

A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

# THE COMMUTER

Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2002

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 33 No. 11



## REACHING OUT

Students join campout for homeless shelter

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### WEATHER THROUGH THE WEEKEND



High: 45° Low: 42°

Wednesday



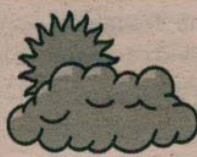
High: 49° Low: 38°

Thursday



High: 45° Low: 34°

Friday



High: 43° Low: 32°

Saturday



High: 43° Low: 30°

Sunday

Winter is not a season, it's an occupation.

-Sinclair Lewis (1885-1951)

Source: Weather.com

## PAGE TWO

## OFF BEAT

**Officer, I know it sounds like me, but...**

While three bandits were robbing a guy in Vancouver, British Columbia, one of them was jostled, activating his cell phone's redial button, automatically calling the last man he phoned. The call was recorded by an answering machine creating a tape of the men while in mid-robbery and while talking later about how to divide up the loot. The man who was called turned the tape over to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Arrests are imminent.

**That ought to teach him a lesson**

Shahlah Hussain, extremely angry with her husband, Fouad, because he took off on a long trip without telling her where he was going, allegedly sought revenge by telling the FBI that he is a terrorist. He is not. She also reportedly told the authorities that her husband often entertained other terrorists in their Texas apartment. Also false. She has been indicted for lying to the FBI.

**I'll quit when the drugs run out**

A man signed up to kick his drug habit at a California rehab center. He left behind his fanny-pack, which police later discovered was filled with methamphetamines. He was arrested.

**I thought we had something special**

Shortly after robbing someone in Newcastle Upon Tyne, England, a bandit came upon a woman at a bus stop and asked her for a date, providing her with his name and phone number. Two weeks later, he pulled another street robbery, but this one was caught on videotape. The woman saw it on TV and called the cops. The guy got nine years.

**These are great!**

A New Zealand school-teacher received a box of chocolates in the mail from an anonymous sender and blithely fed them to family members before they realized that the candies were laced with the hallucinogenic drug Ecstasy.

—From KRT News

—Cover Page Photo by James Bauerle

**Expand your schooling and spend more money**

An information fair will be held Monday, Feb. 4 for students interested in transferring to four-year institutions. The fair will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Takena Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

Information and representatives will be available from 14 public and private four-year colleges in Oregon.

Visiting universities include: Eastern Oregon University, Linfield College, Northwest Christian College, Oregon Institute of Technology, Oregon State University, Pacific University, Portland State University, Southern Oregon University, University of Oregon, University of Phoenix, University of Portland, Western Baptist College, Western Oregon University, and Willamette University. Representatives from the Oregon State Scholarship Commission and the OSU International Student and Scholar Advisor also will be available.

For more information, call 917-4816.

**Traveling in time and space to see European theaters**

On Wednesday Feb. 6 you'll be able to travel to 10 famous European theaters without leaving the LBCC campus.

From noon to 12:50 p.m., English Instructor Peter Jensen will be in IA232 to present a slide show and talk entitled, "Ten Theaters: From the Acropolis in Athens to the New Globe in London." Greek, Roman, Medieval, Renaissance, and Modern Theaters will be shown with comments about their cultural uses and settings.

This event, sponsored by LBCC's Valley Writers Series, is free and open to the public.

For more information on this lecture or the Valley Writers Series, contact Jensen at 917-4283.

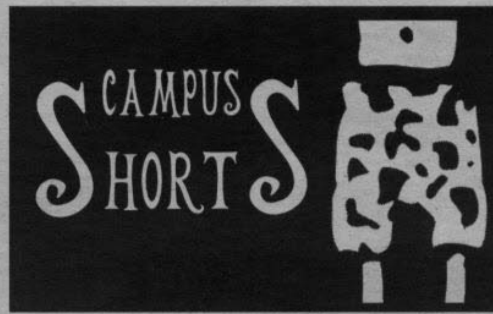
**Kenyan speaker gives a series of speeches**

Dr. Vincent Mula Wa Kituku will be giving a series of three speeches today, Jan. 23, in the Fireside Room, located on the second floor of the LBCC College Center.

The talks are part of this week's Martin Luther King Jr. celebration sponsored by the Student Life & Leadership Office. Kituku, a native of Kenya and now a resident of Idaho, is a well-known motivational speaker who travels around the world to deliver inspirational talks.

His first speech today will be from 10 to 11 a.m. on "Personal Responsibility," emphasizing personal responsibility in communicating and working together.

"Rediscovering Lost Values," focusing



on exploring your roots and finding out who you really are, will be Kituku's topic for his second talk from 12 to 2 p.m.

His third presentation, "The Art and Leadership of Communication in a Diverse World," will be a two-hour interactive program for students that focuses on leadership and how it works. It is scheduled from 3 to 5 p.m.

**Movie about racism and athletics shown Friday**

As part of Martin Luther King Jr. Week, the film "Remember the Titans" will be shown from 12-1:30 p.m. in the Student Lounge on Friday. The movie is about racism and athletics and how people work out their prejudices. The lounge is located on the second floor of the Student Union.

**New website to help students file tax refunds**

The Oregon Department of Revenue has made a new web site to help students filing for tax refunds for the first time. The web site helps answer common tax related questions, as well as interpreting the W2, Form 1099-INT, Form 405 and how to get refunds. Definitions and the answers to frequently asked questions can also be found. More than 200 students were involved in the development and testing of the site. The web address is: [www.steps2cash.org](http://www.steps2cash.org).

**Food fair promotes and celebrates cultural diversity**

The Multicultural Club, Student Programming Board and the Associated Student Government, will be providing an International Food Fair to the public on Thursday Jan. 24 in the Student Lounge between 12-1 pm.

Food from more than 15 different countries will be represented, and cost is \$1 per person.

This fair has been a tradition for LBCC, always falling during Martin Luther King Jr. week to promote and celebrate cultural diversity. In the past, students provided the food, but due to health regulations, food will be donated or discounted from local restaurants this year.

—compiled by The Commuter Staff

**Randomology**

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle; if the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle; if the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

Reno, Nevada is west of Los Angeles, California.

The name Wendy was made up for the book "Peter Pan."

The cigarette lighter was invented before the match.

The Main Library at Indiana University sinks over an inch every year because when it was built, engineers failed to take into account the weight of all the books that would occupy the building.

A Boeing 747's wingspan is longer than the Wright brothers' first flight.

Pound for pound, hamburgers cost more than new cars.

The Pentagon, in Arlington, Virginia, has twice as many bathrooms than necessary. When it was built in the 1940s, the state of Virginia still had segregation laws requiring separate toilet facilities for blacks and whites.

In every episode of Seinfeld there is a Superman somewhere.

In English pubs, ale is ordered by pints and quarts. So in old England, when customers got unruly, the bartender would yell at them to mind their own pints and quarts and settle down. It's where we get the phrase "mind your P's and Q's."

A psychology student in New York rented out her spare room to a carpenter in order to nag him constantly and study his reactions.

After weeks of needling, he snapped and beat her repeatedly with an axe leaving her mentally retarded.

source:

[www.adventuresinthought.com/facts.shtml](http://www.adventuresinthought.com/facts.shtml)

## 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.

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

**The Commuter Staff:**

**Editor-in-Chief**, Chad Richins; **Managing Editor**, Becky Pedersen; **Contributing Editor**, Greg Dewar; **Copy Editors**, Ellen Stark, Wendy Geist; **A&E Editor**, Mariana Schatte; **Editorial Assistant**, Thomas McGeary; **Photo Editor**, James Bauerle; **Assistant Photo Editor**, Jenn Geiger; **Photo Assistant**, Stefanie Hessenkemper; **Sports Editor**, Christina Laramore; **Assistant Sports Editor**, Jered Reid; **Advertising Manager**, Linda Demorest; **Assistant Advertising Manager**, Mikki Love; **Advertising Assistant**, Thomas McGeary; **Pagination Coordinator**, Nicole Halverson; **Writers**: Katee Cox, Sherry Majeski, Tracie Love, Jeannie Oxley, Lydia Eaton, Suzie Downing, Eric Berggren, Phillip Ruzek, Mark Mackey, Wendy Chasteen, Greg Cero, Jeff Hall, Donald Downing, Twila Skelley, Alexis Urhausen, Heather Bristol, Karalynn Arkills, Mandie Humphreys; **Advisor**, Rich Bergeman.

# CAMPUS NEWS

## Lebanon Center moves to One Stop facility in spring

by D.D. Malloy  
of The Commuter

The Lebanon Downtown Center is gearing up to move to brand new quarters north of town in the One Stop Center scheduled to open April 1.

After eight years of planning and expenditures of around \$5 million, LBCC East Linn students will have an opportunity to attend spring term classes in the new 20,000-square-foot facility. With eight new second floor classrooms, three computer labs and a student lounge, the new center is more than double the size of the current Lebanon Downtown Center.

The new campus is a partnership between LBCC, the State of Oregon and the Community Services Consortium. State agencies consolidating their services there are the Adult and Family Services and the Employment Department. The Community Services Consortium is a job and career development service. A special classroom will be used exclusively for expansion of the Work Force Opportunity Training Program.

LBCC's director of East Linn Programs, Don Stangel, is eager for the opening.

"The development of the site started in 1994 and I have been personally involved in the direct planning for three and one-half years," he said. "The social services partners are very excited that the new facility will be a big benefit to the region."

