

**Graffiti Wars**



Photo by Josh Burk

Campus bathrooms have become the target of ever-more aggressive graffiti and tagging this fall, frustrating efforts of the college's janitorial crews. The bathroom on the second level of the College Center (above) has been particularly hard hit. Maintenance crews painted it over in black, and, when that didn't work, hung up a sheet of paper for the persistent tagger. But that disappeared and additional markings showed up. Maintenance Supervisor Kevin Lacey said that hanging paper has helped in some restrooms, but that it's not effective in this case because "we have a particular artist" who tags the stalls nearly every day.

**Credit checks may help slow loan default rate**

by Justin Dalton  
of The Commuter

Students seeking financial loans this year found they had to pass a credit check to qualify.

The credit checks were instituted this fall to ensure that loan applicants were good risks in an effort to lower LBCC's loan default rate. Last year, default rates soared over 24 percent, meaning that roughly one out of four students failed to pay back their federal loans.

"The credit checks are the most focused problem solver available, said the Financial Aid Director Lance Popoff. However, they are relatively unpopular among students." According to Popoff, many students feel that credit checks are infringing on their right to an education. "It's the old Catch 22," Popoff stated. "Those who need it can't get it." But Popoff pointed out that the credit check uses a relatively low score, which "makes it pretty easy for students to get a loan."

An appeal process is also available to students who get denied for federal aid. The process allows a student to sit down with the financial aid directors and assess his/her credit record. This allows the Financial Aid Department to learn the reasons behind a student's bad credit history.

LBCC student Jon Puffpaff was one of the many who  
(turn to "Credit" on Page 2)

**Free pizza not enough to draw students to focus group**

by Leslie Smith  
of The Commuter

"WANTED: Transfer Students."

These yellow advertisements were placed all over campus last week in an effort to get students to attend a focus group for OSU's marketing and advertising program.

Unfortunately, despite the inducement of free pizza and soft drinks, the turn out was less than expected.

The two sessions held on Nov. 13 attracted only two students to the 2-4 p.m. session and none to the 4-6 p.m. session.

Louann Johnson, assistant to OSU's marketing director, had expected at least 10-12 students for each session. The focus group needs "students that are already established and looking to extend their education," said Johnson, adding that the information provided about the

event may have been misleading.

Jill Schuster, OSU marketing director, was hoping to use the information provided at the focus group to decide on which advertisements would be more effective in reaching those students planning on advancing to OSU.

She planned on showing a series of commercial, print and radio ads about OSU, and to ask students to discuss which ads appealed to them the most.

When no students showed at the second session, Schuster sat down with LBCC Community Relations Director, Joe Sherlock to figure out a way to get more students involved in this process.

When another approach is decided on, Schuster and Johnson will be back on campus to get the information they need.

This focus group was one of many to prepare for a joint admissions program between OSU and LBCC.

**Ninth annual Thanksgiving Food Drive helps students and staff feel full of the holiday spirit**

by Schellene Pils  
of The Commuter

Thanksgiving, for many of us, is a time to spend with our families, reflecting on all the events of the past year and giving thanks for all the things we have.

This year LBCC's ninth annual Thanksgiving Food Drive, sponsored by the Independent Classified Association, will make about 30 members of the student body and staff a little more thankful.

The number of families helped by the food drive has grown from four in 1989 to 34 last year. This year, according to Kathy Withrow in Human Resources/Payroll, the number "will probably be close to that."

The names of the recipients are kept confidential. Withrow plans to contact the families who have been nominated for

gifts around the end of this week to tell them when and where to pick up the food boxes. In the past she has even delivered some of those meals herself to people without cars. The boxes will contain everything they need for a complete Thanksgiving dinner, plus a gift certificate to buy either a turkey or ham of their choice.

Donations in the form of nonperishable food items and cash will be accepted until Friday. Withrow said donations are coming in slowly now, but she expects them to pick up as Thanksgiving gets closer.

Larger donations have been made by the Management Employee Association, the Independent Classified Association and Faculty Association, with the Student Programming Board taking on the entire dinner for three families.

(turn to "Food" on Page 2)

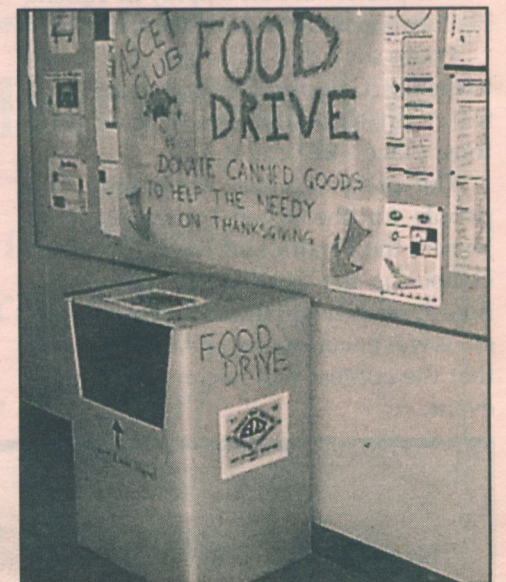


Photo by Josh Burk

Drop boxes await donations of food.

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Bruce Moos, architect of LB's ag department, set to retire

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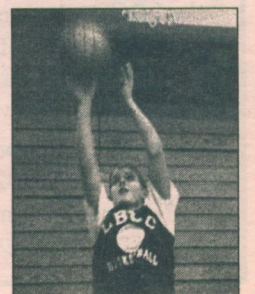
**Check This Out**

No place to go this Thanksgiving? Joe Novak's Hungarian Restaurant in Albany is offering free dinners. Call 967-9488.

✓ **Hoop Time**

Basketball squads look forward to promising new seasons

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# Council seeks student opinions on changes in policies

by Julie Smyth  
of The Commuter

According to student council members, students and staff will soon be asked their opinions about the computer competency requirement, the proposed smoking rules and block scheduling for certificate programs at LBCC.

At last week's council meeting Representative Shauna Kiefiuk reported that the Curricular Issues Committee discussed the possibilities of changing the computer competency requirement. A survey will be conducted of students and staff, and the issue will be brought up again after the results of the survey are in.

Kiefiuk and Representative Amanda Klindtworth reported that John Berg, dean of Business and Health Occupations met with them to discuss problems with the proposed smoking rules. According to Kiefiuk,

Berg said the rules couldn't be effectively enforced and he wanted students' opinions on the issue.

Kiefiuk and Klindtworth also reported that they met with Jackie Paulson, the Nursing Program director, to discuss her concerns over the health van, which visits the campus every Wednesday. Her main concern was that many students who use the van haven't been paying for its services, said Kiefiuk, who also mentioned that Paulson wanted student government to take on the responsibilities of the health van because she won't be at LBCC next year.

Representative Jennifer McKinnon reported that the Diversity Committee is looking for mentors for international students who come to school directly from their home countries. Most colleges have similar programs, said Advisor Tammi Paul Bryant.

Representative James Chancellor reported that the

"Pass the Buck" boxes will be replaced by the welding department. The boxes are for suggestions, which are passed on to the staff or department they affect. Each of the 24 boxes is expected to cost \$60.

The meeting ended with a discussion on term limits for student government officials. It was decided that student government was primarily an experiential organization, so the rules should encourage more people to participate.

The council then voted to impose a two-year term limit, with a five-year lifetime limit.

Before the meeting began, new At-Large Representative Patsy Fox was sworn in by Bryant.

Eleven members of student council and the Student Programming Board spent the weekend at a four-day conference in San Diego, where they spent time in workshops and went sightseeing.

## Food donations help out this Thanksgiving

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The names of students and staff in need can be given to Withrow in the Human Resources/Payroll office, CC-113, or by calling 917-4426.

Food donations can be dropped off at:

- Human Resources/Payroll Office CC-113
- Science/Industry Division Office
- The Media Office outside the Library
- Admissions and Records in Takena Hall
- Activities Center Office
- Training and Business Development Center outside the Library
- Engineering Graphics in the Science and Technology Building
- Health Occupations Building
- Sweet Home Center
- Service Center

## Winners announced in poster contest

First place in the Health Poster Contest sponsored by the Student Programming Board went to Shelley King for her poster titled "Give a Spit."

Second place went to Laurie Alex for her poster titled "Live Life," and third place was also taken by King for her poster "Spittin' Image." Alex was given honorable mention for her other four entries.

The posters are on display in Takena Hall through the end of fall term.

Prizes awarded were gift certificates to the LBCC Bookstore. First place was a \$50 credit, second place a \$25 credit and third place a \$10 credit.

The poster contest drew only two people for the seven categories. Neil Jensen, the Health and Recreation Specialist for the Student Programming Board, said the quality of their submissions was encouraging and that he hopes that the contest will become an annual event.



Photo by Josh Burk

## Where's the Fire?

Students and staff mill around outside Takena Hall Thursday during the all campus fire drill. Risk Management Specialist Libby Stoops rated the drill a 6 (on a scale of 1-10). "It was a lot faster than last time," said Stoops. There were some problems, however. The alarm did not go off at all in the College Center and people coming and going in the parking lot were driving too fast. On more than one occasion someone almost got hit by a reckless driver, she said.

## Credit check shows promise in lowering default rate

✓ From Page 1

was denied a loan. "I applied for a student loan and got denied because of my adverse credit rating," Puffpaff said. "I think that it's a good idea because of the default rate. People are just taking advantage of the system." Puffpaff, who recently had a tragic accident, was swamped by doctor bills and later had to file bankruptcy. This discouraged him from appealing. "The extra debt kind of scared me," Puffpaff said.

According to Popoff, the appeal process takes into consideration special circumstances like Puffpaff's problems.

Popoff said the credit checks are going smoothly so far and are showing

signs of lowering the default rate.

The high default rate on student loans comes from students failing to make their payments. The federal government decided that if the school couldn't reduce their default rate, they would no longer offer federal loans to the college. LBCC formulated a program based on the one recently employed by Portland Community College (PCC). PCC started credit checks to solve their default problem, and it cut the percentage in half.

