



Photos by Josh Burk



Bird Sanctuary or Death Trap?

Strands of fishing line strung across the top of the College Center atrium have failed to deter birds from roosting in the trees. Every morning, grounds crews typically find five or six dead birds that have flown into the surrounding windows when they tried to leave.

Work study wage raised to match state minimum

by Mary Hake
of The Commuter

Work study students who were earning less than \$6 an hour received a raise when Oregon's minimum wage went up Jan. 1. Wages already at \$6 or more per hour remained the same.

As mandated by state law, LBCC increased all pay rates that had been below the new minimum level. Director of Financial Aid Lance Popoff said this was just like last year, when minimum wage went to \$5.50. It will top out at \$6.50 per hour next year.

The biggest beneficiaries will be those work study students who had been earning the minimum \$5.50 per hour. They will see a 50-cent increase in their January paychecks. However, students who had already received raises in the past for quality performance will lose that differential. Those who had been earning \$5.70, for example, will get a 30-cent raise. That's because all pay rates between \$5.50 and \$5.90 per hour went up to \$6.

In order to balance the raises, Popoff urged individual supervisors to give their experienced work study students raises of up to 20 cents per term "for meritorious work." He added that LBCC work study allows unlimited raises and has no maximum pay rate.

Popoff said LBCC tries to keep work study pay consistent with non-work study wages, but not above that of part-time workers at the college. In the past, the college's work study rate had been slightly higher than minimum wage, but Sylvia Pearson, who oversees work study payroll, said there are no plans to raise the rate above the minimum wage in the future.

Kathy Withrow, coordinator of human resources, said that if work study students earn a higher wage than a corresponding non-contract worker, they might have to take a pay cut if they were hired as a regular employee after the work study job ends.

Popoff said that a survey of other colleges showed that their work study pay is close to minimum wage, so LBCC is in line with rest.

A check with nearby community colleges showed their pay rates varied, however.

Becky Patrick, director of Federal Financial Aid at Lane Community College, said that the new minimum
(Turn to "Work" on Pg. 2)

Architects draft plans to move student offices

by Leslie Smith
of The Commuter

Plans are proceeding to convert the second floor of the College Center into a conference center, which will push student activity offices and recreation spaces to other locations on campus.

Tentative floor plans have been drawn for the relocation of the Fireside Room, Student Life and Leadership office (SLL), recreation room and The Commuter office.

The latest plan for relocating the SLL and Commuter offices is to build an extension at the west end of the Forum, facing the courtyard. If possible, this space would also include the recreation room and smaller lounges for student meetings.

Architects are also considering the possibility of extending the second floor of Takena Hall south and using the space to relocate the Fireside Room.

Bob Miller, associate dean of campus and commu-

nity services, has presented the idea of creating smaller lounges throughout campus to accommodate the loss of the Fireside Room, rather than one large lounge. Miller described these floor plans as "dream sheets," for the budget may not allow for all of the required reconstruction.

All the moves are necessary because the college wants to convert the second floor of the College Center into spaces for short-term conferences and seminars. Miller added that the conference rooms will also be available to student organizations for meetings and activities.

In addition to the conference rooms, a new classroom for the culinary arts program will be incorporated. Miller feels developing the conference center next to the cafeteria would broaden the base for culinary arts students.

"The strength of the culinary program is the lab,"
(Turn to "Relocation" on Pg. 2)

Officials select 14 areas where smoking will be permitted

by Erica Larsen
of The Commuter

Starting sometime this term, LBCC students and faculty smokers will be able to smoke only in specifically designated areas, which are to be created in 14 sheltered places on campus.

The designated smoking sites were finalized in a meeting attended by the Smoking on Campus committee (SMOC) and staff members on Dec. 8.

Designated smoking areas will be provided on both levels of campus and near the surrounding outbuildings. Smoking areas will be located in six places on the ground level: between Business and the fountain under the stairs, in front of Takena Hall, behind Takena

Hall, between the courtyard and Science & Technology, on the west side of the courtyard and on the east side of Industrial A.

Smoking areas will be located in four places on the second floor of the main campus: on the northeast corner of Science & Technology, on the north side of the College Center on the south side of the Learning Resource Center and in the breezeway between Science & Technology and Health Occupations.

Four smoking areas will be available near several outbuildings on campus: behind the Workforce Education Building, under the overhang on the northeast side of the Activities Center, between Industrial A and
(Turn to "Smoking" on Pg. 2)



Photo by Erica Larsen

Phil Clark, instructor of customizing Autocad, takes a break on the northeast corner of the Science & Technology Building, one of 14 sites to become designated smoking areas later this term.

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✓ Dog Days

Where greyhounds go when their racing days are over

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Check This Out

Catch some hoop action in the Activities Center today as 10 teams compete in the 3-on-3 Schick tournament from 4-7 p.m.

