

Reaching Out

Former LBCC student finds migrant workers for ESL classes

Into the Night

Library extends reference desk hours to help evening students

Order on the Court

Referee philosophical after 19 years of catcalls and complaints

THE COMMUTER

A Student Publication

Volume 23/Number 13

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 1992



Photo by Jack Josewski

Sign of the Times

Dennis Sargent, one of a growing number of homeless people in Linn County, stands on a corner in downtown Lebanon with a plea for employment. Sargent said he has been living in his station wagon ever since he lost his job. The Lebanon community has organized several forms of assistance for needy local residence, including a Basic Services Center that helps people get in touch with a wide variety of resources available in Linn and Benton counties, and a Soup Kitchen that serves three meals a week at the First Christian Church, 170 Grant St. Those interested in volunteering or donating can call 258-6048.

Bus patrons may see changes in their fares after May transit levy

LBCC students who use the city of Corvallis bus service may see a few changes in the transit structure—that is if voters approve a new three-year transit levy this May.

Should the levy pass, it would generate almost \$300,000 a year for the Corvallis Transit System, whose current budget and operating status is in jeopardy. The proposed levy would add five cents to the current assessment for property owners to make up for increased operating costs and maintenance for the city's transit department.

The levy would also result in an increase in bus fares from 25 cents to 35 cents for adult passengers.

LB students do not receive any fare reductions on the CTS buses. However, OSU students receive free bus service provided by the university. The City Council's levy would increase OSU's service charge from \$35,500 a year to \$57,300 a year.

Other transit commission recommendations included: instituting a student/faculty fee of \$1.50 per term for transit service, effective fall term 1992. This would only apply to OSU students and faculty. Seniors, kids and youth passengers would still be charged 25 cents.

The new fares and changes would go into effect July 1.

Northerners say 'bah humbug' to south; 'Baja Oregon' is next

By Judith Gaines

Boston Globe

SUSANVILLE, Calif.--Never mind the big quake that could strike this state any time. California may split without it. Frustrated by what they call "the tyranny of the urban majority," northern leaders want to divide California in two, creating the nation's 51st state.

Dubbed "North California," the "Redwood Empire," "Jefferson" or simply "Superior California" by its proponents, and "Baja Oregon" by its detractors, the rebellious new state would contain about 2.2 million people and 27 counties—a territory just slightly smaller than the six New England states combined.

The split-state notion is not new. The idea has been put forward at least 26 times in California's 142-year history. But unlike past proposals, which typically drew the dividing line at midstate, somewhere near Monterey or Tehachapi, this one puts the border north of Sacramento and San Francisco, creating a relatively homogenous rural state.

And this time, proponents insist, the plan may work. Already, 21 of the state's 58 counties have agreed to put the issue on the June ballot. Several organizations have endorsed the novel state. And in 10 opinion surveys in the north and south respondents have indicated overwhelming support. "The marriage of southern and northern California has gone sour. It's time to act like adults, divide the common property and go our separate ways," said Assemblyman Stan Statham, a Republican from Shasta County, who introduced a bill in the Legislature last week to create the fledgling polity.

North-south feuds and urban-rural conflicts are common currency in the Golden State, which is nearly 1,100 miles long—the distance from, say, Boston to Savannah, Ga.—and includes a wide array of terrains and lifestyles. According to U.S. census reports, California's population soared from 23.7 million in 1980 to 30.3 million in 1991; and most of this growth has been in southern urban areas.

"The melting pot is boiling over," said Lassen County Supervisor Jim Chapman, of

Susanville, a small town on the back side of the Sierras that calls itself the "epicenter" of the political quake. "State politicians have so many problems in their front yard that they don't have time to pay attention to us."

Because California is one of the few states where representation in both houses of the Legislature is based on population, the rebellious counties contain about one-third of the state's land area but have barely 7 percent of its voting power. "We're being dictated to by concrete areas of California — urbanites who don't think or act like we do," said Mike Braden, treasurer of Redding's board of realtors.

Since passage of Proposition 13, the landmark voter initiative that limited the ability of counties to raise property taxes, northerners say they have had to cut back on basic services, such as libraries and sheriffs' patrols, to pay for state-mandated programs they do not want. And many northern leaders, who are typically more conservative than their southern counterparts, are chafing under laws that may be suitable in cities, they said, but just do not work in the rural north.

Such conflicts also are fueled by economic and cultural differences. Unlike the more industrial south, the north lives largely on its natural resources and tourists drawn by the beauty of the stately redwoods. The divisionists are united by a love of elbow room and "air we can breathe without seeing it," as Statham put it.

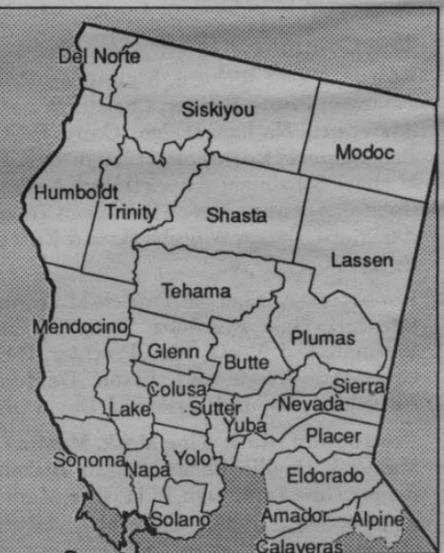
To many northerners, southern California is the home of urban gangs, drive-by shootings, congestion, pollution, hot tubs, roller blades and countless fads and gadgets. For the 51st state movement to succeed, it must be approved by the state Legislature—an unlikely step, critics say, particularly since the south has most of the voting power and needs northern water. The U.S. Congress must also accept the plan.

Counties in proposed new state

Many people in the rural northern part of California feel alienated from the growing, urban south.



