

THE COMMUTER

A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2000

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

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Filthy Fun

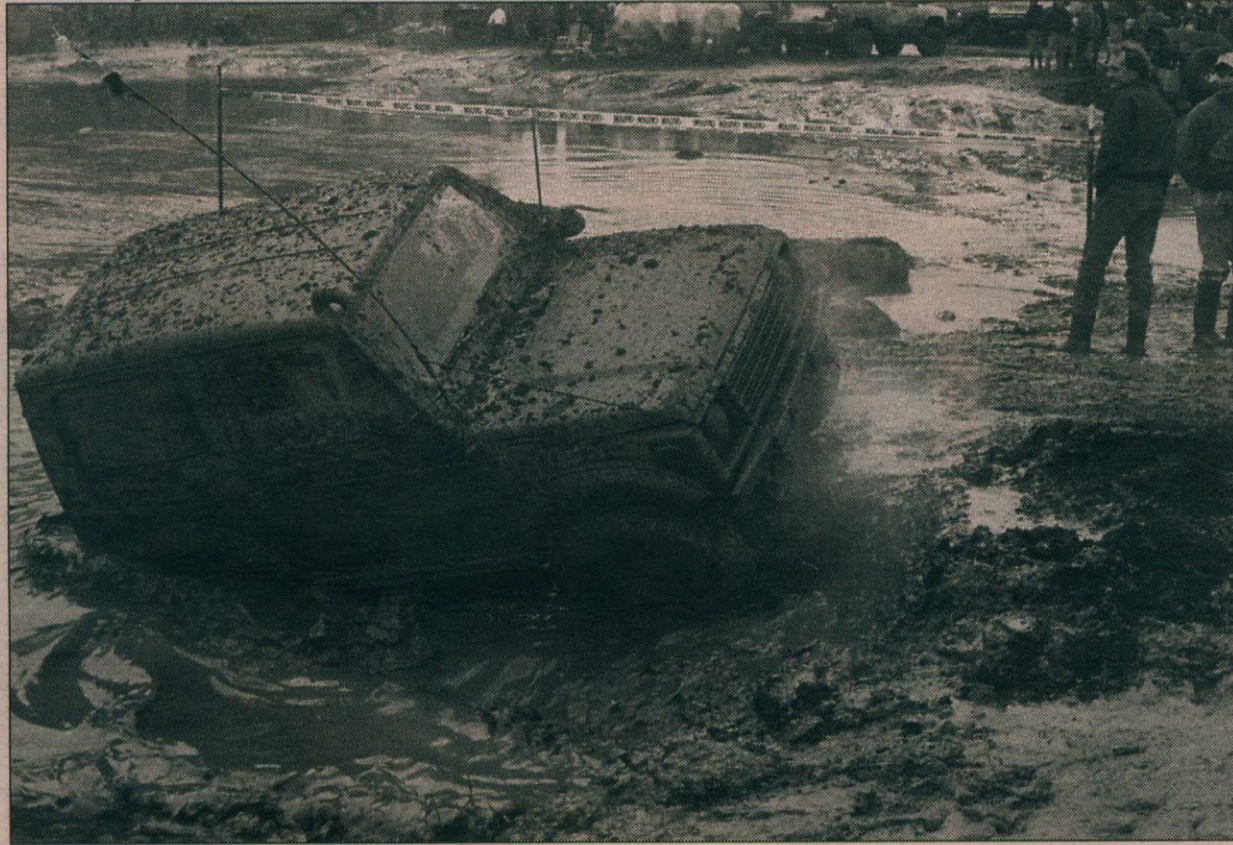


Photo by Justin Dalton

A mud-soaked Samurai makes it's way out of one of the many pits in last Saturday's Foster Mud Flat Races. The event, which is held the second Saturday of each January, boasted a crowd of 2,500. For more photos and the story turn to page 3.

Students, staff compete for trash in campus cleanup

by Keirsten Morris
of The Commuter

LBCC's first-annual Campus Awareness and Pride Week will sweep the school until Friday, which encourages the support of students, staff and faculty in raising awareness of the appearance of the college.

Heading up Campus Awareness Week is Trash Bash, a contest involving the pick-up of trash around campus. Four teams of two students, staff and faculty each compete to collect the most trash, weighing their findings at the end of each day.

"We all make the messes together, we should get the groups together," said Carol Wenzel, student activities coordinator.

At the end of each day this week, the trash collected by the teams will be displayed in the second floor Takena Hall display window, said Adrienne Stuart, Student Life and Leadership Public Relations/Secretary. Early in the week more than 30 lbs. of trash have been collected.

At the end of the week, all of the weights will be tallied in the Student Life and Leadership office, where the winning team members will receive \$20 gift certificates to the Bookstore donated by LB's Employee Wellness Committee. In addition, Wenzel added that all team members will receive a T-shirt donated by Student Ambassadors.

In an effort to heighten campus awareness, Marketing and Publications designed a poster that is displayed around campus, said Wenzel, which features a picture of a group of puppies above of photo of garbage with the tag line: "This litter's cute, this litter isn't."

The Campus Awareness and Pride Week is the product of a November meeting of the Campus Beautification Committee headed by Ed Watson, vice president of instruction, where committee members wanted to tackle the problem of litter and smoking on campus.

"We're all in this together, it's up to us to keep the campus as nice as possible," said Watson.

In addition to the focus on trash around campus, Watson hopes to balance the needs of smokers and
(Turn to "Cleanup" on Pg. 2)

College Center elevator to reopen Friday

by Andre Vriesman
of The Commuter

The College Center's core elevator, which has been out of commission since November, is expected to be operational by Friday said Kevin Nicholson, director of facilities.

The elevator was shut down after its interior doors failed to close. Last week the state chief elevator inspector declared the elevator unsafe and recommended that a second safety feature was needed for safe operation. Both the exterior and interior doors need to close in order for the elevator to operate safely.

New relay bases will also be needed for safe operation. Repair costs are approximately \$6,000, according

to Nicholson.

"Parts are being air-freighted out," said Nicholson. "It should be working by the 15th of January."

Disabled students who ordinarily use the elevator have been using the core elevator between the Industrial A and Science and Technology buildings.

