

# THE COMMUTER

A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

Wednesday, April 19, 2000

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 31 No. 20



Photo by A.J. Wright

New ASG President Todd Gifford works the voter registration table in the Courtyard Monday. Gifford takes over his new office May 5.

## President wants ASG to 'make a difference'

by Leon Tovey  
of The Commuter

"My goal, in leadership and in life, is to train people to take over for me," Todd Gifford says. It's a gorgeous spring day at LBCC, and the 27-year-old ASG president-elect is trying to explain his decision to go into politics.

This is not an easy thing to do—even for the usually articulate Gifford. Politics is an ugly business; quite often it seems that the only people willing to get involved are the last people you would ever want involved. Gifford seems to understand this. But that doesn't mean he accepts it.

In fact, Gifford looks like a man with little patience for what your grandfather might call malarkey. At first glance, he appears rather bookish, with his metal-rimmed spectacles and neatly-trimmed goatee, but this is belied by his size. Tall and broad-shouldered, he could probably play linebacker at most Division II schools. Gifford bears little resemblance to most people's idea of what a politician looks like.

He insists that his involvement in the political game is a temporary thing. He has no aspirations to power, no long-term plan to climb the political ladder. His greatest ambitions are finishing school, becoming an orthodontist, and being a good husband and father.

Gifford's decision to run for the ASG presidency was based on his desire to do the things that he believes need doing.

"Last term, someone in my chemistry class was wondering why there wasn't a

place to go with questions about science like the writing and math desks in the Learning Center," he says. "I started wondering about it myself, and during the course of trying to figure it out, I found out that the ASG elections were coming up. So I decided to run for president."

And the first goal on his campaign platform was to create that science desk.

"My campaign platform named three or four goals that I wanted to accomplish," he explains, "but it really all boils down to two: to get the ASG to do things (Turn to "Gifford" on Pg. 2)

*"I don't always know the answer, but now because I'm president, people expect me to. So I try to follow up and address their concerns."*

—Todd Gifford

## Voter Registration Week features legislative candidate forum

by Keirsten Morris  
of The Commuter

LBCC Voter Registration Week, sponsored by the Associated Student Government and Student Programming Board, will host a legislative candidate forum today from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. in the

Courtyard.

State House of Representatives from districts 35, 36 and 37 will speak on campus about issues that involve students and revolve around community colleges. Candidates will be available to speak one-on-one with students from 12-1 p.m.,

when free hot dogs will be served.

"We really want to encourage students to come out and get involved in the legislative forum and ask questions," said Student Body President Joyce Fred.

Thursday and Friday voter registration tables will be set up in the Court-

yard, where students get the chance to register to vote in time for the May primaries.

"Our basic goal is to get students registered to vote," said Student Body President Joyce Fred. "There are a lot of issues that students should have a voice in."

## Celebrate Earth Day by planting a flower

by Lori Weedmark  
of The Commuter

LBCC will celebrate Earth Day 2000 by holding a flower planting party in the Courtyard on Friday, April 21.

Students, staff and faculty are invited to come help plant the flowers in planters from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the Courtyard. Student Life and Leadership is hosting the planting and furnishing supplies.

"People from departments adopted planters to take care of during the summer," said Diana Barnhart, student ambassador. After the flowers are planted, the planters will be moved to their permanent locations around campus.



Photo by Lizanne Southgate

### Iris Illusions

Full-size and miniature iris are among the profusion of blooms at the Albany Farmers' Market, which opened for the season on Saturday, as did the market in Corvallis. Story and more photos on Page 3.



### 4WD Carnage

Iron Truck Challenge draws 1,800 to Sweet Home

Page 7

### IN THIS ISSUE

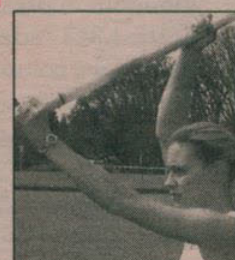
#### Check This Out

A little giving can mean a lot when it comes to donating blood. Sign up in the SL&L office for today's blood drive.

### Soaring High

Vaulters Christine Smith and Katie Dobek set sights high

Page 10



# CAMPUS NEWS

## OFF BEAT

### Not so fast!

Speeding to court in Berlin, Germany to answer a charge of leaving the scene of an accident, an 18-year-old kid was stopped for running a red light. To make matters worse, he was driving a stolen bus at the time. He was arrested and taken to the courthouse by police.

### Blissed Blitz

A drug-sniffing police dog named Blitz indicated to his handlers that a plastic bag found at a bus station in Virginia contained cocaine. In his excitement over the discovery, the animal bit into the bag and spent the next few hours high on drugs.

### Please! Not Garth!

Two young men arrested for playing loud rock music on their car radio in violation of a Louisiana noise ordinance will be forced to listen to three hours of country music as part of their sentence. After discovering they hated country music with a passion, Judge Tom Yeager said the "music appreciation" session will be carried out "in a room without a window because I'm afraid they'd jump."

### One hot commute

Brazilian commuters, hopelessly late for work after waiting several hours for their train to arrive only to see it break down on the outskirts of Sao Paulo, their destination, found a way to emphatically demonstrate their displeasure. They set the train on fire.

### No butts about it

Robert White, a 50-year-old unemployed man, felt he wasn't getting a fair shake at his trial in Arkansas for disorderly conduct. So he pulled down his pants, bent over and showed his bare rear end to the judge. This didn't help his case. The judge, who'd never been mooned before, locked him up for 10 months for contempt of court.

### Making a clean breast of it

Police in Chickasha, Okla., stopped Dorothy Nelson for speeding in 1998, and discovered, in a routine check, that she had the same name and date of birth as another woman who was wanted for burglary. The difference was that the burglar had a tattoo on her chest. To quickly prove her innocence so she could go home, she voluntarily bared her breasts for the cops on the spot in broad daylight but she later sued claiming invasion of privacy. Last month, the court ruled against her.

From the TMS News Service

## Takena's high-tech plumbing gets flushed

by Michelle Mayo  
of The Commuter

The men's and women's restrooms located on the first floor of Takena Hall underwent another phase of remodeling due to problems with the automatic flush systems that were installed last year.

Toilets in both bathrooms were returned to the standard flush handle during spring break.

Last year both the men's and women's restrooms were completely remodeled, enlarged and updated with automatic flush toilets and sinks. Takena's restrooms are one of only three restrooms that are located inside classroom buildings, the others being in the Activities Center and the Forum. All other campus restrooms are located in stairwell cores.

LBCC student Heather Read said she liked the automatic plumbing in the Takena restrooms because it allowed her to have her hands free.

Kevin Nicholson of LBCC's Facilities Department said the maintenance staff was receiving two to three calls a week regarding problems with the automatic toilets, which cost the school a lot of time and money. The restrooms would have to be shut down for repairs, he said, creating inconvenience to students and staff.

While the toilets have returned to conventional lever flushing, the automatic sinks in both restrooms will remain the same.



Photo by Robin Camp

### The Science Guy

Bill Nye, TV's "Science Guy," performed before a sellout crowd at Gill Coliseum Saturday.

## Gifford: Military, family experience helps shape his commitment

### From Page One

that affect people and to promote the fact that the ASG did those things. That is its function. Five years from now, when someone goes to the science desk at the Learning Center, I want that person to realize that it was the 2000 - 2001 ASG that provided that desk. I want that person to realize that involvement can make a difference."

Making a difference is something that Gifford seems to have some experience with. After graduating from West Albany High in 1990, he attended LBCC for a brief period, but left to enlist in the United States Army, where he learned much of what he now knows about leadership.

"While I was in the army, I became an advocate for people," he says. "People would come to me with things that they weren't willing to take to their superiors, so I often wound up talking to commanders about things other people were afraid to."

One such instance involved bringing charges against a superior officer who was harassing an acquaintance of Gifford's. The incident taught him a valuable lesson about the way that people use—and abuse—power.

"That situation built me up," he says. "I learned that not only do you have to stand up for yourself and others, but you have to pick your battles—the ones that matter."

The army also introduced Gifford to the medical profession, which he's chosen as a career, and his wife Holly, whom he married in 1995. The couple now has two sons: 3-year-old Joshua, and 1-year-old Matthew. Gifford feels that having a family has changed him dramatically.

"Kids and family just change your life completely," he says. "They force you to grow up."

And as a grown-up, Gifford felt that getting involved in community, national, and school affairs was something that he wanted to do.

So in February of this year he ran against current ASG Student Services Representative Roger Shear for the position of ASG president. The race was a low-key affair as political races go; there was little in the way of political maneuvering and bickering. The loudest aspect of the race was the multitude of large, colorful banners tacked up all

over campus.

