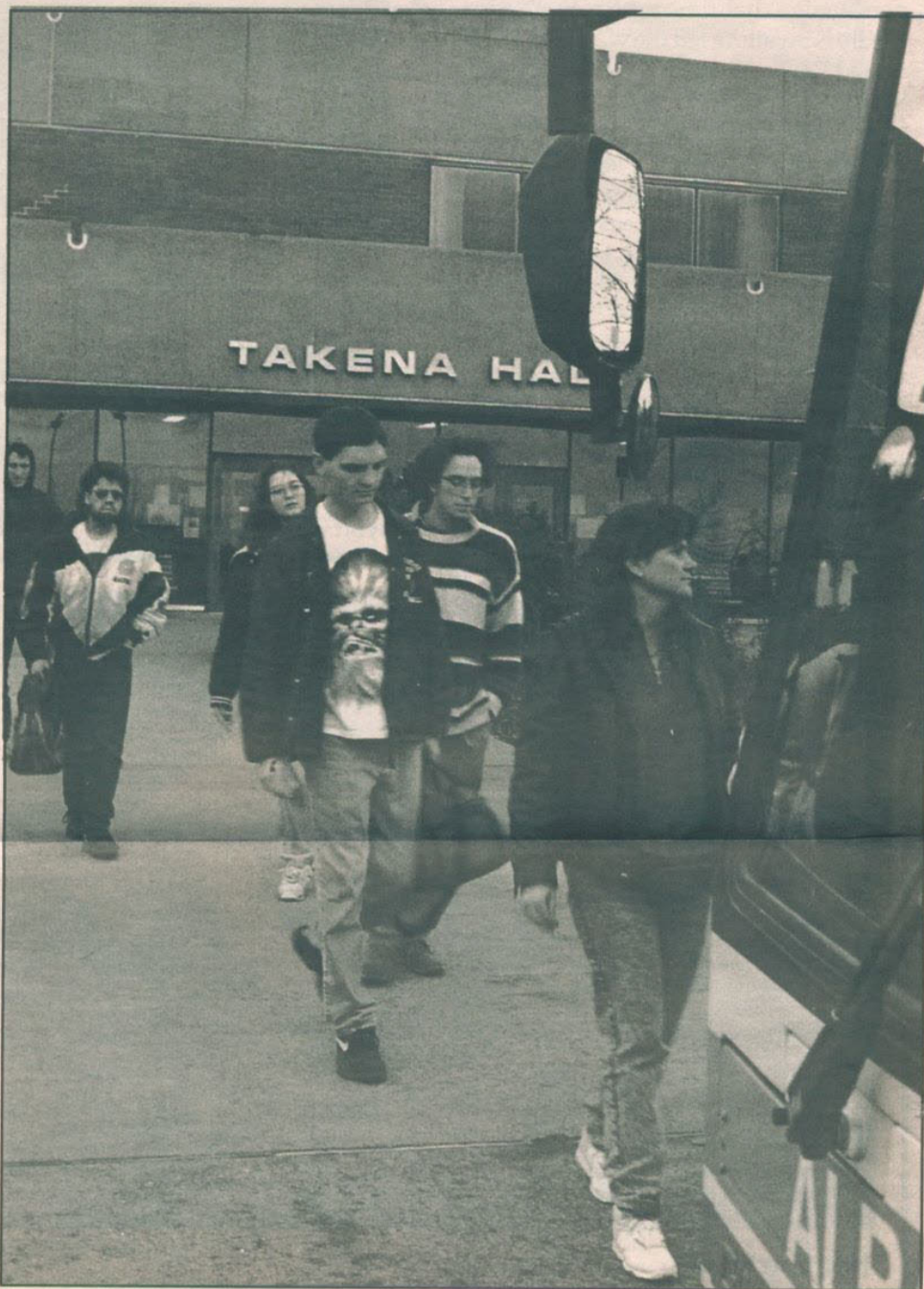


Photo by Trevor Gleason

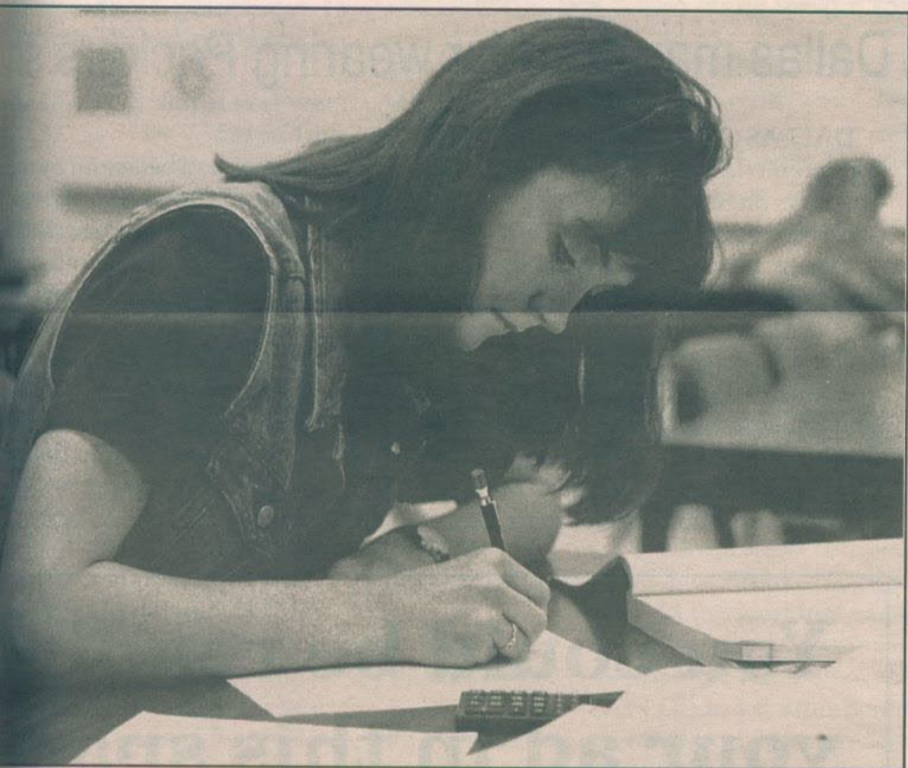


Photo by Dan Hildenbrand

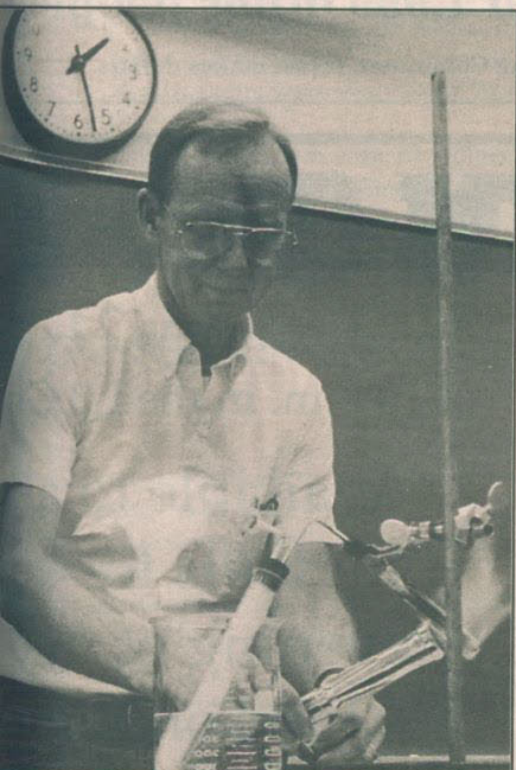


Photo by Deborah Shelby

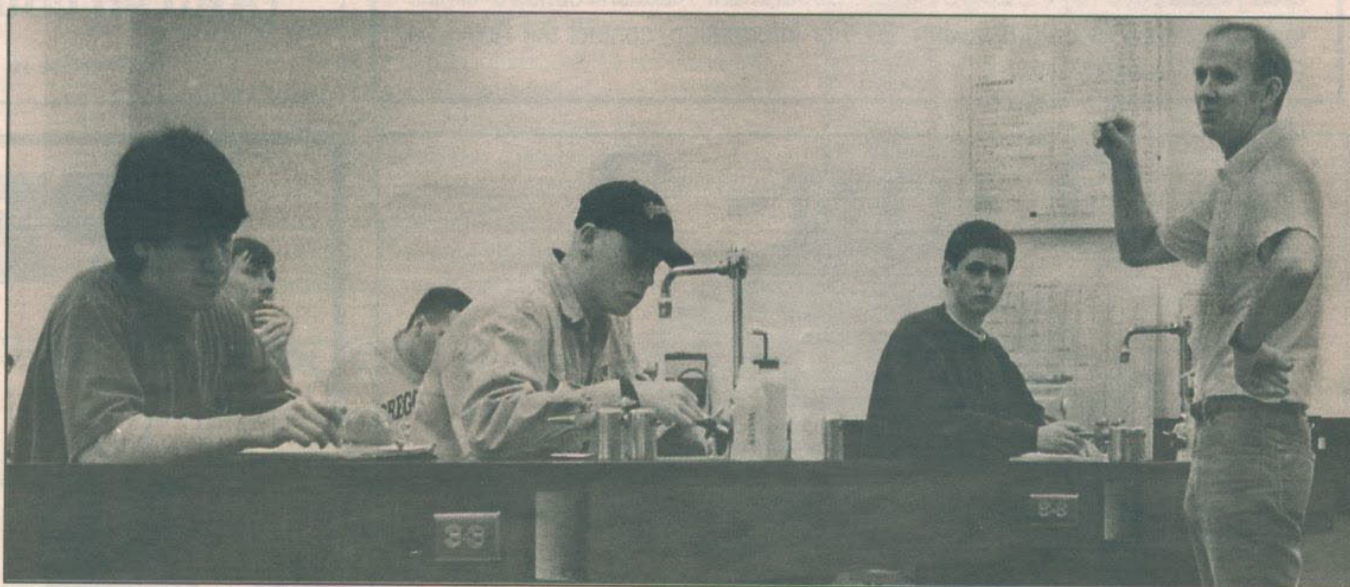


Photo by Deborah Shelby

Dr. Dave Perkins gives his students lab instructions, above, and conducts a demonstration, left, in his General Science 105 class. Enrollment in the science classes has been heavy, with students being turned away from several full courses. Among the changes in the Science/Industry division this term is the arrival of six new computers for the physics lab paid for by the capital improvement bond measure. The computers were delivered during the Christmas break, and will be ready to use by next week according to physics instructor John Griffith, although some peripheral equipment is on back order. The upgraded lab is

SPORTS PAGE

Men topple Mt. Hood for first league win

Home victory against Saints proves high point in otherwise disappointing 1-3 league start

by Jessica Sprenger
of The Commuter

The Linn-Benton men's basketball team has compiled a 1-3 league record since opening their season on the road with a 91-82 loss to SW Oregon earlier this month.

The Roadrunners got their first win in their home opener last Wednesday by defeating Mt. Hood 100-86. The Roadrunners went to halftime with a 49-37 advantage over the Saints.

Chris Swallow led the way with 25 points and Steve Roberts added 22. Freshman Chris Clark added 15 points and Chris Sexton chipped in 11. Mike Graves dished out a team-high 11 assists. Swallow also had seven rebounds and five steals.

In the league opening loss against SW Oregon at Coos Bay Jan. 3, Swallow scored 31 points and Roberts added 23 points. Andy McCabe grabbed seven rebounds, while Swallow and Sexton each pulled down six rebounds.

Three days later the Portland Community College Panthers defeated Linn-Benton 93-82 in Portland. Turnovers were a big part of the Roadrunners' downfall as they had 23 to Portland's nine. Portland also managed to make 17 steals, while Linn-Benton had only four.

Roberts and Swallow each scored 24 points for the Roadrunners. Sexton added 19 points. Swallow also grabbed a team-high 10 rebounds.