✓ 5-1 & Rolling

Roadrunners use tough defense to get off to best start in years

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CAMPUS NEWS

SLL offers free tickets to plays, concerts and lectures

by Julie Smyth
of The Commuter

February and March offer a variety of activities available to students through the Student Life and Leadership office.

Four pairs of tickets to the play "Forever Plaid," a comedy, will be given away by random drawing held Friday Jan. 30. The play is at the Elsinore Theatre in Salem on Sunday Feb. 1 at 7 p.m.

The Shakespeare play "Titus Andronicus" at OSU on Feb. 7 at 7 p.m. is sold out.

The annual Eugene Asian Festival on Feb. 14 in

Eugene is one of the largest in the United States. Transportation and lunch will be provided. Students can sign up until Feb. 13. There are seven spots left.

Two pairs of tickets to the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis are available through random drawing. The orchestra will perform on Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. at the Elsinore Theatre in Salem.

A trip is scheduled Feb. 28 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to the world's largest interactive exhibit devoted to the science behind sports, "A Taste of the Olympics", at OMSI in Portland. Transportation will be provided for the first 12 students to sign up by Feb. 27. Nine spots are

still available.

A lecture in Portland titled "Why Did Human History Unfold Differently on Different Continents?" will be given by Dr. Jared Diamond, a professor of physiology at the UCLA School of Medicine on March 5 from 5 to 11 p.m. Transportation and tickets are available to the first six students. There are three more spaces left.

On March 17 another lecture in Portland, "Life's Other Secret" will be given. There are two spaces left.

For more information or to sign up for an event contact the Student Life and Leadership Office in College Center Room 113, or call 917-4457.

Smoking restrictions to go into effect

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Industrial B, and on the north side of the Service Center. Ash and trash units are to be placed at the main entryways.

President Jon Carnahan said that the exact date of implementation depends now on when the task force, consisting of SMOC members and others appointed by administrators, completes its work. SMOC members are creating a marketing plan which will make college-goers aware of the designated smoking areas.

As part of the marketing plan, the Wellness Committee plans to publish information in staff newsletters, design pamphlets, and display signs around campus. Wellness Coordinator Richard Gibbs said, "With the incorporation of designated smoking areas, it will provide a much better environment."

Kevin Lacey, a member of the Smoking on Campus group and Supervisor of Custodial Services, is currently choosing appropriate furniture and receptacles for the areas.

Carnahan mentioned that students who are seen smoking outside the areas will simply be asked to use the smoking areas. "We aren't going to police the areas," Carnahan said.

The LBCC Board of Education approved the plan to implement smoking areas away from breezeways and doorways at its Nov. 19 meeting. The board's decision complies with the Oregon Indoor Clean Air Act to reduce health hazard risks caused by tobacco products to persons in public places. College officials hope to create an environment that benefits both smokers and nonsmokers.

Relocation to balance dreams with dollars

✓ From Page 1

said Miller, which now includes the cafeteria and the Santiam Room. The conference center would give students increased lab time and opportunity.

After presenting the newly revised floor plans to the Board of Education last week, the next step will be to tally the cost and finalize plans with each of the committees involved.

Meetings between the architect and

committees are scheduled for Friday.

"It's going to be a matter of bringing the dreams together with the dollars," Miller said.

Also part of the overall plan is to expand the Camas Room in Takena Hall out into the courtyard to the north. Miller hopes to present the final draft of the floor plans to the Board of Education in March and begin construction this summer.



Photo by Julie Smyth

Cleaning Up

Katie Dunlap and Heather McNeil, along with several students and staff, help clean up Allen Lane during the Martin Luther King Celebration activities last Tuesday.

Work study pay goes up with the minimum wage, but not all are winners

✓ From Page 1

wage didn't affect the 400 work study students there because LCC pays them \$6.52 or more an hour.

Patrick said that the raise will affect LCC's Learn and Earn Program, which employs about 150 students, by cutting their hours because each receives a set amount per term and it will now be used more quickly.

Federal Work Study Coordinator Elaine Smith, of Chemeketa Community College, said the work study wage scale there is tied to the part-time job pay scale. Those below the new minimum wage were raised proportionately, according to the position. Starting pay at CCC now ranges from \$6 to \$6.51 per hour. Chemeketa has about 400 work study students, in addition to 75 to 100 in

institutional programs, such as tutors.

The federal work study program gives colleges a set allocation of funds to administer each year, according to Popoff. Increasing the rate of pay means fewer people can get work study, or that fewer hours will be available for each student to work because they will use up their allotted funds more quickly.

Popoff added that no money is set aside to pay students beyond their individual work study awards, but that any department can elect to use available funds to pay students to work after their work study money is gone.

In order to use all of the work study funds apportioned to LBCC, Popoff said the college has a practice of "overcommitting" funds. That is, it awards more work study grants than the actual money

would finance because it expects some grants won't be used.