Stangel expects gradual expansion of class offerings as de-



Workers install the heating and air-conditioning system on the roof of the new One Stop Center, which will become the new home of LBCC's Lebanon Center this spring.

Photo by James Bauerle

mand and funding develop. One immediate expansion will be an increase in interactive TV classes featuring lectures generated at the Albany campus. The center's registration office will move, as well as the expanded Math Lab. Additional class offerings are planned for summer and fall terms.

Also planned is an annex

building next to the main building that will provide a generous space for college and community meetings and functions.

Among other changes students can expect to see are new location codes in the quarterly Schedule of Classes. Classes that meet at the new facility will be identified as "LC" with room numbers in the 200s, while the

Lebanon Downtown Center will be listed as "LDC." Stangel added that the hours the centers will open and close will remain the same, and that bus service will be provided on the current schedule with the route extended to the new center.

The six-acre campus site just south of the Lebanon Medical Services Complex on Highway

*"The social services partners are very excited that the new facility will be a big benefit to the region."*

—Don Stangel

20 has 163 parking spaces and complies fully with the Americans with Disability Act. LBCC occupies 20,000 square feet of the 44,000-square-foot building and will be located on the second floor.

"The exterior restoration of the historic Elkins' Flour Mill will begin in the very near future and will improve the appearance of the site," said Stangel. Interior restoration, perhaps as an interpretive center, may occur if historic preservation funding is made available. The mill was built in 1871.

The LDC will be remodeled to provide a classroom for English as a Second Language Program. What is now the LDC computer lab will become an activities center for classes such as yoga and aerobics. The senior citizen's classroom will remain in the same location.

"We want to maintain this space for the seniors because it has excellent accessibility," Stangel noted.

Asked what he would like to add to the building that it does not have, he replied, "It would be nice to have an espresso cart in the entry to the building."

## Budget cuts reduce hours of Student Health Services

by Suzie Downing  
of The Commuter

If you want to find out what ails you, you'll have to wait until Wednesday.

Student Health Services is operating only on Wednesdays this term after a pilot program of two days per week last term.

"Due to the need to cut back on expenditures, the funding just isn't there," said

Diane Watson, dean of Student Services. A state-wide revenue shortage has caused many departments to cut back.

The clinic, located in the former telephone registration room in Takena Hall, operated fall term both Tuesdays and Wednesdays. A total of 63 students used the service on Tuesdays last term, which was approximately half of the 121 students who used the service on

Wednesdays, but Watson said that was to be expected when starting a new program.

While students made use of all available services, reproductive health services were most often used, with a combined total of 51 visits.

This term the service is open each Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and includes immunizations, minor

illness treatment, sports and required physicals, STD exams and treatment, reproductive health care, pregnancy testing and HIV counseling and testing.

Because of support from the Associated Student Government of LBCC, Student Services Division and the Linn County Health Department, the services are low-cost or free, based on household income.

*"Due to the need to cut back on expenditures, the funding just isn't there."*

—Diane Watson



### Bomb Scare

A state transportation official seals off the streets outside Fred Meyer in Albany (top) last Wednesday while a bomb squad releases a robot (right) onto a suitcase left outside a nearby bank in an extortion attempt. The robot exploded the suitcase. No one was injured.



# CAMPUS NEWS

## LB study circles to examine diversity

Multicultural Center and the Community Alliance for Diversity team up to sponsor discussion groups on campus this term

by Jeannie Oxley  
of The Commuter

Beginning in February students will have an opportunity to join in discussions aimed at achieving "A More Perfect Union in an Age of Diversity."

That is the topic selected for a new study circles program set to begin at LBCC this term. Kelly Donegan, executive director of Community Alliance for Diversity (CAD), explained how study circles work, at a meeting with about 10 students and staff Thursday in the Multicultural Center.

Study circles are small, typically six to 12 people with one or two trained facilitators, whose job is to guide the discussion in the direction of the theme being explored.

The study circle being held at LBCC will examine such questions as how you decide who your own people are and where and when you feel connected to other people in the community.

Nancy Haldeman of LBCC's gender equity committee said she participated in a study circle on racism in the past. "It was just a fun experience of meeting new people and having wonderful lively discussions," Haldeman said.

Study circles are organized by the Community Alliance for Diversity, a non-profit organization founded in 1993, by several community organizations, including LBCC. CAD's mission is to promote mutual respect and appreciation of differences, and to increase awareness of obstacles that hinder an inclusive, prosperous community.

Several study circles take place concurrently on the same topic in the community. Following the six weeks of discussion, members of all the study circles meet to share ideas about how to bring about change through action within the community.



Photo by Jenn Geiger

**Kelly Donegan, executive director of the Community Alliance for Diversity, explains how study circles work at a presentation in the LBCC Multicultural Center last Thursday.**

*"We all share diversity, we are all a part of it, and we want everyone to feel a part of it."*

— Kelly Donegan

The study circle at LBCC will meet for six consecutive Tuesdays starting Feb. 5 and running through March 12. There is no charge, and meetings will be held from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Multicultural Center.

Students interested in becoming involved with the study circle can sign up in the Multicultural Center. For more information, contact center Director Susan Prock at 917-4461. "We all share diversity, we are all a part of it," Donegan said. "And we want everyone to feel a part of it."

## Students enrolled in gender-imbalanced programs invited to pizza social Jan. 29

by Jeff Hall  
of The Commuter

Students enrolled in professional-technical programs filled mostly by the opposite gender are invited to a social in the College Center Fireside Room Tuesday, Jan. 29 from 3 to 4 p.m. Pizza and refreshments will be served.

The event is sponsored by the Gender Equity Committee and is designed to employ a comfortable, small group discussion format to talk about student experiences in programs that are gender-imbalanced, like men in the nursing program or women in welding. Supporting students in such programs is a key goal of the committee, according to Nancy Haldeman, a member of the committee.

Creating a more equal distribution of men in traditionally female programs and women in male-dominated professions is an important requirement imposed by federal Perkins loan funding to LBCC: approximately \$300,000 each year.

Failure to meet progressive gender equity goals can result in the loss of funding, Haldeman said, and participation in the committee's events is one way of broadening general awareness and reaching those goals.

The social is the third of several events planned by the committee for this academic year. On Feb. 21, a Purdue workshop on classroom climate will be offered to faculty. Later in the spring, local high school students will tour LBCC to gain insights on potential careers in gender-imbalanced programs.

## Ambassadors seek soup kitchen volunteers

by Twila Skelley  
of The Commuter

Students interested in community service are invited to join the Student Ambassadors and help out at local soup kitchens this term.

The soup kitchen volunteer project is part of the Student Ambassadors' Into the Streets program, which for the past four years has focused on community help and improvement.

"This is a good opportunity for the stu-

dents to see the other half of society," said Carol Wenzel, who advises the Student Ambassadors. "Sometimes these people can seem invisible. This is a chance for students to widen their perspectives."

The ambassadors are looking for volunteers to help out with two local soup kitchens this term. The first soup kitchen will be held from 4:30 to 7 p.m. on Jan. 29 at the Signs of Victory soup kitchen in Albany. Signs of Victory is located at 705 Lyon St SE. The second soup kitchen will be held from

4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Lebanon Soup Kitchen, located at 170 E. Grant St. Volunteers will have to provide their own transportation.

Approximately six volunteers are needed for each soup kitchen. Duties may include serving, food preparation and clean up. The only requirements for volunteering are to be an LBCC student with a validated ID card, and a waiver must be signed. Sign-ups are located on the first floor of the Student Union in the Student Life and Leadership Office.

### COMMONS Menu

#### Wednesday

- Roast Chicken w/ pan gravy
- Pork Enchiladas w/ refried beans
- Pasta Bar with salad
- Navy Bean Soup
- Beef Noodle Soup

#### Thursday

- French Dip Sandwich w/ fries
- Almond Chicken w/ steamed rice
- Vegetable Calzone
- Creamy Roasted Chicken Soup
- Minestrone Soup

#### Friday

- Chef's Choice

#### Monday

- Grilled Pork Chop w/ sauce
- Chicken Gumbo Quesadilla w/ corn salsa and pinto beans
- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Split Pea Soup

#### Tuesday

- Reuben Sandwich w/ cole slaw
- Greek Style Lamb Stew
- Vegetarian Thai Curry
- Shrimp Bisque Soup
- French Onion Soup

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# IN FOCUS

## Students camp out to raise funds for Albany homeless

by Chad Richins  
of The Commuter

Monday night through Tuesday morning, student ambassadors and advisors from LBCC joined local community leaders and the local homeless at a City Hall campout. The purpose was to raise funds for Albany's Helping Hands Shelter. The event was coordinated during Martin Luther King week and is in its fourth year. It brought people together to discuss economic issues, huddle around the fire barrel and feel, if only for a night, what it is like to be homeless.

Former Albany Mayor Gene Belhumeur spoke about how he found the idea for a campout on the Internet and discovered that his son was involved with a campout at the U of O. Belhumeur got some friends together and the event was born. The first year they had no blankets, food or money, but were soon taken care of with donations from the community.

This year campers brought sleeping bags and a few tents. They were warmed by donations of coffee from Boccherini's in Albany and were fed breakfast by donations from Elmer's Pancake and Steak House.

Also in attendance at the campout were Dr. Vincent Kituku, a motivational speaker who is speaking this week at LBCC, Carole Johnson of the local Kiwanis chapter, John Donovan, director of Helping Hands, and Garyanna Linhart, wife of the late Jim Linhart, who was involved in past campouts to fight homelessness.