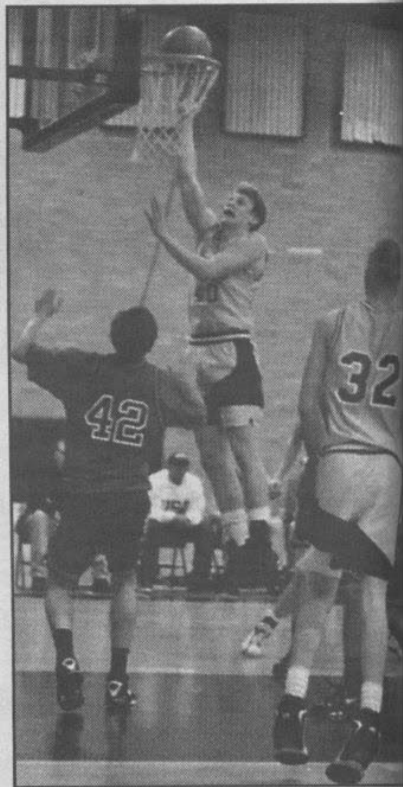
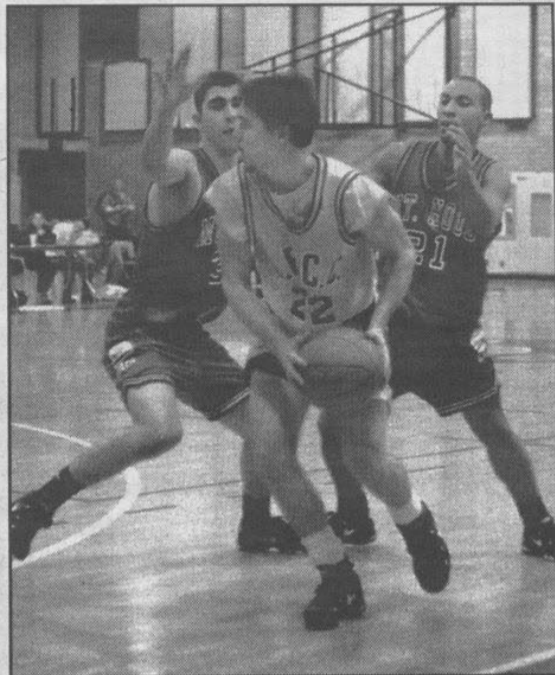
Last Saturday, in a rematch of last year's playoff game, the

Roadrunners were beaten by the second-ranked Chemeketa Chiefs by a score of 88-70.

The Roadrunners were down 41-37 at the half but it was mid-way through the second half before the Chiefs could finally shake Linn-Benton. Chemeketa out rebounded the Roadrunners 44-29.

Roberts led Linn-Benton with 25 points. Clark and Swallow each added 14 points, and Clark grabbed a team-high 9 boards.

The men, 1-3 and 7-9, host Lane tonight at 8 p.m. in the Activities Center, following the women's game.



Photos by Trevor Gleason

LBCC's leading scorer, Chris Swallow, goes up for two points Wednesday's game against Mt. Hood, which LBCC won 100-86. At the time, Swallow was under pressure from a pair of Saints.



Photo by Trevor Gleason

Helping Hand

An LBCC baseball player helps a youngster at last Saturday's hitting clinic for area youths put on by the LBCC Athletic Department. A second series of clinics is planned for this Saturday, Jan. 20. For information, contact the Activities Center Office at 917-4235.

Dallas man fired for wearing Packers shirt

DALLAS (AP)—The Green Bay Packers weren't the only victims of the Dallas Cowboys on Sunday.

Just ask Sam Young.

Young found himself unemployed after being fired from his grocery store job Saturday for wearing a Packers shirt to work.

Young, a Washington Redskins fan who said he "very much dislikes the Cowboys," told Dallas station WFAA-TV he was fired from a Dallas Minyard grocery store when he refused to take off

the shirt.

Employees had been told by management to wear Cowboys shirts or regular uniforms to work on Saturday to show support before Sunday's championship game between Dallas and the Packers, Young said.

When he refused to comply, Young said, a manager told him, "Then I have no other choice but to fire you."

Store officials refused to comment. Minyard's corporate offices were closed Sunday.

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3 -ON- 3
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TOURNAMENT

Wednesday, January 24, 3-7 p.m. in the gym!

Welcome to all students with a team of 3 players who do not participate on a school basketball team.

Winning team will advance to regionals in Washington.

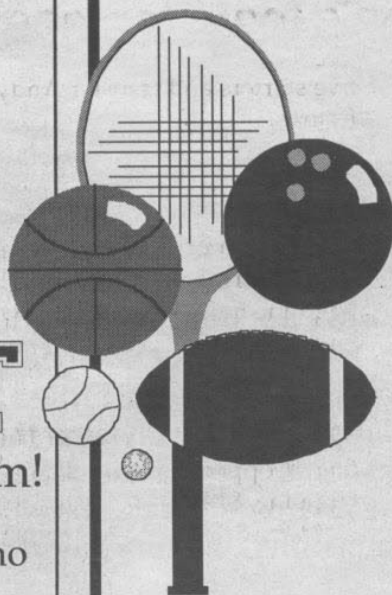
OPEN GYM

January 24

7-10 p.m. in the LB Gym

Available to all students for an evening of free time on the basketball, volleyball or badminton courts.

For more information please contact CC-213 or ext. 4458



SPORTS PAGE

Chemeketa evens score in league play

Sprenger
Commuter
The men's basketball team is 2-2 in league play leading into tonight's home game against Lane. The Roadrunners opened league play with a disappointing 60-56 loss to SW Oregon at Pos Bay. Freshman Melissa Olson led the Roadrunners with 18 points, 10 rebounds and two steals. She added 14 points and dished out eight assists. Jessica MacLean chipped in 14 points. Olson picked up their first win with a forfeit over Port Clackamas last week, as the Panthers are now eligible players for

home opener last Wednesday. The Roadrunners defeated Mt. Hood in a home-coming of sorts for starters Olson, Lisa Knudsen and Melinda MacLean, who are from Gresham, the home of Mt.

Olson held a 29-17 edge at halftime. The Saints came back and held the Roadrunners scoreless for nine minutes in the second half. Sprenger led the team with 17 points and eight assists. Olson recorded another double with 11 points and 14 rebounds. Waite dished out eight as-

On Monday the Roadrunners were defeated 67-56 by defending league champions Chemeketa in a home game. Linn-Benton played even with the Chiefs until the last three min-



Photo by Trevor Gleason

Sophomore Kodi Waite prepares to make one of her moves against Mt. Hood. The Roadrunners return home tonight to face the Titans from Lane at 6 p.m.

utes of the first half when Chemeketa opened it up going to halftime with a 33-21 lead.