He explained that his office monitors work study students to make sure they obtain and keep their jobs. If they don't, their grant is canceled and the money is allotted to another qualifying student.

He said this is a normal cycle, which repeats at least twice a year.

"We can't overspend, and we can't underspend," said Popoff. The school must use its federal funds each year in order to continue to receive them from the government.

He added that if the college underspends by more than 10 percent, the excess money is lost indefinitely. That is why more work study students are given jobs than the actual money would finance—most never use their entire al-

lotments. However, if the money is consumed, said Popoff, the program would stop for the rest of the school year. He said this has happened at some colleges.

Popoff said that in the next appropriation, for the 1999-2000 school year, the federal capital contribution for the Perkins Loan Program may be channeled into work study grants. For LBCC, this amounts to about \$150,000, which is then matched by the school.

Nationally, this could convert \$750 million now being used for loans to work study money.

He said the Stafford Loans, a need-based program, would still to be available, as well as direct loans. He added that the government appears to be committed to continuing financial assistance for needy students.

commuter staff

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

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

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LOCAL NEWS

Fleet-footed racing greyhounds offered cushy retirement

by Schellene Pils
of The Commuter

Their sleek bodies and long slim legs are built for speed, so it's hard to believe that greyhounds are not as energetic off the racetrack as they are on it. On the contrary, greyhounds have earned the nickname "45 mph couch potatoes," since they often search out the most comfortable sleeping space in the home and stay there. Greyhounds are sprinters, so they use up their energy in one burst, then rest for long periods.

Thanks to the Greyhound Pets of America (GPA), just over 200 greyhounds in 1997 found homes away from the track where the only running they do is for pleasure.

But getting a greyhound is not as easy as just calling up a number and choosing a dog. The people who adopt these gentle, good-natured pets are devoted to finding only the best homes for them—people who will adopt a greyhound for life.

In fact, if you pass muster and are allowed to adopt a greyhound, you are required to sign an agreement that the greyhound will be returned to the GPA if for some reason you can no longer provide a home for your dog. The GPA even provides an 800 number.

"We want it to be a permanent adoption," said Pat Toman, president of the Northwest Chapter of the GPA. We take in any greyhound, it doesn't matter where they came from, and once they've been in a home they are never put back into a kennel, she said.

"We start out with a phone screen," said Toman. If that goes well, a foster home in the area is contacted, and a home visit is arranged, she said. If you qualify, you are allowed to choose a dog.

Greyhounds come in many different colors, from solid to brindle and pure black to red to white and all shades between. They are also affectionate and eager to please, and since they are very social animals, often fit in well with family members and other pets.

Adoption ages for greyhounds is commonly from 2-to-5-years old, but there are dogs as old as 11 available. "we get a lot of 2-year-olds," and they stay very puppy like for a long time, she said, until around age 3.

The greyhounds adopted from the Northwest Chapter of the GPA often come from the Multnomah Greyhound Park, in Portland. The park won't allow dogs to race unless owners sign an agreement to give all retired dogs to the GPA for adoption.



Photo by Schelene Pils

Corvallis resident Ted Cardwell plays with his greyhounds in his backyard before taking them in for a nap. Cardwell is one of several area foster homes for the retired race dogs. He has adopted two and fosters three more.

As well as agreeing to become a permanent family for a greyhound, before adoption you must agree to get your new pet spayed or neutered. The \$120 adoption fee covers this, plus vaccinations and dental work, a greyhound raising manual and a walking lead and collar.

Since greyhounds are kept in kennels until retirement, they don't have the same kind of dog sense that others of their species are born with. When they are first put in a home they don't know about common things like mirrors, stairs and windows, said Toman. Often greyhounds in a new home will walk into a window, won't climb stairs and will do double-takes when they see a mirror for the first time.

Greyhounds are indoor dogs, so they must always be on a leash when outside because of their tendency to focus on something in the distance, such as a leaf blowing in the wind or a bird, and the chase is on, Toman said.

A greyhound can reach racing speed in three strides and they lose peripheral vision, focusing their entire attention on the object they've selected. A car coming

toward them in an intersection is not seen or heard and greyhounds sometimes get hit by cars. If they run too far, they get lost. A thousand or so years of breeding for the chase is difficult to overcome.

Although a greyhound's overall health is very good, (they have never had a case of hip dysplasia), they do require special care, and many veterinarians are often not used to them. Due to the dogs lack of body fat, handlers cannot use anesthetics or pesticides, such as flea collars, on them. They also have thin skins. The GPA gets a lot of injured greyhounds because of that, said Toman.

Greyhounds are fed high protein, soft diets by the kennels and often have problems with their teeth, so the need for dental care is common. Although, with the exception of chocolate, once a greyhound is in a home they can eat most anything, said Ted Cardwell of Corvallis, who provides a foster home for three greyhounds and has also adopted two.