Dr. Kituku spoke about growing up poor in Kenya, Africa. He came to the United States and helped with the Boise Rescue Mission.



Student Ambassador Jason Savedra tries to get some sleep during Monday night's campout to aid the homeless at Albany City Hall (far left). Above, two participants huddle around the fire (top), while Dr. Vincent Kituku addresses the crowd.

Photos by James Bauerle

"People don't become homeless because they want to," Kituku said. He spoke plainly about the problem and then, in an African manner, he told a parable about a bird going to the river with a bucket to put out a barn fire, and an elephant telling the bird it was hopeless. The bird, Kituku said, told the elephant, "At least I am doing what I can." In much the same

way, Kituku believes we can all do what we can to fight poverty and homelessness.

One shelter resident, Johnearl Blake, said he helps organize a barbecue at the Albany skate park every fifth of the month (weather permitting) for anyone who needs a meal.

Helping Hands Director John Donovan said it has been a fairly good year for funding for the

Albany shelter, with a few key grants and support from local businesses. One business, which prefers to remain anonymous, has donated about \$40,000. The shelter is also supported by 25 local churches. Plans are in the works for construction of a new shelter which would double the current capacity of 47 beds.

Helping Hands works with other community organizations to get help for displaced families and single persons who need a place to sleep and food to eat, as well as counseling, job assistance or health care.

Executive Director of the shelter, Pastor Lester Bailey, started the shelter with his congregation at Oak Hill Church in 1985

with an original budget of about \$1000 a month. Pastor "B", as he is affectionately known by people at the shelter, said his idea of a homeless shelter is an empty building with everybody placed in good homes and good jobs.

"We take everybody as they are and accept them and give them love," Bailey said, "and then try to get them on their feet and out of there."

He says that along with monetary donations the shelter can always use people who appreciate the plight of the homeless and are willing to volunteer time to help out.

Albany Helping Hands Shelter can be reached at 926-4036.

## Kituku urges mutual respect as way to fight discrimination

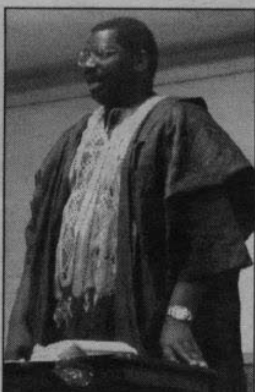
by Chad Richins  
of The Commuter

Dr. Vincent Kituku spoke to a packed house in the Fireside Room on campus yesterday on the subject of human rights.

The speech is part of a series timed to coincide with Martin Luther King, Jr. week here at LBCC.

Dr. Kituku, an amiable and empathic speaker, said he witnessed the negative effects of British colonialism in Africa first-hand, watching his grandfather run from British tax collectors rather than be arrested for evading a Hut Tax, which every man in his country had to pay when they were old enough to shave.

Growing up in the very village where the big-budget Hollywood film "The



Dr. Vincent Kituku

"Ghost in the Darkness" was shot, Dr. Kituku saw discrimination based on color, tribal affiliation and even whether or not someone was circumcised or not.

Dr. Kituku's speech gave insights into African culture by comparing it to other cultures in India and the United States. Coming to America in 1986, Dr. Kituku felt discriminated against for the first time, enduring racial incidents and epithets while living in Wyoming and Idaho.

Dr. Kituku said, "You have to look at human rights from a global perspective." He now teaches African studies in Idaho, having given up a career in rangeland management to share his viewpoints with others and to teach African studies.

In his speech yesterday he pointed to the loss of human rights in cases like the genocide in Rwanda where over a million people were killed in three months.

Advising the audience to practice human rights, he told the assembled crowd to lead by example, and that they have to treat each other with respect before they can show respect to any people from a foreign country.

## Numbers of local homeless increasing

by Wendy Chasteen  
of The Commuter

The homeless issue is severe in our area, and it is rising. In Eugene an amazing 1,400 people are on the streets and are causing an annoyance because they have nowhere to go.

"All the land in Oregon is zoned, and these people have nothing to lose," said Richie Weinman from the City of Eugene Housing and Development.

Weinman was one of several area community activists who led a discussion on the homeless last week on campus. He urged people to be alert and vote the right people in to solve this chronic problem, or just raise our taxes.

"You get what you pay for," said Weinman, who admitted his frustration and made it obvious that we are all effected by the behaviors that spill out onto the streets.

"Homelessness is the most dangerous thing in America," he also stated. These kids have low self-esteem, and are more vulnerable than others. They cannot even get school-

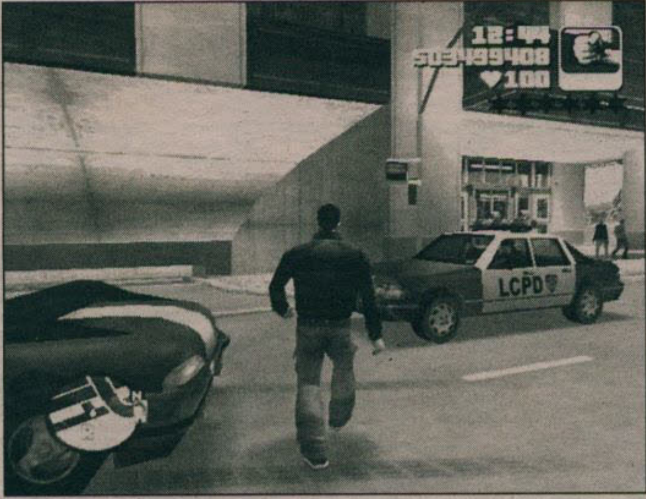
work done.

The children affected are mostly runaways. Abusive homes, rebellious teens—whatever the case, the Jackson Street Shelter in Corvallis can only temporarily house the youths, according to David Clark, the facilitator of the shelter.

"There are about 170 runaways on the streets of Corvallis alone," he said. Kids are falling through the cracks.

"There are about 300 homeless in Albany," said Pastor Les Bailey, who appealed to the people of the Mid-Willamette Valley for financial support. Bailey has dealt with the homeless for 18 years, and says the best thing to do is to keep them in their homes. It is much easier than starting over, or a shelter situation. Bailey's goal is to get homeless plugged back into society and asks community help to try and decrease the raising homeless rate. The few donations from area churches are not enough to meet the need, so Community Services Consortium in Corvallis has granted Bailey funds as well.

# Online



## GRAND THEFT AUTO III

### Mobsters, cars, guns and hookers; what more could you ask for?

by Greg Dewar  
of The Commuter

Last year heralded many new triumphs for the gaming world. The second-generation PS2 games blasted onto the market. The Nintendo GameCube and the Xbox were launched in November. All in all it was a good year for gaming, and it can only get better despite the lowered economy.

Conducting the research necessary to select a Game of the Year is hard work, requiring much coffee and an incredible lack of sleep, because one must play every game all the way through. Now you're probably thinking, how could playing a game get tedious? Well after the weeks of being awake into the wee hours of the morning, playing game after game, the lack of sleep and social activity can annoy even the most die-hard gamer.

In the end, I rated a PS2 offering the Game of the Year Award—an amazingly addictive game for 17-and-older players that is based entirely on the premise of jacking cars—Grand Theft Auto III.

You play a thief who was shot by his girlfriend after doing a bank job and was arrested. On your way to the lockup, your police transport is knocked over as the bridge you are crossing blows up and you are free. Free to jack any car you can find. Free to make millions off of others. Free to get revenge on the girl who scarred your face.

Grand Theft Auto III (GTA3) takes place from a third-person perspective. You run loose in Liberty City, occasionally getting a job that advances the plot. But you are by no means bound to do them and there are many people

who offer you different jobs. There is a lot of tripe about loyalty, in which taking a job from another group will make the opposing group lose respect for you and rescind their job offers.

Now for the theft part. You get a range of weapons from a .9mm-caliber pistol to a flame-thrower. You can jack any car you can see; however, there isn't that much variety. There are station wagons, vans, mini-vans, semi-trucks, light-pickups—and each group has a certain type of car. The Mafia have souped up Asian Imports. El Diablos have beefed up muscle cars.

There are also 10 radio stations, so you can have, for example, Trance or pop music playing while you evade the police.

There is some element of replayability to this game. The killing sprees are fun but get old. In GTA2 it was all about the sprees—you'd get \$25 just for taking out some guy and \$100 for rear-ending a car. In this one you get money for killing pedestrians, but you have to stop and go back to grab their money.

The controls are good and everything is where it should be. It's easy to learn and master. Jumping can be a pain at first, but you'll get the hang of it. Stealing, switching from driving to running or vice versa or pulling out your gun while you are running is seamless.

The only issue is that when you are running from the police you can't look behind you without stopping. So you'll never know how many are chasing you or if you have enough time to dart into the shadows without being seen.

The police: In this game you get "wanted" levels. There are six. The

more you have the more police tail you. Once you get to Level 3 you're pretty much dead. The game generates a new police car every 10 seconds. The police run after you shooting, saying "you are risking your life." If you stop, they'll just plug you one. At Level 3 you get a lot of police-cars and a police chopper that track you like blood-hounds. At Level 4 you get a SWAT team, at 5 you get the feds, and at Six you get the National Guard on your tail.

There is also a neat little thing that keeps track of how many people you've killed, how many cars you've jacked, how much the police spend on keeping you at bay and other cool facts.