Olson led the Roadrunners with 17 points. Waite added 11 points, while Sprenger grabbed 10 rebounds. Knudsen

picked off three Chief passes to go with her eight points. MacLean and Waite each dished out four assists. MacLean also scored nine points.

Tonight's game against Lane begins at 6 p.m. in the Activities Center.

Pre-season Hoop Wrap-Up

finish non-league play with a perfect 11-0 record

Sprenger
Commuter
The women's basketball team finished the preseason with a perfect 11-0 record, including first place in two tournaments during the holiday break. The Big Bend Crossover in Moses Lake, Wash., Linn-Benton defeated South Puget Sound 63-6, Highline 69-57 and Umpqua 66-52 to take first place. Melissa Olson led the team with 54 points in 11 games, while Kodi Waite racked up a total of 48 points in 11 games. Both were named to the All-League Team, with Waite getting MVP honors. MacLean dished out a team high 18 assists in the semifinals while Waite had a total of 13. Leaders in scoring for the Roadrunners were Olson with 22 and Sprenger with 19. The Roadrunners also brought home the first place trophy at the Chemeketa Christmas Classic by defeating Chemeketa 74-72 in the championship game. It was the first time the Chiefs had been defeated on their floor in

Olson scored 27 points and grabbed 11 rebounds in the championship game. Waite added 13 points and 10 assists, while Sprenger chipped in 20 points and MacLean added 10. Lisa Knudsen pulled down nine rebounds.

In the semifinal game the Roadrunners defeated Bellevue 76-54, led by Olson's 23 points and 11 rebounds and Sprenger's 15 points and 16 rebounds.

Olson led Linn-Benton's attack with 22 points and 11 rebounds. Sprenger scored 15 points and grabbed 16 rebounds. Waite also scored 15 points and dished out eight assists, while MacLean and Knudsen added 14 and 10 points, respectively. In the opening game of the tournament the Roadrunners defeated Gray's Harbor 69-66, with Olson again leading the attack with 22 points and 14 rebounds. Also in double figures in scoring was Sprenger with 16 and Waite with 11. Sprenger also grabbed a team high 19 rebounds and had a team-high five assists.

Olson was named the tournament MVP, while Waite and Sprenger made the all-tournament team.

The Roadrunners also defeated the junior varsity teams from Western Baptist, Willamette and Linfield in preseason.

pre-season prepares men's team for league play

Sprenger
Commuter
The Roadrunners men's basketball team had an up-and-down preseason, going 6-6 over the holidays. The team sometimes played really well and sometimes not so well, coach Randy Falk said. The best games they played well in was the 95-79 victory over Northwest Christian College, a four-year

five starters and transfer Andy McCabe score in double figures.

The Roadrunners also defeated the Western Baptist junior varsity, Linfield junior varsity and Concordia junior varsity.

Linn-Benton also traveled to two tournaments in Washington during winter break. They finished in fifth place at Highline in Des Moines and were eliminated after two losses in the South Puget Sound Tournament in Olympia.

Swallow was named to the all-tournament team at Highline after recording 38 points in the final two days. The men defeated Walla Walla 77-66 in the opening round, but then dropped games to Skagit Valley, 79-78, and to host Highline, 81-64.

At the South Puget Sound Tournament in Olympia, the Roadrunners dropped their first game, 97-80, to Edmonds, and their second, 98-80, to Highline. Roberts led the team in the two games, with a total of 43 points, while McCabe totalled 34 and Swallow 25.

scoreboard

Women's Results

Non-league

LINN-BENTON 65, Western Baptist JV 34
LINN-BENTON 49, Willamette JV 45
LINN-BENTON 71, Linfield JV 48

Big Bend Crossover

Linn-Benton 63, SOUTH PUGET SOUND 62
LINN-BENTON 69, Highline 57
Linn-Benton 66, EDMONDS 52

Chemeketa Holliday Classic

Linn-Benton 69, GRAY'S HARBOR 66
Linn-Benton 76, BELLEVUE 54
Linn-Benton 74, CHEMEKETA 72

League

SW OREGON 60, Linn-Benton 56
Linn-Benton d. Portland (forfeit)
LINN-BENTON 56, Mt. Hood 46
CHEMEKETA 67, Linn-Benton 56

Standings

Chemeketa	.....	4	0	1.000	—
Clackamas	.....	4	0	1.000	—
SW Oregon	.....	2	2	.500	2
Linn-Benton	.....	2	2	.500	2
Umpqua	.....	2	2	.500	2
Lane	.....	1	3	.250	3
Mt. Hood	.....	1	3	.250	3
Portland	.....	0	4	.000	4

Schedule

Wednesday, Jan. 17
at Lane, 6p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 20
at Clackamas, 6p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 24
at Umpqua, 6 p.m.

Men's Results

Non-league

LINN-BENTON 94, Willamette JV 91
NORTHWEST CHRISTIAN 115, Linn-Benton 100
LOWER COLUMBIA 97, Linn-Benton 70
LINN-BENTON 114, Concordia JV 74
LINN-BENTON d. Western Baptist JV

LINN-BENTON 80, Linfield JV 72

Highline Crossover

Linn-Benton 77, Walla Walla 66
Highline 81, Linn-Benton 64
Skagit Valley 79, Linn-Benton 78

South Puget Sound Tournament

Edmonds 97, LINN-BENTON 80
Linn-Benton 98, HIGHLINE 80

League

SW OREGON 91, Linn-Benton 80
PORTLAND 93, Linn-Benton 82
LINN-BENTON 100, Mt. Hood 86
CHEMEKETA 88, Linn-Benton 70

Standings

Chemeketa	.....	4	0	1.000	—
Clackamas	.....	4	0	1.000	—
Lane	.....	3	1	.250	1
Linn-Benton	.....	1	3	.500	3
Mt. Hood	.....	1	3	.500	3
Portland	.....	1	3	.500	3
SW Oregon	.....	1	3	.500	3
Umpqua	.....	1	3	.500	3

Schedule

Wednesday, Jan. 17
at Lane, 8p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 20
at Clackamas, 8p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 24
at Umpqua, 8 p.m.