Cheryl Allison, coordinator of Disability Services said the broken elevator has been "a great hardship" for disabled students and visitors, and said that getting around campus will continue to be difficult until repairs are finished by Montgomery Kone Elevators. Allison said she hopes a third elevator, possibly in Takena Hall, will eventually be installed to make the campus more accessible to the physically disabled.

Students help feed hungry and build house during MLK Week

by Lizanne Southgate
of The Commuter

Numerous events have been planned, on and off the Linn-Benton campus, to celebrate Martin Luther King Day on Jan. 17.

While the college will be closed in commemoration of the pacifist civil rights leader, some students plan to use the time off to honor King by helping others.

Approximately 20 students and Student Life and Leadership representatives will spend the day helping Habitat for Humanity finish a house in Philomath. Participants receive a free T-shirt and dinner for their help. Last year's event

attracted 10 student volunteers who spent a morning landscaping, moving supplies and cleaning up at a new Habitat home in Albany.

SL&L is offering other chances for students to volunteer in the community. From Jan. 18-20, students are needed to work in soup kitchens in Albany and Corvallis. Anyone interested should contact SL&L.

On Tuesday, Jan. 18, there will be a poetry reading from the works of African American Poets in the Multicultural Center from 12-1p.m. and a screening of the movie "The Color of Fear," in the
(Turn to "MLK" on Pg. 2)



Photo by Robin Camp

Diana Barnharet, Doug Patritz and Adrienne Stuart model the sweatshirts that will be given to volunteers who help with the Habitat for Humanities project sponsored by SL&L as part of Martin Luther King Jr. Week activities.

IN THIS ISSUE

Night Life

The remodeled Venetian draws crowds in Albany
Page 5

Check This Out

Today English instructor Robin Havenick hosts the film "Eudora Welty: A Worn Path" in Forum 115 from 12-12:50 p.m.

Opening Win

Roadrunners open league play with big win over Umpqua
Page 7



CAMPUS NEWS

OFF BEAT

Cop pays off 10-year-old pitcher to slam star player

A Coaldale, Pa., police officer was charged with paying a local Little League pitcher \$2 to purposely hit the star player of another team with a fastball. The 10-year-old pitcher allegedly did the deed, but felt guilty later and told his parents. Authorities didn't say what the cop's motive was.

Man gives wife permission to sleep around on bet

After failing in their efforts to have a baby, Effas Ondya, 56, and his 37-year-old wife, Dorothy Mapani, each accused the other of being infertile. Effras is so sure that he is not the problem that he made an unusual bet with Dorothy: He gave her permission to sleep with other men until Feb. 22. If she doesn't conceive a child by then, she owes him \$200, the Times of Zambia newspaper reported.

Man robs bank in dress, pleads insanity due to racism

Brian Gamble, who is accused of robbing a Pittsburgh-area bank while dressed as a woman, came up with a defense that nobody ever heard of before. Gamble, 60, who is black, said he was driven insane by experiencing years of racism by white people. He wants to be examined by a black psychiatrist who would possess the "empathy, moral courage and responsibility, as well as the intellectual depth or the peculiar understanding ... of the African-American's unique humanness, sensitivity, and the traumatically acquired psychological aberrations ... (of) White Racism."

From Tribune Media News Service

MLK: OSU hosts week-long activities

From Page One
Student Union Lounge at 2:30p.m.

Oregon State University also has a full program of activities for the Jan. 17 holiday, starting with the 18th Annual Peace Breakfast from 7:30-9a.m. Tickets are \$4.50 for students.

A candlelight vigil will take place at 6:30 p.m. at the MU Quad and there will be a round table discussion following in the MU Learning Lounge at 7p.m. All events are open to the public.

For more information, call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at 737-4381.

Career Center launches new job resources

by Leda Webster
of The Commuter

Finding the right job just got easier, thanks to two new programs in the career center.

A notebook of career information and employment Web sites, and Job WORKS, an instructional software program, are now available in the Career Center, located in Takena Hall. Like the existing Career Information System, CIS, both tools are free and available for use by students and area residents.

Molly Staats, Career and Employment Specialist, said, "Students can use the

LBCC computer system to search the Internet and learn a full range of skills needed to conduct a successful career exploration and job search."

Highlights in the Web site notebook include job boards, Web sites for employers, community resources, government, city and county, and state government, and search engines. There is a wide range of topics for students choosing a career path, including Web sites on financial aid and job banks.

Job WORKS teaches the user how to start and progress through a job search. The three steps are preparation, résumés

and cover letters, and interviews.

"My favorite part of this program is the interview," says Staats. "Job WORKS teaches a person how to convey confidence and enthusiasm during the interview by learning how to answer troublesome job interview questions."

"No matter what stage they are in, whether just starting, graduating, or anywhere in between, we have a service or a resource to help them," said Staats.

Make an appointment for exploring Web sites or Job WORKS by calling 917-4782 or stopping by the Career Center in Takena Hall.

Ag/horticulture advisory committee member honored

From the LBCC News Service

Richard H. Holmes has been awarded the Pat Atteberry Award as LBCC's outstanding professional advisory committee member for 1998-1999. The Atteberry Award recognizes Holmes' 20 years of service on the Agriculture/Horticulture Technical Advisory Committee and to LBCC.

Holmes, owner of Holmes Tree Preservation in Corvallis, helped develop the college's arboriculture curriculum and taught an arboriculture class in 1987 and an arboriculture practicum from 1988 to 1996.

In addition to making annual presentations on commercial arboriculture as a career, Holmes has participated in program accreditation reviews and established professional technical competencies for horticulture classes. He hires LBCC students and graduates and helps others find jobs with other companies. His company loans equipment and staff for instructional projects and demonstrations.

LBCC horticulture instructor Greg Paulson said, "Holmes is one of the most highly respected commercial arborists in the Northwest. He's promoted safety, professionalism and has demonstrated innovation and practical problem-solving skills to students."

The Pat Atteberry Award was established in May 1993 in recognition of Dr. Pat Atteberry's contribution to technical education. Atteberry served on LBCC's Vocational Education Advisory Committee from 1977 until 1992 and made many contributions to the development of LBCC vocational programs.

The agriculture/horticulture committee is one of 33 LBCC advisory committees providing guidance to the college's professional technical programs. More than 400 local community and industry members serve on the committees.