But despite the laid back feel of the 2000 elections, voter turnout was the largest in years, which many attribute to the fact that on-line voting was tried for the first time. More than five times the number of people voted in this election than in the last one, with Gifford beating Roger Shear by only two votes.

"It could've gone either way," Gifford admits. "I think that maybe 2 percent of the people voted on the issues, the rest was just name recognition. But there was no mudslinging, and there were no hard feelings when it was over."

This sentiment is echoed by Shear, who is currently finishing his term as ASG student service representative.

"Yeah, Todd's alright. And he seems pretty sharp for a rookie," Shear jokes.

The two banter good-naturedly in the Student Life & Leadership office, where the current ASG officers are busy finishing last-minute business and showing the incoming ones the ropes before they take office on May 5.

For his part, Gifford is working hard to learn the job he has been elected to. He has already met with various members of the faculty and administration as well as a representative of Stand For Children, a non-profit organization that focuses on children's issues in communities across the country. Gifford and his wife are both members, and he is helping the group plan a meeting at LBCC.

Gifford plans to remain accessible to the students who elected him to office.

"People still come up to me to ask questions and try to find out why this or that is going on and what can be done about it," Gifford says. "I don't always know the answer, but now because I'm president, people expect me to. So I try to follow up and address their concerns."

At this point, a man crosses the courtyard and begins speaking to Gifford about a conversation they had a few days earlier. They talk for a few minutes until the man realizes that he's late for a class. He thanks Gifford for his time and leaves.

"That happens all the time," Gifford says with a small laugh. "It can be trying sometimes, but then you realize that if you can affect just one or two people, it's worth it. That's what it's all about."

## THE COMMUTER STAFF

The Commuter is the weekly student-managed newspaper for Linn-Benton Community College, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty or Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them.

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

### The Commuter Staff:

**Editor-in-Chief**, Keirsten Morris; **Assistant Editor**, Justin Dalton; **Copy Editor**, Barry Greer; **Contributing Editors**, Lori Weedmark, Leon Tovey, Benjamin Sell; **Sports Editor**, David Thayer; **Photo Editor**, A.J. Wright; **Assistant Photo Editors**, Robin Camp, Christopher Spence; **Photographer**, Lizanne Southgate.

**Advertising Manager**, Lizanne Southgate; **Advertising Assistant**, Derek Wakefield; **Pagination Coordinator**, Chris Bryant; **Graphics Editor**, Joe Ellingson.

**Writers**: Leda Webster, Mary Jova, Michelle Mayo, Shauna Noah, Akio Fukuda, Rebecca Indrika, Charleen Nelson, Wendy Shaffer, Twila Skelley, Anthony Fencl, Lizanne Southgate. **Advisor**, Rich Bergeman.

# IN FOCUS

# Back in Bloom



"Which ones would Mom like?"

**A**lbany and Corvallis Farmers' Markets opened Saturday with typical Oregon spring weather, brief sunshine flirtations with occasional rain tantrums.

Albany's market is open every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the waterfront parking lot on Water Ave., between Broadalbin and Ferry Streets.

Corvallis' Saturday market is temporarily located in the City Hall parking lot at Monroe and 6th Streets and is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will return to its usual location along the river once the riverfront project is complete.

A Wednesday market in Corvallis opens today at the Benton County Fairgrounds from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The markets feature a variety of seasonal produce, plants and flowers from local small farmers.

Rebecca Landis, market coordinator, explains that the weekly events offer small farming outfits a chance to get their produce out to the public without any "middleman." Because there are ever decreasing marketing opportunities for "the little guy" in farming—in Corvallis, only First Alternative and Richey's are still willing to buy from small farmers—spaces at the markets are reserved for farm products, rather than crafts.

On May 6, there will be a community table, where even the backyard gardener can sell produce, with a small percentage of the price going for commission.

So, if you want to support local businesses, oppose globalization, create a new world order or simply enjoy fruits and veggies, get thee to a farmers' market.



Shoppers at Albany's Farmers' Market pause to compare bunches of phlox and astilbe and contemplate which ones would best fill vacancies in their garden.



Julie Hall of Jefferson reaps the rewards of a prolific garden as she awaits buyers at the Albany Farmers' Market.



Doug McKenna plays two shepard's pipes simultaneously at the Corvallis market (left). Both markets feature guest musicians each week. Below, Rick Steffens of Silverton sells cabbage, cauliflower and seeds from the back of his pickup. The crisp winter vegetables will soon make way for softer spring offerings, like berries.

Story and Photos by Lizanne Southgate



# CAMPUS NEWS

## After 43 years of helping students, two LB veterans retire

by Justin Dalton  
of The Commuter

Anyone who has needed security service at any point may have had to walk to the Security Office located in the College Center. And if you were lucky enough, you may have had the pleasure to meet two of LBCC's most genuine employees, both of whom plan to retire this year after long tenures at LB.

Communication Specialists Jo Alvin and Miriam Kuipers sit at two small desks answering phones, emergency calls and relaying assistance to distraught students stranded in the parking lot.

After a memorable 24 years of working at LBCC for Alvin and 19 for Kuipers, they plan to enjoy a fruitful and awaited retirement after this school year ends.

Originally, when Alvin was hired, she expected her time at LBCC to be temporary.

"When I started in 1976 I was hoping to get some medical benefits for my son, and only thought that I'd be here for a while," she said.

Then, after some years later, Alvin realized there was something more than just work luring her to stay.

"There's so many great people here to work with and being able to help students is what makes this job rewarding," said Alvin.

"We're basically here for the kids," added Kuipers.

Kuipers, who started as a full-time student, decided after her education to work full-time at the college's Security

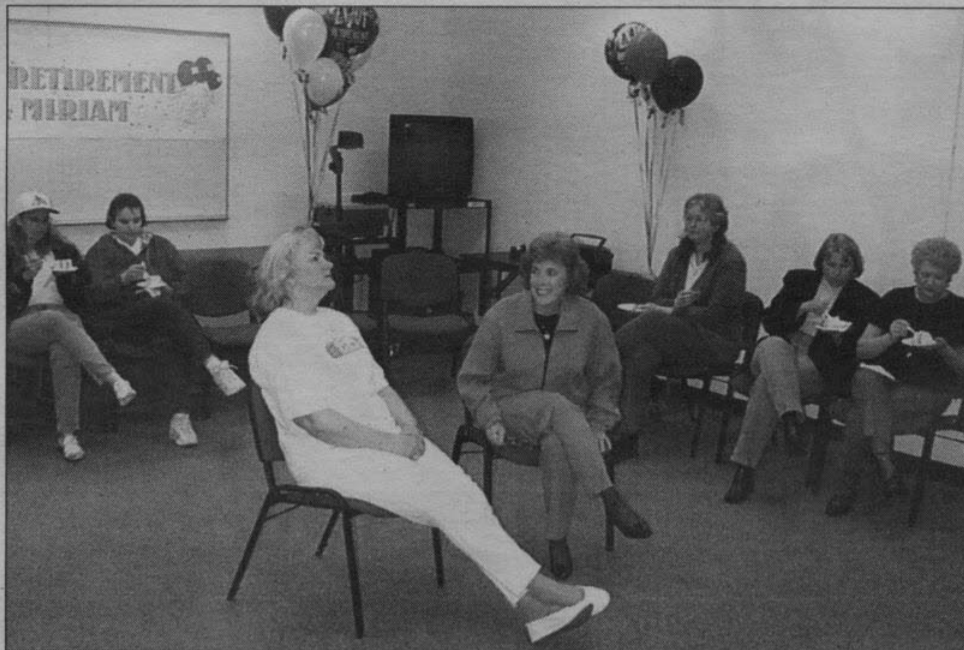


Photo by Christopher Spence

**Miriam Kuipers and Jo Alvin are the center of attention at their retirement reception last week from their jobs in the Security Office.**

Office.

Alvin stated that she, on the other hand, hadn't always worked in the Security Office. She first started in the Business Office, then was moved into the Career Center, then to marketing and finally into the Security Office.

Reflecting on past years, the two ladies shared some illustrative experiences that coin the changes in time that LBCC has endured.

"I remember when I started working here, the big hype was that our typewriters had correction ribbon inside them," exclaimed Alvin. "It's been a so much

fun watching technology change the way classes are taught and how new programs are being offered."

"We've seen faster, better computers come and go, the Internet—it's very impressive," said Kuipers.

When describing their personal duties, rounding up lost animals unleashed several candid stories that have undoubtedly filtered through the faculty.