Liberty City: where all your crime takes place. You slowly unlock new portions of the city after you complete certain events. Imagine a city with the crime rate of New York City, the gangs of LA and more Mafiosos than you could count in binary code. Liberty City is supposed to be the worst city in the world crimewise. In fact the police are less trustworthy than the Mafia. There are numerous different buildings and places. There is even a Chinatown, and in each area there are different cars and people. You slowly unlock new portions of the city after you complete certain events.

This game plays like an RPG—there are hidden things and it's free-range. However, you don't level up—you gain respect and more cash, and that is all you need in Liberty City.

The graphics are good to say the least—people are rendered well as are cars, but compared to Gran Turismo 3 or Devil May Cry it looks substantially less amazing. Still, what can you

expect from a game so huge? So, although the graphics are about average, you must remember that all the GTAs have had poor graphics and that going fully 3-D is a major step.

The sound is good as well. Each person says a different thing when you are beating them to death with a baseball bat or when you are jacking their cars. The voice acting is just great. The voices are colorful and diverse from Italian dialects to Mexican. There is so much voice acting too.

The lack of morality: This is the best part. Gratuitous violence, swearing and sexual innuendoes up the wazoo. This game is not for the weak of heart. If you decide that getting in a station wagon and running over a whole sidewalk full of people or getting a flame-thrower and lighting up old ladies or gang members is your cup of tea, then this game is for you. However, if swearing offends you, then go play Jak and Daxter. If you are low on health, you can stop in front of a prostitute and she will get in your car and for an amount of money she will "heal you."

In recap, it's a great game, hella fun, morally-depraved, and it couldn't have come out soon enough. It's a worthy successor to previous GTAs and does criminals everywhere justice.

I'll leave you with one tip: At the used car dealership, there is a rare Shelby Cobra ripoff—jack that car and you're set.

#### Ratings:

Gameplay: 10/10

Graphics: 6/10

Sound: 9/10

Replayability: 8/10

Overall: 9/10 (not an average)

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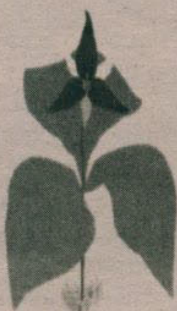
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Gallery exhibits two local artists

by Mark Mackey  
of The Commuter

The LBCC Art Gallery is exhibiting a selection of photographs by Tony Hayden of Lebanon and D. B. Hanson of Corvallis. A reception for the artists is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 24, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the gallery, located in the AHSS Building.

Tony Hayden, a native of

Lebanon and former Democrat-Herald photographer from the 60s, now operates the Aloha Gallery on Main Street in Lebanon. He is displaying many human-interest photos from places such as San Francisco, Mexico and India. His photo of a homeless man in San Francisco taken in 1969 is indicative of his ability to capture personality in his pictures.

Hanson, a retired chemist from OSU, is presenting photographs from Paris, France, including nudes, portraits and scenes of the Eiffel Tower.

The show closes Feb. 1, when another exhibit on Women in Art takes over the gallery. There will be an artists' talk on Feb. 7 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. for that show, and a reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 21.



Photo by Stefanie Hessenkemper

Students crowd into the AHSS Art Gallery to hear photographers Tony Hayden and D.B. Hanson discuss their work.

## Country songwriter keeps on tickin' after a life of ups and downs

by Dave Ferman  
of Knight Ridder News

WACO, Texas - Billy Joe Shaver is quite possibly the world's most accessible legend.

There are no layers of management and publicists, no fax requests for a few minutes of his time. I get his number from old pal Kinky Friedman and ring him up, asking for a lunch interview.

"You sure you wanna do that?" he asks, seemingly astonished someone would want to drive all the way down to Waco (all of 90 miles from Fort Worth) to talk to him.

So the next day Shaver is spinning stories at a Cracker Barrel just off Interstate 35. For a man who nearly died of a heart attack just about three months ago and has endured a lifetime of health problems, he looks robust: His eyes are bright, his walk and smile quick, and his appetite large. He polishes off eggs, sausage, biscuits, gravy and black coffee at a wicked pace.

Shaver has written songs, such as "Old Five and Dimers Like Me," "You Asked Me To," "Sweet Mama," "Ride Me Down Easy" and "I Been to Georgia on a Fast Train," that have been covered by Bob Dylan, Elvis Presley, Waylon Jennings, the Allman Brothers, John Anderson, Bobby Bare and Patty Loveless.

And while he raises nary an eyebrow at the Cracker Barrel, he's widely considered the greatest songwriter to emerge from the "outlaw-country" posse that saved Nashville from itself in the '70s, and is seen as a grandfatherly hero to the young guns of Texas country, guys like Pat Green.

In fact, he was writing songs off the top of his head, in public, way back when he was a 5-year-old living in Corsicana with his grandmother, Bertie Lee Watson.



Photo by KRT News

Billy Shaver hasn't let setbacks slow him down.

Grandma would take little Billy Joe to the local store and put him up on a cracker barrel, where he would sing the latest Roy Acuff hit for a nickel. The merging of country music and the blues he heard across the tracks—the simplicity of form, the truth of the stories—stuck with him, and pretty soon he was making up verses to the songs he was being paid to sing.

Shaver cut several acclaimed solo LPs, including the five-star "Old Five and Dimers Like Me," and saw his bank balance grow thanks to his songs being covered by Tom T. Hall, his pal Kris Kristofferson, Elvis, Bare and others. He wrote every song but one on Waylon Jennings' "Honky Tonk Heroes," one of the defining records of the outlaw movement of gritty hippie-country performers such as Willie and Waylon.

Shaver had been a serious drinker for years—after all, he grew up in honky-tonks—but his bad behavior spiraled out of control and by 1978 he was a mess, his

life in shambles. One night he staggered to his bedroom and found Jesus sitting on his bed.

"His eyes were like red coals and he had his chin in his hands," says Shaver, demonstrating, slowly shaking his head back and forth. "I heard in my heart, 'How long are you going to do this?'"

Shaver got in his truck and drove outside Nashville, to a cliff overlooking a river.

"I took my boots off—I found myself on my knees asking God to help me," he says. "I asked God to save me and he did—I belong to God. By the time I got back to my truck I had written about half of 'Old Chunk of Coal.'"

"I'm Just an Old Chunk of Coal (But I'm Gonna Be a Diamond Some Day)" is one of Shaver's best moments. Shaver cleaned up his act, moved to Houston, recorded for several labels—perhaps the best result is 1993's "Tramp on Your Street."

After losing his wife, Brenda Joyce, to cancer in July 1999 and his son, guitarist and musical foil Eddy, to a heroin overdose on New Year's Eve 2000, Shaver now spends most of his time alone with his two pit bulls, trying to write happy songs to combat his sadness.

Shaver soldiered on, but a few months ago he was playing Gruene Hall near Austin and had a heart attack onstage.

"It hit like a ton of bricks," he says. "I had a bottle of nitro (nitroglycerine) in my pocket and every time I'd have a jolt I'd put 'em under my tongue. I get mad when something pushes against me. I was gonna, by God, finish that show or die trying."

Shaver finished the show and checked himself into a Waco hospital. He says he feels fine these days—"I'm runnin' on half a heart," he says with a grin.

## Students invited to show their art work in the Courtyard Cafe

by Karalynn Arkills  
of The Commuter

Art work done by LBCC students is filling what once was an empty wall on the west side of the Courtyard Cafe.

Last October students James Bauerle and Jenny Bunch took it upon themselves to seek out art students who wanted to display their work.

Bauerle said his motivation was that he wanted to see more student art pieces on display around campus, while Bunch said she thought the wall on the west end of the cafe "needed something."