For more information on becoming a permanent family or a foster home for greyhounds, contact the GPA at 1-800-366-1472

Teledyne Wah Chang's and Willamette Industries' 'odor hot lines' to address offended olfactories

by Spencer Berndt
of The Commuter

Two new odor hot lines established to monitor complaints about smells from Willamette Industries and Wah Chang, have drawn few callers.

The local lines were required under The Federal Clean Air Act (FCAA) passed in 1990 and were established last month by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

The hot lines are merely a month old. Chuck Mihalko of Willamette Industries said he received a couple of calls when the number was first published in local papers about a month ago. David Butts of Wah Chang said his hot line has had the same results.

When a complaint is received, the caller is asked for the location and definition of the smell. An environmental technician will then go to the site to determine the cause of the odor.

In 1990 the FCAA was established to develop for each state a comprehensive operating permit program for major industrial sources of air pollution. The permit program clarifies the environmental obligations of a business by organizing in one document all air pollution requirements. This places a greater responsibility on the business for monitor-

ing, reporting and certifying compliance with conditions of the permit.

As defined in the new program, a major source of air emissions has the potential to emit 100 tons of any criteria pollutant in a year. For emitters of hazardous air pollutants, a major source has the potential to emit 10 tons of any single hazardous air pollutant or 25 tons of any combination of hazardous air pollutants.

A major source can choose to limit its potential to emit pollutants, which is what OreMet decided to do in order to

avoid requiring an operating permit. The Oregon Air Contaminant Discharge Permit program regulates OreMet and 900 other businesses with lesser amounts of emissions.

Oregon has been issuing air permits for about 20 years, Gary Andes of Oregon's DEQ stated. Gray said that the legal jargon created by the law made the permit document grow by 400 percent.

The hotline numbers are: 967-3997 for Willamette Industries and 926-4211 for Wah Chang.

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review

'Half-Baked'
comes off as half-funny comedyby Pete Petryszak
of The Commuter

The new comedy "Half-Baked," with Jim Bruer and Dave Chappelle, should have been called "Half-Price," because sitting through this dog knowing that you shelled out six hard-earned bucks could lead to a connoption.

What passes as a story is just a series of stupid slapstick routines, offering conclusive evidence that marijuana impairs one's ability to write a movie.

Dave Chappelle's character acting as both the film's hero and pothead rapper "Sir Smoke-a-Lot" saves what is otherwise an often sagging film with an incoherent plot revolving around imbecilic sight gags, prison rape jokes and a pot smoking Rottweiler.

"Half-Baked" is the story of three stoner friends living in New York City who get the idea that selling lots of weed would be a sure-fire way to raise enough money to bail their other stoner friend out of jail. Meanwhile, Chappelle's character hooks up with a gorgeous girl who's as straight as an arrow. He now faces the toughest choice of his life: to stay with his girl, he has to quit smoking weed.

Jim Bruer does a good stoner act (maybe it's not an act) as Chappelle's perpetually wasted roommate who prays to a pouch of Jerry Garcia's ashes in times of need.

A smattering of high-profile cameo appearances also keep the film afloat. Willie Nelson and Snoop Doggy Dogg play stoner customers who stop by to catch a buzz, while Steven Wright plays a groggy, hungover leftover from the boys' last party referred to simply "the guy on the couch."

Bob Saget's appearance at a rehab clinic is offensively hilarious, shattering the nice-guy comic image he lived behind during the "Full House" days.

While the movie has lots of funny moments, "Half-Baked" is erratic, with bright spots of humor quickly receding into the tedium. It's certain to assume a place in history alongside Cheech & Chong's early films as classic stoner flicks, simply because there just aren't that many stoner flicks made. And let's face it, "Up in Smoke" was a stupid movie, too.

"Half-Baked" is entertaining at times, but it definitely falls into the 'wait for the video' category. However, if you insist on the theatre experience it's at Albany Cinemas.

Spice Girls, Babyface shut out Puff Daddy at music awardsby James Eagan
of The Commuter

"Girl Power" was in full force Monday night as the Spice Girls won three out of five awards in the Pop/Rock category of the 25th Annual American Music Awards.

The British pop group won Favorite New Artist, Favorite Album ("Spice"), and Favorite Band, Duo or Group. Other winners in that category were Celine Dion for Favorite Female Artist and Babyface for Favorite Male Artist.

Babyface was also a big winner, as he was chosen Favorite Male Artist in the Soul/Rhythm and Blues category as well. Other winners in that category were Mariah Carey, Mary J. Blige and Erykah Badu, who was selected as the Favorite New Artist.

Puff Daddy, nominated for five awards, walked away empty-handed.

In the Country category, George Strait left with two awards, giving the most thanks to all his fans over the years. Favorite New Artist in this category went to Lee Ann Womack, with Favorite Band, Duo or Group honors going to Alabama.