SOURCE: Philadelphia Inquirer



Knight-Ridder Tribune/RAY WHITE

opinion

Haitian repatriation could
bloody Bush's hands

South Florida has always been a resting ground for the rich, retired, reclusive and sometimes repulsive upper crust of society. It is also a beacon of escape for immigrants in the stormy Latin American sea of corrupt governments, oppressive interchangeable military rule and the polysyllabic "C" word.

editorial

Now, the United States is bolting the doors of immigration and turning its back on a group of refugees—10,000 Haitians—and returning them to their oppressive country, where the refugees will be killed by the military rule they fought so very hard to escape. These men, women and children—political prisoners in geographic limbo—risked death at sea in fleeing a country with the worst poverty level in the Western Hemisphere. That is just one of the many problems tearing apart the island nation.

For the refugees to be granted the right to apply for political asylum in the Land of the Free and the Brave, they must be considered political prisoners—they are not, according to Bush. Why? Because they aren't escaping from a country whose political party begins with "C".

Regardless of Bush's backward logic to the "Evil Empire", we are a land that accepts, even welcomes the poor, the tired and the oppressed of the world. My family lineage, your family heritage can attest to that. Then why have "we" suddenly changed our principles?

By halting the flow of impoverished refugees we don't have to feed them, house them, educate them or employ them. They present a risk to all Americans. And what about that AIDS thing, they brought it to "our" country/ These are simplistic, reactionary excuses the Bush administration uses to rationalize its actions.

Should word filter back from Haiti that hundreds of political prisoners have been killed, their blood will be on the hands of George Bush and his henchmen who allowed this to happen.

Troubled economic times in our country and the protection of our jobs and social services should never be placed in front of desperate human beings in need of the one thing we take for granted in our country—freedom.

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

commuter
staff

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Mike Ludovich
ATLANTA CONSTITUTIONTabloid
reporter.2nd tabloid reporter
spotted on grassy knoll
offering women money to
say they did it with Bill.

Star gives public exactly what it wants

A group of scientists has made the amazing discovery that there is a direct relationship between the size of a man's sexual organ and the size of his nose.

For a long time, this was thought to be just folklore or the subject of locker room or barracks jokes.

But now, by using measuring devices on the noses and sexual organs of 15,000 men who volunteered for the study, the scientists have found that...

Have you read this far? Sure you did. I can't be certain but I suspect that the above three paragraphs had a bigger and more intense readership than anything I've ever written.

And not just by guys with big noses.

But don't be embarrassed. It is perfectly normal for you to read on when something is titillating and holds out the promise of being prurient or downright smutty.

However, I must confess with regret that there was no such scientific study. I made it up. Why? Because I wanted to know what it would be like to have 100 percent of the people who begin reading a column get beyond the third or fourth paragraph.

And the easiest way to do that is to toss off something that has to do with sex.

Of course, if you found the subject of sexual organs boring or offensive and didn't read those paragraphs, you can drop me a note and say so. But that will just prove you read far enough to accept my invitation to drop me a note. So you were interested, you scamp.

So what's my point? (My columns are supposed to make a point, although there are days when I can't find it.)

My point is that we shouldn't be so hard on the Star, the unspeakably vile supermarket tabloid that has been trying to dirty up Gov. Bill Clinton.

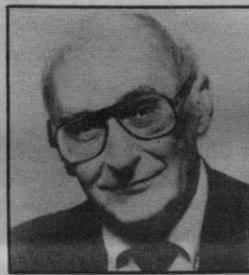
During the last few days, just about every reputable, responsible, thoughtful and fair columnist in America has condemned the Star for its unspeakably vile conduct.

And many have gone on to condemn the so-called mainstream media—broadcast and print—for writing about the Star's unspeakably vile conduct, thus engaging in unspeakably vile conduct themselves.

Of course, by writing about the unspeakably vile conduct of the Star and the go-along mainstream media, the columnists are helping pass the vile story on, which means they're engaging in unspeakably vile conduct themselves.

So I guess I am, too. But by now, everyone else has done it, so what's one more unspeakably vile column?

Besides, I'm not going to write about what the cheap floozie said she and Clinton did, or what



mike royko

Clinton said he and the cheap floozie didn't do. I doubt if they did anything that isn't on my cable movie channel. Besides, his wife says she believes him, and in such matters, hers is the only vote that counts.

But it is the reaction to the Star that I find interesting. Cheap, sleazy, rotten, beneath contempt. It's been called all that and more.

And you would think that if every paper and TV network ignored the Star, the Clinton story would have escaped notice by the American reading public.

Those who believe that must think that the Star is some mimeograph sheet put out in somebody's basement.

It isn't. The Star is one of the biggest-selling publications in this country with 3.5 million sales a week. That's close to its sleaze sister, the National Enquirer, which sells 3.8 million copies. They're owned by the same company and have a combined circulation of more than 7 million.

That's big-time trash. Only a few newspapers in America sell that many papers in a week. But they have to publish every day to do it.

And while other publishing companies are laying off help, cutting back on their news coverage, and scrambling for ad revenue and circulation, the Star and Enquirer are prospering. The Wall Street Journal just quoted a stock analyst as saying the "Enquirer/Star has more upside than any media stock we cover."

What does that tell us? What we already know: In this country, trash sells. Just look at the best-seller lists. Or listen to the hit records. Check out the most successful movies or the freak-show guests on the most popular TV talk shows.

So is the Star to be condemned for giving 3.5 million Americans the trash they crave? (More with the infamous Clinton issue. The Star says it sold an extra 500,000 copies. Who says Americans aren't interested in politics?)

We're a society with an appetite for trash. While fine small magazines struggle to survive, honorable newspapers fold, good books end up in the wholesale bin, and thoughtful TV shows get a .0001 rating, we gorge on sex and blood in movies, transom peeking on TV, and tell-all scandals in books and magazines.

Then, after indulging our taste for the unspeakably vile in one form or another, we sit back and cluck about how terrible it is and what this country is coming to. And the line forms down the block for an autograph from some aging bimbo who is selling a book about how many stars she bedded.

In the 19th century, Marshall Field launched Chicago's most successful department store with the motto: "Give the lady what she wants."

It may peddle sleaze, but the Star knows as much about today's buying public as Marshall Field did about the buyers of his day.

And looking at those circulation figures, I have to wonder—just what is mainstream journalism?