In the past, the Financial Aid Department has tried other methods to lower the default rate, but with minimal success. One of those methods was multiple disbursement of the loan, which spread

payment of the money over a period of time. This helped to deter students who took their money in the first week of school and then dropped out.

Even though Popoff says the credit checks are the only working solution at this time, he doesn't feel that they are fair to judge students' credibility on past history while denying them money they need to go to school. Several students have sent written complaints to Congress in hopes of stopping the credit checks, but no action has been taken.

Popoff invited anyone who has any suggestions or inquiries about the credit checks to contact him in the Financial Aid Office.

## commuter staff

The Commuter is the weekly student-managed newspaper for Linn-Benton Community College, financed by student fees and advertising.

Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty or Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them. Readers are encouraged to use The Commuter Opinion Page to express their views on campus or community matters.

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**Photographer**: Rebecca Hundt.

## CAMPUS NEWS

# Backbone of the agricultural department retires after 23 years

by Jennifer Smith  
of The Commuter

Bruce Moos came to LBCC in 1975 to help create a livestock judging team, one that would become the best team in the Northwest.

And now he's retiring with the satisfaction of completing his goal.

Moos was hired because of his expertise in judging. The students at that time had put together their own judging team, but they needed an instructor, so Moos came to fill those shoes.

Just two years later, Moos led the judging team to second place among the 4,000 teams in the country at the Louisville, Ky., Judging Contest. Moos remembers this as one of his highlights of teaching at LBCC.

Moos had been a professional judge and trainer with 4-H, open class and FFA for 11 years before joining the staff at LBCC. He has a bachelor's degree in animal science from Fresno State and a master's in agriculture from OSU.

His interest in animals started when Moos moved to a farm his freshman year in high school and was active in 4-H. He also worked for livestock producers in the summer, showing animals in fairs in Central California.

Horse management instructor Jim Lucas, a colleague of Moos for 20 years, speaks highly of his partner in the agriculture department.

"This guy is 100 percent responsible for the agriculture department," Lucas said. "He's the anchor of it. He also developed our judging program, the most successful on the West Coast."

Moos has also kept track of where past students ended up after graduation. His list is a long one, including nine who are high school agriculture teachers, one a feed store owner in Salem, one a teacher here at LBCC, one on the Oregon Beef Council, one on the USDA

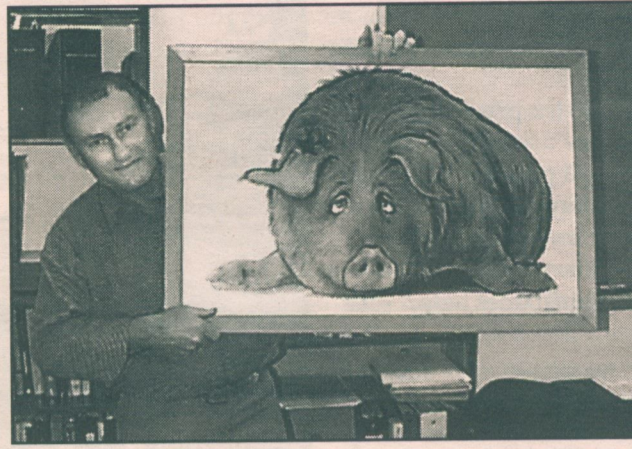


Photo by Josh Burk

**Bruce Moos poses with his favorite pig portrait.**

*"One of the neatest things about Bruce is he goes above and beyond his teaching duties. I could talk for hours about him. He's the model master teacher."*

—Jim Lucas

market research team and one with an artificial insemination business.

Moos was honored by the Junior College Coaches Association in San Francisco, Calif., last month with a plaque thanking him for 23 years promoting and working in the judging program. He also received a Distinguished Staff Award here at Linn-Benton a few years ago.

The results of Moos' work can be seen everywhere. He manages the OSU and LBCC Swine Center, which holds a hundred animals for use by classes. "It's a great opportunity for students," Moos said. He's also worked

with 4-H groups and is in charge of the recruiting program for the agriculture department for LBCC.

"He visits 20 to 40 high schools a year," Lucas said. "One of the neatest things about Bruce is he goes above and beyond his teaching duties. I could talk for hours about him. He's the model master teacher."

When Moos retires in March next year, he will be looking forward to "goofing off" and spending time on things he really wants to do.

But that doesn't mean he won't be busy. Participating in the Medford Judging Contest and being involved with the OSU Extension Service Carcass Evaluation Program are already on the list, in addition to helping people out on "special projects."

"My life has revolved around my job for the past 34 years," Moos said, and when he retires he won't be leaving for good.

"I want to see the program continue and do well. It would be unfair to drop the ball in the middle of the year," Moos said.

Asked what he'd miss the most about teaching, Moos said he'd miss the day-to-day contact with people. "I've totally enjoyed it. It's been good. I have no complaints," said Moos.

As far as personal interest in animals, Moos' obvious love of pigs can be seen when you visit his office.

"They got me through school," he said.

He lives on five acres in Blodgett west of Philomath. Three are fir trees and grazing land for three steers in the summer.

Known for his sense of humor, Moos says he's a sort of campus distribution center for jokes.

"People give them to me, I change them a bit to make them more funny and tell them when the time is right."

Lucas says Moos is always cheerful and enthusiastic. "You feel up when you're around him. We'll have a tough time filling his shoes."

## New major offers opportunity for computer lovers who hate math

by Brock Jacks  
of The Commuter

LBCC students looking for a career in the field of computers can now get a degree without all the math.

The major is called Computer User Support, and it focuses on the practical and business use of computers. The program, which began three years ago, now has 37 students enrolled training to be hardware or software consultants. Students completing the two-year program earn an Associate of Applied Science degree.

The general requirements are the same as with

any other AAS degree, but after that students take software fall term, hardware winter term and network spring term. They learn to do such things as install memory and hard drives, work with software conflicts and possibly even build a computer from scratch. There are even classes taught on how to deal with the public.

"The advisory committee is excited and sees a real need for the program," said Peggy Weems, program coordinator. "The community is giving some real positive feedback."

While students are enrolled in the program, they can gain work experience on campus in one of the com-

puter labs or at places like OREMET, Hewlett-Packard, Greater Albany Public Schools and Diamond Multimedia, across the street from LBCC.

Weems said that recently OSU and the U of O contacted them about job openings, adding "We continually have more positions available than we're able to fill."

David Smith, who is in his second year of the program and plans to work in network administration, agreed that it is a good program with lots of job opportunities. "When asked why he chose this fast track into the field of computers, he said, 'I just like working with computers and doing neat things.'"

### Advertise in this space.

More than 10,000 people attend LBCC, from 19-year-old skateboarders to 30-something Moms and Dads. They live in Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon, Sweet Home and all points between.

They work, play and shop in their local communities. For many, the Commuter is the only newspaper they take the time to read. If you want to reach them give us a call at 917-4452.

## I Never Called it Rape

*A workshop on understanding and overcoming acquaintance rape*

November 24, 1997  
Noon to 1:30 p.m.  
LBCC Board Rooms



For more information, contact  
the Counseling Center, 917-4780

## CAMPUS NEWS

## Espresso stands popping up all over Albany's roads

by Jason Ouellette  
of The Commuter

It seems like everyday a new espresso booth is popping up somewhere in the Mid-Valley, and entrepreneurs are taking advantage of the addiction of others.

There are currently 10 espresso booths in and around the community of Albany. These mini-businesses provide a service for a society that's on the go.

"Coffee is in style; it's always been in style and it always will be," said Jennifer Austin owner of Sports Espresso. "People have less time these days—booths are much quicker for them."

"It saves me a ton of time to be able to just drive up and get my coffee," said Mike Anderson, Sports Espresso customer.

These booths offer a popular service, but there are some qualities a customer should look for before choosing a regular espresso place at which to spend their money.

"Customers should look for how there being catered to and if their drink tastes exactly the same every time they come in," said Austin.

Price is also a big factor for most

people. Espresso can get fairly expensive. Most espresso shacks have the same prices, but some charge \$1.25 for a tall latte, while others may charge \$2.25 for the same drink.

The big reason for the price difference is the brand of coffee used. Allan Brothers is one of the most popular, although there is a wide variety available.

How can coffeehouses survive with all these other booths coming in?

"It hurts more than it does help," said Austin. "Because if that booth is having a special, then your customers are going to go there. But on the upside, if your customer goes somewhere else and they don't like it, they'll come back to you, and you've gained a regular customer."

The vast rise of espresso booths seem to benefit everyone. Customers love the in-and-out service, and owners are raking in the profits. It's not uncommon for a coffee house to make anywhere from \$300 to \$500 a day.

"If my booth was the only one in town espresso wouldn't be quite as popular," said Austin. "But because they're coming about everywhere, those who haven't tried it want to."



Photo by Josh Burk

A boom in espresso booths has hit the Albany area, which now has about 10 of the drive-up coffee stands like this one near Fred Meyer on Santiam Highway. Closer to campus are Cafe Junction, just south of the Target Distribution Center, and another booth north of campus across from Safeway.

## New policy seeks to end unpleasant surprises for students expecting to graduate

by Valerie Blank  
of The Commuter

It happens all the time. Students think that they are ready to graduate and receive their degree, but when it's time for graduation evaluation, they find out that they still need to take more classes to meet their degree requirements.

According to Donna James, admissions coordinator, LBCC is developing a new graduation review process that will help prevent these mishaps from occurring. "It will give students the opportunity to be more in charge of their academic progress," she said.

Part of the new process includes a worksheet that

students receive upon registration. This form is used to follow individual progress through the program, when discussing program requirements with an advisor and when preparing for registration.

The next step of the plan is to complete the graduation worksheet and have it approved about two terms prior to graduation. That way, if a student still needs a required class, he or she would still have time to take the course and graduate on time.

Following this, Admissions/Records reviews the worksheets and notifies the students of their graduation status. If students don't complete program requirements, a letter of denial will be sent to them saying

what needs to be done to finish.

"I think that this process will really help the students to be clear about what they need to graduate," said James.