CLASSIFIEDS

SCHOLARSHIPS

'96 Washington Pulp and Paper foundation at the University of Washington announces scholarships for students in paper science and engineering at the U of W for ('96-'97. Applications are available in the Career Center. Deadline to apply is Feb. 1.

'96 Minority Scholarship program American Chemical Society announces scholarships for minority students majoring in chemical sciences. Must be full-time, U.S. citizens or permanent residents and demonstrate need according to federal aid application. Pick up apps at the Career Center Deadline to apply is Feb.15.

'96 Eligible Oregon residents who plan to major in Journalism in any 2 or 4-year public or private institution may apply for scholarships given by Broadcast Journalism at Oregon Community Foundation. Info available at Career Center. Deadline to apply is March 1.

'96 Ford Family Foundation Scholarship. 100 scholars are selected. Students who have completed or are completing an associate degree in preparation to transfer to a baccalaureate degree-granting college or university. Pick up application from the Career Center in Takena for a list of requirements. Deadline to apply is March 1.

'96 Scholarships available for students in manufacturing engineering, industrial technology or other manufacturing-related program. Must be full-time students, have completed 30 cr. hrs with a 3.5 GPA. Apps available in the Career Center in Takena Hall. Deadline to apply is March 1.

Transfer student to OSU or Eastern Oregon State College with interest in agriculture sciences are eligible to apply for scholarships of \$1000 to \$2000. Apps are available in the Career Center in Takena Hall. Deadline to apply is March 15.

Land O' Lakes Inc. will award 75 \$1,000 post-secondary scholarships to students pursuing degrees in agriculture or food-related fields. Applicants must be enrolled or planning to enroll full-time in an undergraduate degree program. Apps are available in the Career Center. Deadline to apply is March 15.

'96 Leslie S. Parker Memorial Scholarships awarded to female Oregon Transfer students who are Oregon residents with at least two years of satisfactory college work. Applications available in the Career Center. Deadline to apply is April 1.

'96 Clifford and Grace Taylor Scholarship available for eligible students enrolled full-time in a medical or engineering related field of study. Apps available in the Career Center in Takena Hall. Deadline to apply is April 15.

'96 Water/Wastewater Technology students can compete for one of 3 \$500 scholarships from the AWWA. Applications available in the Career Center. Deadline to apply is April 15.

'96 Under-represented Minorities achievement scholarship program is offering tuition awards to students who meet scholarship eligibility requirements. Scholarships available in Career Center in Takena Hall. Deadline to apply is May 1.

STUDENTS! Prepare now to pay for the '96-'97 school year. Don't waste valuable study time by working. We have over 300,000 scholarships and grants in our database. Low GPA okay. Guaranteed, quality service. Call Monica at 1-800-289-3342.

WANTED

Male or female Christian to share home in a quiet rural setting in Jefferson. \$280/mo. includes utilities. Call George at 327-1417.

HELP WANTED

ALASKA EMPLOYMENT- Students Needed! Fishing Industry. Earn up to \$3,000 - \$6,000+ per month. Room and board! Transportation! Male or female. No experience necessary. Call (206) 971-3510 ext. A60651

NATIONAL PARKS HIRING- Positions are now available at National Parks, forests & wildlife preserves. Excellent benefits + bonuses! Call: 1-206-971-3620 ext. N60651.

CRUISE SHIPS NOW HIRING- Earn up to \$2,000+/month working on Cruise Ships or Land-Tour companies. World travel. Seasonal & full-time employment available. No experience necessary. For more information call 1-206-971-3550 ext. C60651.

Need money for college? Earn it with UPS! United Parcel Service will be on campus Thursday, Feb. 1 between 8-11AM in IA-224. Orientation session starts promptly at 8 AM, interviews to immediately follow orientation session. Additional interview times will be scheduled for Friday, February 2 between 10 AM - 1 PM if necessary. Future sessions scheduled for March 7th and 8th. Pay ranges between \$8-\$9/hour; 20 hours/wk; full benefits available. Visit the LBCC Student Employment Center, Takena Hall if you have any questions.

TRAVEL AND WORK- Make up to \$25-45/hr. teaching basic conversational English in Japan, Taiwan, or S. Korea. No teaching background or Asian languages required. For information call: (206) 971-3570 ext. J60651

Volunteers needed- Valley AIDS Info. Network hotline/booth training. Thursday, Jan. 25, 7-9:30 PM and Sat., Feb. 3, 9-4:30. For information call (541) 752-6322 or (800) 588-AIDS.

Looking for work? Visit the LBCC Student Employment Center located on the first floor of Takena Hall in the Career Center. Part-time, full-time, temporary and permanent positions are available.

MISCELLANEOUS

Free Financial Aid! Over \$6 Billion in

public and private sector grants & ships is now available. All students eligible regardless of grades, in parent's income. Let us help. Call Financial Services: 1-800-263-F60651.

Classified Ad Policy

Deadline: Ads accepted by 5 PM day will appear in the following day issue. Ads will appear only on submission. If you wish a particular ad to appear in successive issues, you must resubmit it.

Cost: Ads that do not solicit for business are free to students, faculty. All others are charged at 10 cents per word, payable when ad is accepted.

Personals: Ads placed in the "Personals" category are limited to one advertisement per week; no more than 100 words per ad.

Libel/Taste: The Commuter knowingly publishes material that is libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper staff will be rejected.

Dear Linn-Benton Community College Students,

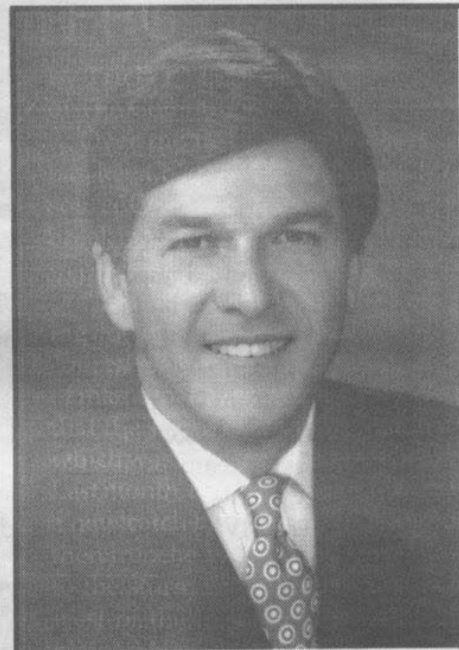
We send this message with love from our generation to yours.