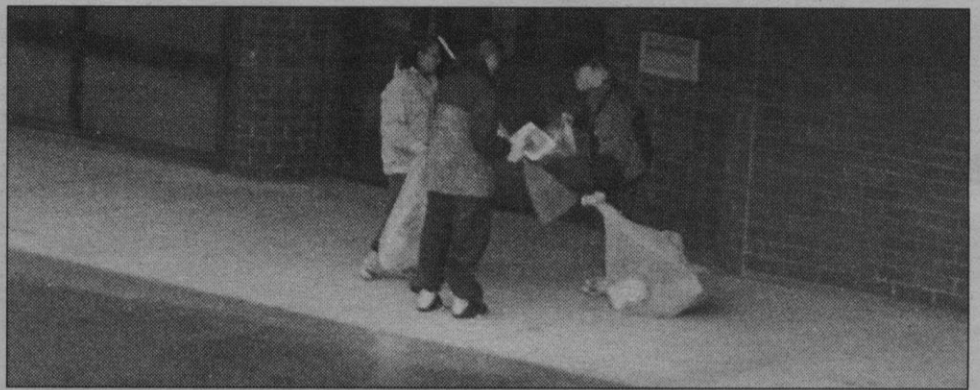


Photo by Robin Camp

Students Adrienne Stuart and Doug Patritz and admissions clerk Roxie Putnam comb the campus in search of trash. The three are participating in this week's Trash Bash, part of the Campus Awareness and Pride Week.

Cleanup: Smoking areas relocated

From Page One

non-smokers alike. Out of LB's 10 designated smoking areas, the one located in front of the Financial Aid office was removed, while the second floor College Center area was relocated in an attempt to minimize non-smokers' contact with cigarette smoke because of complaints, said Watson.

According to Watson, some students have complained about having to walk through a cloud of smoke to get to class from the parking lot.

The decision to move the smoking area outside of the Financial Aid office was also prompted by the dramatic re-vamping of the Courtyard, which included a new entrance to the library, and the expansion of the Courtyard Cafe,

which brought more traffic to the area.

Watson noticed that with the increase in people and socializing came a rise in trash and cigarette butts.

"We're trying to balance out the rights of everybody," said Watson.

Along with the relocation of smoking areas, Watson also wants to heighten the awareness of the locations of the areas to keep up the appearance of the college. Watson hopes to get teachers involved by asking them to announce to students where the smoking areas are located.

"I'm hoping that by the end of the second week, people will know where those areas are," said Watson.

Maps of campus smoking areas are located in the Student Life and Leadership office and posted on billboards.

Health Van moves services indoors

by Lizanne Southgate
of The Commuter

The services formerly provided in the Mobile Health Van every Wednesday are now available on Tuesdays in room B-203, from 11:30a.m. to 4:30p.m.

In addition to the three professional health care providers from Linn County, students from the Medical Assistant Program will be on hand to help patients. The students will be helping check-in patients, taking blood pressure and vital statistics, and working with files.

Basic health care available to students includes exams, and shots as well as birth control and information on sexually transmitted diseases. Fees are based on a sliding scale and some insurance plans, including OHP, are accepted.

There will be a small celebration on Jan. 18, from 11a.m.-noon to familiarize students with the new location and provide information on services offered. Refreshments will be provided and health care providers will be on hand to answer questions.

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.

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IN FOCUS

MUCK MAYHEM

The first Foster Mud Flat Race of the 21st Century draws 2,500

They rise from the darkness just before dawn, revving their monstrous iron-block V-8 engines and giving their lifted beasts a last-minute maintenance check before braving the holes of muck at Foster Reservoir.

More than 2,500 motorists and patrons showed up for this year's event at the reservoir east of Sweet Home last weekend. The landscape of mud revealed by Foster's annual draw down teased and taunted hundreds of drivers to contest its depths and hidden traps.

Combatants utilized a vast array of huge mud-tires and horsepower

with the hopes of overcoming one another in the mud drags or surviving the forces of the mighty "Bog."

Some say getting through the Bog is prowess; others would argue luck. Most agree that it's a little of both.

The mud shows pity to no one. Whether they're driving in it or trying to maneuver through it on foot, no one leaves clean.

The fact that no one leaves clean is all part of the fun, and though many casualties of this mud war lay motionless due to "lead foot poisoning" and broken bones, the drivers boast smiles and laugh it off among the members of their mud-clad tribe.



Photos
and
Story
by
Justin
Dalton

CAMPUS NEWS

Biology students rehabilitate wildlife

LB teacher shares her love of wildlife with student volunteers at Chintimini Center

by Schellene Pils
for The Commuter

"This is Chintimini Wildlife Rehabilitation Center," said Melissa Kilgore, biology instructor and volunteer at the beginning of a tour of the facility. "It's a truly community organization," she said. All the money that pays for Chintimini is donated by businesses and private parties in the community.

Since CWRC is an entirely volunteer program, Kilgore hosts work parties there for her biology students, allowing them the unique chance to see a "side of biology that they don't normally get to view."

Twice a term students in Kilgore's classes are given a chance to volunteer for a few hours of manual labor, such as cutting down overgrown berry bushes, planting trees, digging holes and filling them up. In general, the work parties do all the work that the trained volunteers never find time to do since they must focus mainly on the care of the animals.

Jessica Hannahs, an education major and work party member, said that she decided to join the party because "I like all the animals. It's interesting how they rehabilitate them."

Student volunteers get 10 extra credit points, a snack and a tour of the facility, a rare treat since Chintimini is a true hospital and is not otherwise open to the public.

Kilgore had always wanted to work with animals, and she had a dream of one day opening her own wildlife center. "I'd always been interested in teaching college students," she said.

So when the opportunity came up for her to get a part-time job with LBCC a year ago, she jumped at it, deciding to combine both her love of teaching and her love of animals to give her students a chance to help the wildlife she loves.

Three and a half years ago, Kilgore and her husband, Jason, moved to Corvallis. Shortly afterward she began volunteering and helping at the center.