In one instance, as described by Kuipers, a baby osprey swooped into a puddle near Takena Hall, but unfortunately didn't have an adequate runway of water to take flight again. In response

*"There's so many great people here to work with and being able to help students is what makes this job rewarding."*

— Jo Alvin

the Security Office was called, and Kuipers said they happened to locate a student that had experience handling birds to help the land-locked osprey.

"There's been kittens found huddled in the Bookstore we've had to rescue and even some trapped mice in trash cans. But those types of things are what keep a job interesting," said Kuipers.

In light of the good things, there's always been the crisis' of medical emergencies and bomb threats the two have dealt with, but all in all they both agree it was well worth their time here.

With their long-awaited retirement creeping closer, much time has been spent in planning a relaxing and eventful retreat.

Kuipers says that she and her husband plan to remodel their kitchen, enjoy some day trips to the coast and do a little camping.

Alvin plans to do much golfing and is going to Hawaii with a friend to play blissfully on the many courses offered there. She also is looking forward to traveling to New York with her son. And most of all, relaxation.

"At last I can have a newspaper in the morning with my coffee."

## LB math instructor helps bring technology to Tunisia

by Lori Weedmark  
of The Commuter

LBCC instructor Theo Montgomery and OSU instructors returned from a trip to Tunisia last term as part of an on going three-year project known as the Tunisia-Oregon Project, or TOP.

TOP, funded by the U.S. Information Agency, was formed to establish long-term communication between universities in Tunisia and Oregon. The main focus of the project is to use English for Specific Purposes (ESP), Writing Intensive Courses (WIC) and Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) for use in business and environmental sciences and the practice of English as a Foreign Language (EFL) in Tunisia's higher education institutions.

The purpose of this trip, according to OSU Associate Professor of Comparative Literature and TOP Director Laura Rice, was to enhance teaching and research by use of the Internet. The group worked with several Tunisian institutions to create research linkages between faculty there and OSU faculty.

"We created a virtual space for communication among the participants," said Rice. "It gives the project sustainability beyond any one individual's visit. This allows contact and information sharing without having to be there."

Tunisia is a small country located in North Africa and bordering the Mediterranean Sea. OSU and LBCC faculty and their Tunisian counterparts are incorporating new information and communication technologies such as the Internet and worldwide web for learning, research and teaching, including distant education.

Montgomery, LBCC distant education math instructor, contributed by sharing his knowledge on Web-based distant education.

"I did some of the work I do at LBCC," he said. "I described the math labs that we use at LBCC, the Benton Center and the Hewlett-Packard learning center, showing how students can work at self-paced courses."

Montgomery also focused on showing a calculus



**Theo Montgomery teaches Fethi Kasmi, faculty member from Tunisia, how to put together his own homepage on the World Wide Web.**

class on the Web that LBCC has been running for about three years.

"I think they (faculty) were very interested in what we had to say," said Montgomery. "We showed how to create the programs and incorporate them into the curriculum, and how students learned and participated in the programs."

"Another thing we did was student outreach," said Rice. "We put together some seminars on distant education and training on making Web pages. We also did a student outreach with Women's Non-Government Organization working on environmental issues."

The instructors also helped by teaching groups not affiliated with the colleges in Tunisia to raise funds, research scholarships and write grants for funding.

In the first year, TOP sponsored administrators and instructors from Tunisia to come to OSU and LBCC to see first-hand the technology used in Oregon.

"Our objective from the beginning was to enhance the methods of teaching technical and scientific English while using the Internet to help achieve that," said Karim Hamdy, OSU and LBCC extended learning

instructor and project liaison. "There has been a good exchange of skills and transfer of knowledge."

John Secret, owner of Peak Inc., an Internet service provider, was brought into the project as a sub-contractor, traveling with the Tunisia group to provide computer expertise.

Tunisia's education system is mostly public, with some private schools. The public education system makes up about 95 percent of the schooling of-

fered. Hamdy, who is from Tunisia, says the high school system is much tougher there than in the U.S. Students have to pass an exam at different levels of their education to move on, and by the time they get to high school only about 60 percent pass the final exam.

According to Hamdy, most of that 60 percent go on to college, where a place is guaranteed along with a scholarship.

The government of Tunisia has one dominate party with a number of minor parties. The country is still young, having gained its independence from France in 1956. Education and health care are the top budget items there.

"I think the project has worked pretty well," said Rice. "Before we submitted a proposal, both sides talked and participated in writing the proposal. They also contributed funding to the project which kept everyone involved."

Rice is hoping there will be a formal agreement in the future between OSU and Tunisia for a student exchange program in the field of research and information technology.

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Culinary Arts students plan French Banquet

by Keirsten Morris  
of The Commuter

The Culinary Arts students will host the 27th-annual French Banquet Thursday, May 25 and Friday, May 26 at 6:30 p.m. in the Alsea/Calapooia Room.

"It's an opportunity for the students to do a fine dining-type of dinner in a dining situation," said Scott Anselm, Culinary Arts Department Chair. "It recreates a real-life situation."

Both first- and second-year culinary arts students work together to create the French Banquet.

This year's banquet features Vegetable Terrine, Roasted Tomato Soup, Smoked Quail with Carrot Mousseline, Chardonnay Sorbet, Salmon poached in White Wine, Tossed Green Salad, Berries and Cream, Cheese and Fruit Platter, as well as coffee and wine service.

The proceeds from this year's French Banquet benefit the Culinary Arts Co-curricular club.

Tickets are \$26 a piece and can be purchased by calling 917-4391. They sell-out quickly, so those interested are encouraged to purchase tickets immediately.



### Junk Art

A recycling creations contest entry in Takena Hall celebrates the Year of the Dragon.

Photo by Robin Camp

## Confusing side plots turn 'Black and White' into a major disaster

by Shauna Noah  
of The Commuter

Soundscan released a study a few years ago about what age/race/lifestyle group bought rap and hip hop albums. It was found that the two predominate groups were young, underprivileged, African Americans and young upper-class white kids.

This has led to a sort of cultural confusion. Why kids that are affluent and living in sprawling suburban homes, listen and empathize with songs that talk about gangs, killings, and oppression—none of which they have first-hand knowledge of.

Some day there will be a great movie about this. What leads privileged kids to drive off in their brand new Honda Civics to seek a life of gangs and crime. "Black and White" is not this movie.

"Black and White" has been advertised as what happens when the line between races has been blurred because each group wants what each other has. Instead, the movie has Brooke Shields of TV's Suddenly Susan following around

### REVIEW

upper class white kids Bijou Phillips and Elijah Wood ("The Ice Storm"). She asks the kids questions like "What draws you to this hip hop society?" and the kids answer with rap lyrics and "I'm a kid in America, I can do whatever I want!" All of which is good in advertisements, but the film fails to delve deeper. What is almost laughable is that these characters are chucked to the side half-way through the movie in favor of the horrid side plots.

And what horrid side plots they are! Two rappers getting their first album out, and one of the rappers being betrayed by his childhood best friend. A basketball star that gets in trouble for taking money to throw a ball game, and evil white girls that would pit two friends against each other for sex.

This movie is a disaster. Everything that could be bad in a movie, is. The "pseudo-documentary" feel the director was going for just allows for a lot of

noise. When a cameo by one of the many rappers, like Method Man, tries to speak about something that may sound important, five voices in the background drown him out to achieve that "realness."

The characters are painfully underdeveloped. Most of the movie is centered around Rich, the rapper who is dealing with the dilemma of whether or not he should kill his best friend, or risk going to prison.

For most of the movie I thought he was a background character that happened to have a lot of lines. He had no charisma, no good lines, and did the best he could to stay stoic for the entire movie.

Then from left field come characters with no explanation or understanding attached to them. Rich has a girl that seems to be his moral center that pops up three times in the whole film. I thought she was his sister. Turns out she's the girlfriend that he never speaks of and never sees. Her character wasn't even

given a name.

Worst of all was that the man Rich goes to for advice because of his wisdom and intelligence is..... Mike Tyson, playing himself. I'm not joking. Tyson is given a dramatic monologue that is horrible to begin with, but made humorous when Tyson's lisp gets in there to distract you, so you can't even make sense of it.

I would have walked out on this movie. It was terrible. It wasn't even the kind of bad, that's so bad, it's funny. It was the kind of bad that is like having your head rammed against a wall for 100 minutes. I advise you to run from this movie.

Quickly. Don't go to the theater to see it. Don't rent it when it comes out on video. Change the channel when it hits HBO. "Black and White" is cinematic bile.