Another change included in the process is the way the school evaluates transfer credits from other schools. Currently, transfer students are evaluated for a specific degree. When the new program goes into effect, it will be determined what courses from the student's former college are equivalent to the courses at LBCC, and those credits will be transferred.

According to James, the new process will start winter term, but it won't be required until spring term.

## classifieds

## HELP WANTED

COMPUTERIZED NOTETAKER. For the Office of Disability Services. We need someone to communicate and take computerized notes with another student using laptop computers. Student needs to understand, comprehend, and paraphrase from lectures within various class settings, including group activities. Must be able to type 50-55 wpm on a laptop keyboard. Hours vary, pay is \$10.01 per hour. Contact Nancy Sheffield in LRC-200 or call 917-4686.

Community Skills Trainer/Job Coach—Work side-by-side w/ disabled client/trainees creating new jobs or retraining those positions needing extra assistance after employment has begun. You need the gift of gab while you match people to job openings. See Carla, Student Employment (T-101).

Universal Teller (Corvallis). If you have great customer service skills, enjoy the bank environment, and are flexible see Carla in the Career Center (T-101).

Receptionist (Albany) Do you have skills in answering multi-line phones. Excel, Word, spreadsheets, and typing? One year of experience and customer service skills. If this is you, see Carla in Student Employment (T-101).

Treatment Assistant (Albany). Want to get some experience and work part-time? Assist counselors in monitoring teenagers at adolescent chemical dependence treatment center. See Carla in Career Center (T-101).

Job Opportunity. Retired marketing executive seeking mature college students as business associates. Flexible hours to match your schedule. Two requirements; 1) must enjoy working with people 2) serious about additional monthly income. Training provided. Exciting opportunity with great company.

Not MLM. For interview call 541-926-8508.

LOOKING FOR WORK DURING YOUR CHRISTMAS BREAK??? We are looking for three people to install wiring and terminals in groceries stores. Some wiring exp. preferred. Please apply at Barrett Business Services, Inc. 1010 Airport Rd S.E. Albany Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual group is meeting every Tuesday, this term, from 3-4 p.m. Re: Social activities, support and community building. Call 917-4660 for meeting place, someone will call you back!

Holiday Bazaar: First Church of God 1225 SW 15th Ave. Albany Fri Nov 21 9a.m.-6p.m., Sat Nov 22 9a.m.-5p.m. Admission \$3.50 adults \$2.50 children. Lunch available both days.

## FOR SALE

Computer with Windows 95 and a Lexmark printer. Call 917-0302 for more information.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

ALL-USA Academic Team Competition for 20 \$2,500 scholarship awards. First team members also receive a trip to Washington D.C. Applicants must graduate by Aug. 31, 1998. Judging based on scholarship and involvement. Contact Rosemary Bennett (917-4780) in Takena Room 101 for details. Deadline: Nov. 21.

Guistwhite Scholar program for Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society members. Ten \$5,000 transfer scholarships awarded to community college graduates. Deadline: June 1. Download application from [www.PhiThetaKappa.jackson.ms.us](http://www.PhiThetaKappa.jackson.ms.us) or contact advisor Rosemary Bennett in Takena Hall Room 101.

Scholarship available for Broadcast Journalism majors. Contact OSSC Valley River Office Park, Suite 100, Eugene, OR 97401. Must be Oregon Resident. Submit Federal financial aid application. Deadline March 1, 1998

## Classified Ad Policy

**Deadline:** Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads will appear only once per submission. If you wish a particular ad to appear in successive issues, you must resubmit it.

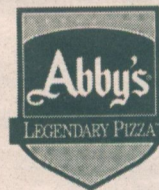
**Cost:** Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free to students, staff and faculty. All others are charged at a rate of 10 cents per word, payable when the ad is accepted.

**Personals:** Ads placed in the "Personals" category are limited to one ad per advertiser per week; no more than 50 words per ad.

**Libel/Taste:** The Commuter will not

knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in an unfair manner. Any advertisement judged libelous or in poor taste by the editorial staff will be rejected.

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



3033 Santiam Hwy.  
Albany  
928-9311

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

## COUPON

\$3.00 OFF  
Any Giant Pizza

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



## COUPON

\$2.00 OFF  
Any Large Pizza

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



Country Junction Coffee

33736 HWY 99E  
Tangent, Or 97389  
(541) 926-5859



Free  
Cookies

Mention this ad and receive  
free cookies with the  
purchase of any hot drink.

-Open-  
Monday - Saturday  
5 am - 6 pm

## CAMPUS NEWS

## New linked class examines rock 'n' roll's part in history

by Pete Petryszak  
of The Commuter

Elvis Presley probably had no idea that he was making history the night he performed "Hound Dog" on the Ed Sullivan Show.

Chances are, had The King lived to see the saw blade protruding from Blackie Lawless' codpiece on the cover of WASP's 1985 release "Animal," that he would have been just as shocked and outraged as those defenders of public morality who gasped at his hip-swivelling antics in the 1950s.

However, it was Elvis' willingness to push the envelope of what was acceptable in the 1950s that paved the way for other performers to do what some consider obscene in the 1980s and 90s.

This and other issues will be explored in a new linked course combining HST 203 (20th Century U.S. History) and MUS 105 (Introduction to Rock Music) next term. The idea is to offer students a chance to study how popular music shaped our culture in the second half of the century, and vice versa.

The course will meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. in the winter term.

"Much of our experience as Americans in this century is summarized, commented on and criticized in our popular music," says LBCC history instructor Doug Clark. "This is a way for students to make the events of this society connect with their own lives."

According to LBCC music instructor Gary Ruppert, the course will not focus on the chronology of popular music or rock trivia, but will instead examine how music reflects the culture of a particular time.

"If you listen to most rock music from the 1950s," Ruppert says, "you find that the lyrics are pretty bland."

Meanwhile, songs with comparatively raucous lyrics, like Chuck Berry's "School Days," didn't get much airplay. "So, what does that say about society and the people who decided what songs would be played on the radio then?" he asked.

The beginning of the course will focus on how music related to the Civil Rights movement and racial relations.

"A lot of the first rock 'n' roll songs were originally done by African American artists," Ruppert said. However, the versions of the songs we're most familiar with are covers of them done by white musicians.

The class will move on to look at protest songs and examine issues like censorship and the usurpation of rock music by the corporate culture.

The linked courses have several distinct advantages to taking the courses separately, according to the instructors.

First, Ruppert said, is that linked classes help students make connections between the material presented in the two classes. "When taking classes as isolated units, students usually have to make connections for themselves," he said. "This course assists them to make connections between those two concepts."

It also helps the instructors breathe new life into courses that have become routine.

"Sometimes, when we were talking about how to present some of the material, Doug and I realized that we ought to be having these conversations in front of a class full of students, to let them give their input as well," Ruppert said.

Students enrolled in the class will earn six credits, which can be applied to either the Associate of Arts or the Associate of Science degrees.

## where are they now?

## Former Roadrunner finds success in health club business

by Jason Ouellette  
of The Commuter

In the late 1970s, Linn-Benton had an up-and-coming basketball star named Rick Bennett. Twenty years later, Corvallis has an up-and-coming business owner.

A standout forward for the Roadrunners during his two years at LB, Bennett was part of a team that competed in the national community college tournament. They were beaten by an Idaho team in the first round, but that's the farthest a Linn-Benton team has ever gone.

Bennett said he really enjoyed the close friendships he made with team members and is still close with some of them today.

When Bennett graduated from LBCC with an associate's degree in Business, he decided to attend Oregon State University. He wasn't offered a scholarship for basketball, so he planned to try to join the team as a walk-on, he said.

But the summer before he started at OSU, he suffered a severe knee injury which brought his playing days to an end.

"I don't regret the injury; it was in the cards that were dealt to me," he said.

Since basketball was out of the



Photo by Josh Burk

Former Roadrunner Rick Bennett is owner of the Corvallis Fitness Center.

picture, Bennett was able to completely focus on school, and in 1981 he received his bachelor's in Business.

He took his newborn business knowledge on the road. Bennett knew that at that time the health club industry was lacking much-needed customer service. He traveled to many places like Florida

and Arizona, he explained, helping health clubs raise capital and run a better business for their customers.

Bennett became fairly popular with the health club industry. He said he was getting many requests by clubs to come and speak, plus he was making good money for his work.

Bennett married his wife Danielle in 1988 and continued traveling around to make a living. But the road started to grow weary for him, he said, and he wanted to settle down.

Bennett said he has wanted to own a business since high school, so in May of 1991 he bought the Corvallis Fitness Center. At the time the fitness center only had 1,100 members, and now it has gained 2,800 members. He also owns a fitness center in Lebanon with 550 members, which he purchased in Feb. 1996.

His business has prospered since 1993. "The biggest reason it has been successful is because of the staff I have. They really take care of the existing customers," he said.

Bennett, who turned 40 this year, became the father of twin sons on April 4. He said his Number 1 priority is his family.

Basketball is not on Bennett's mind these days. He loves golf, and is looking forward to coaching his sons through sports and life. He is getting ready for an early retirement, and said he may buy a second home in Bend.

"To be successful you have to be a risk-taker," he said. "You can't reach second base if you keep your foot on first base."

## Learning Community accepts new students

LBCC's Human Resource Learning Community invites new students majoring in Criminal Justice, Human Services, Education or Child and Family Studies to participate winter quarter. The only requirement for joining is that students be at the Writing 121 level.

Winter term classes include WR 121, CJ 202 Violence and Aggression, PSY 215 Introduction to Developmental Psychol-

ogy and Speech 218, for a total of 12 credits. In addition, students will take a one-credit career class with their program advisors. Classes are team-taught with integrated curriculum.

Students have the opportunity to apply class work to their future careers. For more information call Learning Community Coordinator Gina Vee at 917-4549.

## Industrial students sell small refrigerators

The refrigeration students have repaired several small, apartment-sized refrigerators and are selling them for \$25 to \$40.

They come in red, brown, green and blue and are approximately 2 cubic feet. They were obtained from OSU and are the perfect size for dorm rooms, accord-

ing to Mary Schmaltz of the Science/Technology/Industry Division.