"It's not enough to fix them and send them out," said

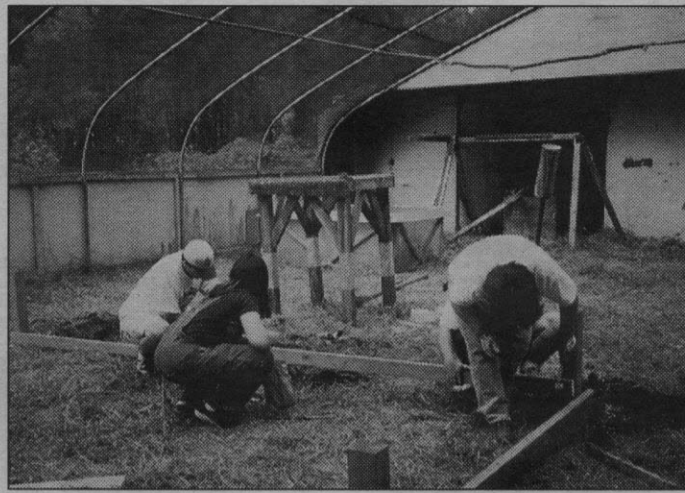


Photo courtesy of Melissa Kilgore

Student work party volunteers work on the foundation of what will soon be the raptor barn at Chintimini.

Kilgore, so long term rehabilitation is common. "Rafters require extra flight training to rebuild muscles and some of our orphaned animals must develop predatory skill."

Kilgore added that the rehabilitation process doesn't stop there, as CWRC must also educate the public.

People often bring in animals that they say they held in their laps and petted all the way to the center, which, she said, is the worse thing to do.

"You are a predator, you kill the animal by talking to it. It's stress related," she said.

The center recommends that all animals be placed in a dark, quiet box, with a lid on top and a blanket within. The less stimulation and contact that these animals have with humans, the better. Even with these precautions, only 40

percent of the animals that come to the center are released back into the wild. Because, she said, by the time these animals come into Chintimini, they are in bad shape. "We get the worst of the cases."

According to Christie Lynn, psychology major and work party volunteer, the reason she came the center is that "I love the animals, definitely, otherwise it was the extra credit."

"I like all the animals. It's interesting how they rehabilitate them."

- Jessica Hannahs

"You are a predator, you kill the animal by talking to it. It's stress related."

-Melissa Kilgore

Dean receives award for excellence

From the LBCC News Service

Dr. Ann Smart, dean of Extended Learning and Library Services at LBCC, received the Community College Excellence Award at the December state conference of the Oregon Chapter of the American Association of Women in Community Colleges.

The award recognizes Smart's leadership and encouragement of women at LBCC and her service as an advocate, mentor and role model.

Smart has been with the college for 25 years. She received the 1998 Award for Contributions to the Field of Community Education by the Oregon Community Education Association.

Commons Menu

Jan. 17-21, 2000

Monday

Holiday

Tuesday

Beef Brochette
Sweet and Sour Pork
Spinach Ricotta Pie
Shrimp Salad

Wednesday

Roast Chicken
Pork Enchiladas
Pasta Bar
Taco Salad

Thursday

French Dip
Almond Chicken
Vegetable Calzone
Cobb Salad

Friday

Chef Choice

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for more information, contact Jin Wang, Ext. 4463

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Venetian Theater night life goes until the crowd dies out

This week's events feature country dance night, girls' night out, Floater, classic funk night

by Kathy Hansen
of The Commuter

Modern restoration coupled with historic architecture highlight the newly-renovated Venetian Theater in downtown Albany.

The Venetian Theater, located at 241 SW First Ave., boasts two bars and a full-service restaurant after the million-dollar renovation, which was completed Dec. 30.

The menu contains many Italian entrées such as fettuccine alfredo and frittata, as well as antipastas and desserts. The delicacies range in price from \$3 to \$8.

The smaller of the two bars is located on the main floor and is closed during all-age shows. The second floor bar has leather seating, dining tables and a balcony with an unobstructed view of the stage.

This Friday the Venetian's concert

series begins. Doors always open at 6 p.m. and shows begin at 9 p.m. Rae Opengart, administrative staff person, added that the theater stays open "until the crowd dies out."

The Venetian Theater box office is open Tuesday thru Saturday after 5 p.m. For further ticket information contact Fred Meyer FasTixx at (503)244-8499 or Rainbow's End at 222 SW First Ave. in Albany.

For more information contact the theater at 791-8585 or www.see-u-at-the-venetian.com

Upcoming events include:

- Tonight is country dance night. Lessons begin at 7 p.m. and the cover charge is \$4.

- Thursday, Jan. 13 is Girl's Night Out. Cover charge is \$4 and ladies get in free. Drink specials and house music until 1 a.m.

- Saturday, Jan. 15 is Floater with special guest Gruss. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door.

- Tuesday, Jan. 18 is classic funk night with double trouble drinks, and no cover charge.



Photo by Robin Camp

The Venetian Theater has undergone a million-dollar facelift and reopened as Albany's primary downtown venue.

Film series opens today as prelude to humanities festival

by Commuter Staff

The Arts and Communication Division is kicking off a film series this week that serves as a prelude to a Festival of the Humanities coming up later this term.

The festival, called "Celebrating the Humanities," includes classic films, workshops, lectures, concerts, theater productions and art exhibits scheduled around the LBCC campus and open to the community.

Although most events will occur between Feb. 25 and March 10, the film series begins today with a showing of "Eudora Welty: A Worn Path" today at noon in Forum 115.

The film traces the mythic journey that 95-year-old Phoenix Jackson takes to town, and will be hosted by English instructor Robin Havenick.

According to A&C Dean Gary Ruppert, the division is promoting the humanities to "bring more awareness of how the humanities are related to everyday life." He said the humanities are a group of disciplines that both

mirror and interpret what human beings have believed, experienced and celebrated in our time and throughout the centuries.

The events are being organized by volunteer faculty and students from Arts and Communications.

The lead off event, "Celebrating the Humanities through Film," is a series of film clips selected by nine faculty members because they show "the creativity and beauty of the human spirit." Each will be accompanied by an informal discussion led by a faculty member. The following films will be presented at noon Wednesdays in Forum 115.

- Jan. 19 "¡Ay, Carmela," a Mexican film presented by Spanish instructor Margarita Casas.

- Jan. 26 "Dead Man Walking," hosted by drama instructor Jane Donovan.

- Feb. 2 "1492: Conquest of Paradise," hosted by history instructor Michael Weiss.

- Feb. 9 "Children of Heaven," an Iranian film

hosted by sociology instructor Arfa Aflatoonie.