For those of you who choose not to heed my warning, "Black and White" is playing at Whiteside Theater in Corvallis. It's 100 (painful) minutes long and is rated R for just about everything you can get an R rating for.

**The Knowledge To Take You Higher.**

How high are your aspirations? If you've got big plans for your future, you know that you need a solid education — and it's getting costlier every year. That's why more and more people are making the Air Force Reserve their "1-2" education solution. For a commitment of 1 weekend a month and 2 weeks a year, you'll have the chance to get a world-class education with:

- Over \$9,000 toward college with the Montgomery GI Bill
- College credits through the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF)
- The latest high-tech training in your choice of 66 high-demand fields at CCAF

Call 1-800-257-1212

**AIR FORCE RESERVE**  
ABOVE & BEYOND

Visit our web site at [www.afreserve.com](http://www.afreserve.com)

★ **TODAY** ★

**LEARN ABOUT ISSUES THAT AFFECT LBCC STUDENTS**

*Meet Legislative Candidates*

**Wednesday, April 19, 11a.m. - 12p.m.**

*In the Courtyard*

**FREE HOT DOGS AT NOON!!!**

# ON THE ROAD

## Visiting majestic Glacier Bay proves humbling experience

by Mary Jova  
of The Commuter

It is here, from the high arches of the earth's crust, that glaciers are born. The snowflakes fall from the frozen breath of oceans, creating the first step in the process. Storm after storm, layer by layer, ice is formed in such enormous amounts that some are a thousand feet thick. Under the increasing weight of the ice, rivers are formed. Time and pressure compress the ice into sparkling jewels. And as the glaciers move the groaning is audible, as though they're speaking to us of their labor.

Today Glacier Bay National Park is considered by many to be Alaska's finest visitor attraction. Alaska Sightseeing Tours, a small company based in Seattle, Wash., sells cruises all over the Alaska territory. Glacier Bay is a two-night, round trip from Juneau aboard the 125-foot vessel, Spirit of Glacier Bay, that goes up both main arms of Glacier Bay inside the park's boundaries. Currently, the cruise is 10 nights, round-trip from Seattle to Juneau.

Approximately 30 people from all over the globe boarded with me on a chilling June morning. I met a family from New Zealand who manage a farm of bees, and a retired couple from Dijon, France, where they make the famous mustard.

Glacier Bay is a photographer's paradise. The famed naturalist John Muir, who visited Glacier Bay around 1879, described the place as a "picture of icy wildness, unspeakably pure and sublime." The fresh air and the smell of the ocean makes you feel alive and alert to all that surrounds you.

On this trip we had the privilege of meeting a gray whale, which swam close by the yacht, making an unfamiliar sound. Looking in the eye of the whale I realized this huge mammal has a soul.

We also saw black dolphins swimming quickly, apparently frolicking or playing a game. We saw puffin birds that signify in Alaska the anti-smoking advertisement, "no puffin."

At one point, a naturalist guide directed our attention to two adult bears who were standing on their hind legs



Photo by Mary Jova

A chunk from a glacier floats in one of the many bays that make up Glacier Bay National Park in Alaska.



giving each other a hug. They were growling and appeared to be fighting, but the naturalist explained the bears were actually romancing each other and getting ready to mate.

### FOR MORE INFO

For more information about cruises to Glacier Bay National Park and other tourist activities in the Juneau area, contact:

Juneau Chamber of Commerce  
3100 Channel Drive, Suite 30  
Juneau, Alaska, 99801  
(907)463-3488  
jchcomm@ptialaska.net

Alaska Sightseeing Tours  
Cruise West  
2401 4th Ave., Suite 700  
Seattle, WA 98121  
(800)426-7702  
www.cruisewest.com

Eagles can be seen everywhere, perched on tree limbs or scouring the horizon for their prey. It made me understand why the eagle is the American symbol, signifying beauty and strength.

The glacier surface appears white with spirals, but looking deep within the ice from a close vantage point you can see a deep blue in the depths. The glaciers are so deep that a 10-foot building can be buried beneath.

The monstrous weight of the ice grinds across the land and can be heard groaning as ice and rock scrape against one another. The rock and ice create caves of impressive architecture and unfamiliar beauty. At the edge of one glacier, a huge piece of ice broke into the water with a sound like exploding bombs. It is the sound of a struggle as ancient as the earth itself.

Scenes like this make geology come alive in Glacier Bay. According to the National Park, the glaciers have retreated dozens of miles in the last 200 years and will soon disappear. The warming trend is so slight that only the glaciers detect this weather change in the atmosphere.

As you cruise in the bay you can see a progression in the vegetation covering the shores. Mature forests of Sitka spruce at the entrance to the bay give way to transitional alder and willow, followed by fireweed, low bush and mosses. Finally, at the face of the glaciers, only barren rock is to be seen, recently uncovered by the scouring glaciers.

According to native tradition, one village camp was unearthed by archeologists near the bay entrance that had been destroyed by giant waves around 1853-1854. The only people to survive were those hunting for otters and women picking berries in the hills high above.

But today, the Dall sheep in the high slopes continue to play. Trumpeter swans pass by and settle in for the summer, a new generation of young beginning their discovery. The salmon return to deposit their eggs and sperm in the river beds and provide food for the bears and eagles. All of nature hears the voices of the glacier, a familiar sound in their life. The voice of life and death.

This place of immense beauty makes one feel insignificant and humble. The glaciers represent our life's span being ever changing, brief and such a wonder to experience.

## Northern Idaho offers more than potatoes and right-wing militia

by Katie Botkin  
of The Commuter

On March 13 I finished my last final of the winter term at Linn-Benton and left, foregoing the spring term to travel to Oklahoma, New Mexico and wherever else our wheels take us.

My parents invited me to join my sister, three younger brothers and themselves to visit old friends and seek adventure in our Ford van. Before we could leave, however, I was forced to stick around my parent's house in beautiful Northern Idaho while they finished their taxes.

So here I am in a country known for potatoes and redneck militia groups. Although Ruby Ridge (made infamous by Vicki and Sam Weaver and U.S. Marshal William Degan, who were all killed in the FBI siege) runs around the isolated landscape for miles, neither group seems to actually sprout up in great abundance.

Of course, this spot doesn't get its rough-and-tough reputation for nothing. Two summers ago, my friends and I decided to go find a good camping spot up here. We followed the map to a promising trail, to find that it was blocked off because it was grizzly bear territory. Smack on the trailhead was planted a tent and a truck with cow-patterned seat covers. We held a discussion,

### TRAVELS WITH KATIE

looked at the map and were just about to get in our vehicle and drive away, when a short, plump woman waddled up from the creek to her truck, with a beer can in hand. The next moment we heard her fire a gun into the air and scream expletives and orders to leave. To make sure we did, she tried to push our driver into our truck. "This is our camping spot," she asserted for herself and whoever else was down at the creek. "We came up here to get away from people."

We left, found another trail, hiked up, and ate potatoes for dinner.

This is not by any means a rollicking or rowdy place. Sandpoint is the biggest town north of Coeur d'Alene, and although it is rather well-known, it only holds about 7,600 (mostly well-refined) people. Clothing stores of various sorts, Starbucks, bagel and snowboard shops line the streets of Sandpoint. Creeks run along two sides of the town and on a third side is the bank of Pend Oreille—where the Pend Oreille river widens into the Pend Oreille lake, which stretches for 43 miles and at one point is 6 miles wide.

The Schweitzer ski resort lies about 30 minutes away from Sandpoint. We missed the skiing season, but sum-

mer is really the most comfortable time to be outdoors here. Of course, that's tourist season and for a good reason.

When the grass is turning brown in Oregon, it's taking on its greenest hue here. The cold rivers are warm enough to swim in—and believe me, jumping off cliffs into a clean current beats jumping off a diving board into a crowded, chlorinated pool any day.

Rocks worthy of climbing (according to my friends from Oregon who climb) abound in the area. So do hiking trails. So do mountains—the Selkirk range to the West and the Purcell range to the East. (Both are sub-ranges of the Rockies.)

If you want clubs and culture, this is not the place to be. If you want snow, it's in the mountains year-round. If you decide to pick wild huckleberries, though, watch out for bears. They enjoy eating them.

So does my family, and we will hopefully be back before huckleberry season. Right now we're looking at being away for six weeks, but any definite plan is laughable.

We leave April 17 to make our way with leisure to Oklahoma. I claim one of the middle seats. My brothers can sit in the back seat, just as long as they don't babble about John Elway and their 700 football cards the whole way.