Government spending is out of control. Because our government is overspending, each baby in the U.S. today owes \$147,000 just to pay interest on the national debt, which today is nearly a trillion.

And YOU will be expected to pay the interest on that debt if we don't act together. . .NOW. . .the debt under control and balance the federal budget. We members of the "over 30 club" are concerned about the future of YOU, our children and grandchildren.

To get the interest on the national debt under control, we must elect GORDON SMITH to the Senate. He is dedicated to balancing our nation's expenditures and income, as well as reducing taxes so you have money to enjoy the American Dream.

GORDON SMITH is committed to you, the young men and women of Oregon. His record speaks for itself. Please join us in voting for



GORDON SMITH

FOR UNITED STATES SENATE

Gordon Smith must be Oregon's new Senator in Washington, DC. His legacy of leadership proves it.

GORDON SMITH LED THE SUCCESSFUL EFFORT TO BALANCE OREGON'S BUDGET.

Gordon was the calm, balanced Senate President who brought opposing parties together to solve Oregon's budget crisis. . .with the most education-friendly budget in the State's history. Under Gordon Smith's leadership, the legislature set aside a record level of funding for Oregon's schools. . .without raising taxes!

SMITH LED THE BATTLE FOR LAWS TO PROTECT SENIORS AND FAMILIES.

Gordon backed a strong new family leave law that's helping 100,000 working parents to stay home with newborns and sick family members.

Gordon is a leader in the fight to save Medicare and to protect the Oregon Health Plan.

Gordon led the battle for tougher penalties for stalking women and children, more resources to combat domestic violence, adult penalties for juvenile thugs who commit adult crimes, and boot camps for felons.

Accomplishments as Oregon Senate President

- Balanced the budget without raising taxes.
- Set aside lottery profits for Oregon schools.
- Battled Oregon's growing pornography epidemic
- Returned \$320 million to Oregon taxpayers.

Gordon's Plan for Washington

- A balanced federal budget
- Tax relief for the middle class
- Welfare reform that helps people work
- Save Medicare and the Oregon Health Plan
- Term limits for US Senators and Representatives
- Line item veto for the President of the U.S.
- No gifts from lobbyists

We unitedly endorse Gordon Smith. Elect Smith to the U.S. Senate.

With best wishes to each of you for a bright future,
Benton Friends

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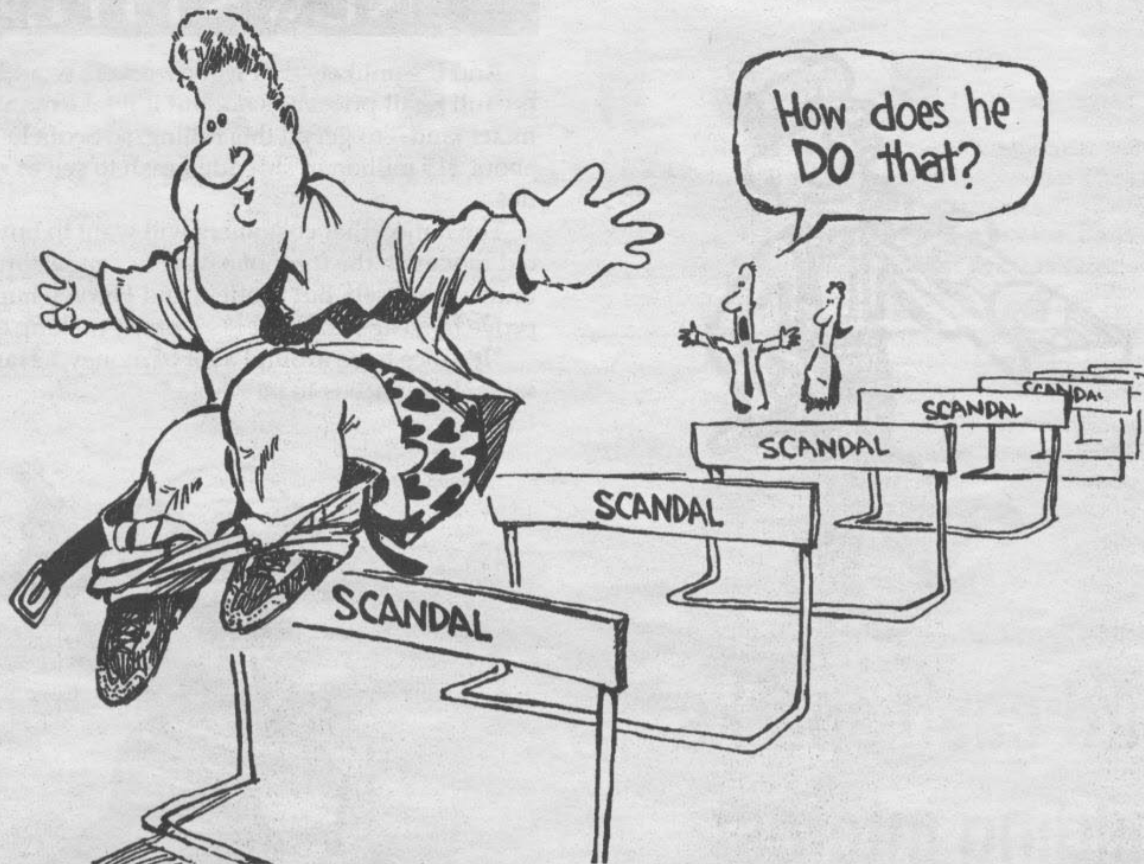
OPINION PAGE

Letters

Bootsma 'just another childish name-caller'

The Editor:
 I noted that Erik Bootsma is a clever wordsmith, his ability to construct a colorful phrase can't hide the fact he's just another childish name-caller (Commuter Nov. 15). No one is trying to rewrite history with regard to the bombing of Japan. But on the 50th anniversary, surely people of conscience can reflect on viable alternatives to such total destruction. For instance, why was it a given that the ONLY alternative to the bomb was an invasion? Their Navy and Air Force were decimated; bombing raids could have further crippled their munitions factories. A blockade of their island nation could have isolated and demoralized them further (a technique "military intelligence" wouldn't consider then, but deemed viable later). Why have I become a "peacenik" by merely contemplating such things?