Editor's note: Mike Royko is a syndicated columnist who writes for the Chicago Tribune.

campus news

Former student returns to help teach migrants

By David Olsen
Of The Commuter

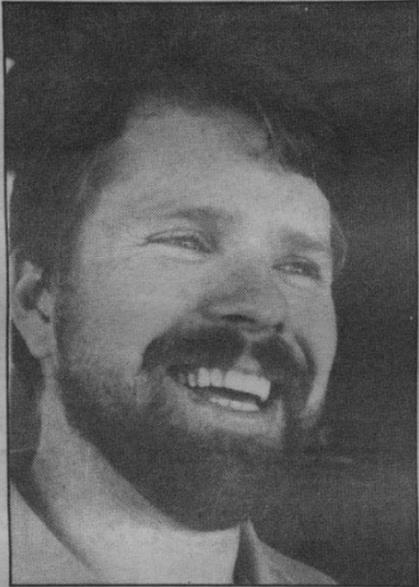
When Doug Walker first attended LBCC in 1986 to work towards an A.A. degree in business little did he know of the foreign odyssey ahead of him.

As the English as a Second Language (ESL) specialist at LBCC, Walker's part-time job is the fulfillment of a fascination with Central and South American life that began at LBCC.

"An instructor here by the name of Doug Clark had a profound effect on me my first year at LBCC," said Walker. "He taught a U.S. foreign policy class that focused on Central America and in 1986 Nicaragua was the area receiving most of the attention."

After his first year at LBCC Walker quit his job and transferred to the U. of O. to study linguistics and Spanish. As part of the degree program he spent a summer in Queretaro, Mexico with a family that didn't speak any English and attended Spanish classes at the Monterrey Institute of Technology.

While working on his degree in linguistics Walker also trained as an ESL instructor and after graduating from the



Doug Walker is outreach specialist for the college's English as a Second Language program.

U. of O. he moved to Corvallis and began work at LBCC's outreach program. This program enables Walker to go out into the areas where Hispanics live and set up classes.

"I try to find the people that need help," said Walker, but migrant people who need the help are hard to reach and tend to keep a low profile. They are shy and stay together in groups and my job is to reach these people."

"When I've got a group of 12, I locate a classroom that is usually in a church, or sometimes a school will donate class space. One of the employers in the valley lets us use their living room for a class," continued Walker, "they just leave for a couple of hours two nights a week while the instructor teaches the class."

Walker's job as the Outreach Specialist is part-time so he augments his income by teaching an ESL class in Lebanon twice a week. This enables him to meet financial needs. "I made more money in my last job," said Walker wryly, who was in sales at a beverage company, "but this is more interesting."

With his current jobs at the mercy of federal funding there is constant danger of being cut but his perspective is clarified by the plight of the people he is helping.

"I attended a class in Philomath taught by Julia Amicci and was introduced to eight young men attending her class," said Walker. "Every one of those men had to drop out of school at a young age to support their family. There were no local jobs so they had to come to the states to find work."

Walker is an immigrant himself. His parents moved to the United States from Toronto, Canada when Walker was 8 years old. He sees the influx of immigrants increasing in the Willamette Valley and thinks the trend will hold.

"I think that multi-culturalism is inevitable," said Walker, "and my philosophy is we should adapt and deal with it instead of denying it."

"I would like to be more of a general advocate for the Hispanic population," continued Walker. "They need assistance for legal referrals and housing and health issues. Most of the agencies can't assist them because they lack a Spanish speaking staff."

Reps from 16 colleges on campus today to talk with transfer students

Rich Coleman
Of The Commuter

LBCC's Annual College Transfer Day is slated for today, 9 a.m. to 1p.m. in the Alsea/Calapooia room. Transfer day is to help students with the process of transferring from a two-year to a four year college or university.

"Transfer Day is designed so that students can get information about the schools, ask questions, find out how to get admitted to the school, what the tuition rate is, and what kind of programs that are offered," according to Diane Watson, director of admissions and records. "It is also a good opportunity for students to find out the difference between a private and public school."

Some questions that students will want to think about when visiting with the various schools:

- Does the school offer the program you seek?
 - How much is tuition?
 - Where do your graduates find jobs?
 - What kind of reputation does the program have state wide or nationally?
 - Is there financial aid or special scholarships available?
- Other questions will apply depending on the the students plans, program and school.

Representatives from 16 colleges and universities will be on hand. Taking part in the event are Bassit, Columbia Christian, Concordia, Eastern Oregon, George Fox, Marylhurst, Oregon Institute of Technology, OSU, Pacific University, Portland State, Southern Oregon, U of O, Western Baptist, Western Oregon and Willamette University.

"If you are thinking of transferring to a four year school now is the time to get started, as things become more competitive students need to get applications in sooner," said Watson.

LBCC presents Oregon Chataqua film series

Virginia Woolf: The Work of Art is the first part of a free lecture series, Oregon Chautauqua, offered at Linn-Benton Community College. All presentations are noon-1 p.m. in the Fireside Room on the second floor of the College Center.

Kathleen Worley, a noted Portland actress, will portray Virginia Woolf. This one-woman play illuminates the life and works of the English novelist, Virginia Woolf (1882-1941). Using excerpts from Woolf's creative works and bits from letters and diaries, the play shows her lifelong effort to embody

perception and experience through new literary forms. The presentation, Feb. 19, includes a photo exhibit of materials from the personal library of Leonard and Virginia Woolf.

The second presentation in the series is Karl Capek: The Man Who Gave US Robots, Karburators and the White Plague by Bean Comrada, a special assistant to the executive director of the University of Oregon Foundation. The lecture will be presented March 4.

Indian Wars of Oregon: A Tragedy in Five Acts, is the third presentation in the series. Oregon author and his-

torian Terence O'Donnell will provide a fascinating look at a chapter in Oregon's history on April 15. The final presentation is The Singing Boswell: Musical Converse in the 18th Century by Dianne Dugaw, a professor of 18th century English literature at the University of Oregon. The concert will be May 13.

The Oregon Chautauqua is sponsored by LBCC Student Programs and made possible in part by a grant from the Oregon Council for Humanities. For more information call the Student Programs Office, 967-8831, weekdays.



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Your slogan should reflect the purpose, activities and/or atmosphere of the Center.