# LOCAL NEWS

## Truck challenge draws its largest crowd in four years

Over 1,800 people travel to Shotgun Creek to watch four-wheelers get down and dirty

The fourth annual Iron Truck Challenge, hosted by Cascade Offroaders, saw over 1,800 spectators, all of which sought the same thing—four-wheel-drive carnage.

Participants traveled from all corners of Oregon to test driving skill and wit by maneuvering their hybrid trucks through five difficult trials at Shotgun Creek recreational park, located 20 miles southwest of Sweet Home.

In order to compete, drivers must pay a \$20 entry fee, after which they line up in single-file awaiting each event. For a participant to win the Iron Truck Challenge, he or she must master a timed tire change, a timed obstacle course, balance their truck on a massive teeter-totter and score high on a performance articulation test that measures flexibility and angle of clearance.

The truck challenge is set up to be as hard as possible, and in this competition only fit, tuned four-by-fours survive all five tests. Mid-way, only a small fraction of drivers even completed the whole obstacle course, explained Brian Walker, public relations officer of Cascade Offroaders.

"Out of 26 competitors, a mere four have actually completed the course," Walker said.

The notorious obstacle course was the crowd pleaser overall.

Bunched together on bleachers, lawn chairs and even sitting directly in the mud, people cheered on as muck-clad gladiators battled over boulders, slick mud hill sides and log hurdles.

"It's those logs that most guys get hung up on, that's where they start breaking things," said Walker.

And break things they did. One blue 1976 Chevrolet pickup tried finishing the race in two-wheel-drive after demolishing his front driveline that powers the front wheels. In attempt to ram over the hurdles, the truck got lodged between two logs. Smoke started rolling off the rear tires as the driver tried using raw horsepower to muscle over the slick logs to no avail.

Under the stress, the rear driveline snapped and the blue behemoth lay motionless. The door swings open and the driver emerges, waving and honking to everyone, while loud cheers from a



Dave Jolliff of Corvallis deals with his wheel-less '66 Mercury truck stuck in the muck.

pleased crowd adorn the twisted metal sitting in the mud.

Looking at the officials the driver smiles, "This isn't even my truck, dude."

That truck was one of many that was conquered by the course and those who conquered stood proud and very thankful.

Holding tight to temporary third place position, Rod Jaques of Sweet Home pumps his fist with approval after his smooth run.

"Hey, I'd be happy if third place was a free truck wash," said Jaques.

Certainly the passengers that rode along in the heat would agree to a free wash. At one checkpoint during the obstacle course, the passenger in the vehicle must sprint up a slick mud bank, ring a cow bell, then dash back to the waiting vehicle. This candid spectacle of people slipping and sliding, up, then down the hill received much approval and response from the spectators.

Out of the 50 trucks entered, the battle comes down to a hill climb, at which drivers push their truck's limits to make the longest distance up a near 60 degree grade.

The winner, driving his '86 Toyota long box, defeated the nearest competitor by nearly 90 points. He walked away with a 8,000-pound torque Warn winch

and a roar of applause and appreciation from the pumped audience.

The crowd of over 1,800 is one of the largest turn-outs the sport has seen in it's four years running.

"These past few years the numbers of spectators has really grown," said Mike Parent, co-founder of the Cascade Offroaders.

Responsible for creating the competition, the Cascade Offroaders modeled the Iron Truck Challenge from an eastern competition known as the Top Truck Challenge.

"The club avidly studied the competition from off-road magazines, so we thought hey, we can do this," said Parent.

The club scouted out the Shotgun Creek area owned by BLM land management and made a deal with them to hold the event there, in turn, the Offroaders keep the area clean and regularly take out truck loads of garbage and debris.



A Chevy kicks up mud negotiating logs on a course.

Though benefiting from the entry-fee and \$5 cover charge for spectators, the Cascade Offroaders donate a large percentage of proceeds to a variety of charity foundations, such as the Walk for Life and All About Children. They also prepare meal baskets for families in poverty during Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Parent encourages anyone interested in joining the Lebanon-based Cascade Offroaders to visit their Web site at [www.cascadeoffroaders.com](http://www.cascadeoffroaders.com)

*"The club avidly studied the competition from off-road magazines, so we thought hey, we can do this."*

—Mike Parent



*"It's those logs that most guys get hung up on, that's where they start breaking things."*

—Brian Walker

Story and  
Photos by  
Justin Dalton

Rod Jaques' 1983 Toyota shortbox truck conquers a muddy hill as spectators look on. Jaques held third place early in the race, but ended up placing eighth overall.

# FUNNY PAGE



## GREAT UNSOLVED MYSTERIES OF CHILDHOOD #436:



## CLASSIFIEDS

### HELP WANTED

**HP Research Intern** -- Are you going to school for at least another year? We have a part-time intern position that requires a one-year commitment to work there and a desire to work in a library-type atmosphere. This job requires 20 hours a week and those hours are flexible. The pay is \$9.19/hour. See Carla in Student Employment to apply (T-101).

**CWE Computer Support positions** -- Need to get your CWE credits in computer support? We have jobs at Wah Change and Selmet with part-time, flexible hours and possibility of full-time during the summer. See Student Employment (T-101) to sign up and fax your resume!

**Petersburg Fisheries, Alaska** -- A recruiter will be coming to talk to students about summer opportunities on Friday, April 21 in Takena Hall. Average gross wage is \$6,200 for the summer. Ask about the recruiting incentives. See their Web site at [www.icicleseafoods.com](http://www.icicleseafoods.com) for information.

**Accounts Payable:** If you have a 2-year accounting degree or 3 years A/P experience in a manufacturing environment, this is a job for you! This position is in Albany, full-time and pays \$10-\$11/hr., depending on experience. If you are interested, sign up in Student Employment located in Takena 101.

Congratulations to those who attended the Career Fair! The employers were impressed with you as a student and the overall great attendance of our student body. These same employers thought the Fair was very successful and they were happy they attended our Fair. There were a lot of jobs represented there which shows us the economy is alive and strong. So go get those jobs! Sign up in Student Employment today!!

### SCHOLARSHIPS

**Attention Dance Majors transferring to WOU:** Audition class for scholarships for incoming dance majors will be held Saturday, April 29, 2000 at 10 a.m. in Maple Hall on the WOU campus. Students must bring a Dance and Performance Resume and a 500-word or less essay stating why you are pursuing a Dance degree. Call 838-8263 to reserve your audition space now. Resume and essay may be mailed prior to the audition to: Deborah Jones

**Peterson, Theatre/Dance Dept., 345 N. Monmouth Ave, Monmouth, OR 97361.** All recipients must be accepted for admission and enrolled at WOU. Informational flyers available in the Learning Center (LRC-212).

**Hispanic Students:** The Hispanic Dental Association Foundation is offering two scholarships in the amounts of \$500 and \$1,000. These awards are for entry level students only who are seeking to advance their scientific and applied clinical knowledge as they enter into the dental profession. Applications must be postmarked no later than June 30, 2000. Information and applications are available in the Learning Center (LRC-212).

**Students of Any Major:** The Scottish Rite Foundation in Oregon, Inc. annually awards 10-15 \$1,000 scholarships to deserving students in their sophomore, junior or senior year of undergraduate studies at Oregon colleges and universities. Students applying should have a minimum 3.5 GPA or higher and include a current transcript, with a final grade transcript required at the end of Spring term. Applications will be given preference if postmarked on or before April 1, 2000 but can be submitted as late as July 1, 2000. Information and application available in the Learning Center (LRC 212).

**Attention ALL STUDENTS:** The P.L.A.T.O. Education Loan program is offering students a chance to receive \$1,000, \$5,000 or even \$10,000 for college. No paper applications are available. All information and the application can be accessed 24 hours a day at [www.plato.org](http://www.plato.org). Scholarships are merit-based and students must have a grade point average of 2.75 or higher. Application deadline is April 30, 2000.

**Attention CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT, ALL ENGINEERING STUDENTS:** The NAWIC, National Association of Women in Construction, is offering three different scholarship programs to students in Construction Management, Architecture, Civil/Mechanical/Structural or Electrical Engineering. Information and applications are now located in the Learning Resource Center (LRC 212).

**Attention ALL STUDENTS IN A MEDICALLY-RELATED FIELD:** The Geraldine Stephenson Continuing Education Scholar-

ship Endowment, administered by Legacy Meridian Park Hospital Auxiliary, provides a yearly grant of up to \$3,000 to an individual or individuals in a medically-related field. Applicants must be seeking a medically-related field, have recently returned to college after a significant interruption of at least five years due to hardship, must show financial need, must be a U.S. citizen and Oregon resident. Applications must be postmarked no later than May 31, 2000. Information and applications available in the Learning Resource (LRC 212).