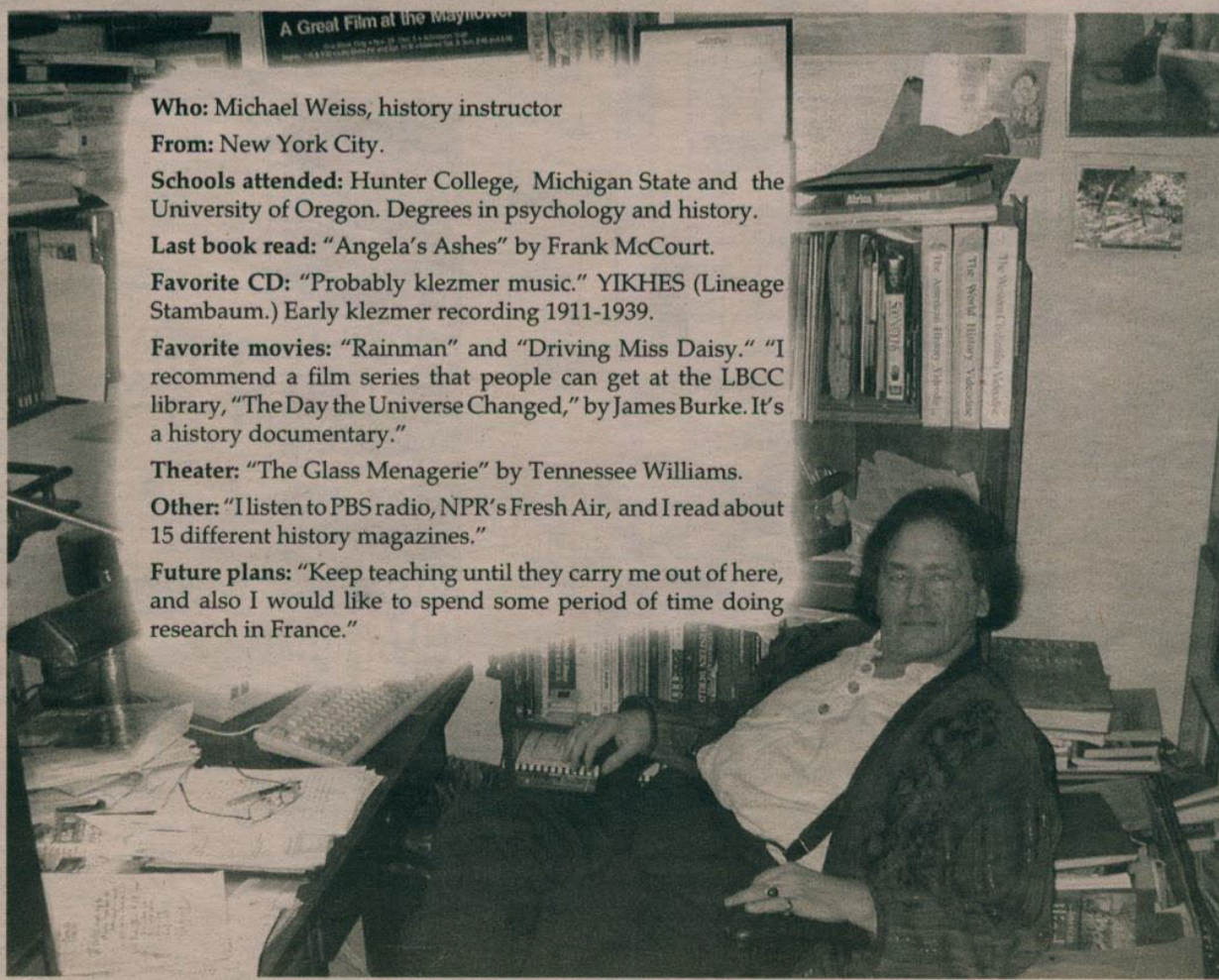
Despite their enthusiasm, they are struggling to find artists who want their work on display. Ideally, Bunch and Bauerle wanted to change the wall every two weeks, but with the lack of art they have had to leave exhibits up longer.

Bauerle encourages art students who are interested in displaying their work to contact him or Bunch through email at [artinthecafe@hotmail.com](mailto:artinthecafe@hotmail.com).

There are no restrictions as to what can be shown, as long as it is appropriate, said Bauerle, who added that all types of two-dimensional media are welcome, from photography to painting and everything in between.

Currently on the wall is a large collaborative piece by students of Analee Fuentes' Drawing I class.

## A & E PROFILE



**Who:** Michael Weiss, history instructor

**From:** New York City.

**Schools attended:** Hunter College, Michigan State and the University of Oregon. Degrees in psychology and history.

**Last book read:** "Angela's Ashes" by Frank McCourt.

**Favorite CD:** "Probably klezmer music." YIKHES (Lineage Stambaum.) Early klezmer recording 1911-1939.

**Favorite movies:** "Rainman" and "Driving Miss Daisy." "I recommend a film series that people can get at the LBCC library, "The Day the Universe Changed," by James Burke. It's a history documentary."

**Theater:** "The Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams.

**Other:** "I listen to PBS radio, NPR's Fresh Air, and I read about 15 different history magazines."

**Future plans:** "Keep teaching until they carry me out of here, and also I would like to spend some period of time doing research in France."

# FUNNY PAGE

## THE GONGFARMER BY RANDY REGIER



## DITHERED TWITS by Stan Waling



"You may notice some post-operative behavioral changes. More often than not, dead people become quiet and withdrawn."

### CLASSIFIEDS

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**Quick Service Technician** (Corvallis) #1199. This full time position is for a person with an automotive degree, or 1-2 yrs. experience. You must have your own tools, clean driving record and pass a drug screening. See Carla in the Career Center (Takena 101).

**Executive Asst./Office Manager** (Campus) #1208. Are you proficient in MS Office programs, can you type 50 wpm and have excellent skills to handle a wide variety of office duties? Here is the full-time job for you! See Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (T101) to get your referral!

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#### SCHOLARSHIPS

The Families of Freedom Scholarships Foundation offers scholarships to anyone who may be a dependent to one of the victims of the attacks on Sept. 11. Additional info and appointments are available at the Learning Center (LRC 212). Additional info may be required on the application.

Attention Nursing Students: The American Lung Assoc. of Oregon offers the Sadie Orr Dunbar scholarship to any person who completes the requirements. Additional info is available at LRC 212. Applications and info is due by June 1, 2002.

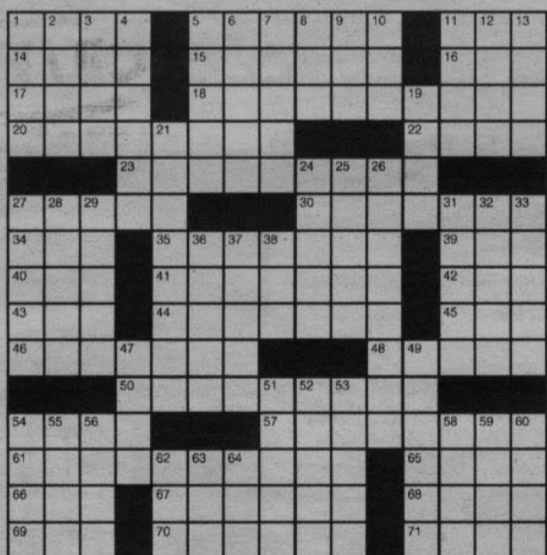
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### Crossword

- ACROSS
- Makes a choice
  - Designers' IDs
  - Candidate to like?
  - Fireplace residue
  - Mistakes list
  - Aviv-Jaffa
  - Burt's ex
  - Good-for-nothing
  - Chilean leader (1817-23)
  - Little rascals
  - Soldier
  - Ball's partner
  - Harvesters
  - constrictor
  - Hogged the mirror
  - Status
  - In the past
  - Resembling the atmosphere
  - Coffee server
  - Totality
  - Admit to
  - McKellen or Holm
  - High points
  - Plentifully
  - Living in the past
  - Head-over-heels
  - Race-car safety devices
  - Engage in a certain contest of strength
  - Touched down
  - Undivided
  - Slow movers
  - Smidgen
  - Actor Chaney
  - Right to enter
  - Come closer



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01/28/02

#### Solutions

1	W	A	N	S	S	E	O	V	N	O	T
2	L	O	I	S	T	I	V	N	S	E	N
3	I	L	V	E	T	S	E	R	M	W	R
4	S	H	A	B	L	O	R	V	G	A	D
5				O	I	D	T	V	L	S	O
6	A	T	W	V	S	L	H	G	I	E	H
7	N	V	I	S	S	E	F	N	O	C	S
8	N	H	N	E	K	I	T	H	V	O	G
9	O	N	O	D	E	N	E	B	A	V	O
10	S	H	E	D	V	E	R	Z	V	N	H
11				S	M	B	V	I	V	N	V
12	S	D	W	I	S	N	I	G	G	I	H
13	T	L	E	M	O	D	G	E	E	N	I
14	T	E	L	V	L	V	H	R	E	L	O
15	K	E	I	S	T	A	B	E	L	S	T

52 Stretches out lazily  
53 Actress Sharon  
54 Portsmouth prison  
55 Pisa's river  
56 Feds  
58 vera  
59 Poet Dove  
60 Luminary  
62 Capetown loc.  
63 Addnl. material in letters  
64 Plant pouch

- DOWN
- Capital on the Aker River
  - Tigger and Eeyore's friend
  - Braxton or Tennille
  - Mark of Cain
  - Bolshevik leader
  - Fight venue
  - Brittany port
  - Corn serving
  - British Inc.
  - Tome and Principe
  - News piece
  - Common seaweed
  - Building wings
  - Fleeting trace
  - Chilled soup
  - Putter Palmer
  - Stinks
  - Put to sea
  - Disconcert
  - Scoundrel
  - One Judd
  - Furnish
  - Bucolic
  - Rollins of jazz
  - Rampages
  - Surrealist painter Max
  - Santa's helper
  - Do beaver's work
  - Hunter's pen name
  - Swing jazz clarinetist Shaw

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# CAMPUS NEWS

## Santiam offers inexpensive food, comfortable atmosphere

by Alexis Urhausen  
of The Commuter

If you feel like treating yourself to a gourmet meal that won't leave you unsatisfied and penniless, LB's culinary arts students have a place for you.

Nestled in the back of the College Center on the second floor behind the cafeteria, the Santiam Restaurant has been leaving customers content and full for many years.

The restaurant has a comfortable atmosphere that features an elegant yet simply decorated room with windows along two walls that offers expansive views to the west and south. The service leaves you feeling pampered and relaxed.

The Santiam Restaurant is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. To encourage students to come and try the food, they are giving a 10 percent discount if they make reservations and eat between 11-11:30 a.m.

The menu changes every term and always has a variety of entrees to choose from. You could start your meal off with the Italian Crostini Plate with tomato, pesto, aioli and roasted garlic as

an appetizer for \$2.25. For the main dish you could have Grilled Beef Sirloin or Grilled Sake Marinated Salmon. There is also always an entree for vegetarians. All entrees are served with your choice of soup or salad, and range between \$6.75 and \$7.50. There's also a wide variety of desserts to choose from; they change daily. You could have chocolate mousse, apple pie, creme brulee or chocolate hazelnut torte. The desserts cost between \$1.35-\$2.60.