You may enter as many slogans as you wish, but only one slogan per entry form. In case of duplicate slogans, date of entry deciding factor. Entry deadline is Friday, February 28, 1992

Entry forms are available in the Learning Center

+ Open to all LBCC students + + + + + Decision of judges final +

Watch For More Information About The Learning Center Next Week

LBCC Performing Arts Dept. presents 'The Wheel'

Linn-Benton Community College's Performing Arts Department is presenting its annual children's production this month. In addition to the six public performances of *The Wheel* by Brian Way, school matinees for area school children are scheduled.

The Wheel is about an aging wheelwright with failing eyesight. His poor vision is making it hard for him to work and to enjoy one of his favorite things, reading. The play centers around a wheel spoke that comes to life and the magical experience of playacting, according to play director Jean Bonifas.

Playing Ned Wheelwright is Jerrod Haarstad of Lebanon; his wife, Martha, is portrayed by Kelly Buchholz of Albany; the neighbor, Amos, is Jeff Norman of Albany; and the spoke is Kjerstin Groberg of Corvallis.

A year before the story takes place, the old man almost finished making a marvelous wheel, but the last spoke wouldn't fit properly. Instead of trying to sell the wheel, he uses it as a sign for his business—but not just because it is imperfect. He found a note on the wheel saying to spin the wheel while making a "s-s-s-s-s" sound, and the missing wheel spoke would come to life.

Through Spoke, the wheelwright discovers he can help his failing eyesight and heal the hostility with his neighbor by acting out his own favorite stories. The neighbor also saw the note and is intent on buying, borrowing or stealing the wheel for himself. With the help of the audience, the actors play out the wheelwright's favorite stories about a king who wants to learn to dance and about a pirate's treasure.

Public performances of *The Wheel* are scheduled for Feb. 14, 15, 21 and 22 at 7 p.m. with Sunday matinees on Feb. 16 and 23 at 3 p.m. The play is on the Mainstage in Takena Hall, LBCC main campus, 6500 SW Pacific Blvd., Albany.

Tickets are \$2 for children and students under 18 years and \$4 general. On-stage seating for 75 people is available at each performance. Those wanting on-stage seats must buy their tickets from the LBCC Box Office and not the off-campus ticket outlets.

Tickets are available at The Emporium in Corvallis (Timberhill), The Emporium in Albany (Heritage Mall) and from the LBCC Box Office, room 108, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Building, from 8 a.m. - noon weekdays. Reservations can be made by calling 967-6504.



Photo by Jack Josewski

Judith Turner has been LBCC's reference librarian for the past three years. Part of her job is to help students locate materials for research projects.

LBCC library makes changes to better serve students needs

By Holli Clucas
For The Commuter

Recent changes have been made in the library including the rearrangement of equipment and new reference desk hours.

The expanded reference desk hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. The expanded hours were set for Tuesday and Thursday because the hours could benefit students who attend night classes in having the same services available that day students have had access to.

The reference desk is for help in finding the materials needed and to give students an overview of the subject. The people at the desk will also help with the card catalog, the periodical index or any other feature that the students may need assistance with. "They try to help you as much as they can to get you pointed in the right direction," according to Judith Turner, librarian.

The CDROM (Compact Disk Read Only Memory) has been moved to the right, behind the display case, just as you enter the library. For the next month and a half a second CDROM has been installed on a trial basis.

Turner would greatly appreciate it if students could try both CDROMS. There is a questionnaire that students can fill out on which they prefer and why.

The microfilm reader-printer of *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal* has been moved to the typing room, which is located left of the reference desk. It was moved to cut down on noise, according to Turner, because another one will be placed in the library. The typing room also has three electric typewriters for students to use; two of these were donated by the Student Body Association.

The library also has a program called Inter-Library Loans, which allows it to borrow from other libraries. If the LB library does not have a book or magazine needed, fill out a request form at the desk, then the source can be ordered from another library. It takes a minimum of seven to ten working days for the material to reach the LB library, depending on where the material comes from. There is a limit of five orders per week per patron, but there is no charge for the service.

Turner also stated that anyone in Linn or Benton County can obtain a library card. The library is not just limited to LB students.

local briefs

Conference set for Saturday

Saturday, Feb. 8, is the date set for "Heart of the Valley Environmental Conference," to be held at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Building, 2945 NW Circle Blvd., Corvallis, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. There is no fee for the conference, which is open to the public. Participants should bring a sack lunch; beverages will be provided. For additional information, call Bob McDermott, 752-0560.

Oregon Peaceworks dance

The Heartland Big Band is scheduled to play for Oregon Peace Works benefit dance. The event will be held at the Oddfellows Hall, 223 SW 2nd, Corvallis, on Saturday, Feb. 8, from 8-

11 p.m. Tickets are available at the door, \$5 general admission and \$4 for students. Call 928-6192 or 753-2616 for more details.

Childrens' issues scheduled for discussion

Area residents who work with young children in Linn and Benton counties are invited to the 6th annual networking breakfast at LBCC on Saturday, Feb. 8. The breakfast will be held 9:30 a.m.-noon in the Alesa/Calapooia Room, second floor of the College Center. The meal will be catered by the LBCC Culinary Arts Department. Tickets are \$8. For more information, call Katherine Crowley in Sweet Home, 367-5860.

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arts & entertainment

"Pet Peeves of a Brain-Dead Generation"

By Cory Frye

Fried Press \$16.95

Date of Release: Feb. 29
(Excerpted from Chap. Four)

I don't know how many of you are as mad as hell as I am with that commercial. You know—the one they seem to show at least 56 times during every commercial break. I'm talking about that annoying gum commercial.

amuseings
satire by cory frye

If you haven't seen it, it's this little ditty with different shots of groups of people in the Mid-West and Southern areas of this great land of ours and they're all shouting "Who wants Trident?" Then different groups, like in a roll call, shout back, "I do! I do!" to a funky drum beat.

It's cute the first few chants, but after awhile it becomes rather catching and then it's stuck in your head the rest of your life. Can't these people figure it out that everyone wants a stick of Trident, so they don't really have to ask again and again. Are they just making sure viewers haven't changed their minds? Is someone going to say, "Wait a minute! I don't! No, dammit, I don't want it!" Or are they just making sure everyone's been accounted for?