**Attention AGRICULTURAL, FOOD SCIENCE AND POULTRY SCIENCE MAJORS:** The NPFDA Scholarship Foundation is awarding four \$1,500 scholarships to students in areas of study related to the poultry industry. Applicants must be in their junior or senior year when they receive the scholarship. Applications must be postmarked by May 31, 2000. Information and applications are available in the Learning Resource Center (LRC 212).

**Attention: GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER STUDENTS:** The Audria M. Edwards Scholarship Fund is offering scholarships to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community and/or the children of gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender persons who reside in Oregon or SW Washington. Applicants must be pursuing their education through the post-secondary level and require financial assistance. Applications must be postmarked by May 1, 2000. Information and applications are available in the Learning Resource Center (LRC 212).

### WANTED

Roommate for large apartment in downtown Albany. No Alcohol/Drugs. \$200/month + 1/2 utilities. 926-7767.

### FOR RENT

**MOVE - IN INCENTIVES.** 1-2-3 Bedrooms. Duplex's, T/H's, Apts in Albany & Lebanon. Call Lepman Properties @ 928-0156 or visit us @ 180 Ferry NW Albany.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PHI THETA KAPPA** is having a bake sale on Thursday & Friday, April 20-21, in Takena Hall from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Pregnant?

FREE PREGNANCY TEST

### Pregnancy Care Center

757-9645

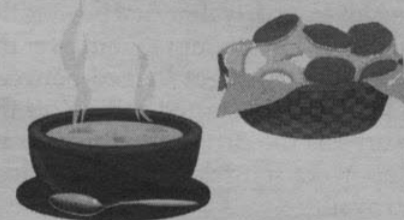
24 hours

2306 NW Kings Blvd.  
Corvallis

(Across the street from WinCo Foods)

- Individual attention
- Strictly confidential
- Information on options
- Prenatal and community referrals
- Information on abortion procedures and risks
- No abortion referrals

### Commons Menu



#### Wednesday April 19

Pot Roast  
Chicken Burrito  
Grilled vegetables with Quinoa  
Taco Salad

#### Thursday April 20

Liver and Onions  
Paella  
Grilled Vegetable Pizza  
Cobb Salad

#### Friday April 21

Chef's Choice

#### Monday April 22

Baked Ham  
Beef Goulash  
Frittata  
Chicken Caesar Salad

#### Tuesday April 23

Chicken and Dumplings  
Chile Verde  
Vegetable Strudel  
Shrimp Salad



# THE COMMUTER

A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

## WANTED!

The Commuter needs creative students to fill positions on the 2000-2001 staff

### Editor

Individuals interested in journalism and communications careers are encouraged to apply. Appointment carries a full annual tuition grant and provides practical experience for aspiring writers and editors. Students with coursework and/or experience in journalism are preferred. Applicants must be enrolled as students throughout the 2000-2001 academic year. Appointment made by the LBCC Publications Committee.

**DEADLINE IS MAY 12**  
(for this position only)

### Photo Editor

Students with an interest and skills in photography are sought for this position, which offers valuable experience for anyone planning to pursue a career in photography. Several past Commuter photo editors have gone on to work at professional newspapers in Oregon and elsewhere. Applicants must have knowledge of conventional lab work. Familiarity with digital imaging is a plus, but we will provide training in Photoshop. The appointment carries a 75% annual tuition grant.

### Sports Editor

A writer with an interest in athletics and outdoors is sought for this position. Students with some journalism or writing experience preferred, but anyone with a flair for writing and a passion for sports is encouraged to apply. The appointment carries a 50% tuition grant and provides valuable on-the-job training and experience covering a wide variety of intercollegiate athletics.

### Graphics Editor

The Commuter is seeking an individual with experience in graphics and/or journalism to take charge of the graphic design and production aspects of the weekly newspaper. This position involves helping develop the overall design of The Commuter and coordinating the graphic production operations. Macintosh experience preferred. The appointment carries a 50% tuition grant.

### Assistant Editors

Applicants sought for several assistant editor positions, including Managing Editor, Copy Editor and A&E Editor. Some journalism or writing experience preferred, but all interested applicants are encouraged to apply. Appointment to Managing Editor carries a 75% tuition grant, while other positions, such as A&E Editor, Copy Editor and Opinion Editor, carry 35% tuition grants.

### Digital Page Designer

This part-time position pays \$8+ per hour for up to 12 hrs/wk Mon.-Tues. Work with the Mac to typeset copy, design ads and format tabloid pages. Macintosh experience and good English skills required; familiarity with Pagemaker helpful. Provides valuable experience for majors in journalism, graphics and pre-press technology.

### Ad Manager

Individuals with career goals in business, graphics or journalism are ideal candidates for this position, which involves coordinating the sale, design and billing of display advertising. Macintosh experience preferred. The position carries a full annual tuition grant. Applicants must be enrolled for the 2000-2001 academic year.

### Work Study Jobs

**Editorial Assistant**  
**Production Assistant**  
**Advertising Assistant**  
**Photography Assistant**

These positions open to work study-eligible students only. Information on work study eligibility is available from the Financial Aid Office.

**Deadline for Editor is May 12.**

Other applications remain open until positions are filled.

Applications available in The Commuter Office (F-222)  
or from advisor Rich Bergeman (F-108)  
For additional information call 917-4563 or 4451

## SPORTS PAGE

## Cass Smith proves that women can be vaulters, too

First-year LB athlete has been pole vaulting since the eighth grade, when women were first allowed to compete in the event

by David Thayer  
of The Commuter

The pole vault is considered to be one of the hardest athletic sports to master. It requires speed, strength, endurance, the ability to get over the pole, and a lot of mental strength. Christine "Cass" Smith knows all about that, and has conquered each aspect.

Smith came to Linn-Benton from Crater High School in Central Point, Ore., to participate with the LB track and field team. She is currently undecided in her major, but is looking at something in the medical field.

As for vaulting, Smith wanted to try the pole vault in the seventh grade, when she saw her guy friends trying it. "I asked the coach if I could try, but he said it was too dangerous for girls. I made it a goal to be a vaulter to prove women can do it too and can excel." But she couldn't start till the eighth grade, when they allowed women to participate.

"Vaulting is a mental sport. It is really easy to get frustrated. Once you start a bad habit, it is so hard to fix," said Smith. But she stressed that her coaches helped and encouraged her.



Photo by Brad Carman

Christine "Cass" Smith won the pole vault last Saturday in Salem with a mark of 9 feet, 6 inches. Smith is in her first year on the LB track team.

So far this season, Smith has set some pretty high ranks in the pole vault. Last Saturday, she cleared nine feet, six inches to win against Chemeketa, Southwestern Oregon and Lower Columbia.

Smith gives a lot of that credit to Coach Brad Carman. "We both like to see progress, and both enjoy it when I can clear a new height in my event." She also gives some credit to her teammates. "I really like my teammates. Everyone supports everyone else. That's what you need to succeed."

Carman had a lot to say about Smith. "She is a very hard worker and a great competitor. She is the opposite of Katie (Dobek) though, as she is very introverted. Cass hasn't had much of a chance to practice with us since she was at OSU in fall and winter terms, but has made great improvement since starting with us. She really gets her hips up when she goes over the pole."

Smith isn't the only pole vaulter on the women's track team. She competes with teammate Katie Dobek during practice and during meets. "I don't really think of competing against Katie to win. Instead I think of it as a challenge for both of us to go higher. It is harder to challenge yourself without someone there pushing you."

When Smith is not competing in track or participating in school, you can catch her enjoying gymnastics, sand volleyball and any activity outside.

Smith will be competing this weekend at the Clackamas Open on Saturday in Oregon City.

## Philomath High grad Dobek adds to LB's vaunted vaulting corps

by David Thayer  
of The Commuter

Katie Dobek knows all about track and field, especially the pole vaulting event. She has been doing track her whole life and participated in the pole vault since her freshman year at Philomath High School.

Dobek came to LB from Oregon State University, where she decided to participate in the dual-enrollment program there with LB.

Now though, Dobek is a full-time student at Linn-Benton. Her main reason for coming here was the track program.

"OSU doesn't have a track program, so I came here and talked to the coach (Brad Carman) and told him what I had done. He offered me a scholarship, so I felt that since they were going to pay for my school, I might as well come here and vault."

In high school, Dobek did many events for Philomath. "I did the long jump, the relay and the 100 meters a few times, but pretty much when I got started with the pole vault, I stayed with it because it took so much of my time to learn it and due to the fact I didn't have much time to do anything else."