To see them, go to the Industrial C Building between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Proceeds benefit the refrigeration unit of the Industrial Technical Society, a student organiza-



## The LBCC 27th Annual

## Children's Winter Festival

Saturday, Dec. 6, 1997 • 1:00-3:45 P.M.  
Ventriloquist/Magic Show Grande Finale at 3 P.M.

- Cookie Art
- Santa Claus
- Clown
- Father Claus
- Sing-A-Long
- Story Telling
- Free wrapped gift for each child

Free for all Linn and Benton County children 12 years old and under. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the LBCC Student Programming Board

LBCC is an equal opportunity institution. If you need accommodation for disability in order to attend, please contact the Student Life and Leadership Office, (541)-917-4457, at least 48 hours prior to the event.

Two can food donations are appreciated

Photo with Santa or Father Claus - \$1



# Get Involved With Student Life And Leadership

**Location: College Center Room 213 Phone: 917-4457**

The mission of this office is to promote and encourage the personal growth and leadership development of students through the provision of meaningful co-curricular and extra curricular activities. The following are the stated goals of the Office:

- *To provide opportunities for students to learn and practice leadership skills not available in other instructional programs.*
- *To provide events for both entertainment and education with a view toward "wholeness."*
- *To advocate student issues and aid in reducing barriers to attendance.*

## Associated Student Government (ASG)

ASG consists of 8 members: President, Vice President and one Representative from each of the following areas: Student Services/Extended Learning; Liberal Arts/Human Performance; Business/Health Occupations; Science & Industry, plus one At-Large Representative and one Public Relations/Secretary. ASG members are elected during Winter Term and take office during Spring Term. Minimum time requirements, including office hours and meetings, is 8 hours each week for President and Vice President, and 5 hours each week for representatives. The following are some of the duties and activities of ASG:

- *Act in an advisory capacity to the LBCC Board of Education and the Administration*
- *Serve as a communication liaison between LBCC students, staff, administration and faculty*
- *Coordinate the appointment of students to college committees*
- *Receive reports from and give input to students serving on college committees*
- *Respond to student suggestions, complaints, and other needs*
- *Recognize and aid LBCC special interest clubs and organizations*
- *Assist in the development, coordination and implementation of a balanced program of activities and events for LBCC students*
- *Develop and prepare a budget*
- *Make recommendations to the Dean of Student Services concerning allocation of funds to co-curricular programs.*

### Important dates for the next elections are

- *January 5, 1998 (applications available)*
- *February 13, 1998 (applications due)*
- *February 24-25, 1998 (elections)*

## Student Programming Board (SPB)

SPB consists of 8 members: Team Coordinator, Intramural and Recreational Sports Coordinator, Health and Recreational Specialist, Campus and Recreation Specialist, Community Events Specialist, Series Events Specialist, Current Events and Political Activities Specialist, and MultiCultural Activities Specialist. This Board oversees planning for student-sponsored programs brought to LBCC. The new Board takes office on Friday of the fifth week of Spring Quarter.

### Important dates for the next appointment process are

- *January 5, 1998 (applications available)*
- *February 23, 1998 (applications due)*
- *February 25, 1998 (interviews)*

Some events sponsored by SPB include the following:

- *Happy B-Day to the Ice Cream Cone*
- *Trip to Oregon Coast Aquarium*
- *Mt. Hood Railroad Trip*
- *Children's Winter Festival*
- *All-Campus Welcome Back Barbeque*
- *Blood Drive*
- *Halloween Open House*
- *Tree Decorating Party*
- *Turkey Trot Fun Run and Walk*
- *Guest Speaker Dr. John Frohnmayr*
- *Family Connections Seminars*

## Reasons You May Want to Get Involved in ASG or SPB

**Free Tuition ~ Free Leadership Training ~ Free Interpersonal Skills Training**  
**Representing Fellow Students ~ Planning Campus Activities**  
**Serving on Campus-Wide Committees ~ Having FUN**

### Reasons given by people who have become involved:

- *"To help me figure out what I wanted to do as a career . . . a great way to get help with tuition."*
- *"A desire to coordinate fun activities for the student body."*
- *"An opportunity to represent fellow students in matters that concern them . . ."*
- *"I enjoy the behind-the-scenes information."*
- *"I wanted to have a part in planning new activities for the school."*

**Want More Info?** Stop by the Student Life and Leadership Office in CC-213 to talk with a current ASG or SPB member or the Director Tammi S. Paul Bryant. If none of them are in the office at that time, ask to see a copy of their office hours. Or, if you would prefer to speak to one of them by telephone, call 917-4457.

## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## Looking for local music? You'll have to be resourceful

by E.J. Harris  
of The Commuter

If you're new to the area and live music is your thing, you'll soon learn that finding local bands requires a bit resourcefulness.

It seems at times that the Mid-Valley music scene is a dead horse—just whispers of punk bands, old men playing the blues and coffee-shop-pop jockeys passed from ear-to-ear at parties and other late night social scenes.

But that is a myth.

While it's true that there's a lack of regular all-ages venues that showcase local and regional acts, that doesn't mean there is none.

The Venetian Theater on First Avenue in Albany has been offering regular all-ages shows for over two years now, offering a wide variety of musical styles spanning from country to punk. It also provides a venue for local and regional acts like Rubberneck, The Daddies, Supersonic Soul Pimps and Calobo.

Another up-and-coming, although smaller, place that will soon offer shows with local talent is American Dream Pizza on Monroe Street in Corvallis, across from the OSU campus. The shows are free and will be on Fridays at 8 p.m.

Some other venues that hold all-ages shows on a less frequent basis are the Oddfellows Hall on Second Street in Corvallis, JC's Pizza on Third Street in Corvallis and OSU. The university offers many shows throughout the school year



Photo by Josh Burk

**The Venetian Theater at First and Broadablin in Albany is one of the few venues that regularly showcase local and regional bands. Finding information on who is playing where on any given weekend is often a matter of looking for posters on telephone poles and in music stores.**

that are held both on- and off-campus and are open to the public.

But how does one go about finding these elusive shows?

That's where being resourceful comes into play. If you're not willing to do a little legwork, you won't find them.

The most popular form of advertising for local concerts is postering and hand-

bills. They regularly appear in the same places, such as in music stores and on telephone poles along busy streets.

In fact, if you're having trouble finding information on who's playing where on any given weekend, take a walk down Monroe Street across from the OSU campus. You'll find an abundance of posters plastered to the telephone poles.

You can also use the local newspapers as sources for finding shows. Both the Gazette Times and the Democrat-Herald advertise music events in their weekly entertainment section, which is usually in the Friday edition of the papers.

In addition to the city papers, the Daily Barometer at OSU runs advertisements for shows both on- and off-campus. It can be found on the OSU campus and at several locations in downtown Corvallis.

Another option is the Northwest monthly music magazine, The Rocket, which offers listings of venues and shows throughout the Northwest, including the Venetian. The Rocket also has reviews and write-ups on bands and new album releases. It can be found at most music stores.

Once you start going to see bands and you find one you like, try signing their mailing list. Most bands will then send you a list of dates that they are playing, especially if they are coming to your area.

But if you are looking to see some of the larger national acts, then you'll need to "get out of Dodge." The majority of these shows bypass the Mid-Valley on their way to larger venues in Salem, Eugene and Portland. The Rocket would be a good resource to find information on these shows.

But if you're going to stay local you've got to keep your eyes open and watch the telephone poles. Otherwise you might miss a good show.

## Today's Open Mike offers opportunity for writers to share their work

by Keisha Merchant  
of The Commuter

"I will never forget the young man, maybe around 18, who read his work at the Open Mike sometime ago. When he read his work, the crowd responded with enthusiasm. I found out three weeks after that day he died in a car accident.

"I thought, he had that moment, a chance to speak out; nothing can take that from him. The Open Mike is a great way to do that," said Beth Camp, an English instructor and former head of the department at LBCC.

She hopes that many will come out and share what they have in today's Open Mike, which takes place from noon to 1 p.m. in the Alsea/Calapooia Room, upstairs in the Commons.

"It is an enriching experience to hear and read written work," said Camp, who has taught in the English Department for 13 years and has also been involved with the Open Mike.

English Instructor Jane White, who is in charge of this year's Open Mike, encouraged students and staff to "bring your lunch, bring your friends, or just come to be a supportive listener to the reader."

The Open Mike series has been held at LBCC for about eight years. White explained that if there is a big response, the Open Mike opportunity will be made more available, but now it is offered just once a term.

White invites writers to share their poems, essays and short stories at today's Open Mike.

## Gospel music groups flock to Albany for annual convention

by Mary Hake  
of The Commuter

Gov. John Kitzhaber has proclaimed November as Gospel Music month.

In the Nov. 7 proclamation, he stated that "throughout time gospel music has been sung and played by people from all walks of life and was a source of comfort and hope to our ancestors as they battled the elements and human tragedies on the Oregon Trail." He encouraged all citizens to join in this observance.

Gospel music has become quite popular in the Pacific Northwest, according to Ed Knox, general manager of KWIL and KEED radio. He said that it is not booming, but increasing at a steady pace.

Many nationally known Southern Gospel groups, such as the Florida Boys and the Cathedrals, regularly visit Oregon on their annual concert itineraries.

Last night Perfect Heart presented a concert at Albany's First Assembly of God. In January the Dixie Melody Boys, along with J.D. Sumner and the Stamps quartet, who formerly toured with Elvis Presley, will join the Knox Brothers, a local group, for Song Fest 98, a full evening of gospel music.

Over 20 Oregon gospel artists will be

featured this weekend at the third annual Oregon Gospel Music Association (OGMA) convention to be held this weekend at Grace Bible Fellowship, 33990 McFarland Rd., Albany. Concerts are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Friday and 4 p.m. Saturday. The admission price of \$7 covers both nights.

Knox, one of the founding members of the OGMA, said he expects this to be their biggest convention yet, with a crowd of 300 to 500 in attendance. Musical styles of member artists vary, he explained. Some are Southern Gospel, others easy listening.