The odds were in the Iglesias family's favor as Julio and son Enrique were both nominated as Favorite Artist in the Latin

Music category. The honor went to Julio, who said that as long as he was on stage, he would be competing with his son.

In the Adult Contemporary category, Elton John was selected the Favorite Artist over Michael Bolton and Celine Dion. "Men in Black" was chosen as Favorite Soundtrack, and Bone Thugs-N-Harmony walked away with Favorite Artist honors in the Rap/Hip Hop category. Favorite Artist in the Alternative Music category went to the British group Bush.

Tony Bennett presented the Award of Merit to musical legend Frank Sinatra. The award was accepted by Sinatra's daughter, Nancy, who called her father "the coolest guy in the universe." Sinatra was given this prestigious award for over 60 years of recording and performing the music he loved.

Host Drew Carey also performed, bringing out an accordion to play with an all-accordion band. The band played a medley of songs by many of the artists over the last 25 years who have been honored at the American Music Awards.

"The Grammy people just called," he said later. "They don't want me to play my accordion."

commentary

Movie pols create faith in real onesby James Eagan
of The Commuter

With the recent political turmoil in our nation's capital, I have decided to examine the "elected officials" we have in the world of television and film.

Here are two examples of presidents dealing with major crises in recent films: Jack Nicholson in "Mars Attacks!" and Bill Pullman in "Independence Day."

President Nicholson does a fine job of leading his country, using diplomacy and tact, in a vain attempt to save the United States from destruction. He eventually decides to use nuclear weapons, and when those fail, he pretty much gives up, gets himself killed, and power "trickles down" to his daughter.

Bill Pullman, on the other hand, truly saves the day. A young, hip Gulf War veteran (a J. F. K. reference if I ever saw one) is one of the instrumental forces behind saving the world from total annihilation. He makes decisive moves despite criticism, and takes charge when he needs to without Congress or the Judicial branch (who are all dead anyway).

Michael Douglas, in "The American President" examines the premise of a single guy in the White House. I can just imagine the possibilities: the First Girlfriend, then the First Fiancee, the First

Blow-Up Doll (bachelor party gift)—the list could go on forever. The only problem is, you can't make reservations for two at your favorite French restaurant because you have to figure in all the Secret Service people.

Now on to the office of mayor.

In "Spin City," one of the better sitcoms on television, Barry Bostwick plays an inept, bumbling mayor of New York City. Probably voted "Least Likely to Succeed" in high school, this is one mayor whose right hand doesn't even know what it is doing, let alone the left hand. So, the city of New York is pretty much run by the deputy mayor, played by Michael J. Fox.

So what do all of these examples have to do with Mr. Clinton and his problems?

Absolutely nothing.

The point is, when times of presidential crisis arise, take a look at the good, bad and the downright stupid when it comes to the Hollywood versions of our nation's leaders, and be thankful (or envious) that we don't have them.

review

Time is on side of ancient demon in thriller 'Fallen'by Melani Whisler
of The Commuter

Have you seen "Titanic" so many times that your eyes are about ready to pop out?

Then give Denzel Washington's newest movie "Fallen," a try.

Washington plays Detective John Hobbes who's been tracking a serial killer throughout most of his career. When the killer, Edgar Reese, played by Elias Koteas, is finally caught and in the gas chamber, he starts chanting in a foreign tongue as the cyanide gas curls around his body.

Hobbes dismisses it as gibberish and the next day goes about his daily routine with his partner Jonesy, played by John Goodman. It's not long before a string of murders begin to surface, all in the same style as Reese.

After tons of research and questions, Hobbes befriends a theology professor who tells him about Azazel, a bodiless ancient demon who travels into people's bodies by touch. In the beginning of the movie when Reese was executed, the spirit lifted out of his body, entered a guard, and escaped. The foreign "gibberish" was Reese invoking the spirit. (Don't worry, I didn't give any of the movie away).

The Azazel, when it takes over someone's body, forces them to sing the Rolling Stones' tune "Time is on My Side." The Azazel sets out to destroy Hobbes and makes his life a living hell throughout the movie, and before Hobbes realizes it, he's surrounded by the Azazel everywhere he goes.

If Hobbes had just walked away when all of this first started, he would've been OK. But because of the nature of his character, he takes it upon himself to save the world from the Azazel.

The finale definitely keeps you on the edge of your seat, but doesn't let you know what's going on either until the very end. I'm usually pretty good at predicting the end of a movie, but this one had me stumped.

So if you're tired of the average chick flick love story or bang-bang shoot 'em ups, I strongly recommend watching "Fallen," directed by Gregory Hoblit. It is currently playing at the Albany Cinemas next to Fred Meyer.