Right now, she is only participating in the pole vault, but hopes to do more events. "We're trying to get a relay team going, but we only have six girls on the team (and three of them are throwers), so that kind of makes it hard to put together a team. I am also dealing with shin splints now, so I can't do the long jump or the hurdles, but if they get better, I would love to do something."

As for things she finds hard and easy about the pole



Photo by David Thayer

Katie Dobek has brought her pole vaulting skills to the LBCC track team this year after attending OSU, which eliminated its track program a few years ago.

vault event, she finds many more hard things. "Running is probably the easiest part, but once you are at the end of the runway, you got to put it all together and it gets kind of hard. It is still pretty complicated to me even though I have been doing it for five years. It never really gets any easier." Dobek points out that it took her whole freshman year to learn the event.

Dobek says that Coach Carman has been a great help to her. "I'd say our relationship is pretty good. He was helping me the other day, telling me exactly what I need to do to be more successful and he encourages me to do weights to get stronger and do lots of running to

be faster."

Her relationship though with her teammates is half and half. "I get along with a few. We have a small team and it is hard to get along because of the size. It is discouraging at times, but I have made a few friendships with people."

Her teammate Christine Smith pointed out that she doesn't compete with Dobek, and Dobek feels the same way. "We've only had a chance to compete against each other twice and when we usually go to meets, there are usually not a lot of girls there, so we just try to be competitive there even if we go to the same school."

Coach Carman thinks of Dobek as being a very good competitor and hard worker, yet the opposite of Christine. "Katie is very extroverted. She likes to be in the paper and have her picture taken and is a talkative person during warmups. Katie is a very good vaulter. She has had to battle injuries over the past couple months and has to battle back. She is improving, but still has to work on things. She is still relying on speed and strength and just jumping while her hips stay low."

With the track season half-way over, Dobek has given some thoughts as what she would like to do in the future. "I would like to be able to get into a four-year school and keep vaulting. But if it doesn't happen, I want to finish school so I can have a decent job. I don't exactly know what, but I would like to do something with television, maybe broadcasting."

Outside of track and school, Dobek loves to buy shoes, go shopping, hang out with her friends and do outdoor activities.

Dobek will be joining her teammates this Saturday for the Clackamas Open in Oregon City.

**Set your goals high.**

**We'll help get you there.**

Sometimes reaching your goals seems like an impossible task. In the Air Force you'll get the tools you need to reach any goal you set. We'll help get you there by:

- providing education opportunities with tuition assistance
- establishing leadership skills for a promising future
- preparing you for a career in life

You can earn up to \$9,000 enlistment bonus, if you qualify. So, if you're between the ages of 17-27 - call 1-800-423-USAF



for an information packet, or visit the Air Base at [www.airforce.com](http://www.airforce.com)

**REMEMBER**

Order your graduation gown,

cap, & tassel

April 26/27

10am - 2pm



At the **BOOKSTORE**

## SPORTS PAGE

## LB stages two comebacks to sweep twinbill from Storm

Runners score six in seventh inning to win 12-10 in second game after staging a 10th inning rally to take the first game 5-4

by David Thayer  
of The Commuter

Just as the Linn-Benton baseball team was getting hot, the weather last week forced them to cancel three games, but the Runners managed to get a doubleheader in on Tuesday and they came out with a sweep over the Chemeketa Storm 5-4, 12-10.

The rain cancelled one game against the Linfield College JV's on Thursday and two against Mt. Hood last Saturday.

Justin Queampts, hoping to improve on his last appearance on the mound against Chemeketa, got the start for the Roadrunners in their first game on Tuesday. He only allowed two runs in seven innings, but came out with a no decision.

Linn-Benton's offense got the game off to a fast start, scoring a run in the top of the first and adding three more in the third.

The Storm came back to tie the game at 4-4 with a run in the fourth, a run in the seventh and two in the bottom of the ninth.

Morris came in during the eighth and allowed the Storm to score two runs in the ninth, but still got the victory to pick up his first win.

The Runners scored one run in the top of the tenth and Morris shut down the Storm lineup in the bottom half of the inning to preserve the victory.



Photo by Christopher Spence  
**Mark Morris did it all for the Runners last week against Chemeketa, going 2 for 5 at the plate and picking up the win in relief.**

Morris and Randy Richardson provided four of LBCC's ten hits on the night, with Richardson hitting two doubles. Morris was 2-for-5 with two runs scored, two runs batted in and two stolen bases. The team's

leading hitter Tory Haven only hit 1-for-4 during the game, but provided two RBIs.

In the second game, Chemeketa started out strong, but the Roadrunners made a comeback in the seventh to take the win.

The Storm had an early 8-2 lead, but Linn-Benton came back with four runs in the top of the sixth. Although Chemeketa answered back with two in the bottom half of the inning, the Runners didn't give up.

As the top half of the seventh inning came to a close, LB pushed six runs across the plate to take a 12-10 lead.

Johnny Rosti and Ryan Borde each provided the Runners with two hits apiece, with Rosti scoring two runs and driving in one and Borde scoring one run and driving in two. Troy Bugean and Josiah Stroup provided some pop too, as each scored a run and drove in a run.

Brian Lorimor got the start and lasted only two-thirds of an inning. John Mendenhall came in to stop the bleeding, but only lasted two-thirds of an inning as well.

It was Andy Campbell who finally stopped the Storm's hit parade, as he came in with one out in the second inning. He pitched five and two-thirds innings and evened his record at 1-1.

Linn-Benton is 10-6 overall and 5-2 in league. Their results from last night's game against Clackamas were unavailable at press time.

The Roadrunners travel to Eugene this Saturday for a doubleheader against Lane Community College. The first game begins at 1 p.m. LBCC is 1-1 so far this season against the Lane Titans.

## Kennedy leads men to 2nd place in Salem meet; women take 3rd

Runners win six events, led by Eikenberry, Parmenter, Smith, Kennedy and Carpenter

by David Thayer  
of The Commuter

Justin Kennedy provided some highlights for the LB track and field team this past Saturday in Salem, as he participated in seven events and posted personal bests in five of them.

His five personal bests came with a first place finish in the 400 hurdles at 61.4 seconds, two second place finishes in the long jump at 19 feet, second in the 110 hurdles at 16.2 and two third place finishes

in the pole vault at 12 feet, six inches and the javelin at 165 feet.

Tyler Eikenberry and Ryan Parmenter rounded out the other two first places finishes for the men, as Eikenberry pole vaulted to a height of 13 feet and Parmenter ran the 1,500 meters in four minutes and 30 seconds.

Parmenter also grabbed a second place finish in the 800 meters and the 5,000 meters, finishing with times of two minutes, seven seconds in the 800 and 16 minutes and 32 seconds in the 5,000. Brian Potter grabbed a second place finish in the 1,500 with a time of four minutes and 48 seconds.

Third place finishers for the team other than Kennedy were Cassidy Beaver in

the 110 hurdles at 16.9, Joe Kirk in the long jump at 18 feet, eight inches and Ray Dandeneau in the 400 meters at 51.5 seconds.

Those finishes helped the men grab second place out of four teams, scoring 176 points. Only Chemeketa scored higher with 198 points.

The women's team also provided some highlights. Heather Carpenter continued her domination of the hammer toss with a first place throw of 152 feet, five inches. She also finished in first in the discus at 111 feet.

Teammate Cass Smith pole vaulted to a first place score of nine feet, six inches.

Second place finishers for the women were Janice Hallyburton in the hammer

with a throw of 129 feet, nine inches, Kristyn Kohler in the javelin at 117 feet and Jennifer Schwab in the high jump at five feet and in the 400 meter hurdles at one minute 20 seconds.

Carpenter grabbed a third place finish in the shot put at 29 feet, one inch, while teammate Lani Cooke ran the 100 meters in a third place time of 13.4 seconds.

The women's team finished in third place out of the four schools, scoring 94 points. Chemeketa led the way with 166 and Southwestern Oregon Community College was next with 148 points.

Both teams head to Clackamas this Saturday to compete in the Clackamas Open in Oregon City.

Keep in touch with what's happening on your campus.

know your place?

no, your place!