I would like to see the same commercial with a change of setting. East Los Angeles, for example. I could see it now: A bunch of old guys standing in front of a dulce shop going, "Who wants Trident?" and then a group of out-of-work migrant workers shouting back, "Screw you, ese! Who wants your wallet?" Then cut to a bunch of Bloods and Crips in the downtown areas shouting, "Who wants your shoes?" The Trident Co. wouldn't survive.

Whatever happened to the days when Trident commercials showed a bunch of ethnically-mixed teenagers on a rafting trip or shoe-shining and they were all singing, "It helps prevent" (they tap their overly-white teeth) "tooth decay"? I guess those days are gone forever and I should just let them go.

I think that a couple of people (including myself) should organize a small group, like the Motion Pictures Rating Association, and call ourselves the FGA (Federal Gum Association) to rate the various commercials and say yay or nay. The first thing I would do is outlaw those damn Juicy Fruit commercials that show a bunch of teenagers skiing and surfing. The problem I have with it is that nobody really has fun until they pop that wonderful stick in their mouths. No gum=no fun, gum=unlimited fun. There must be some kind of stimulant (like cocaine or caffeine) sprinkled on the gum. Nobody could have that much fun chewing gum. It's not possible.

Who wants Trident? Who cares?

Cooking with Paco

Cartoon shows may be new opiate of young masses

Greetings sports fans!

Before I get into this weeks article I would like to make the following statement to reassure those animal lovers who expressed concern over my last article. At no time were any animals hurt in the dream sequence. Skilled stunt doubles were used. And of course, don't try to duplicate any of the dream sequences you read without the supervision and care of a trained psychoanalyst.

commentary

I have been doing some research lately concerning the strange and bizarre world of Saturday morning cartoons. Things have changed since those days in the mid-sixties when my brother Scott and I would get up at the crack of dawn, make way to the Captain Crunch—my five-year-old equivalent of strong black coffee—and than plop our little butts down in front of the black-and-white test pattern and wait for the indoctrination to begin.

The shows I remember, and liked best, were The Rocky and Bulwinkle Show, Roger Ramjet, Underdog, Johnny Quest and the immortal Bugs Bunny, whom I now believe to be the current incarnation of the Buddha.

I would devour these shows every weekend and others too numerous to mention (actually I just can't remember anymore.) I realize now that it was the content of the shows which contributed to my off-center views and not a result from sitting too close to the screen.

That was when I decided to do a few experiments of my own to see what children today are watching. For a research assistant I enlisted the help of my young but perceptive friend, Austin, age 3.

At the crack of dawn Austin interrupted a dream I was having about a burly man getting biblical with a spotted owl while George Bush started up a chainsaw. He was repeatedly demanding apple juice—Austin, not the burly man— and shoving a stuffed, pink gorilla in my face. I grudgingly got up and went into the kitchen and made a pot of coffee. I poured each of us a cup and started to the TV. Austin said he didn't like caffeine so he had a bowl of

Cheerios and I drank his coffee. Kids!

The shows we watched were, well, what can I say . . . thought-provoking. That's what Austin said, anyway. I thought I had blown away three hours of sleeping in. Nevertheless, two shows caught my attention: one Saturday morning and the other on Sunday morning.

The first show featured The Hammer Man. What a tremendous ego this guy has. And what a great way to sell his music and overpriced Hammer dolls! What caught my attention, though, were some subtle messages. For example, the only white people on the show were the bad guys or other stereotypes.

What kind of message does this send to children? All I had to worry about was how Mr. Peabody got Sherman (his pet boy), and what was really in Underdog's magic ring.

But the show that made losing all that sleep worth it was Ren and Stimpy. I cannot put into words the heinous flashbacks I had watching that show. Thank god Austin was there to console me, turn off the tube, put on some Bach and get me another cup of coffee. If it had not been for him I might not be here today to write this article.

Perhaps children today are more sophisticated than we were in 1966. I didn't get into Bach until I was 27. And I was the one who lost my head when Ren climbed up Stimpy's nose hair to save him from the evil sheriff of Dodge City, while Austin just chuckled and shook his head.

The point is I have no idea what effect those shows will have on children. No one does and only time will tell. After all I started out as a relatively normal person. The fact is that while most people can recommend a good place to get your car fixed, they have no idea what new and exciting wonders their children are discovering every day. TV has replaced religion as the mean source of inculturation in our society. When I think about the impact the opium of the Piscean Age had on future generations, I can't help but wonder what the most sinister drug of the Aquarian Age will have on the future.

Food for thought Sports Fans. Until next time, happy cooking!

coming soon

MUSIC

FEB. 5

Every Wednesday night, test your vocal terptitude at the Buzzsaw with the soon-to-be-infamous Karaoke Machine from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. The songs run the gamut from country to rock of the 50s-80s. Be a lounge lizard.

FILM/THEATER

FEB. 5

Jazz, rock, blues, gospel, cajun and country are all showcased in the Portland Art Museum Northwest Center's annual "Reel Music" festival. Sponsored by Willamette Week and Music Millenium, it continues through Feb. 9. All films will screen at the Museum's Berg Swann Auditorium at 1219 SW Park Avenue in Portland. Admission is \$5 general, \$4 for seniors and museum members.

FEB. 6

The University Theatre at OSU presents "What the Butler Saw" at 8:15

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p.m. Admission is \$8 general and \$6 for students. Call 737-2784 for more information.

FEB. 7

At 8 p.m. in the Milam Auditorium \$1 will buy you an hours worth of laughs at the "Night at the Improv." Call 737-6872 for more information.

The MU Program Council presents the midnight showing of the Monty Python classic "Monty Python's Meaning of Life" in the Milam Auditorium. Admission is \$1. Call 737-6872

FEB. 7-8

The International Film Series at OSU presents Burkino Faso's entry: Idrissa Ouedraogo's "Tilai," the story of a man's desire to break the law. Showtimes are at 7 and 9 p.m. and admission is \$2.75.