- Feb. 16 "First Oregonians" and "People of the Walomala," hosted by Tim Bowman.

- Feb. 23 "Matewan," hosted by history instructor Doug Clark.

- March 1 "Indochine," a French film hosted by English instructor Peter Jensen.

- March 8 "Hiroshima, Mon Amour," a French film hosted by English instructor Beth Camp.

Other events planned for the weeks of Feb. 25-March 10 include a series of videos on "Eight Great Photographers of the 20th Century," and separate presentations on the influence of language, the role of mythology in our culture and social mapping.

In addition, an art exhibit featuring the work of LBCC faculty and students, a children's theater and musical performances by the LBCC chorale will be held.

Additional information is available at 917-4535.

Marina Mangubi's valley landscapes featured in Fairbanks exhibit

From the OSU News Service

An exhibit of paintings and prints by Marina Mangubi opened Monday in Fairbanks Gallery in Fairbanks Hall on the OSU campus.

The work that will be shown at the Fairbanks Gallery focuses on the landscape of the Willamette Valley.

Mangubi has had work in numerous international exhibits including the Portland Museum of Art in Maine; the Gusto House Gallery in Kobe, Japan; The Sonoma Art Museum; and the Kellogg University Art Gallery at Cal Poly in Pomona, California. Mangubi is scheduled to have a one person show in the

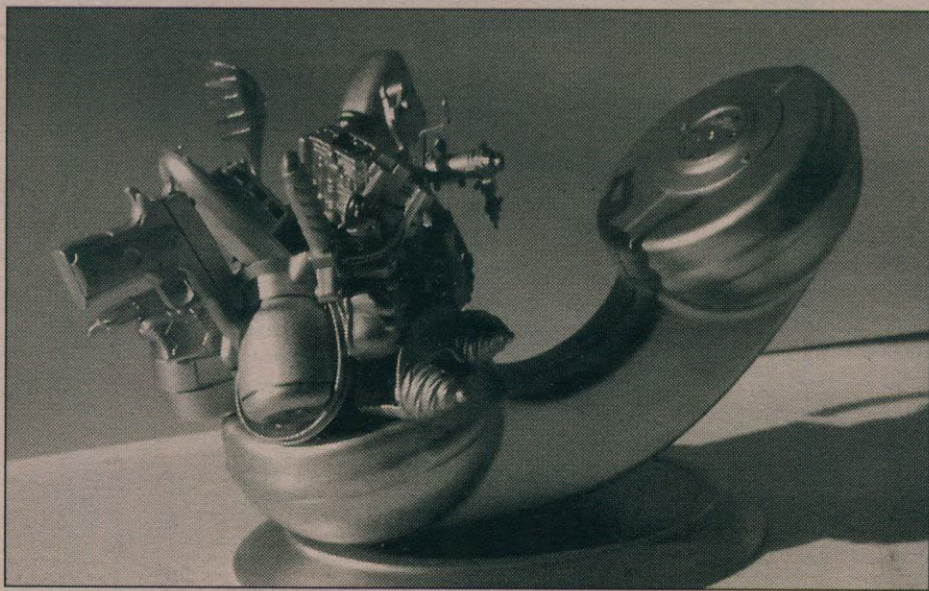
Municipal Exhibition Hall in Moscow, Russia in July. She is represented by the Marilyn Pink Gallery in Los Angeles.

Mangubi is currently a visiting assistant professor at the OSU Department of Art. She attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor where she earned her M.F.A. in 1993. She earned an A.B. at UC

Berkeley in Art and Psychology (Neuroscience) in 1988.

The public is invited to a reception for the artist in Fairbanks Gallery from 4:30-6 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 19. Fairbanks Gallery is open to the public weekdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The exhibition runs through Feb. 2.



Talking Trash by Lynn Foster is on exhibit in the Art Gallery.

Salem artist recycles plastic to transform junk into art

From the LBCC News Service

The trash-to-treasure sculptures of Salem artist Lynn Foster are on exhibit from Jan. 4 to Jan. 28, in the gallery of the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Building from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, with free admission.

Foster also will give a gallery talk from noon to 1 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 27.

Foster recycles plastic objects rescued from junk stores and assembles them with copper wire into abstract or recognizable sculptures.

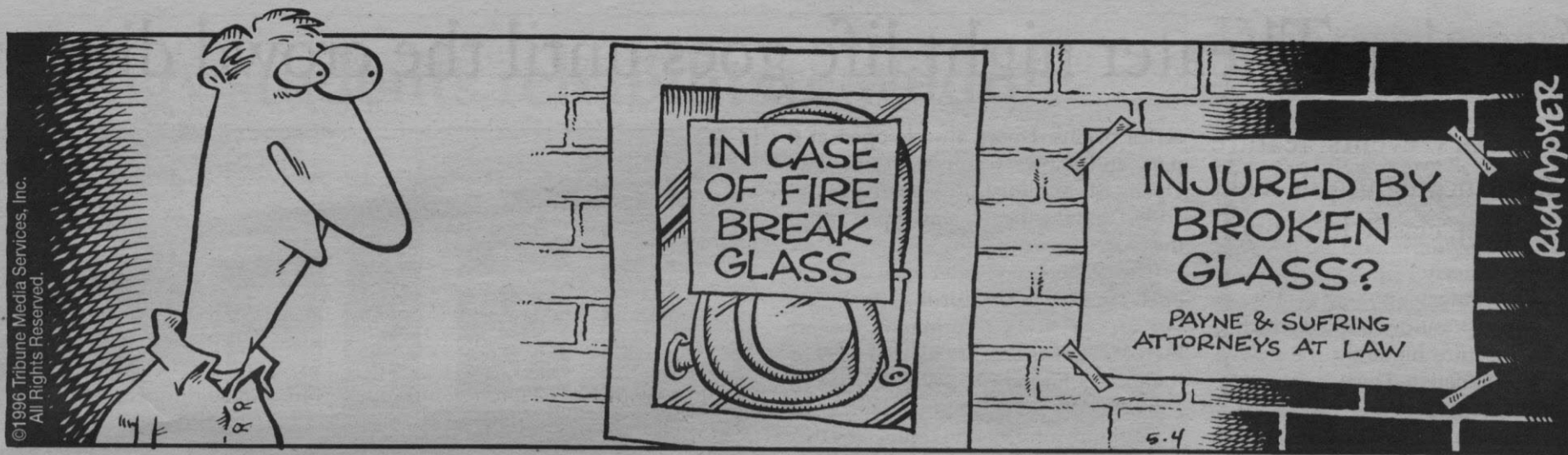
She usually spray paints the sculptures to unify the colors.