The OGMA was started in the spring of 1994 by Gordon Kuryluk, of the Cornerstone singers from Harrisburg; Knox of Lebanon and Fred Morgan, former mayor of Harrisburg. They wanted to create a state organization to promote and showcase gospel music.

Knox also helps coordinate and promote concerts for well-known gospel groups and hosts a Saturday evening radio program called "Ed Knox Spins Gospel" on AM 790.

For more information about the OGMA or gospel concerts, contact Knox at 259-2198 or 926-2233.

## Shakespeare actors entertain, teach at LB

by James Eagan  
of The Commuter

Attending an Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OSF) play in Ashland is a special event.

Having two OSF actors come to your school, conduct a workshop, and perform for you is an even greater event.

Festival actors Tamu Gray and Robert M. Owens came to LBCC's Forum 104 to teach and perform last Friday, Nov. 14.

Gray, a first-time participant in the OSF School Visit Program, also taught an acting workshop for George Lauris' Acting I class, members of Jane Donovan's Improvisation class, and

members of Jane White's Shakespeare class.

In the workshop she taught the participants breath control, focus, and how to better understand the role an actor undertakes. She also directed some short improvisations, pulling "victims" from the audience.

Owens then joined her for the next hour at the public program, which included several classes from local high schools. He and Gray performed several scenes from Shakespeare's plays, including a hilarious 12-minute adaptation of "The Comedy of Errors." This is his second year participating in the school tour.



Gray



Owens

## Students can get into play cheap Thursday

by James Eagan  
of The Commuter

On Thursday, Nov. 20, the actors and crew involved in "Charley's Aunt" will gather for a "pick-up" rehearsal to refresh their minds for the second weekend of performance.

But unlike other pick-up rehearsals, this one will have an audience.

At 3 p.m. on Thursday, Takena Theatre will open its doors to all students

with a student body card or proof of enrollment to view the rehearsal.

For \$2, any LBCC student will be able to watch "one of the great comedy classics of all time," according to director George Lauris.

Tickets will be available on Thursday at the Takena Theatre box office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or at the door until 2:30 p.m. Seating is limited to 200 and is on the main stage of Takena Theatre.

# Coach Frazier plans to step aside after five seasons

by Shawna Phillips  
of The Commuter

Jayne Frazier, who has coached Linn-Benton's volleyball team for the past five seasons, might be taking the first break that she's had from the sport in 21 years.

It was announced to the public before the final volleyball game Wednesday in the Activities Center that Frazier will retire to spend time at home with her 3-year old daughter and her newborn, due this May.

Frazier's career in the sport began back in 1976 in the seventh grade. She played all throughout junior high and high school and played club volleyball when it first started in Oregon in the early 80s. Then she moved on to play both volleyball and basketball at Eastern Oregon State College. The teams that she played on generally made second or third place every year and went on to regional competition.

For most people who don't turn professional, making the regional tournament every year would be the high point of their playing days, but that isn't the case for Frazier. Her highlight was going to Australia to play volleyball against college teams there.

"It was a great experience for me," said Frazier. "It was a college tour team based in Sidney, and we traveled around and played different schools over there."

When Frazier turned 21, she got her first coaching



*"Last year would be the peak, when we went to the Regional Championships."*

—Jayme Frazier

and teaching job at a school near Roseburg. She coached both volleyball and basketball there until she got married. She and her husband then moved to Los Angeles, where Frazier had jobs at Venice High School and later at Beverly Hills High School.

But their life in California was short. Frazier had always wanted to go back to college to get her masters degree, and the Los Angeles riots made up her mind.

"I was kind of caught in a situation there where I was out jogging in the midst of all that," Frazier recalled. "It was just a very, very scary situation." After that incident she and her husband agreed that Los Angeles would not be a safe place to raise kids.

So they moved back to Oregon and attended OSU and Western Oregon to work on getting her master's degree. In July 1993 the coaching position at LBCC opened up, and Frazier was quick to grab it, and at the same time was able to finish her masters.

The Roadrunner volleyball team had gone a dismal 3-8 the year before Frazier took over, and she had to start from scratch with nine freshmen. They only won five games that year, but with a lot of scouting and recruiting she has managed to improve her team's record every year since then, except for this year, giving her a 79-72 record overall at LBCC.

"Last year would be the peak, when we went to the Regional Championships. That was something that Linn-Benton's never done," Frazier said proudly.

Although Frazier has retired from coaching, she still intends to stick around as a part-time or maybe even a full-time instructor, teaching volleyball classes and Lifetime Wellness. She said she thoroughly enjoys working at LB. She loves the staff, her students and, of course, her players. Frazier still keeps in contact with a lot of her former players and has been invited to quite a few weddings within the last year.

Frazier also mentioned that some other opportunities may be opening up for her, but she didn't want to say what they were at this time. For now, she is unsure exactly what the future has in store for her. One thing is certain, however—she is looking forward to having her second child early next year, before deciding whether to take a break or be like Cal Ripken, Jr., and keep the streak alive.

## jock in the box



**Who:** Jenny Gardner

**What:** Freshman middle blocker.

**Background:** Pleasant Hill H.S.

**Recent Highlights:** In last Wednesday's game she had 11 kills and added 3 blocks. She has also made a big improvement throughout the season.

**Sports Hero:** Her dad, Jeff Gardner

**Embarrassing Sports Moment:** "When we played Umpqua, I went up for a block and the ball ended up hitting me on the top of my head."

# 'Runners put up a fight but drop last game

by Shawna Phillips  
of The Commuter

Although the Linn-Benton volleyball team came out on the losing end of last Wednesday's match, they saved one of their best efforts for the last game of the season.

"Although the scores of the last two games don't say a whole lot, it was probably some of the best volleyball we've played all year," Coach Jayme Frazier said, complimenting her team.

The Roadrunners went up against third place Mt. Hood and played outstanding in the first and second games, winning the first 17-15 and just barely letting the second one slip out of their hands 15-10. Eventually, however, they succumbed to the Saints in the last two games, 15-3, 15-5.

Mt. Hood jumped out to an early 8-3 lead in Game 1, but LBCC picked up the intensity and eventually took the victory. Almost the exact same thing happened in the second game when the Saints took the early lead and the 'Runners came back to tie the game at 10. But this time LB was held scoreless for the rest of the game.

"It was a good, solid team effort," said Frazier. "Everybody played well. Everybody was on. They just out-played us in

the third and fourth games."

The Roadrunners just came out and played very flat in the third game after playing so hard in the first two games. The second-game heart-breaker seemed to take the steam out of the team, and after being devastated 15-3 in Game 3, the players were never able to regain the composure needed to put up a battle in the last game.

In this match both the offense and the defense were very strong, unlike a few of their earlier matches in which they did well in only one of the two categories.

For the offense, Dondi Schock racked up 15 kills and three service aces, while Melissa Gale had 14 kills. Jenny Gardner ended with 11 kills and a 33 percent hitting efficiency. Opal DePue had nine kills and a hitting efficiency of 25 percent. Tisha Hewitt added 53 assists.

Defensively, there were three players that reached double figures in digs—Gale with 14, Elicia McFadden with 12 and DePue with 11. DePue also blocked five shots.

"When we went down there and played at Mt. Hood, we did not play well at all," Frazier stated. "This time we made some improvements, but we just played with a lot of heart and it looked like everybody was committed to giving a



Photo by Shawna Phillips

**Tamara Trier goes for the kill in Wednesday's game against Mt. Hood.**

full effort on Wednesday."

The regular season may be over, but sophomores Gale and Schock could have one more game to play. Gale made second team all-league, and Schock got an honorable mention, which means that it is possible that they may be selected to play in the Sophomore All-Star game in early December.

# As snow begins to hit the slopes, students can't be far behind

by Curtis Larson  
of The Commuter

It's here! Winter is coming, the weather is getting cold, and the snow has begun its annual visit to the mountains.

It's time to reset our priorities and remember what's important. Yes, the ski season is just around the corner, and it's time for skiers to get busy.

The majority of the local ski resorts report some snow on the slopes and will be opening by the time Thanksgiving arrives.

Hoodoo's schedule runs from Nov. 28 through April 11, Thursday through Tuesday. It will also be open these Wednesdays: Dec. 17, 24 and 31, and March 25. Hoodoo will be closed Christmas day.

Daily ticket prices (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) are \$23 for adults and \$17 for juniors. "Late Day" tickets (1 to 4 p.m.) are \$19 for adult and \$13 for juniors. For those who cannot get enough, marathon skiing (9 a.m. to 10 p.m.) is \$27 for adults and \$20 for juniors. Children under 6 are free.

For those who like to test the snow before spending

their money, Hoodoo allows you to ski for free the first hour of every operating day to make sure you approve of the conditions. If you're satisfied, you can stay and have fun all day. For more information, call Hoodoo Ski Bowl at 541-822-3799.

Mt. Ashland is scheduled to open Nov. 26, snow permitting. Although there is currently no new snow, chances are high for heavy snow by that day, according to a report from Mt. Ashland. The hours will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the ticket prices are \$21 for adults (\$26 on holidays) and \$15 for juniors/seniors (\$19 on holidays). Skiers under 8 or over 70 are free. For more information, call 541-482-2897. And for information on snow reports, the number is 541-770-2SKI.

Timberline is already open from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (In fact, they are already warning us of winter road conditions.) Ticket prices are \$20 during the week and \$25 on weekends. For up-to-date information, call 503-322-2211.

Mt. Hood Ski Bowl will open in mid-November. Its hours will be Monday and Tuesday, 1 p.m. to 10 p.m.;

Wednesday and Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$20 on the holidays and \$26 on the weekends. For all day skiing, the price is \$30 and for half-day, \$21. For information call 503-222-2695.

A spokesperson for Willamette Pass said they have snow and will be opening on Nov. 19. The lift tickets are \$28, but special passports prices are also available. Operating hours begin at 9 a.m. for the daytime skiing, and their night skiing, which begins Dec. 5, goes from 4 to 9 p.m. Their information number is 541-345-7669.