Terry Moore, Corvallis



paul turner

Technology's new gadgets keep dad on his toes

"Isn't remote controls great?" my wife said as she pulled her arm from under the covers to switch off the infomercial.

Think that if you are under 30, phrases praising remote controls are similar to making a comment like "gravity great? I mean, think of how we didn't have gravity, all of that stuff would, like, float and stuff, there wouldn't be lakes and stuff and stuff cause water would, float in the air and stuff."



Most people take stuff like that for granted, kinda like gravity. I tell my kids "When I was your age I had to walk all the way to the store to change the channel. Yep, and that was the time it was snowing and it was uphill—hours. Sometimes we had to start walking hours before our show started to make sure we got to the TV on time. Let me tell you, things were a lot rougher in my

childhood. Usually by this time, one of the rug-rats has grabbed the remote control and turned the TV volume up so I can't hear me. I never even get a chance to go into the living room about having to watch a black-and-white TV. It still instills wonder when I think of all the gadgets I have every day and still take for granted. When we go to the mall, I head for the bookstore or Radio Shack. I take my family to cruise the clearance racks at Penney's. I scan Ann Rice's latest or ponder the wonderful recipes I could cook. When they are done trolling for bargains and are sitting somewhere sucking a Diet Coke, one of them just has to go to any pay phone, dial the number without even dropping a quarter, then the little box I wear on my hip starts buzzing. I look at the display on the pager, see it's my kid, go to any pay phone, and then find out where they are.

My wife and I are in front of the Taco Time. I got this cool T-shirt for only \$3 and then this CD was on sale. She knows she'll see me in a couple minutes, but like a fool, when you place a phone in their hand, they shut up. Luckily my voice-mail only records for a few days. The same voice-mail my daughter uses to call me from 100 feet away is the same voice mail my buddy

used to tell me he might have left his garage unlocked before he jumped the Vegas shuttle to gamble away his paycheck, and would I mind running by and just tugging on the door. It's the same effort leaving me a message, whether it's a couple of stores or a couple of states away from my pager. But, I've been carrying the damned thing for seven years so my kids think of it as often as I think of gravity.

I recently entered the wonderful world of E-mail. From my office at the paper and home I can receive words from all over the world—and it comes immediately. When I fire up my terminal in the morning, a friend in Portland has usually downloaded something from the Net (surfing the Internet is something I've yet to get my feet wet in). He sends me stuff that makes me chuckle—like Keiko for Senate (he has a bigger tongue than Packwood, or a recipe for making fake blood for movies).

In the rare event I use the E-mail for work, someone can send me a document for a story I might be working on. It can appear on my computer in minutes, rather than in my mailbox in days/My wife thinks it's just another gadget for me to become addicted to. What does she know?

Is it normal to still get a kick outta turning on and off the alarm on my truck? I mean, to me it's still a minor miracle that his little thing my key fob can transmit a signal to my Jeep, and my Jeep chirps!

It's almost like it says "hello!" when I come upon it, and it says "see ya" when I wander off to check my E-mail. This is too cool. My kids still think it's cool too, since they want to be the one to arm or disarm the thing when we take it to the mall to buy CDs or batteries for the remote.

Now, I have a bit of a technical background, so I know how the dumb thing works on an electrical level, but it is amazing that someone turned that technology into something that keeps a friendly eye on my Jeep while I'm soaking up a writing class.

When my two cats, Serijuel and Mujibur, stretch out on the hood to absorb some of that residual engine warmth, I can set the alarm off from my kitchen window! I usually assemble the whole family and open the curtains. You'd think by now as soon as those twin felines saw the curtains part and four smug faces in the

window, they'd know to get the hell off the hood. The siren howls and Serijuel looks like I just ran the 200-volt line from the dryer into her butt, and she leaps from the hood like a spit wad from a school lunch straw. Mujibur, on the other hand, looks at us with barely a twitch and gives the ol' is-it-time-to-eat-yet look. She wouldn't move from the warm hood even if the Mormon Tabernacle Choir was under her howling like emasculated rats. The neighbor's curtains part and they just shake their heads while glaring at us. You can almost hear "Uh, the Turners are torturing their cat again, Rose." So I shut off the alarm.

I guess the Mother of all gadgets is the computer. When I first started playing the bytes and RAM game, it was with a Commodore 64. It was neat-o. When I went to something bigger, it took up the better part of my office to contain the sprawling entity that had housed the then powerful 286 IBM.

The lap top I have now is about the size of a lunch box and not much heavier—yet it is Superman compared to the Lois Lane of my old desktop. My kids fight over who gets to use it, or the 66 MHz monster that replaced the Commodore in the office.

I start saying stuff like, "When I was your age, we didn't have computers. Matter of fact, to do big math problems we had to use an abacus. Most of the time we just scratched our assignments in the dirt of the school house floor."

It isn't too long before one of 'em starts looking for the remote to turn up the TV.

When the big storm of December '95 took out our power, I sat writing a column by candlelight on my laptop, my girls spun CDs on the battery-powered boombox, and my wife strung beads by the light of the woodstove. When I was a teenager, I could never have imagined such a combination of new and old technology. It makes me anxious to see how my kids will be passing the power outages of their middle-age.

I think this is why I need to play with my old Harley. No technology or computer will make it run correctly—just prayer to the Harley gods and lots of skinned knuckles. There's a peace in that for me. It's a peace one can't find in a computer which has a technology as fleeting as how long I stay on one TV channel since the invention of the remote control.

commuter staff

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NEWS LITE



Hard cash sparks building interest

DURHAM (AP)—Behind the simple storefront in Durham's Northgate Mall is a grand plan for turning old money into a cash cow.