The Santiam Restaurant also serves as a learning laboratory for culinary arts students. Chef Instructor John Jarschke explained that every aspect of a restaurant is important to know, from seating people to making their food. Most of the students are in a two-year associates degree program for cooks or restaurant management.

### FACT BOX

**What:** Santiam Restaurant  
**Where:** Second Floor, College Center  
**When:** Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
**Details:** Entrees \$6.75-\$7.50; Desserts \$1.35 - \$2.60

"Everyday is a lot of fun. I really enjoy working with the students," commented Jarschke. The students spend eight days at each station, which range from appetizers to working in the bakery.

If you would like to make reservations you can call 917-4392.



Photo by James Bauerle

The Santiam Restaurant serves as a lab for culinary arts students and is open Monday-Thursday for lunch.

## LC Saturday hours cut; budgets blamed

by Lydia Eaton  
of The Commuter

The Learning Center's Saturday's hours have been changed this term from 9 a.m. — 3 p.m. to 11 a.m. — 3 p.m.

Sharon Rodecap, co-coordinator of the Learning Center said, "There really wasn't as much of a demand for the Learning Center earlier in the day because most students are using the center later in the afternoon." Rodecap also said that budget cuts are affecting the entire school and it would be more cost effective and beneficial to students to reduce the Learning Center's Saturday morning hours.

The Learning Center offers a number of services to students: math assistance, a computer lab, a reading improvement area, testing for several different classes, a tutoring service, which is



Photo by Jenn Geiger

Louise Karlsson studies math in the LRC.

free to Linn-Benton students, a writing desk, and a science desk. The writing desk is not available to students on Saturday.

## Dual enrollment day set for next week

by Mandie Humphreys  
of The Commuter

LBCC and OSU will hold a Dual Admission & Enrollment Day Wednesday, Jan. 30, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at the LB Commons Cafeteria.

Personnel from both colleges will be on hand to help the students get as much as information as possible on such topics as financial aid, admissions and academic advising.

Gary Ruppert, director of

Arts and Communication at LBCC, said that in the last two years that the event has taken place it has been very successful. Also, there will be free pizza to all that come.

If you cannot attend the meeting, information is available on the LBCC Home Page at <http://www.lbcc.cc.or.us>, or you can contact the admissions offices to apply at (541) 917-4811 for LBCC or (541) 737-4411 for OSU.

You may also contact Ruppert

at 541-917-4811 or at [rupperg@gw.lbcc.cc.or.us](mailto:rupperg@gw.lbcc.cc.or.us)

### FACT BOX

**What:** LBCC/OSU Dual Admissions & Enrollment Day.  
**When:** 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30  
**Where:** LBCC Commons  
**Why:** To get information about the dual enrollment program

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# SPORTS PAGE

## ARENA SPORTS

Year round sports fans can gear up for soccer and roller hockey at Corvallis Sports Center

by Jered Reid  
of The Commuter

During the winter months, when the ball fields fill up with water and mud, local soccer players don't have to hang up their shoes.

Soccer players can enjoy playing indoors in either league games or pick-up games at the Corvallis Sports Park, located in South Corvallis.

The Corvallis Sports Park offers both soccer and roller hockey for reasonable rates in its indoor arena. The sports park also has a store where customers can pick up clothing and accessories, and a pub on the second floor.

Year-round leagues are available for both soccer and roller hockey. You can sign up as a team or as a person—the cost is \$60 for eight weeks of play. The sports park does not provide gear for the game, so players must bring their own. For soccer players an open court is available on Friday and Saturday nights at 11:30 for \$5 and players can play in numerous 10-minute games.

"It's definitely the best place to play in town," says Neal Kerner, a soccer player who plays regularly on Friday and Saturday nights.

Soccer league games are played on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturdays. There are different divisions for all players—a men's division, men's over 35 division, women's division and a coed division.

The games for the roller

hockey league are played on Mondays and Tuesdays.

"We have the best hockey competition around," said Dave Ellis, the manager of the sports park.

While players enjoy playing the game, they can also enjoy the sports pub during intermissions.

"The bar specials are great," said Aaron Ehlers, who was there playing soccer on Saturday night. The Upper Deck Sports Pub has four televisions for customers to watch sporting events, as well as a big screen. The Pub also has a pool table where customers can play for free.

This time of year the Sports Pub has many special events, because of all the sporting events. The weekend of Feb 2nd & 3rd will be especially fun for sports fans at the sports park. On Feb. 2nd, Groundhog Day, the NHL All-Star Game will take place at noon. Hockey fans can enjoy their first draft beer for only \$1.50 by picking up a coupon at the front desk, and if you wear your favorite team's jersey, you can have your first draft beer for only 75 cents. The next day, Feb. 3, is Super Bowl Sunday. The pub will offer food and beverage specials, a final score pool, as well as a half-time score contest.

People that are interested can reserve their place with a \$3 ticket, which is good for \$4 credit at the pub, or you can just show up.

The Corvallis Sports Park is located on 175 SW Twin Oaks Circle in South Corvallis, and

can be reached at (541)757-0776. The sports park is also online at [www.onegoal.com](http://www.onegoal.com), and you can also e-mail them at [onegoal@peak.org](mailto:onegoal@peak.org).

*"It's definitely the best place to play in town."*

—Neal Kerner



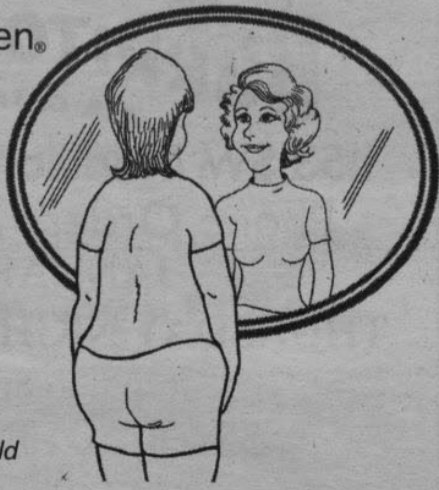
Photos by James Bauerle

The Corvallis Sports Center has proven popular with local athletes who don't want to give up their activities when the winter rains set in. The center features a Sports Bar (top) as well as an arena for roller hockey, soccer and other sports (above).

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January 30th  
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Where:

Activity Center

How:

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at front desk of  
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Rules:

Need 4 people  
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Friday, January 25th

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## SPORTS PAGE

Runners beat Saints  
but run into Stormby Jered Reid  
of The Commuter

Kraig Schuler scored 21 points and grabbed seven rebounds to lead the Linn-Benton Roadrunners over Southern Division foe Mt. Hood, 82-77, last Wednesday, but three days later LB fell back to .500 in league when they got stomped by the Storm in Salem on Saturday.

Coach Randy Falk's team shot an incredible 75 percent from the field in the second half of the Mt. Hood game to erase a two-point deficit at the half.

The score was close throughout the game, which saw a total of eight lead changes. Midway through the second half the Runners climbed to a 52-42 lead before the Saints went on a 15-2 run to go up 57-54. But the Runners regrouped and were too strong for their opponents down the stretch.

Coach Falk got some big plays from his players late in the second half to secure the victory. Nate Marks scored five of his 11 points in the closing minutes, and Schuler added six points, mostly off free throws.

The Runners took advantage of the Saints' fouls, scoring 22 points off foul shots. The Runners also hit five of their 12 three-pointers, with three of the five coming from sophomore Garrett

Hollen, who scored 19 points.

The Runners also got big nights from freshman Peter Nunn and sophomore David Michaelis. Nunn shot five for six from the field and scored 13 points, while Michaelis went four-for-five from the field, and also came up with two crucial free throw shots late in the game to score 12 points.

The Runners were able to win despite losing 6-foot-5 sophomore Doug Marshall in the previous game against Portland. Marshall suffered a broken elbow during the game and will miss the remainder of the season.

Coach Falk then took his team up to Salem to play the fifth-ranked Chemeketa Storm and ran into a buzz-saw. The Storm beat the Roadrunners 102-62, collecting most of their points off three-pointers and foul shots. The Storm made 12 threes in all, and took advantage off LB's foul troubles by getting 32 points from the line. Five Roadrunners ended the game with four or more personal fouls, although only one, Peter Nunn, fouled out. Hollen led the team in scoring by picking up 16 points. Michaelis and Nate Marks both added 10. LB is now 2-2 in league and are standing in fifth place in the southern region.