Mt. Bachelor expects to open in one to two weeks. Ticket prices are \$39 for all-day skiing and \$33.50 for half-day. For information, call 1-800-829-2442.

When planning a ski trip, make sure that you call the slopes before go to check the safety of the roads and up-to-date skiing information.

Chances are that the slopes will have fresh snow, so you can plan on a ski outing after your Thanksgiving turkey.



## SPORTS PAGE

# Hoop Time

Roadrunner men optimistic as they return solid nucleus from last year's team

by Debi Cain  
of The Commuter

With five sophomores returning and a promising group of new recruits, Coach Randy Falk is optimistic about the upcoming men's basketball season.

"These guys are a lot of fun to work with. As a collective group, they are looking for great things from themselves," Falk said.

Coach Falk believes his players will be flexible when it comes to going with a big team or a fast, short team. "It depends on which line up I have on the floor at the time. We have the capability of doing a little bit of both," said Falk.

As for offense this season, the 'Runners will push the ball as much as possible toward the hoop, while the defense will be even quicker. "We'll look to press as much as we can, more this year than we did last year," Falk said.

Coach Falk's philosophy on the conference games is to "take every game as it comes."

Last year the 'Runners were 11-15 overall and 4-10 in league, finishing in last place.

Yet, there are two odd factors to last year's record. Fact #1: Four league losses occurred in overtime. Fact #2: Four teams in front of the Roadrunners were tied at 7-7 in the league.

"The league was as close as it could possibly be. I expect it to be every bit as close this year," Falk said.

The 1997-98 team consists of 14 players, two of whom are red-shirts. Five are returning sophomores: Justin Priddy, 5-foot-7, who shot 55 percent from the field last season; Brian Fauth, 6-foot-2, who racked up 92 assists; Ryan Kirch, 6-foot, who made 77 percent of his free throws; Brian Csergei, 6-foot-5, who stole 38 balls; and Nick Matsler, 6-foot-6, who had a total of 303 points for the season.

Practicing and playing basketball aren't the only things the men are required to concentrate on. Academics and avoiding drugs are also at the top of the list.

"Drugs are an automatic dismissal from the team. Alcohol is anywhere from suspension with counseling to dismissal," Falk said.

The coach has also applied a few other rules that he expects his players to follow. They are required to regularly attend school and study tables during the week, where they take time to do nothing but homework.

"If they miss a class, it's a five-day suspension, from the point of infraction, from a game or practice. And they still have to go to study tables," Falk said.

If they miss a practice without communicating to the coach, it's either a five-day suspension or a dismissal from the team.

The 'Runners open their season with a home game against Linfield's Junior Varsity Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m.

"We feel we have most of the pieces of the puzzle. They just need to come together for us to have a pretty good year," said Falk.

Newcomers on this year's roster are: Alvie Luke, 5-foot-11, Amity; Jason Hiebenthal, 5-foot-11, Thurston; Jovani Guadagnoli, 5-foot-11, Menaul, N.M.; Marc Cordle, 6-foot-2, South Albany; Michael Rahmn, 6-foot-5, Redmond; Ryan Howell, 6-foot-5, Bandon; and Todd Welch, 6-foot-9, Twin Falls, Idaho.

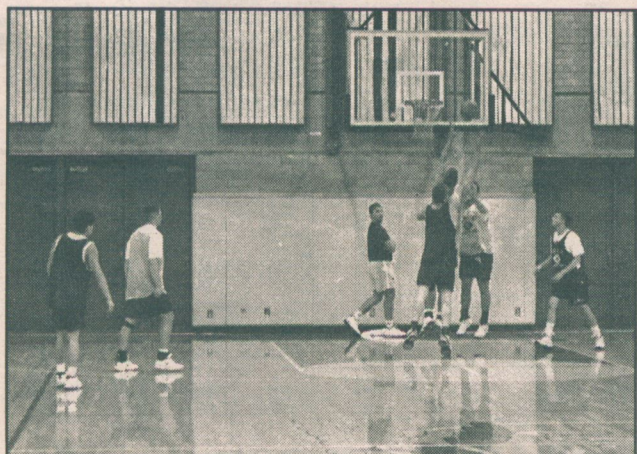


Photo by Michele Dardis

The Roadrunners get ready to open their new season on Dec. 1 with a home game at 7:30 p.m.



Photo by Michele Dardis

Members of the women's basketball team scrimmage with some of the men Coach Craig Jackson uses to keep his players sharp in preseason practices.

## Jackson confident as he enters first full year as women's hoop coach with all-freshman team

by Michele Dardis  
of The Commuter

Craig Jackson is entering his first full season as head coach of the LBCC women's basketball team with a group of all new players.

Jackson took over midseason last year when former Head Coach Bill Wold resigned, and spent the spring and summer recruiting his new team.

This year's women's basketball team has been hard at work preparing for the upcoming season since practice started Oct. 20.

The all-freshmen team is led by Melissa Hofman at the post and Leslie Boer and Beth Carroll on perimeter. Hofman, a Stayton graduate, helped her high school team win the 3-A State Championship last year. Boer was a point guard for Cascade High School in Turner and was named the All-Conference first Team and the East-West All-Star Team. Carroll, a wing for Kentwood High School in Kent, Wash., was All-Conference Second Team.

Jackson is unsure who will start throughout the season saying that all of the team will contribute with lots of playing time, so who starts isn't that important.

**"Ours is always the toughest conference in the NWACC. I'd be very disappointed if they weren't in the playoffs."**

—Craig Jackson

Jackson says he feels more comfortable with this year's 10 players than he did with last year's seven, explaining that he has worked with this year's team for some time, and they all are experienced players. Asked why he didn't keep any sophomores from last year's team, he said that it wasn't that they didn't need any sophomores, but that the freshmen recruited are really strong.

Last year's team finished seventh in the Southwestern Division with a 3-11 league record, and 8-18 overall.

"Ours is always the toughest conference in the NWACC," he said, adding that he expects his team to be right in with all of the other teams. "I'd be very disappointed if they weren't in the playoffs."

This year's point guards are Boer, 5-foot-4, from Cascade High School in Turner, Ore.; Carroll, 5-foot-7; and Samantha Nedry, 5-foot-5, from Naselle High School in Naselle, Wash.



Photo by Michele Dardis

Debi Cain drives for a layup during practice last week. Cain, 5-foot-5, is from Lewiston, Idaho. She is one of the 10 freshman on this year's team.

The wings are Carroll, Debi Cain, 5-foot-5, from Lewiston High School in Lewiston, Idaho; Jenny Gardner, 5-foot-10, from Pleasant Hill High School, Pleasant Hill, Ore.; and Tiffany Sweat, 5-foot-11, Thurston High School in Eugene.

The posts are Krysie Tack, 5-foot-11, from Sweet Home High School; Talia Cheren, 5-foot-11, from LaGrande High School; Karen Bryan, 5-foot-11, from Lebanon High School; and Hofmann, 6-foot.

This year's season starts with 10 of the first 12 games on the road. The first home game is Wednesday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m. against Umpqua.

## commentary

## Thanksgiving is time to wake the holiday spirit

by Keisha Merchant  
of The Commuter

I have a word to those who care. In this season of Thanksgiving, I hope that all will cherish and celebrate the beauty of being loved.

When the natives loved the Pilgrims and shared their ways and their food, the Pilgrims were fortunate.

When one culture loves another by being patient in the face of ignorance and rejection by those who can't empathize, that is love.

Forgiveness is part of love, but most of all sharing is love. I hope that this Thanksgiving one will find love and be thankful. Those who cannot see love and are blind to it are the unfortunate ones who I hope will one day open their eyes and they too will join in this special season of Thanksgiving.

That day the natives loved the Pilgrims and paid a price. Let's not forget and miss out on the precious gift of love. The path has already been paved for us, but we must first see it and choose to go.

I want to thank everyone who is reading this and to those who are motivated to help another.

I am thankful that more are leaving the desire to destroy the precious gift of life behind.

I am thankful that more are becoming teachers and showing others the way into life or back into it.

I am hoping that through the gift of love, it will conquer all and never again will anyone feed off of death, but develop and move in the path of life through love and thankfulness.

I am thankful for the patriarchs of all races who paved the path of love by sharing their gifts that brought life and not death.

I am thankful for my mother for not giving up though she had every right to. I am thankful for my sister and brother for not dying and not becoming part of the statistics and maintaining the struggle of thankfulness and love.

I am truly thankful to the one who made up the concept of love and passed it on.

Thanksgiving is expressed in many languages and through many forms. I hope that each and every one of us will join in a new compact of love and thankfulness in this season with their families and friends.

Happy Thanksgiving to all, and to all a good night.

This article I wrote after reading LBCC instructor Lance Spark's article about Thanksgiving.

Thank you for being the spark to my flame for this season of Thanksgiving.

## letter

## Story ignores positives for part-time teachers

To the Editor:

I would certainly be disappointed if I am not given equal time and space in our local paper to comment on Brock Jacks' article regarding part-time instructors at our college.

It seems that Mr. Jacks has overlooked staff such as myself, who are very satisfied and love to be part of the big picture here at Linn-Benton Community College. To quote someone who has taught at the University of Michigan and makes a lot less at LBCC is rather ridiculous, as I would be more concerned if someone here WAS receiving the same amount of pay as that of someone at such a large educational institution.

I am also concerned that students are now under the impression that we, as part-timers are unhappy and not treated with respect. Nothing could be further from the truth for me, personally. I feel that I've been around long enough to know we have choices as to how we live and perceive our environment; namely, here I focus on touching lives, and for part-time, the pay is much better than many other jobs! The fact that we don't have benefits seems to be a given for almost all part-time work.

The other issues, such as office space, computer access, etc., are common concerns at most work environments, as they each struggle to meet the demands of higher technology. I do not feel that full-time teaching staff treat part-time faculty as people of lesser value, and I am a P.E. instructor who has taught credit classes here now for four years and have also offered a staff fitness class here for three years. I can attest to the fact that the staff that attend (8-20) regularly, are as genuine and committed to their cause here as any group I have worked with, over the 20-year span of teaching fitness.