ART

FEB. 5

On exhibit through February is the annual Fine and Applied Art faculty show in the Liberal Arts gallery.



Upstairs:
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The Commuter's fourth "unscientific" poll surveyed students' opinions on marijuana, David Duke and Mike Tyson. One-hundred and twenty students responded to this week's poll.

Question No. 1

Students were asked to judge the fine line the media walks when covering a trial or court proceeding. The first question directed attention to the Mike Tyson and the William Kennedy Smith rape trials and the media coverage of the two. Should the media have full access to trial coverage?

**commuter
poll**

Here's the breakdown:

- 33 percent said YES to media coverage of trials.
- 67 percent said NO to television access to the courtroom.

Question No. 2

The alleged marital infidelity of Democratic candidate Bill Clinton has raised questions concerning a politician's private life as a major issue in a campaign. Is Clinton's so-called "affair" an issue for the voters?

- 34 percent felt a politician's private life was a concern for the voters.
- 66 percent believed it was not an issue.

Question No. 3

David Duke's name has been added to the list of candidates for the Oregon primary in May. Should the state of Oregon attempt to bar Duke's name from appearing on the ballot?

Here are the results:

- 17 percent believed the state should intervene and exclude him.
- 83 percent felt Duke had the right to run for office.

Question No. 4

What should the penalty under Oregon law be for possession of under one ounce of marijuana? Eight possible answers were provided, ranging from more than one year in jail (the most extreme sentence) to the legalization of marijuana (the most lenient).

The voter breakdown:

Legalized.....	35 percent
Mandatory drug counseling.....	22 percent
\$50 fine.....	18 percent
Community service.....	17 percent
Six months in jail.....	5 percent
\$1,000 fine.....	5 percent
One year in jail.....	2 percent
More than one year in jail.....	1 percent

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MF 6:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sat. 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sun. 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS

If you are a native speaker of Japanese, there is a U.S. student who would like to practice speaking Japanese in exchange for letting you practice English! If you are interested, call x831 and ask to speak to Charlene.

Over 25? "Older than Average" group is having an open meeting to get organized and set goals. Interested? Meetings are: Monday, Feb 10, 12-1 p.m., AHSS 210; and Tuesday, Feb 11, 12:30-1 p.m., AHSS 209.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the Spanish Club will NOT be having the Date Auction on Feb. 12 as planned.

ATTENTION! Are you interested in the Spanish or Latin-American cultures? Would you like to go to Spain? Join the Spanish Club! The next meeting is Friday, Feb. 7 from 11-12 a.m.

Scholarship Notice: Oregon State Sheriff's Association & Oregon Association Chiefs of Police. Eligible students: second year Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice majors attending at least half-time (6 credits). The Chiefs of Police is for full-time only. Amounts: Sheriff's Assoc. two \$500 awards, Chiefs of Police one \$500 award. All awards are to be split for Winter and Spring terms. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office. Deadline: Feb. 17, 1992.

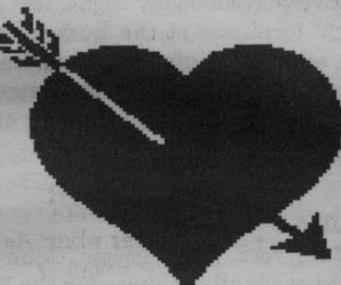
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WANTED

I'm a handyman looking for work in Corvallis. If you have anything you've been putting off that needs to be done, call me! Free estimates, reasonable rates. Stanley at 752-6473.



Love Notes!

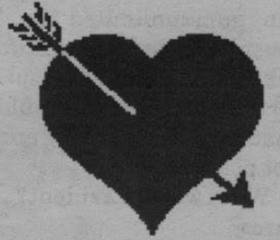
Tell someone you love them, and that you're thinking of them in the Wednesday, February 12th issue of The Commuter. Just bring this advertisement to CC-210, the Commuter office, on or before Monday, February 10th at Noon.

Name _____

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sports

To be true all-star, Magic should decline invitation

By Mark Peterson
Of The Commuter

This Sunday, Earvin "Magic" Johnson will play in his eleventh NBA All-Star Game since coming into the league in 1979. He will be reunited with such great opponents as Larry Bird, Patrick Ewing and Michael Jordan.

However, this All-Star Game, Magic should not be playing.

Sure he did a lot for the NBA and is a true legend, but he retired from the Los Angeles Lakers on November 7 without playing even one regular season game.

The fans voted Magic to start in this year's game, but he shouldn't. My concerns are not medical—for him or any other player—but are a matter of principle.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not abandoning Magic because he contracted the HIV virus. As a fan of the game, I have had great respect for the man. All I'm saying is that he should not play in the All-Star Game.

The All-Star Game is for players who are having good seasons, and Magic has not put up the numbers—he has not even played.

Charles Barkley, of the Philadelphia 76ers, has said that the All-Star Game should not be an opportunity for Magic to return to the game. "I have thought about picking up the phone, calling Magic and telling him maybe he shouldn't play in the All-Star Game," Barkley said.

Mike Schmidt, an outstanding player, retired from the Philadelphia Phillies before the Major League Baseball All-Star break back in 1988, but was voted to start at third base for the National League. He was there, but he did not play.

I do give NBA commissioner David Stern credit for adding an extra spot on the Western Conference roster so Magic would not take up someone else's spot. The player who was added was Golden State Warriors' guard Mitch Richmond, who is actually putting up the numbers.

However, Magic does deserve to play in the Olympics. He was chosen to be on the U.S. Olympic team back in September, before his retirement. Many doctors have said there is no real risk.

I have never seen Magic cut in a basketball game, so let him play in the Olympics.

On Sunday, I will cheer for Magic and will enjoy watching him play, but I will realize that he should not be there.

on the
mark

Hoops referee enforces order on the court

After blowing his whistle for 19 years, Dave Ferrin enjoys unenviable job

By Joel Slaughter
Of The Commuter

When Linn-Benton forward Justin Labhart was playing for West Albany in the OSAA High School basketball title game last year, Dave Ferrin was watching his every move. Labhart probably had no idea that Ferrin was keeping an eye on him, and that's exactly what Ferrin wanted.