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SPORTS PAGE

Men's solid defense, rebounding keep them in top spot

by Shawna Phillips
of The Commuter

The Linn-Benton men's basketball team has gotten off to its best start since 1994, improving its league record to 5-1 after victories against Umpqua on Wednesday and Portland on Saturday.

LBCC helped themselves by knocking Umpqua out of a tie for first place with a convincing 64-49 win on LBCC's home court. It was an intense game in which the Roadrunners took every one of their possessions seriously, turning the ball over only 13 times.

After trading baskets during the first few minutes of the game, Linn-Benton picked up the pace and led by as many as 25 midway through the half. The Timbermen didn't stay down for long, however, and came back within five at the half-time.

Defense and rebounding allowed LB to take over

again in the second half. UCC was out-rebounded 50-36 and had only six steals to Linn-Benton's 11.

"We didn't shoot the ball very well, but that becomes a moot point when you step up the defense and give a solid rebounding effort," Head Coach Randy Falk said of his team, who shot only 35 percent from the field.

Brian Csergei led the defense with four steals and 18 rebounds, also adding 16 points for a double-double. Nick Matsler helped out by blocking four shots.

Leading the offense was Brian Fauth, who scored 24, and Marc Cordle, who dished out four assists.

In Saturday's game at Portland Community College, the Roadrunners had a rough time in the first half and ended up down by one at half time. However, the 'Runners once again came back with a strong second half, increasing their defensive intensity and holding the Panthers scoreless for the first nine minutes. From

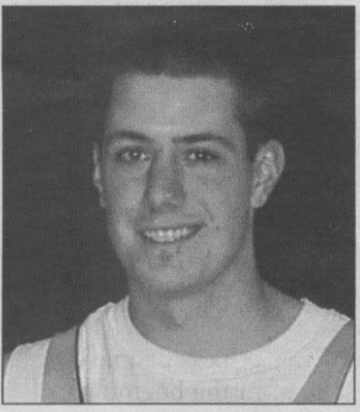
that point on, Portland never got within 10 points of the 'Runners, who went on to win 79-69.

Fauth was the scoring leader again with 20 and also had five assists. Cordle ended with 15, and Michael Rahmn had 10. Csergei had his third straight double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds.

"We're off to a good start, but we understand the second time around will be more difficult because the other teams will be more prepared for us. The intensity levels will be higher because everybody will start battling for a playoff position," commented Falk. "We know that we will have to take care of one game at a time in order to succeed."

Tonight the men will be traveling to Coos Bay to take on SWOCC, and Saturday they begin the second half of the season at home against Mt. Hood. Both games will begin at 8 p.m.

jock in the box



Who: Brian Fauth

What: Sophomore wing

Background: South Albany H.S./ Albany Ore.

Basketball Highlights: In last weeks games he racked up a total of 44 points, 12 rebounds, six assists and two steals.

Sports Hero: Gary Payton

Best Sports Moment:

"My best moment was playing in a home playoff game when I was at South Albany in 1995."

Lady 'Runners continue to struggle as halfway point nears

by Shawna Phillips
of The Commuter

As the halfway point in the season nears, the women's basketball team has yet to pick up its first league win.

The Umpqua Timberwomen dominated the Lady 'Runners throughout Wednesday's game to grab a 91-53 win. LBCC was down by only 12 at the half, but poor decision-making in the second half allowed UCC to score twice as many points as Linn-Benton.

Once again turnovers were the biggest contributing factor, as Umpqua converted LB's turnovers into 25 points, while allowing the Roadrunners only seven points off its turnovers.

"We've played closer to our potential in the last few games, but we just turned the ball over too many times against Umpqua," commented Head Coach Craig Jackson. "We ended up with 32 turnovers. It's pretty tough to win when you turn the ball over that much."

Karen Bryan scored 15, and Talia Cheren ended with 12 points and six rebounds. The offense was hurt because Jenny Gardner, the Roadrunners' recent sharp shooter, got into foul trouble early and was kept out of action for most of

the game. However, Gardner did manage to sneak in nine points.

In Saturday's low-scoring game against Portland, LB came out playing sloppy in the first and trailed by 11 at the half. With 12 minutes left in the game the Roadrunners cut the lead to six, but just couldn't hold on, and the Panthers came out victorious, 60-39.

"After cutting their lead to six, we played really sloppy again and didn't defend well. We had plenty of chances and just didn't do it," said Jackson.

Beth Carroll was the only 'Runner to reach double figures in scoring, with 12. Bryan added 13 boards.

According to Jackson, the team's problems come from their poor decision-making and the fact that they are having a hard time responding to the opposing team's defense. "We've gone back to work on some basic fundamental drills to try to take some of the decision-making (problems) away."

Tonight's game at Southwestern Oregon Community College at 6 p.m. will be the 'Runners' last chance to get a win before the second half of the season begins. LB will then face Mt. Hood at home on Saturday at 6 p.m.