Job security was also a concern of some part-time faculty. It is true that we are always given a term by term contract, but from what I have seen, unless there is a major shift in staffing, all part-time staff have contracts renewed unless there is a performance issue involved, and of course, the student numbers must support the class being offered. That's where the challenge is, and yes, I was working extra hard the first two years to establish a good reputation, so now I know my

classes will continue, due to a good number of audit students, which may not apply as directly in other departments.

Bottom line is to do a great job and go home, knowing that the responsibilities are still less than those folks who are full-time, but put in many more hours than 40.

My final comments concern part-timers who feel that they are "invisible people." I have enjoyed many activities that were organized by student groups, by our dept., have attended our team tournaments, taken advantage of the one course per term fee "waiver" for classes, available to all staff, and was impressed by the effort of the organizers of LBCC 30th celebrations, namely being invited to a day at Silver Creek Falls and the on campus activities, which were available to all part-time faculty.

My hope is that the 35 percent of LBCC staff, who represent our part-time teaching staff, will take a less hardened attitude toward their work environment and work positively with the "Integration Committee" to strive to make a happier work environment for all LBCC staff; and not put energy into negative efforts and comments that are far from constructive for those who choose part-time in a professional environment such as the college.

Just a closing note: I did decide to pursue full-time work this fall as our son is now nine years, and there are good positions if one has excellent credentials, which makes me wonder why folks with PhDs are working part-time at Linn-Benton without a sincere desire to be there (i.e., complaining).

It was like leaving family for me to leave campus, even though I have accepted a full-time P.E. position at Western Oregon University, I have made a decision to also remain at Linn-Benton and teach 10 hours a week, sacrificing a Thursday night and four hours on Saturdays to fulfill my work obligations at both places. Maybe I am the extreme of a loyal employee, but again, it is only fair to offer an opposite point of view when I saw that negative voices received top coverage in The Commuter.

Elke Asleson  
Part-Time P.E. Instructor

## EXPRESS YOURSELF

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

Submissions may be in the form of letters to the editor or, for topics that require deeper analysis, guest columns.

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

Readers wishing to submit a guest column are asked to first discuss their idea with the editor.

Letters should be limited to 250 words or less, and will be edited for length, grammar and spelling.

In order to confirm the authenticity of letters, they must be signed, with phone number and address included.

As a general policy, the commuter will not publish anonymous letters to the editor, although the editor reserves the right to make exceptions when conditions warrant.

## Colleges take wrong approach in fighting drinking problem

By Froma Harrop

Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Services

Anyone suspicious that the American university experience has become a four-year extension of childhood need look no further than the colleges' latest response to the binge-drinking "problem."

Now, in a grown-up world, college administrators would tell students who down four or five stiff drinks in a row they are jerks. But if they can drink responsibly, then have a good time.

But forget about hearing any such counsel, for that would turn students into self-directing adults. Better to blame the problem on all-purpose "cultural attitudes" and "societal pressures" abetted by the villainous alcohol industry.

Thus, demands grow for better policing of off-campus liquor outlets. That is, turn local businesses into babysitters. There are calls to ban sponsorship of college events by companies selling alcohol or the marketing of such beverages on campus. That is, protect their charges from evil influences and trample on free speech.

One former college official has suggested universities stop serving champagne at parents' weekend brunches or at fund-raising events. Remove the bad example for the sake of the children. (Somehow it is hard to believe a college with any sense of self-preser-

vation would insist that its big-check writers remain cold sober.)

The truth is, most Americans can drink without problem. Careful use of alcohol relaxes and warms the drinker with a sense of well-being. Winston Churchill and Franklin Roosevelt saved Western Civilization without ever missing a cocktail hour.

Students have long enjoyed their own drinking traditions. Brahms' Academic Overture, the stately piece heard over and over again at college commencements, took its melody from a student drinking song.

Where is there a campus drinking crisis, anyway?

Six college students have supposedly died this year from excessive drinking. These cases are lamentable, but many more college students died from sports-related injuries or car accidents.

An even more interesting question is: How many noncollege people in late teens or early 20s have died from alcohol poisoning? Take note no one is memorizing this particular statistic even though the majority of high school students do not go on to college. That number is not etched on our national worry list for the following strange reason: Our society considers the 19-year-old who has a job an adult while universities see the 19-year-old pre-law student as a child. Working people who cause trouble because they drink are pun-

ished. College students are given others to blame.

College administrators should know that, from a purely practical point of view, playing hide-the-bottle does no good when dealing with an alcoholic. Indeed, anyone who has hung around Alcoholics Anonymous or Al-Alon can immediately identify such behavior as "enabling." Rather than allow the problem drinker to sink into the mire of his addiction until he can no longer stand it and takes steps to straighten out, the enabler tries to save him. Rest assured, students interested in getting smashed for the night will find the booze.

Let us end here with yet another proposition: that binge drinking is more about binge than drinking. It would seem that someone who gulps five glasses of Jim Beam in five minutes is not looking for a pleasant high. Binge drinking is a stunt that has more in common with diving off bridges or swallowing goldfish than the quest for inebriation.

What any increase in binge drinking probably indicates is the students really don't know how to drink. Binging may just be the latest evidence of decline in our nation's table arts.

Instead of savoring wine and spirits in the course of a civilized meal, young people are administering it. The colleges' response is to put condoms on bottles. Predictable, if simple-minded.

## OPINION PAGE

## editorial

## Smokers invited to try 'cold turkey' early this year

This Thursday, Nov. 20, is the day that the American Cancer Society has set aside as the Great American Smokeout, a day set aside that asks tobacco users to quit, just for the span of a day.

The Great American Smokeout is nothing new. I remember in grade school they give us little stickers with a picture of a frog that said, "Kiss me, I don't smoke." We were then told to ask our parents and relatives to quit smoking for the day.

I was excited to share with my parents (both who were heavy smokers) what I had learned about smoking that day, but my hopes of them quitting were quickly shattered when they told me that at my age I had better not be kissing anybody, and it was none of anybody's business whether they smoked or not.

Having been tainted by that experience, I have come to the conclusion that the Great American Smokeout, for most, is a flop.

Smokers know that cigarettes cause lung cancer and birth defects—it's printed right on the side of the box. The few smokers who do choose to participate are taken over by their addiction by about ten in the morning, give or take a few hours depending on the individual, and the Great Smoke Out is soon over. For most smokers, quitting all at once is impossible.

After a lifetime of hearing arguments between smokers and nonsmokers, both have something to learn.

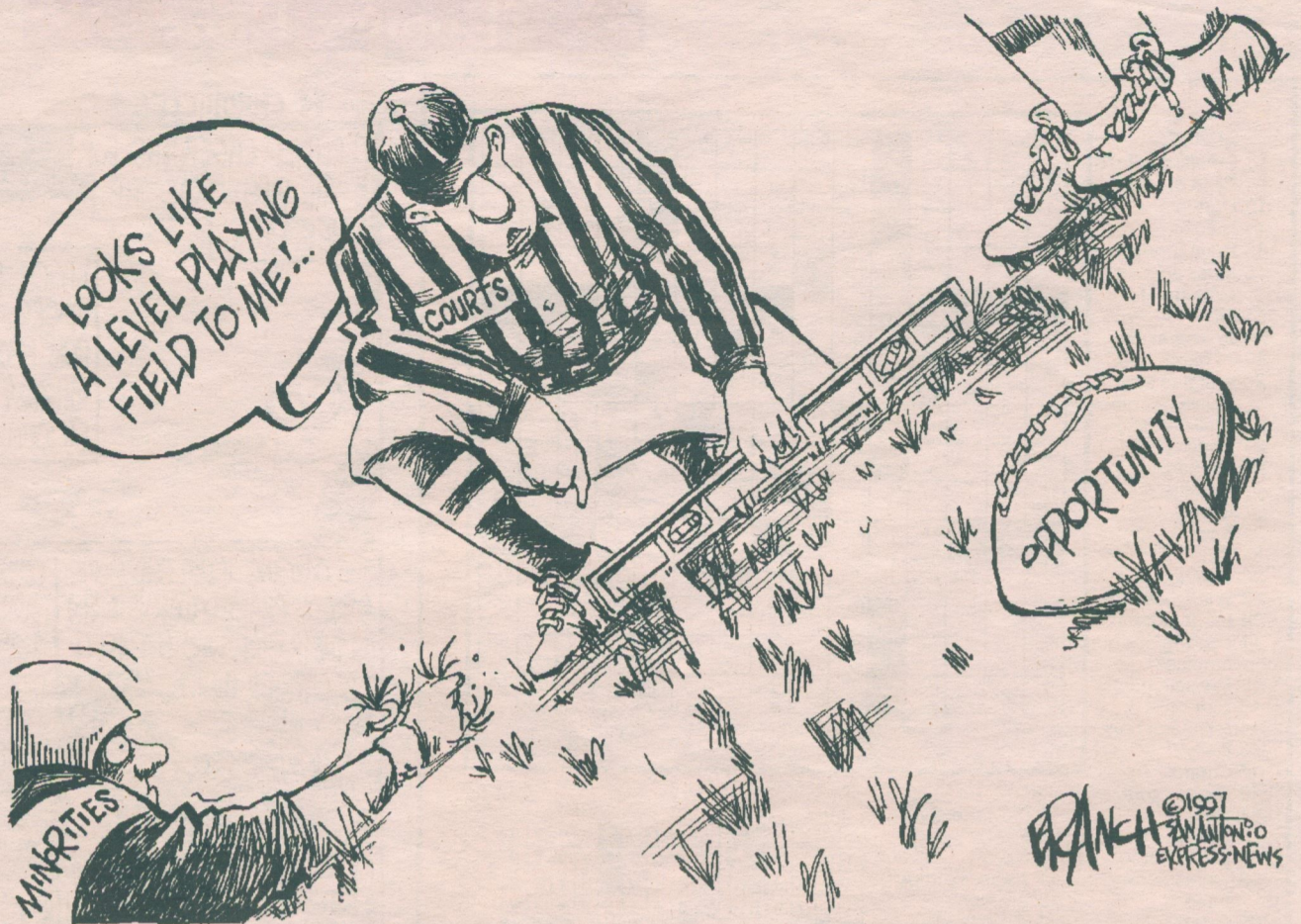
Smoking is not a right, it's a choice. If people choose to smoke, let them. But at the same time, those smokers need to be courteous and realize that some don't like the smell of smoke. And while smokers don't care about the welfare of their own lungs, they need to respect that others around them might.