That's because he was refereeing.

Ferrin, 39, has been a partner and owner for 15 years in Scellars Etzel & Rising, Inc., an independent insurance agency, but has also been a basketball referee for nearly 20 years. A life-long basketball enthusiast, he has competed at the junior high and high school levels. After finishing at Pacific Lutheran University in 1974, Ferrin returned to Salem and was introduced to refereeing by former junior high coach and well-respected veteran referee Bob Flood.

"He kind of took me under his wing and took me to a couple scrimmages and went through the rule books, and I was hooked right away," said Ferrin.

Focused only on basketball, Ferrin referees at four different levels. He officiates for 10 months of the year stretching from October to July for summer leagues and travels mostly just around Oregon. "I am in the State High School Association, the Junior College Association, the Small College Association of Oregon, and I do Division I basketball in the West Coast Conference," he said.

Most fans are probably also unaware of the fact that referees must "make the grade" just like players in order to referee each season. "We are required through the OSAA to be certified every year," said Ferrin. "We do continually, year in and year out, study, strive to get the game better and understand the rules better and become more effective."

Ferrin explained that making mistakes as a referee is inevitable, but that the key to being a respectable referee is being able to admit it. "All referees have made mistakes," he said. "We make hundreds of split-second decisions in a short period of time. We make mistakes every night we referee. That's a given. The good officials are the ones who will admit that they make mistakes."

Ferrin said he always strives to be fair and not show any favoritism toward any player or team.

"We know who the superstars are and who the good players are, but we're not going to give them any bit of slack," said Ferrin. "There are rumors that that's happened, but there's absolutely no way that you give out any special favors to anybody, any team, no matter what. As basketball referees, we want to be able to walk into any gym, in any city, in any part of the state, at any level, and when the spectators, the players, and the coaches see us walk onto the floor, they know that they're going to get a fair game."



Dave Ferrin has been refereeing high school and college basketball in Oregon for 19 years.

That's important to us. We have to be fair. We have to give each team an opportunity to have a fair shot at winning the ball game."

Ferrin believes that there are three main things that contribute to his success as a referee. "I'm dead set," he said, "on No. 1, being in tremendous shape; No. 2, knowing the rules inside and out; and No. 3, having great people skills. Those are the three most important things in my repertoire."

According to Ferrin, teams are not judged as "good or bad" to a referee, but rated as difficult or not quite as difficult to officiate. For instance, he pointed out West Albany has a reputation of being difficult to referee because of their style of play. "They're pressing, trapping, using the entire court, run 'n gun," said Ferrin. "That style of play is very difficult to referee with two men."

One of Ferrin's primary concerns with basketball officiating today is the increasing need to add a third referee.

"We are working with two referees at the high school level, community college level, and the NAIA level. The game has gone way ahead of the two referees. We need somehow to incorporate three referees into the system. That's one thing that we're really pushing hard for."

According to Ferrin, most spectators don't appreciate the fact that basketball is one of the most difficult sports to referee. "If it was an easy game, everybody would do it."

LB loses two games

By Steev Wilkinson
For The Commuter

LBCC fell to a tough Lane Community College basketball team, 87-76, last Wednesday.

After falling behind by 17 early in the second half, LB rallied to within 8 points with less than two minutes to play. The Roadrunners could get no closer as Lane held on for the win.

Ramiro Ramirez led the Roadrunners with 24 points and 9 rebounds. Eric Price chipped in 19 points and Zac Metzker added 13.

Clackamas Community College used a huge second half to defeat Linn-Benton, 80-62, on Saturday.

Clackamas shot 86 percent to Linn-Benton's 42 percent in the second half as the Cougars built a comfortable lead early in the period.

The Roadrunners pulled to within 8 at the 4 minute mark but two quick turnovers led to easy scores for Clackamas, putting a stop to the rally.

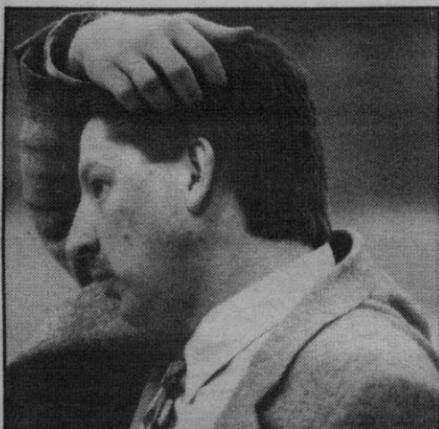


Photo by Pedro Luna

Coach Falk shows his frustration as his team goes down to the Cougars.

Justin Labhart paced LB with 18 points while Ramirez added 16 and led the team with 9 rebounds.

Linn-Benton fell to 1-7 in league and 6-14 overall.

Tonight LB plays host to Umpqua Community College at 8:00 p.m.

On Saturday, the Roadrunners travel to Portland to take on Portland Community College.

Roadrunners split, go to 3-5

By Joel Slaughter
Of The Commuter

Linn-Benton's Lady Roadrunners fell behind early on the road against Lane last Wednesday and failed to recover, as Lane took a commanding 60-19 lead into the locker room at halftime and cruised to a 112-68 win over the Roadrunners last Wednesday.

Jenny Stoullil scored 27 points for LB, including 5 for 9 shooting from three-point land.

Led by Stoullil, the Roadrunners shot a stunning 53 percent behind the three-point line, but finished the game at only 34 percent overall from the field. Lane ended the contest at an incredible 68 percent from the floor.

Lane also out-rebounded LB by 14 boards, capitalized on 33 Roadrunner turnovers, and handed out 23 assists to LB's four.

Tina Johnson added 14 points and Nancy Riedman had 10 points and 6 rebounds for the Roadrunners. Mary

Ann Graham scored 33 points, hauled down 13 boards, and dished out six assists for Lane.

LB snaps three-game skid

Tina Johnson spurred a Roadrunner charge last Saturday as LB broke a three-game losing streak with a 77-68 home victory over Clackamas. Johnson finished the game with 27 points and 14 rebounds.