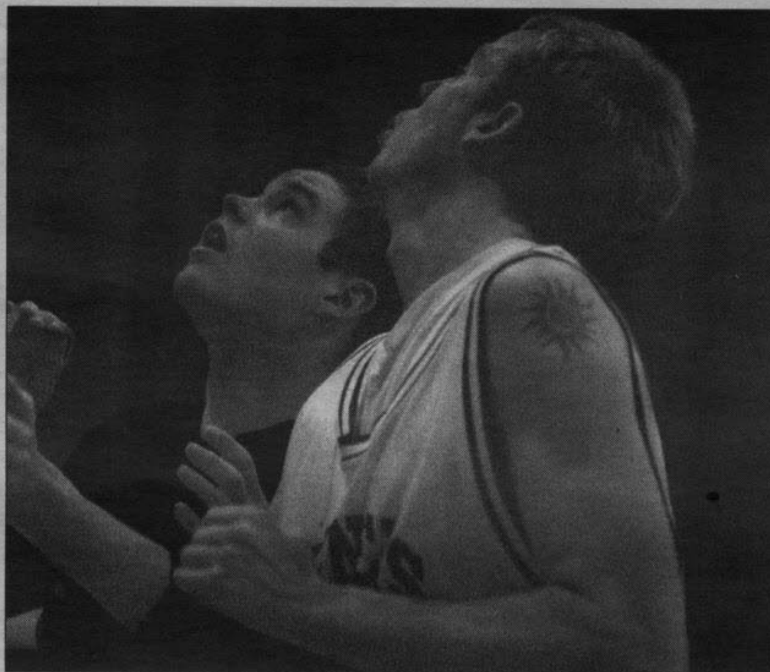
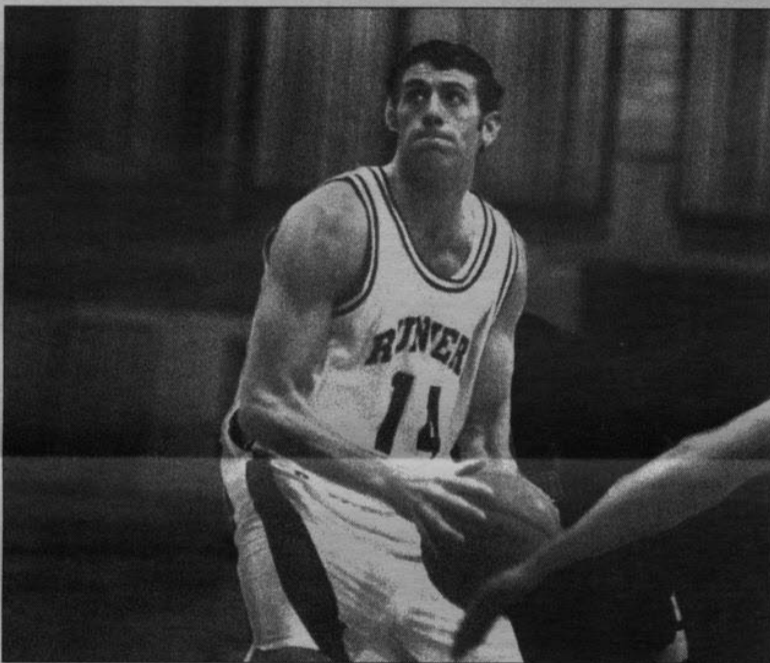


Photo by James Bauerle

Garrett Hollen (above) and David Michaelis (below) helped lead the roadrunners to their second league win last Wednesday. Hollen scored 19 points against the Saints and Michaelis scored 12, including two crucial free-throws late in the game.



## Hoopsters are encouraged to show their skills

by Greg Cero  
of The Commuter

It's time again to crash the boards and bang in the three ball as the annual LBCC 3-on-3 basketball tournament is approaching quickly.

The tournament will take place in the Activities Center Wednesday, Jan. 30, at 5 p.m.

Sign-ups are open in the Student Life and Leadership office for all current LBCC students. Deadline for sign-ups will be 3

p.m., Jan. 25.

"This is going to be the most competitive three-on-three basketball tournament yet at Linn Benton," says Josh Johnson, coordinator of the tournament.

Unlike last year, two separate tournaments will be held—one for men and one for women—rather than a single tournament with coed teams.

Games will be played to 21 points with no time limit. Winning teams must win by

at least two points. The bracket will be either single or double elimination depending on the number of teams that are signed up.

The player limit will be four per team, with three on the floor at a time.

Volunteer referees will be helping out to keep the games regulated. Prizes will be awarded to the teams who come out on top.

For additional information, contact Johnson at the SL&L Office.

## SL&amp;L offers cheap thrills with Winter Hawks game

by Phillip Ruzek  
of The Commuter

The Student Life & Leadership Office is sponsoring a low-cost van trip for students to see a Portland Winter Hawks hockey game at the Rose Quarter on Friday, Jan. 25. The cost to

attend is a \$5 non-refundable deposit and valid student I.D.; sign up is in the Student Life and Leadership Office, which is located on the east side of the Courtyard. Students will also need to sign a release form. The van will pick up participants at

the southeast parking lot; be there before 4:30 p.m. The van is expected to return by midnight.

"There are plenty of seats left," said Amy Willis, Intramural/Recreation Team coordinator. Only two are signed up so far; at least six more people are

needed to make this trip happen, she said. Meals will not be provided. The Winter Hawks will be playing against Tri-Cities at the Rose Quarter behind the Rose Garden. For further information call Willis or Twila Skelley at 917-4463.

## Tournament for pool players offers great opportunities

by Eric Berggren  
of The Commuter

A billiards tournament will be held Wednesday Jan. 30 in the Student Union Recreation Room.

Players can register in the Student Life & Leadership Office across from the Recreation

Room.

The tournament will be played by nine-ball rules and will begin at noon and run until 2 p.m.

Pairings will be determined by a random drawing after all players have registered.

The champion of the LBCC

tournament will have the chance to attend the regional finals Feb. 15-16 at Oregon State University's Memorial Union. Regional finals will be sponsored by the ACUI (Association of College Unions International). Other finalists will come from OSU and other colleges and uni-

versities.

As a winning prize, the champion of LBCC's contest will receive a pool cue purchased by LBCC. Sixteen slots are available for men and women, and 13 students have already signed up. A 2.0 grade point average is required for entrance.

Lady Runners  
climb to 2nd  
then fall to 4thby Jered Reid  
of The Commuter

The Linn-Benton Lady Runners Basketball team split last week's games, winning at home and losing on the road to end up with a 2-2 record in league and in a three-way tie for fourth place in the NWAACC Southern Region.

LB started the week off at home on a high note last Wednesday, getting its second straight league win by beating Mt. Hood 72-61.

It was a fast-paced game in which both teams used pressing defenses. Coach A.J. Dionne's team was able to thrive in this environment using their speed to score baskets. The Lady Runners also dominated the boards, out-rebounding the Saints 43-29; 21 of those rebounds were offensive, giving the Lady Runners crucial second chances.

Another key stat was steals—LB picked the Saints for 10 steals, while only giving up four. The Lady Runners led the majority of the game, although Mt. Hood kept it close. Late in the second half, the Lady Runners went up 51-40, and Mt. Hood was never able to get out of the hole.

LB got a small scare early in the second half when Christy Rickert had to leave the game due to an elbow to the face. However Rickert returned and finished the night with a team-high 22 points. Linzi Strohm also had a big night, coming up with 15 points and grabbing seven rebounds. Freshman Breanna Johnson led the team in rebounds with nine, and also had 10 points.

After the win the Lady Runners were in a four-way tie for second place in the Southern Region, and one of the teams they were tied with was the seventh-ranked Chemeketa Storm. But they fell out of second Saturday when Chemeketa edged the Runners by two points.

LB gave the favored Storm a scare, but in the end it was Chemeketa victory, 67-65.

Rickert led the team in scoring with 19 points, while Robyn Ward added 11 points and Christin Pass chipped in 10 points. Janine Dionne also contributed by leading the team in assists, dishing out six.