"When I recycle plastic, I also recycle various art movements as well," Foster says. "I think that if Picasso had as much junk plastic in his early years as we do now, it would be natural for him to make it into sculpture."

Paintings by Alan Munro will be exhibited from Jan. 31 to Feb. 25, in the gallery. The Greater LBCC Juried Show featuring art by students, faculty and staff will be held Feb. 28 to March 10 in the Gallery.

The gallery will be closed Monday, Jan. 17, for the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

FUNNY PAGE



THE ADVENTURES OF SKULY
BY WILLIAM MORTON
©MICHIGAN

SKULY'S INFO-MERCIAL

NEW, LIQUID SKULLY 2000.	ELIMINATES WRINKLES.	PROMOTES HAIR GROWTH.	INCREASES WEIGHT LOSS.
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#24

CLASSIFIEDS

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Inside Sales Rep (Albany & Lebanon) -- If you can work evenings and weekends and would enjoy selling cellular phones, equipment and services, this job is for you. It pays \$6.50-7.89 per hour, plus an average commission of \$300-400 per month. There is also growth opportunities. See Student Employment in the Career Center for more information (T101).

CWE Positions with Oremet-Wah Chang
We have four jobs looking for engineering, computer, drafting and water/wastewater students. You must be a current LBCC student and have completed two terms in a degree field related to these jobs. CWE jobs provide great on-the-job experience, give you academic credit and make your resumé look really good! Sign up today with Student Employment and submit your resumé to be

faxed to Oremet (T101).

Electronics Technician and Manufacturing Technicians -- One of these full-time jobs is in Corvallis and the other is in Springfield with a salary of \$15.35 an hour. The Springfield job requires AA/AS degree. See Carla now for more information (T101).

Truck Drivers (California) -- Starting to think about this summer? These full-time, summer jobs run from July through October and pay \$1,109-1,304 per week gross. You must be 21 years by July 1. Shifts are 12-16 hours per day. You will be trained and drive the newest equipment. See us in Student Employment for your referral to this opportunity!

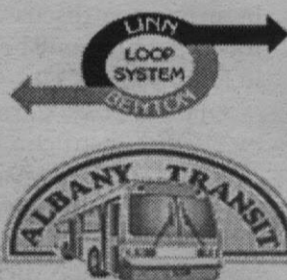
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- (B) a good portion of what I owe.
- (C) only the minimum payment.

How much of the credit line on your credit cards do you owe?

- (A) none, I pay my entire balance each month.
- (B) less than one-half.
- (C) I have charged to the maximum on most of my cards.

Do you know your credit card debt?

- (A) yes.
- (B) rough estimate.
- (C) afraid to add it up.



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SPORTS PAGE

Men begin Y2K with big win

by David Thayer
of The Commuter

The 21st Century started out well for Randy Falk and the men's basketball team last week when they opened their league season with a sparkling 81-58 trouncing of the Timbermen of Umpqua C.C. last Wednesday in Roseburg.

Although the game was close after the first half, with Linn-Benton going into the locker room with a 39-36 lead, the second half was all LB. The Runners' offense poured in 42 points in the second stanza while their defense limited the Timbermen to just 22. LB shot 53 percent from the floor that half, while containing Umpqua to 26 percent.

Mark Chockfoot was the Roadrunners' leading scorer with 16 points, with JR Brusseau and Vann Lanz nipping at his heels with 14 and 13 points apiece. Branden Whitney led the way with eight rebounds, followed by Chris Livermore and Lanz tying with six. Hamilton Barnes led the team in both assists and steals, with eight and four respectively.

The Runners dominated the shooting game, hitting a respectable 53 percent to the Timbermen's 38 percent. The rebounding battle was close at 36-35, but the Runners were able to convert them to points. Linn-Benton scored 19 points off the bench and added 18 points from behind the three-point arc.

But LB's fortunes turned sour last Saturday when they hosted the Clackamas Cougars in their first home game of the

pre-season. The Cougars dominated both halves of the game to win 88-66.

The Runners poor first-half shooting (29 percent) proved to be a downer, as LB managed to score only scoring 22 points while the Cougars poured in 35. LB came out stronger in the second half and doubled their scoring output, but the Cougars did even better, scoring 53 points to the Runners' 44.

Barnes led the way for Linn-Benton with 19 points while Livermore and Lanz followed behind with 17 and 10 apiece. Matt Brown was the team leader with five rebounds, with Barnes, Brusseau and Whitney tied with four.

Coach Falk said the big difference between the two games was his team's defensive intensity. "We came out intense and competed harder in Wednesday's game, but didn't step up our intensity in Saturday's game. We were very impatient on offense."

Falk said his players have to work on three things to get ready for tonight's game in the Activities Center.

"No. 1, we have to do a better job at defensive transitions. No. 2, our half-court defense. Finally, our No. 3 thing is we need to show better offensive execution. If we are patient, we will have better opportunities to get better shots and better chances to score."

The Runners face Southwestern Oregon tonight and Portland this Saturday. Both games are at the Linn-Benton Activities Center and start at 6 p.m.