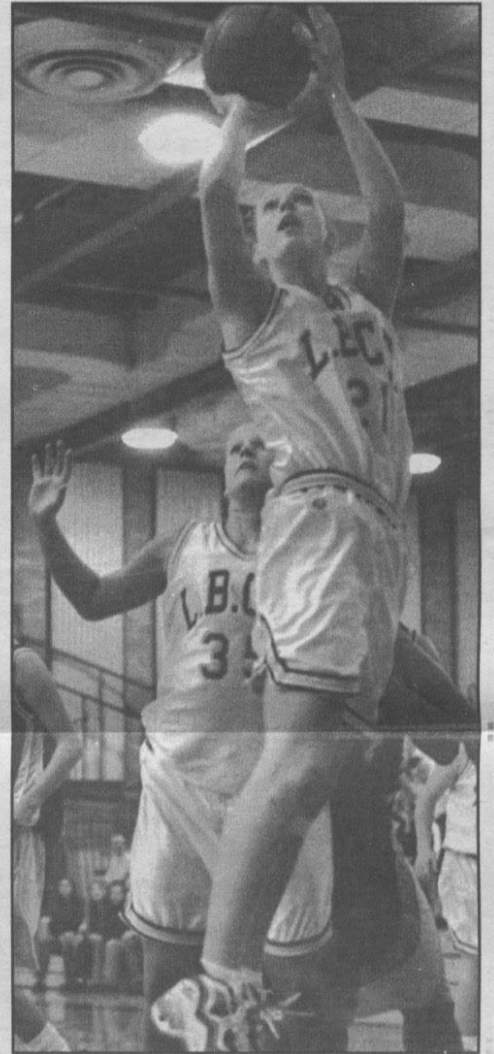


Photo by Shawna Phillips

Tiffany Sweat shoots for two in last week's game against Umpqua.

Snowboarding/skiing class takes LB students to slopes at Hoo Doo

by Katie Casprowiak
of The Commuter

The time has come for you to forget the stresses of school, work and past due bills and head for the mountains. Snow has been falling in the mountains surrounding the valley for two weeks now and is predicted to continue.

LBCC offers a snowboarding/skiing class that goes up to HooDoo Ski Bowl every Thursday. Presently the class has 18 students. They take a bus with about 70 OSU students taking a similar course. They arrive at the mountain at 9:00 a.m. and stay until 4:00 p.m., according to class instructor Sandy Hug.

A \$250 lab fee is required to take the class along with the registration fee. The lab fee covers lift tickets, bus fare and lessons, given by a HooDoo instructor, for eight trips. This year, advanced students can take a course that trains them to be a ski/snowboard instructor. For beginners, there is a new lift that has just opened, "Easy rider." A beginner can purchase a ticket for \$10, good for this single chair. A regular lift ticket costs \$23 and covers the rest of the mountain.

Other mountains in the area have more expensive tickets. Willamette Pass costs \$29. Mt. Hood Meadows costs \$35 and has a 102-120-inch snow base. Mt. Bachelor costs \$39 and has a 95-inch snow base. Hours for all these mountains are 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m..

Two places in Corvallis where you can rent equipment are Peak Sports and Andersons Sporting Goods. At Peak, a snowboard and boots rent for \$28, with a \$350 deposit. A snowboard and boots at Andersons go for \$20, with a \$300 deposit. Deposits are customarily put on a credit card. Both of these places rent skis, poles and boots for \$10, with no deposit required.

In Albany you can rent from Bike 'n' Hike. Renting a snow board and boots there costs \$25, while skis, poles and boots can be rented for \$10.

For recorded snow conditions, you can call these phone numbers:

HooDoo	541-822-3799
Mt.Hood Meadows	503-227-SNOW
Willamette Pass	541-345-SNOW
Mt. Bachelor	541-382-7888

INTRAMURAL/RECREATIONAL
SPORTS PRESENTS:

**THE SCHICK
3-ON-3
BASKETBALL
TOURNAMENT**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28
4 to 7 P.M.
LBCC GYM

Sponsored by Student Life & Leadership Office CC-213

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Marketing manager seeking mature college students as business associates. Flexible hours to meet your college schedule. Two requirements: 1) enjoy working with people, 2) open to creative unlimited income. Exciting opportunity. Not MLM. For interview call 541-926-8508.

Yellowstone National Park representative Tom Porter will be on campus for recruitment on Tuesday, Feb. 3, 1998. There will be an open forum 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Commons Lobby, and interviews by appointment in CC-135 from 1:30-5:30 p.m. Applications and sign-up sheets for appointments are available in the Career Center T-101. Please stop by for more information or call 917-4780.

Test Technician in Philomath for \$9/hour performing precise test measurements and data analysis using high tech custom equipment. If you would like to work for this professional materials testing facility contact Job Placement in the Career Center.