Read The Commuter. Fresh Every Wednesday.

now you know

## Extraordinary Times, Extraordinary Women

# Chautauqua 2000

## April 20

### TWO-WAY SEEING: PIONEER AND NATIVE OREGONIANS

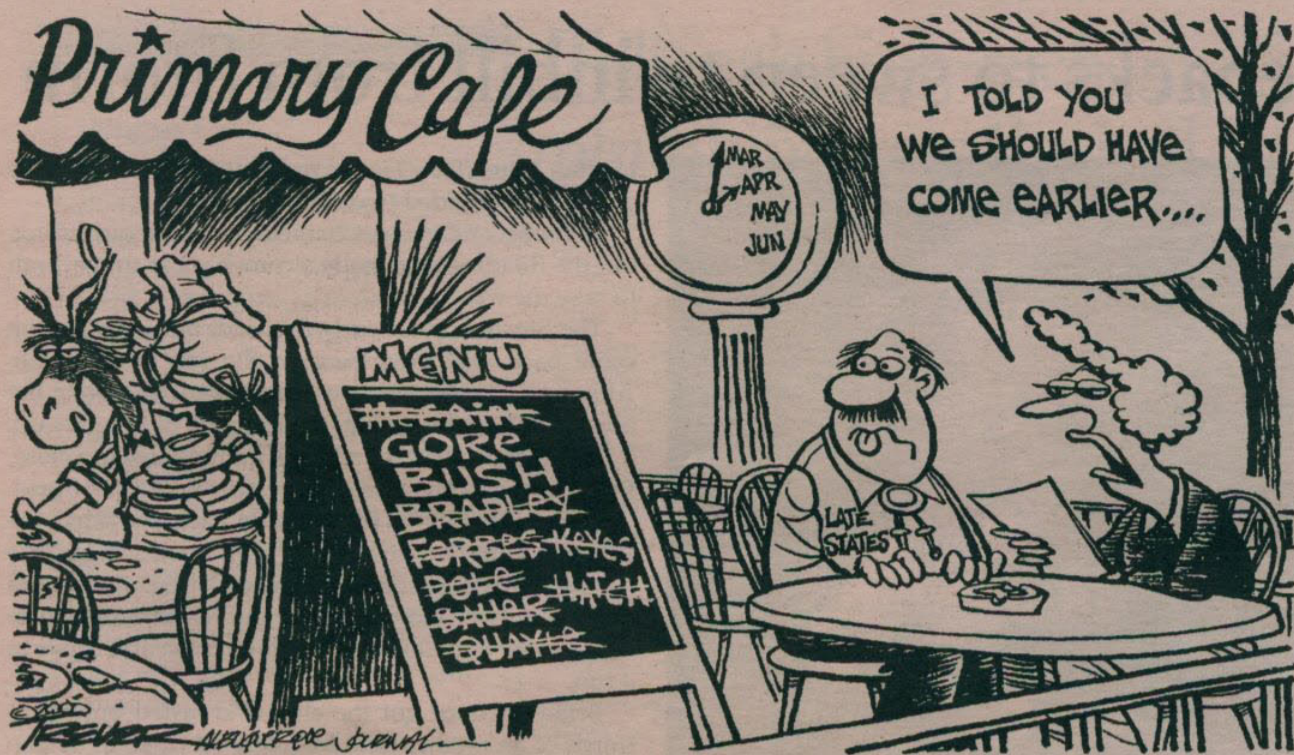
Shannon Applegate and Esther Stutzman will present this session on reconciliation, understanding and acknowledging a difficult past between Native Americans in Oregon and the Oregon Trail Pioneers. Shannon Applegate (a descendant of 1943 pioneers) and Esther Stutzman (a Kalapuya/Coos woman whose ancestors welcomed the Apple family into the Yocalla Valley in 1849) will explore relationships and experience between Native Americans in Oregon and the Oregon Trail Pioneers.

### Program starts at Noon in Forum 104

Presented by LBCC Student Programming Board.

This program is made by the Oregon Council for the Humanities, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

# OPINION



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### 'Rude' writer has right to let off steam over CD theft

To the Editor:

This is a comment on the letter Linda Matlock wrote about Benjamin Sell's article in the April 12 Commuter.

I don't agree with what you say. According to you, he deserved to get his CDs stolen out of his vehicle. I do not believe that is fair. The CDs were in his car and he had the right to have them there. He did not deserve to have some bad-breathed CD-stealer break into his car and take his personal property. How would you feel if some jerk took your property? I would be angry just like Benjamin Sell.

He should carry as many CDs as he wishes. I mean, maybe he likes having a variety of music to listen to. I like to listen to a variety of music while cruising down the road.

I believe that he wanted to vent his anger over someone violating his personal property. This would cause even a pacifist to become angry. I can understand how he feels, because I had a bike stolen last year. I was angry and can remember how I vented—it felt like the cops did nothing to find my property.

Perhaps you might want to try to understand what he feels before you open your mouth. As someone once said, "It is better to remain silent and be thought a fool, than to speak and remove all doubt."

Sarah Gayton

### In defense of those who earn, not steal, their possessions

To the Editor:

I feel a need to respond to the individual who wrote a response to "Wanted: CD-stealing, bad breath burglar" in the April 12 issue of The Commuter. I do not feel that there was a need for her to patronize the reporter for writing an article that clearly only served to chastise a thief.

You made it sound as if the burglar had a right to break into someone else's vehicle and steal their possessions simply because they were in the car. Individuals should have a right to feel secure in leaving something in their car without having to fear being violated by some thief who can't keep their hands off of people's belongings. No one has a right to infringe on someone's peace of mind like that.

The reporter earned his money to buy his collection of CDs. The pilferer who stole them obviously doesn't realize or care about how hard some people have to work to buy what they have, and just looks for the easy way to take them from someone else. I would have written that article too, if it had happened to me.

The article served as a good berating for an individual who trespassed on the property of another human being. It's so sad that people can't hold the smallest amount of trust in the people of this world—especially here at LBCC, where we are among peers

who should understand how hard and how much of a financial struggle it is to get through college.

Rebecca Indrika

### Chivalry should be taught to boys from 'diaperhood'

To the Editor:

I thought the article "Chivalry is not dead; it's just hard to find," was very well written. Benjamin is absolutely right. However, I think I can provide another reason why chivalry is not practiced by many "gentlemen." I feel that everything in life starts at home. I was raised that, no matter what, ladies are to be respected. Children need to be taught that from diaperhood on.

They need to see the door being opened, the hat being tipped with a polite greeting, heavy things being carried, escorts into dark places and so on. Without these things being learned at a very young age, they will probably be forgotten about in later years by parents with the very best intentions. In this day in age it seems to be considered "wimpy" to be a true gentleman. As well as the fact that life today moves much faster and people have such a full plate that a lot of them believe politeness and chivalry are learned in elementary school, and therefore it doesn't get much attention at home, where it should have started, and should continue in the first place.

As for myself, being both a Campus Security Officer and a Boy Scout Leader, I intend to go to bed and sleep well each night knowing that I constantly do my best to set a good example by respecting others and going out of my way to help prove that chivalry is not dead, for no other reason than "just because." Thank you for a wonderful article.

Richard Bobbitt

### Victims of theft should not be blamed for the crime

To the Editor:

I was unable to read The Commuter article "Wanted: CD-stealing, bad breath burglar," but I feel Linda Matlock's response overdid it and was rude itself. She believed the personal attacks the columnist made were wrong and not necessary, which is fine. But in stating this she made some wrong attacks on the columnist.

First, it is no one's fault to have a crime committed against them under any circumstances. Finally, a person should be able to bring any amount of CDs or personal belongings to school or anywhere else, keep them in their own vehicle and not have to worry that they will not be removed without consent. In conclusion, the columnist has every right to be angry and express that anger. The letter writer failed to express what she intended and made it exactly what she was upset about—a personal attack. She was wrong. Remember, a crime is a crime and never a victim's fault.

Erin Dorn

## What are your plans for Earth Day 2000?

Earth Day has been observed every year on April 22 since the early 1970s to make people become aware of issues that affect our planet and everyday life. This year Earth Day falls on Saturday, so The Commuter set out to ask students what the day meant to them.

*"Every day is Earth Day for me. I participate every day by working in my garden and planting flowers. We shouldn't just set aside one day—it should be every day."*



—Musa Jaman, graphic arts/digital imagery



*"I'll probably go fishing. In the past I've planted trees and participated in clean-ups with my school classes. Every day should be Earth Day, I try to maintain that everyday."*

—Jed Childress, welding

*"I'm in student government, so I'll be involved with the flower planting and recycling events here on campus."*



—Krystina Alexander, biology



*"I have no idea what I'm going to do. When I worked, we did projects like neighborhood clean-ups or street clean ups."*

—Suzette Andersen, education

*"I'll probably wear some Birkenstocks and comb my hair. I think my mom has a great sweater-vest I can wear—she made it out of my brother's cat."*



—Dan Abernathy, chemical engineering

Compiled by Lori Weedmark and Robin Camp