## ON DECK

Wednesday Jan. 23

Who: Lane CC Titans

When: 5:30 p.m. men

7:30 p.m. women

Where: Activities Center

Saturday Jan. 26

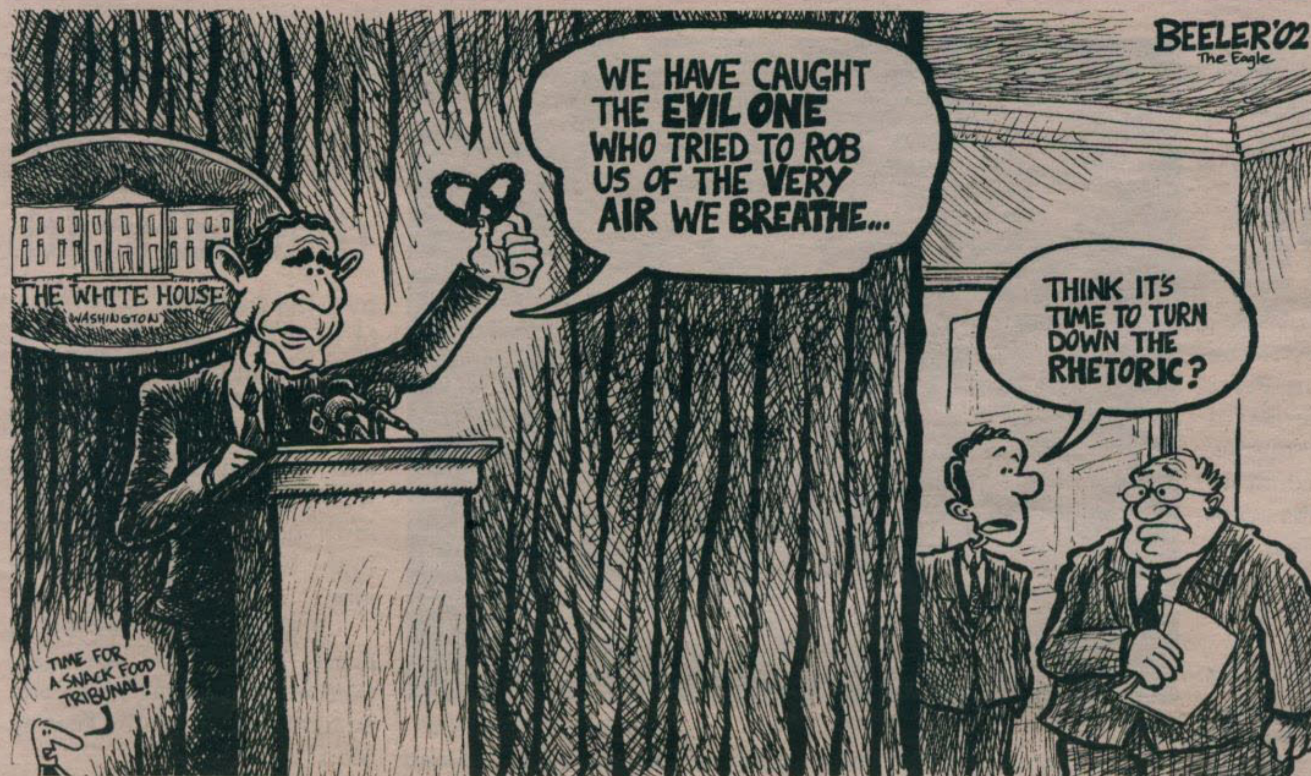
Who: Clackamas Cougars

When: 4 p.m. men

6 p.m. women

Where: Oregon City

# OPINION



## COMMENTARY

### The Y bother generation? 'Whatever'

by Lenore Skenazy  
of New York Daily News

What. Ever.

Not one, but two four-letter words that, when combined, are guaranteed to drive the parents of sullen teens and precociously annoying preteens absolutely hopping-up-and-down, how-have-I-spawned-such-awful-offspring nuts.

"Honey, would you like a piece of mom's homemade, four-cheese, piping hot lasagna?"

"Whatever."

"Didn't I ask you to pick up your socks yesterday?"

"Whatever."

"Just tell me: Was it a fender bender, or is the car totaled?"

"Whatever."

Whatever? Why not just say it the old-fashioned way? "Go jump in the lake, ma!" "Stick it in your ear, pops!" Or even that hoary chestnut, "It's none of your business! I hate you! I wish Shelly's parents were my parents! They're cool."

"Whatever" is, quite simply, Generation Y's smart bomb, the noncommittal reply programmed to find the soft underbelly of parental forbearance and explode on contact. And it works just fine on non-parents, too.

The other day, I asked my neighbor's 10-year-old if he wanted to go with us for ice cream. He replied (eyes rolled to some fascinating spot on the ceiling), "Whatever," thereby rendering me about as eager to buy him a sundae as I'd be to fund his college education.

"It is a big problem here," acknowledges Suzanne Gibbons-Neff, a traumatized mom of two teen-age sons in Connecticut. "When you're trying to have an in-depth conversation with them and they don't want to deal with it, instead of saying, 'You're right' or 'I understand,' they'll just say, 'Whatever.'"

Or at least they did. Now Gibbons-Neff fines her boys a buck for each "W," because to her it's as if they'd used an obscenity.

"It drives me crazy when my 7-year-old says that," says Mom No. 2, Carol Gifford, who lives outside Philadelphia. "I was disciplining her the other day about talking to strangers, and she's not paying attention, so I say, 'Do you hear what I'm saying?' And she says, 'Whatever.' Whatever? What do you mean? Say, 'Yes!' Say, 'I won't do it again!'"

But no. "Whatever" is this generation's final answer. And what makes it even more apoplexy-inducing is that "whatever" users always have an alibi: "Hey! It's not like I said something bad. I was agreeing with you!"

Yeah. And "Yeah" means I really believe what you just said.

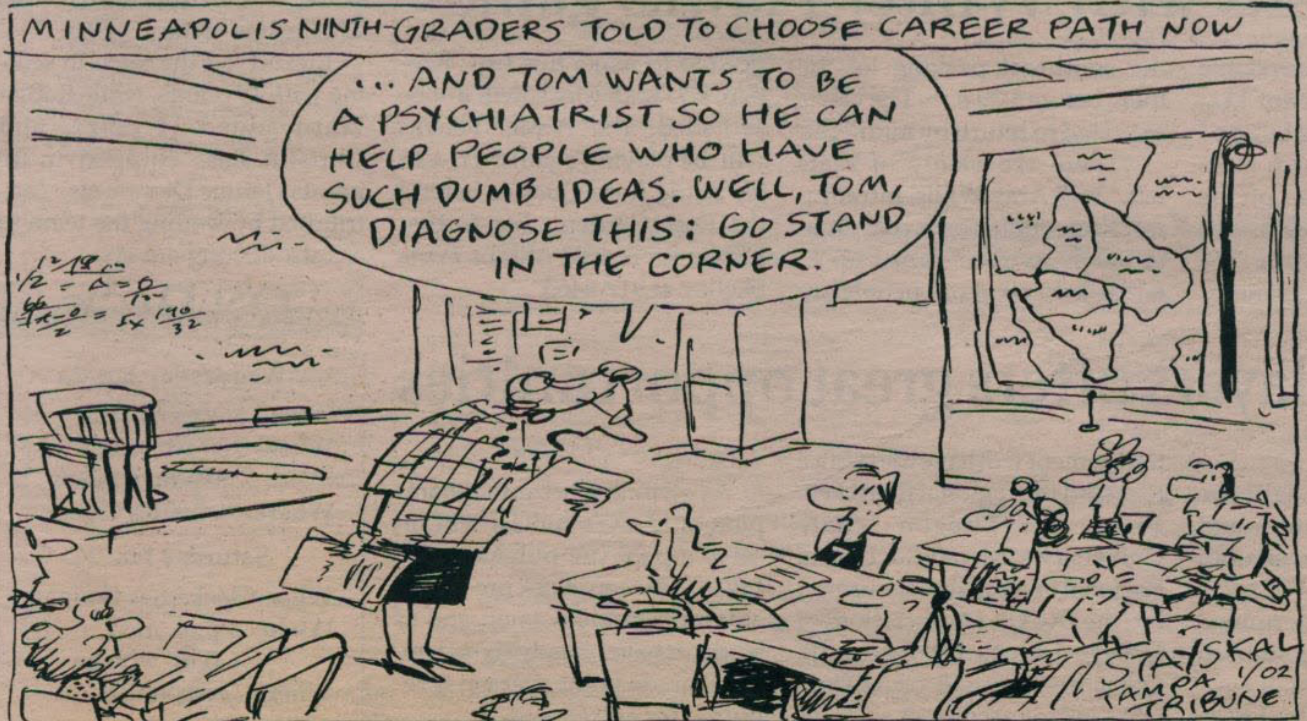
As infuriating as "whatever" sounds - especially accompanied by the traditional snort, shrug or smirk - its aggravation quotient doubles when your underage conversation partner touches his/her thumbs back to back and points the forefingers upward up to form a giant "W."

Hey, gang - why not save yourselves some major digital effort and just raise one single, towering finger? That's what you really mean to say, right? Right?

To back me up, I called Mike Agnes, editor in chief of the Webster's New World Dictionaries.

"Oh, Lenore, you are so very right, indeed!" he said (in not so many words). To the traditional meaning of "whatever," Agnes averred, "the spin of dismissal has been added. As in, 'I'm not interested in your theories or your litany of accusations. Let's move on to another topic.'"

Topic? If only! I'm ready to move to another planet. This one is just too insulting. Irritating. Whatever.



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### No reason for U.S. money to aid corrupt foreign government

To the Editor:

Since Sept. 11, President Bush has built a coalition with many countries by overlooking their human rights policies. For example, Bush has held discussions with countries such as Uzbekistan, Iran, Syria and Sudan. Both Iran and Syria are sponsors of terrorist groups who oppose Israel.

There is already a sense that the U.S. condones actions committed in the name of fighting terrorism that it would have condemned just a short time ago. Not long ago the Human Rights Watch chairman urged Secretary of State Powell in a letter not to let the U.S. coalition partners to use the anti-terrorism banner as an excuse to crack down on their internal opponents.

This does not make any sense at all. Why are we going to jump into bed with people who only want to be friendly with the U.S. when there is something in it for them? Have we so easily forgotten what the terrorists in Iran did to United States citizens when the Ayatollah took over the government in Iran? The U.S. had provided to the Shah of Iran many of the weapons that were used to shoot down U.S. rescue helicopters during the Iranian hostage crisis.

In the 1980s when Afghanistan was fighting the U.S.S.R., they were a friendly nation until the U.S. stopped giving them aid at the end of the war, and once again the same people we gave arms and money to have attacked U.S. citizens. It is apparent that when they get the arms and money they want from us that they will turn these same weapons against us.

The U.S. says it is for human rights and freedom. Why do we keep spending our money to support other countries so they can feed and care for their people when their government officials embezzle the money?

I would say that not one of the countries that we give aid to really cares one bit about human rights for their people. I think it is time to look at home first and let the rest of the world look after its own affairs. In the United States, human rights and freedom have become a long forgotten thing of the past. Small companies are abusing workers in this county every day all across the U.S., despite there are laws that are supposed to protect us.

There are so many people here in our country that are in need of help. Why am I paying taxes so they can go to support corrupt foreign governments when I cannot even support my own family? I believe it is time for Americans to stand up and be counted by saying we are not going to work ourselves to death, pay taxes, and see it go to support corrupt foreign governments.

—Mark Mackey

## 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](mailto:commuter@ml.lbcc.cc.or.us)

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