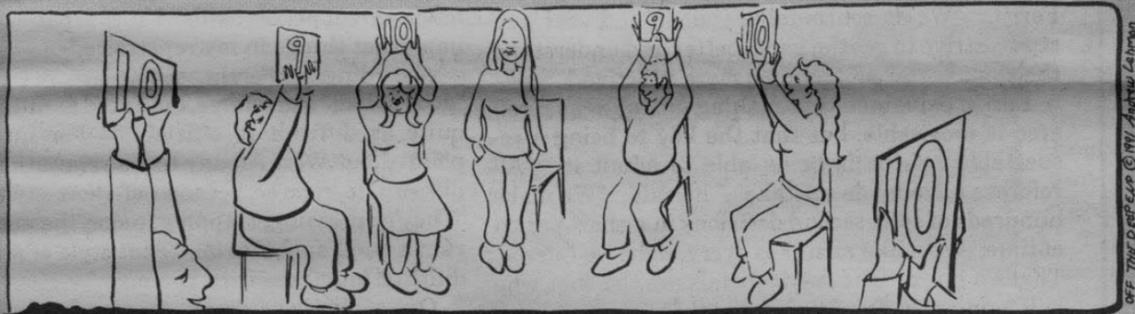
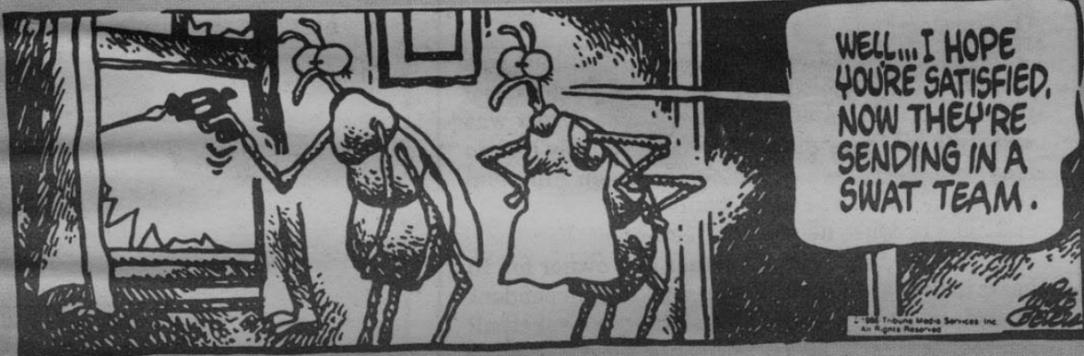
Linn-Benton rode a 35-30 halftime lead as they controlled the tempo and Clackamas. Nancy Riedman chalked up 19 points and Nikki Endicott scored 7 points and had 6 assists for LB.

Jenny Topham led Clackamas with 26 points, 15 rebounds, and 5 assists. The win boosted LB to 3-5 in league, 9-12 overall.

The Roadrunners host Umpqua tonight, with a 6 p.m. tipoff in the Activities Center.

Students are admitted free if they show their student body card.

the funny page



AMY PULLS A 9.75 IN HER 12-STEP GROUP WHEN SHE FINALLY RECOGNIZES HER BOYFRIEND AS A JERK.



THOR, JESUS, AND HANDY ANDY DISCUSS THE EVOLUTION OF THE HAMMER IN TRADITIONAL CARPENTRY.

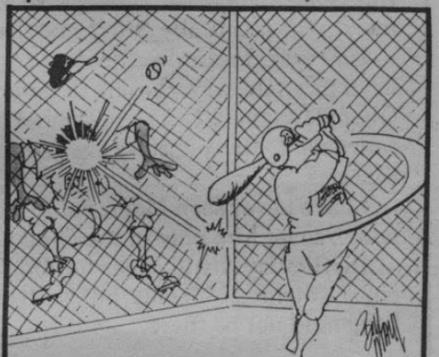
top ten list

From the home-office in Grass Valley, here's this week's Top Ten List of Mike Tyson's favorite pick-up lines.

10. My bathtub gets cable.
9. They call me "Iron Mike" 'cuz I like to use em on my women.
8. I'll set your friend up with my buddy Leon Spinks.
7. Skip the swimsuit competition, lets move on to the talent portion.
6. See this scar, that's where Robin's mother got me with a Weed-eater.
5. I be a Libra, you must be a no bra.
4. I keep getting calls from this winch, "Patty Ternity" something about a suit I left with her nine months ago.
3. I leave a lasting impression on women.
2. I'm quick with words, If you spell Tyson backwards it say; no syt.
1. I'll let you run your hands through Don King's hair.



Sports Hall of Shame by Nash & Zullo

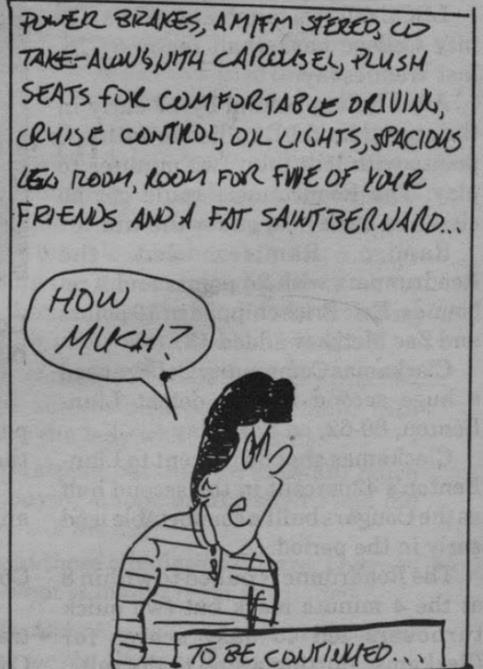


DEION SANDERS OF THE ATLANTA BRAVES SUFFERED AN EMBARRASSING INJURY IN 1991 WHEN HE STUCK HIS NOSE WHERE IT DIDN'T BELONG. THE ROOKIE OUTFIELDER WAS WATCHING BATTING PRACTICE A BIT TOO CLOSELY WHEN A FOUL TIP RICOCHETED AGAINST THE BATTING CAGE MESH — AND SMACKED SANDERS SQUARE ON THE NOSE.

"THE CAR SALESMAN"

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TO BE CONTINUED...