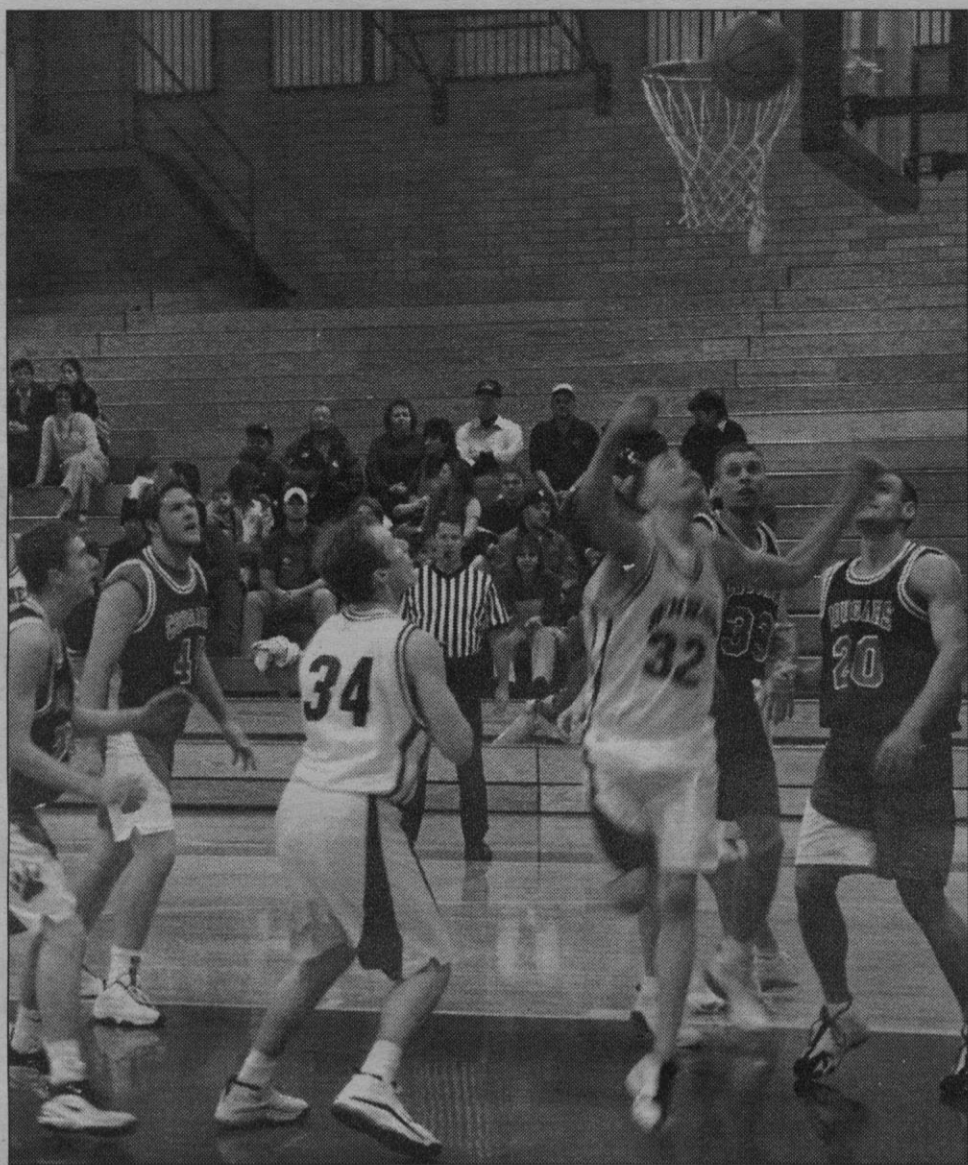


Photo by Chris Spence

LB's JR Brusseau falls forward while attempting a shot under the basket in the Roadrunners' 88-66 loss to Clackamas Saturday in the Activities Center. On the previous Wednesday, Brusseau scored 14 points when the Runners defeated Umpqua 81-58 to open their league season.

Lady Runners refuse to quit despite stumbling in league openers

by David Thayer
of The Commuter

Hoping to erase the memories of a 2-12 season a year ago, the Lady Runners had the unenviable task of opening their league season against the Timberwomen of Umpqua C.C. and the Lady Cougars of Clackamas C.C., who beat the Runners in four games last year.

The Runners now have to worry about getting their season on track after going 0-2 in 2000, with a 124-66 loss to Umpqua in Roseburg last Wednesday and a 69-54 loss to Clackamas at home last Saturday.

In the league opening game, the Timberwomen jumped all over the Runners' late in the first half, taking a 48-30 lead into the locker room. The second half proved to be no better for LB, as the Timberwomen broke lose by scoring 76 points to the Runners 36.

Melinda Klinkebiel was the team's leading scorer with 15 points, followed next by Summer Wright, who had 11. Kelly Dexter led the team with seven rebounds, with Karen Bryan and Klinkebiel grabbing three each. Michelle Miller dished out six assists, while Klinkebiel and Wright passed out five and four apiece.

The team shot 44 percent overall in the game, and the other stats were not much prettier. They shot only 45 percent from the line, were out-rebounded 55-31 and lost the ball 19 times to Umpqua's six.

Hoping to do better in their next game, the Runners jumped out to an early 17-14 lead, thanks to six early points from Evie Larsen.

The Runners proceeded to lose the lead though, and went into the half behind 27-23. The second half proved to be the downfall again for LB, as the Lady

Cougars scored 42 points to the Runners 31, highlighted by runs of 10-4 and 38-25 to put LB away by a final score of 69-54.

Klinkebiel was the leading scorer with 13 points, with Larsen and Miller next with 11 and nine respectively. Carrie Wilson pulled down eight rebounds to lead the team, while Bryan hauled down five.

Turnovers and free-throw shooting again were the problems for the Runners. They gave the ball up 24 times and could only muster a 50 percent free-throw percentage. One bright spot was tying Clackamas in the rebound battle with 41 each.

"I don't think we know how to play for 40 minutes," said Larsen. "We go out and have a lot of intensity and a good warm-up, but we just play good on the court for the first 15 minutes, then lose it at the end of the first half."

She added that the team talks about getting re-energized for the second half, "but we don't bring it with us on the court."

She added: "Our biggest problem is we need to run the offense more. We need to pass the ball four or five times and then get a good shot. If we did that, we would be a little bit more successful on offense."

Coach A.J. Dionne agreed that the team's main hurdle is to bein playing strong for the full 40 minutes.

"That's a big problem, and it has been ever since I have been here," she said. "It's tough getting teams to go out and play for 40 minutes."

Commenting on how the team has played in their first two games, Dionne said that she feels they are a beginning team.

"For both games, we have started off

very intense and fired up and attacking offensively. We had a two-point lead on Umpqua with five minutes to go in the first half, but they came back to grab an 18 point lead. It just gets to the 20- or 30-point mark when we start to lose our confidence and our energy goes down.

The girls don't quit, but they don't feel confident in themselves like they do in the beginning."

The Lady Runners face Southwestern Oregon tonight and Portland this Saturday, both at the LB Activities Center. The games start at 8 p.m.