If approved at the Board of Education meeting tonight (Nov. 19th), the now infamous Designated Smoking Areas will hopefully create a happy medium that will allow smokers and nonsmokers to peacefully exist together at LBCC. And while the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout may never be very successful, it's an honest try at educating smokers of the harm cigarettes can do to their body.

Tomorrow, if you can't handle not smoking for the entire day, at least try to cut back. Asking smokers to quit cold turkey for the day is ridiculous, but by realizing you can still survive by smoking fewer cigarettes, you may find you can survive by smoking even fewer than the day before.

Maybe this Thursday, or whatever day you might choose to cut back, can be your first step to quitting. I don't know a single smoker who has never said, "I wish I could quit."

—Melani Whisler



## commentary

## Oregon motorists have dangerous habit of lounging along in left lane

by Pete Petryszak  
of The Commuter

"Maybe it won't happen today," I thought, hoping to be spared a little aggravation. About a mile down the road my luck was still holding out.

And then it happened.

Cruising down Highway 34, I pulled up into a cluster of cars. As the traffic slowed, my blood pressure began to rise, for the cause of this little snarl was totally avoidable.

The lead vehicle in the left lane was puttering along at 50 mph. Two cars followed him at about the same speed, dangerously close to both the car in front and to each other. Next to them in the right lane were three other cars, all obeying the speed limit. If the driver of the lead car in the left lane had simply moved into the right lane behind the other vehicles doing the same speed, the other drivers in the left lane could have passed him easily, avoiding both the frustration of being needlessly delayed and the dangerous driving that ensues in those circumstances.

I have nothing against slow drivers. Everyone should drive at the speed at which they are comfortable and feel in control. I just wish people who aren't comfortable driving faster than 55 mph could grasp the concept of the passing lane.

It's astounding how many drivers in Oregon seem unable to comprehend why people who drive at slower-than-average speeds should move into the right lane. Not all vehicles are equipped with right-hand side mirrors. If you're driving in the left lane, and another driver starts to pass you on the right, you may not be able to see him.

Driving slowly in the left lane forces anyone who wants to pass to do so on the right. Even when the car I'm passing has a right-side mirror, I'm nervous passing on the right. If people doing 50 in the left lane are too oblivious to see a long line of cars behind them in their rear-view mirror, what are the chances that they will check their side mirror before moving over on a whim?

I've lived in eight states, and to be sure, there are bozos on the road wherever you go. However, Oregon seems to have the most instances of this phenomenon of slow driving in the left lane. I can't figure out why it happens so much here. I've come up with several hypotheses to explain it but none seem to fit.

One possible explanation is that Oregon, and the Willamette Valley especially, has seen rapid growth in recent years. Perhaps the residents of this once-rural region are just not used to the high-speed traffic of more highly populated areas and have yet to adjust. This would be a believable explanation if every vehicle slowing down traffic was a rickety, rusted pickup or a

Big-3 sedan from the mid-70s or earlier.

This is not the case, though. Slow-moving vehicles that occupy the fast lane run the gamut from farmers' pickups to students' beater cars and even yuppie status symbol vehicles. Thus the reason for their slow driving is not a mechanical defect of the cars, but a mental defect of their drivers.

For whatever reason, this practice is widespread in Oregon, and not limited to Oregon drivers alone. I have observed plenty of Washington and California drivers doing the same thing.

What is it about the West that inspires this behavior?

Professional drivers, people who should know better, do it too. Just last week I was traveling on 34 and came upon two trucks in the left lane, going about 45 mph. This was too slow for the truck driver in the rear, and because the driver of the other truck refused to move over, the truck in the back passed him on the right.

Thinking that the truck driver in the left lane was intent on continuing along in the left lane, I proceeded to begin passing him on the right. That was when he decided to move over. I don't know if he ever saw me, or even if it ever crossed his mind to look. If he had simply moved over into the right lane when he saw the truck creeping up from behind, that difficult situation could have been avoided altogether.

No doubt, this little missive will give some the impression that I'm a lead-footed derelict with no regard for traffic laws or the safety of myself or others. Please remember that I'm not advocating reckless driving, speeding or driving at speeds inappropriate for the conditions of the road, be they ice, rain, fog or congestion.

All I'm trying to do is remind Oregon drivers of certain norms of freeway driving. Careless, abnormal or inattentive driving by people who drive slowly is just as dangerous as that of fast drivers.

Life on the road would be greatly improved if drivers would remember three simple guidelines:

- Drive in the right lane as often as possible. Use the left lane for passing and turning only.
- Use your mirrors. If you're in the left lane and you see cars creeping up behind you, move over.
- If you see someone flashing his lights at you when you're driving on the left, that means they want you to move over. Don't get indignant and try to teach the other driver a lesson, or expound about your "inalienable right" to drive 35 mph on any road you please. Just get into the right lane.

Please keep this in mind on your drive home tonight, and remember that driving intelligently is a critical aspect of driving safely.

## Let your voice be heard

Here is how to contact state and national representatives in Salem and Washington, D.C.

## State Senators:

Cliff Trow, D-Corvallis..... 503-986-1700

Mae Yih, D-Albany.....503-986-1719

## State Representatives:

Barbara Ross, D-Corvallis.....503-986-1435

Carolyn Oakley, R-Albany.....503-986-1436

Liz VanLeeuwen, R-Halsey...503-986-1437

## Representatives:

Peter DeFazio, D-4th District

Washington Office: 202-225-6416

Fax Number: 202-225-0373

District Office: 541-465-6732

e-mail: pdefazio@hr.house.gov

Darlene Hooley, D-5th District

Washington Office: 202-225-5711

Fax Number: 202-225-2994

District Office: 503-588-9100

Looney Lane

**ACROSS**

- Smelling refuse
- Type of energy
- Carton
- Halo
- Bring together
- Musical instrument
- Mix
- Animal skins
- At hand
- Weights and measures office
- Wall hanging
- Angered
- Memorizing process
- Greets
- Slim
- St.
- Perched
- Wind indicator
- Large spoon
- Lacking firmness
- Russian ruler
- Rim
- Layers of rock
- Deity
- Simmer
- Slows down
- Hats
- Corner
- Desire for food
- Increase by three
- Grizzly
- Of ships
- Bow
- Bundle
- Spry
- Old name of Ireland
- Pieced (out)
- Sublease
- Crimson and claret

**DOWN**

- Impudent talk
- Pear-shaped instrument
- Opera highlight
- Pungent bulb
- Ultimate
- Small bill
- Lively tune
- Flower essence
- Reply
- Save
- Assist in crime
- Fly high
- Spectral
- Irregularly notched
- Greek letter
- Apportioned
- Corduroy ridges
- Get around
- Rock shelf
- Heavenly objects
- Stove
- Pungent bulb
- Goes
- Glorify
- Educated
- One who ties shoes
- Instructional meeting
- Small pie
- Chapeau
- Zoo official
- Dais
- Monastery head
- Top
- Wan
- Wicked
- Cheese
- Nobleman
- Cote occupants
- Pub drink

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**THE K CHRONICLES**

BY KEITH KNIGHT

PLAYED LASER TAG FOR THE FIRST TIME THE OTHER DAY...

LASER TAG IS A GAME WHERE TWO TEAMS RUN AROUND A DARK MAZE & SHOOT EACH OTHER WITH BEAMS OF LIGHT...

I'VE ALWAYS BEEN HESITANT TO PLAY THESE TYPES OF GAMES BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED TO A FRIEND YEARS AGO IN NEW HAMPSHIRE...

HE WENT TO PLAY PAINT BALL. A GAME SIMILAR TO LASER TAG, BUT PLAYED OUTSIDE...

THE OPPOSING TEAM HAD SOME SORT OF CRAZED WAR VETERAN ON THEIR SIDE WHO GOT A LITTLE CARRIED AWAY...

CONSIDERING THAT I WAS OLDER THAN EVERYBODY IN THE GAME CENTER THAT DAY (EVEN THE WORKERS), I DIDN'T THINK ANYTHING LIKE THAT WAS GONNA HAPPEN...

MY FRIEND & HIS TEAM WERE BOUND & GAGGED FOR TWO DAYS UNTIL POLICE NEGOTIATED A RELEASE.

MAYBE A LITTLE TOO EXHILARATING.

QUINONES!!

SWAT MOVE

Tuck & Roll, pick up child up to blast enemy

MUST LIBERATE THE CHILDREN!! DIE YOU THAT'S IT!! YER OUTTA HERE, FREAK BOY!!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT WAS WORSE. BEING REPRIMANDED BY THE 14 YEAR OLD GAME MASTER...

OR SCORING LOWER THAN A 5 YEAR OLD IN THE SHOTS FIRED/HIT RATIO... The Horror... The Horror...

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MUFFIN BY NORA McVITTIE

How come important things are ALWAYS saved until the LAST MINUTE?

No matter how crucial something is... I've got a huge paper due Monday. If I don't turn it in, I'll be dead by sundown.

...There's always an excuse to put it off. Sure.. I'd LOVE to go grocery shopping with you, Mom!!!

Then the inevitable occurs. How's it coming along? Well, I've got a title.

When's it due? Two hours.

Nora '94

WE HAVE GONE OUT OF OUR WAY TO ACCOMMODATE THE U.N. WEAPONS INSPECTORS!

THEY ARE ALLOWED TO LOOK FOR WEAPONS ANYWHERE THEY WANT...

NOW, FINDING THEM... THAT'S ANOTHER MATTER!

SADDAM

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