Heath Scofield, president of The Buck Stops Here, is selling packaged wads of torn bills—priced by the ounce—to raise seed money for his plan to make fake wood out of real discarded currency.

Scofield and his partner, Scott Harvey, are counting on the public's desire for furniture that's literally made of money to make the enterprise a success.

An independent industrial designer from Raleigh, Scofield wanted to break new ground in the recycling world by working with materials that few other companies were interested in.

He homed in on money about two years ago. Since then, he has received permission from the U.S. Treasury to turn money into prefabricated building material.

According to Scofield, the Federal Reserve destroyed 7.4 billion notes in 1994. Placed end to end, the bills would circle the Earth at the equator more than 28 times.

"The Federal Reserve was looking for a way to offset the dollar cost of destruction, hauling and landfilling," he said.

Recycling the bills, which consist mostly of cotton lint, would save landfill space, and possibly, make a profit for the processor, Scofield reasoned.

After months of tests, Scofield and Harvey found a way to turn shredded bills into what they call MoneyWood by using adhesives and tons of pressure.

"MoneyWood is harder than maple," Scofield said. "As tiles, it's incredibly strong. You can color it to mimic wood. There's money to be made turning that into furniture and lamps."

Their samples do look like wood blocks and marble discs. To make more than 3-inch pieces, however, they need to raise \$250,000 to build the first processing plant. They eventually want to have a recycling plant near each of the 37 Federal Reserve banks that collect and destroy old currency.

While some MoneyWood mixes might look like the real thing, in some essential ways, it doesn't act like it: The fake wood takes screws well, but nails bend or skid off the side.

To encourage craftsmen to use the reconstituted money, Scofield and Harvey plan to open apprentice woodworking shops at each of the processing centers and offer no-interest loans to graduates who want to venture out on their own.

The retail prices they've calculated put the cost of their fake wood within the range of many exotic hardwoods imported from Africa, South and Central America.

For example, their marketing plan sets the initial retail price for medium grade MoneyWood at \$18.75 a board-foot, with the minimum price at \$12.75. Zebra wood, a tan wood with dark brown stripes that's imported from Africa, sells for \$16.50 a board-foot. At those prices, it's unlikely anyone would want a home made of money. But Scofield thinks the processed dollars will appeal to woodworkers and customers looking for furniture and tiles made of environmentally friendly materials.

And it's unlikely that woodworkers would pay the full retail price, he said. But it'll take money—the intact kind—to get all this rolling, so Scofield has about \$15 million in shredded cash to sell as novelties.

The notion that customers will want to buy back old money in the form of a desk or candelabra is unusual in itself, but Scofield and Harvey hope to prove by year's end that it's a profit-making one.

"It's nice to be around a lot of money," Harvey said. "But it needs to be whole."



Peg-legged perp pulls armed robbery

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Authorities got a break in chasing some robbers when one of them turned out to have an artificial leg.

Four robbers entered Theo's Kitchen at 2 p.m. on Friday, ordered a 21-piece chicken dinner, then pulled their guns and announced the holdup, Orlando police Sgt. Mike Holloway said.

They took wallets and purses from the half-dozen customers, including an 83-year-old woman who at first refused. The other victims tried to change her mind. Her son eventually put his hand over her mouth to keep her from talking and ordered her to give the robbers her purse, Holloway said.

The customers were herded into a walk-in freezer while the robbers raided the cash register.

The one-legged man drove the getaway car. Police stopped the sedan and the three other robbers fled. The robber with the artificial leg, however, couldn't make the getaway.

Some of the loot was recovered from the car, Holloway said.

The one-legged man was identified as Bruce M. Brown, 21, of Orlando. He was charged with armed robbery.

News Lite illustrations by Jacob Schmid

CHAOS by Brian Shuster



"Well, I'll be darned, there IS a duck on my head."



Historic Hamden House sells for a dollar

WESTPORT, Conn. (AP) - The phone has been ringing off the hook over a 32-room mansion that selling for \$1.

The only catch is you have to move it.

More than 1,000 calls came in over two days at Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation in Hamden, regarding the Westport waterfront Colonial Revival built in 1880 by William Phelps Eno, is credited with inventing the traffic light.

Two weeks ago, the house was featured in the Trust's Historic Properties Exchange magazine. Newspapers picked up on it and the historic home was even featured on NBC's "Today Show."

Timeworn and in disrepair, the mansion rests on a 5-acre estate owned by Lorna Christophersen, of Westport, and her sister, Elena Dreiske of Illinois.

They are trustees to the estate of their late father, Charles Blount Jr., who bought the Eno estate in 1900 as a place to dock his yacht.

Christophersen and Dreiske are dividing the property into five, 1-acre parcels.

In November, the town's Historic District Commission stayed demolition of the house until Feb. Christophersen decided to offer the house for \$1 to anyone who would move it.

Christophersen said the good news is that there are people who want to move the mansion.

"The important thing is that we feel very optimistic now that the house will be saved," she said.

Its a really good thing he's not a barber

NEW YORK (AP)—The honey locust hit man spent 500 hours of park work to pay for his crimes, but the penalty can be a lot heavier for the next person who wantonly whacks a city tree.

To begin with, Andrew Campanile put in 20 honorable years as a firefighter before he began knocking over trees. Otherwise, he would be in jail time, Acting Justice James P. Griffin said as he sentenced Campanile on Thursday in Queens Supreme Court.

Jail time, by law, could have been as much as 30 days. That changed Friday when Mayor Rudolph Giuliani signed a bill increasing the top penalty to a year. The new law also raised the maximum fine for cutting trees without a permit to \$15,000 from the previous \$1,000.

"The seven trees of Astoria did not die in vain," said Parks Commissioner Henry Stern.

He promised that Campanile's community work would be no soft touch.

"He's going to be out there planting and pruning trees, doing hard labor," Stern said.

Campanile, 55, who lives in Selden, was hired by Transportation Display Inc. to trim trees that obstructed views of the company's billboards in Astoria, Queens. But rather than thin branches, he opted for a permanent solution, Stern said, cutting down five honey locusts and two London planetrees on July 1 and 8 and producing fake permits which were challenged by police.