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OPINION

MONICA LEWINSKY TO BE TV SPOKESPERSON FOR JENNY CRAIG

MONICA HELPED US LOSE A LOT OF WEIGHT. WHEN WE SAW HER ON TV WE RECALLED WHAT MADE HER SO FAMOUS AND LOST OUR APPETITES.



LETTERS

VarsityBooks.com rep plugs on-line bookstore

To the Editor:

The days of waiting in long lines for over-priced textbooks are over. Students at LBCC have an alternative to buying their books from the campus book store.

VarsityBooks.com, the nation's premier on-line college bookstore, is changing the way textbooks are sold and giving college students a choice in how much money and time they spend when purchasing their textbooks. What you may not know is that in addition to offering students the chance to save money, VarsityBooks.com also gives students the chance to make money and learn real-world marketing skills. Through its campus representative program, college students can work for the company as local marketing professionals. I personally have been recruited to perform this task at LBCC.

As a campus rep, my job is to develop a campus marketing plan which incorporates promotions, advertising, public relations and word-of-mouth tactics. I also hire other students to help me execute the plan and act as an informational resource for LBCC students who want to learn more about VarsityBooks.com.

I get compensated hourly through spot bonuses and through a newly announced stock option program that gives me part ownership in the company. I think that it is safe to say that I am the only person on campus that owns a portion of the company for which I work. In addition, I get professional work experience with a hot Internet company.

I think LBCC readers would appreciate knowing that they don't have to pay the campus bookstore prices or wait in long lines to get their textbooks.

Kevin Harper

VarsityBooks.com Campus Representative

We want mail

Got something you want to get off your chest? Fire off an e-mail to The Commuter Letters column. We try to publish every comment and opinion we get on this page--that's what it's for.

We do need a real name to put at the bottom of the letter--we do not publish anonymous diatribes. So to make sure we know you're real, put your phone number at the bottom of your e-mail letter so we can call to confirm you exist. Send your comments to us at commuter@gw.lbcc.cc.or.us.

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

Support voucher system, not public education

To the Editor:

In regards to Jennifer Maisto's article on school vouchers (The Commuter, Dec. 1), I can tell you what life was like in the public school system.

My life at school was pure hell because I was constantly teased and harassed on a daily basis simply because I sit in a wheelchair. I went to the principal about it, but he did nothing!

The public school system needs to focus on monitoring other peoples' behaviors as well as academics. This would not have happened had I been allowed to go to a private school through the voucher system. The public school system is in chaos, but the liberal groups offer no alternative or solution whatsoever. They just complain about tax dollars going to vouchers for private schools. The U.S. Department of Education spends \$400 billion on public schools, test scores have gone from bad to worse, and the dropout rate is still too high. Public education is a waste of taxpayers' money because the quality of public education is going down.

There are around 150,000 kids carrying guns to school every year. Because of the recent flood of school shootings, I am inclined to home school my future son or daughter to keep them safe from harm.

About the cost of public education, it costs around \$7,000 a year to send a child to a public school (Department of Education stats) as opposed to \$2,500 a year to send a child to a parochial or another private institution. Unless public schools address safety issues and encourage respect for staff and children, the system will continue to do a free-fall.

Jeff Smith

COMMENTARY

Predicted collapse of civilization fails to materialize . . . oh well

We have seen the light . . . because the lights stayed on. Imagine that. Y2K and all the hype came and went with much ado about nothing.

And so, we greet the new year with mixed emotions. Mixed emotions because it went so well, though the media and commercial enterprises had us prepared for the worst. The news people seemed almost disappointed that the world didn't fall apart as predicted. Kind of like they were all dressed up with nowhere to go.



Lori Weedmark

Here at LBCC, the year rolled in with no Y2K-related problems. Ann Adams, with Information Services, said everything went smoothly. Costs related to the Y2K fix at the college were mostly due to labor, or time spent to install a patch to 1,100 computers on site, according to Adams. Staff came in on Dec. 31 to power off computers as an extra precaution and returned on Jan. 2 to power them back up.

Our government, on the other hand, spent an estimated \$8.5 billion since 1995 to update and repair its computers. Some of the funds were spent setting up an elaborate monitoring system for industries at risk from nuclear power plants to hospitals. Our government also aided other countries that were behind in repairs.

The phone industry spent \$3.6 billion making sure their systems were Y2K compliant. Banks kept extra money on reserve, some \$80 billion, in case Americans made a run for cash. The United Nations Y2K monitoring group estimated \$200 billion was spent worldwide.

And that's not counting all the money spent by the private sector.

Most department stores are not allowing returns or are charging a restocking fee on items being returned. According to the Web site APCnews.com, one Hudson, Wis. man finds himself with 400 boxes of Hamburger Helper, 175 pounds of pasta, 50 bars of soap and nine tubes of toothpaste patiently waiting in his basement. Maybe he could start his own store.

Food banks around the United States are willing to take on any excess Y2K supplies. America's Second Harvest, the nation's largest domestic hunger relief organization, is organizing "Y Go 2 Waste," a national food drive from Jan. 15 to Feb. 15 to encourage people to donate their excess supplies.

The traffic lights didn't go out, we got our paychecks, the banks didn't say we were broke and the militia didn't terrorize our neighborhoods. Damn. That doesn't leave much news for the reporter types out there. But it does leave us all with a sense of relief.

Lori Weedmark

Calling on Washington

Sen. Ron Wyden, Democrat

Washington Office: 717 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

Phone: (202)-224-5244

Web: www.senate.gov/~wyden/

Portland Office: 700 NE Multnomah Blvd., Suite 450, Portland, OR 97232; phone (503) 326-7525

Salem Office: 777 13th St. SE, Suite 110, Salem, OR 97301; phone (503) 589-4555.

Sen. Gordon Smith, Republican

Washington Office: 359 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

Phone: (202) 224-3753

Web: www.senate.gov/~gsmith/

Portland Office: One World Trade Center, 121 SW Salmon St., Suite 1250, Portland, OR 97204; phone (503) 326-3386.

Eugene Office: 211 E. Seventh Ave., Room 202, Eugene, OR 97401; phone (541) 465-6750.



Use The Commuter's Opinion Page to tell the world where to get off. Write a letter to the editor. Sign it, seal it and drop it off at Forum Room 222. And watch the feathers fly next Wednesday.