Customer Sales & Services Representative in Corvallis. This cable company has great benefits and the pay starts at \$8/hour. Please contact Job Placement at Takena 105.

PC Support/Help Desk. Be a primary backup to the PC Support person & secondary backup to Lan/Wan Service person in Albany. This full-time position starts at \$10.88-15.08/hour DOE. See Student Employment for this great opportunity! (T-105).

Office Coordinator! Assist the dept. manager in management and supervision of clerical personnel. Need to have some nursing or medical terminology knowledge & 2 years experience. Pay is \$7.84-11.26/hr DOE. Come see Job Placement in the Career Center (T-105).

Summer Jobs! It's not too early to consider summer employment in a FUN environment. The LBCC Career Center keeps an open file on available jobs for the summer.

Student Conservation Association (SCA) has summer and fall positions in the Resource Assistant Program for various places throughout the US and District of Columbia, including Hawaii and Alaska. The SCA provides opportunities for citizen involvement in the management and conservation of our nation's parks, forests, wildlife refuges and other public lands. You may obtain academic or internship credit for the field experience. The SCA offers unique personal growth and outdoor experiences for special populations, including disadvantaged, hearing impaired, developmentally disabled, and at-risk youth. Applications and information on file in the Career Center T-101.

Northwest Youth Corp. is now hiring Field Staff! The NYC program is modeled after the historic Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC's)

of the 1930s. Corps members earn minimum wage and spend entire five weeks away from the amenities of modern civilization. They live in tents, cook their meals, and are responsible for the chores of camp life. The NYC staff direct coeducational teenage (14-19) crews on a variety of reforestation, conservation, and recreation projects located in remote areas throughout the Pacific NW. Interesting employment opportunities at Takena 101!

DISNEYLAND and DISNEY WORLD recruitment held at LaSells Stewart Center at OSU on February 26, 1998 at 6pm. You must attend the meeting in order to qualify for interviews immediately following. Information available at LBCC's Career Center, Takena 101 or call OSU Career Services at 541-737-0519.

FOR RENT

Do you need a place to call home? UMBRELLA PROPERTIES, Inc. can help you find a home in Albany or Lebanon. You SAVE money because there's no application fee. We offer various move-in DISCOUNTS. See our ads in the Albany newspaper. Rents start at \$325 to \$560. For a free printed listing call us at 541-484-6595.

WANTED

Looking for serious but fun female keyboardist, drummer, and bass to play with R&B, hiphop rap group with Christian influence. Call 754-7514 if seriously interested, leave message.

Computer wanted! Minimum requirements of 200 MHZ 32 meg ram, windows 95 based preferred. Need to run Auto Cad R13. Contact Jeff at 967-8860.

FOR SALE

1984 Chevy S-10, A/T, stereo, need to sell, \$1800. Leave message 541-327-2853.

Used Speed Queen Dryer, Excellent condition! \$115. Call 541-929-3512.

MISCELLANEOUS

ATTENTION MUSICIANS: Musicians club forming here at LBCC for students and staff. Membership free. Come join the fun. For more details contact Jon at (541) 327-2853 or e-mail at alex@dnc.net

Staff honored Feb. 4

The third annual Employee Appreciation night will be held Wednesday, Feb. 4 in the Activity Center.

It will include food and refreshments for the staff during half-time of the women's basketball game and in between games. During half-time of the men's game drawings for prizes will be held.

Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual group is meeting every Wednesday, this term, from 2-3 p.m. Re: Social activities, support and community building. Call 917-4660 for meeting place, Someone will call you back!

SCHOLARSHIPS

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

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

The Oregon Association of Public Accountants Scholarship Foundation is offering approximately 10 scholarships for approximately \$1000 each for accounting students. Students must be an Oregon resident carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours. Contact the Career Center in Takena Hall. Application deadline is April 1, 1998.

The St. Charles Medical Center is offering the MaryAnn Thomas-Hosier Scholarship. The scholarship will be awarded to a student enrolled in his/her initial nursing program. The \$1250 grant is to be used for tuition, books, or direct school fees. Contact the Career Center in Takena Hall. Application deadline is March 1, 1998.

The American Society of Women Accountants, Salem Chapter will be awarding six scholarships totaling \$15,000. Students must be pursuing a Bachelors or Masters degree in accounting. Contact the Career Center in Takena Hall. Application deadline Feb. 1, 1998.

The Oregon State Scholarship Commission is

offering awards in over 140 programs. You can pick up the application and description of the awards in the Career Center in Takena Hall. Applications must be received by OSSC on March 1, 1998.

The Washington Pulp and Paper Foundation is offering 50 scholarships to qualifying students in Paper Science and Engineering at University of Washington. Brochures are available in Takena Hall. Deadline Feb. 1, 1998.

The Oregon Nurserymens Foundation offers 15 different scholarships. Contact the Career Center in Takena Hall. Deadline April 1, 1998.

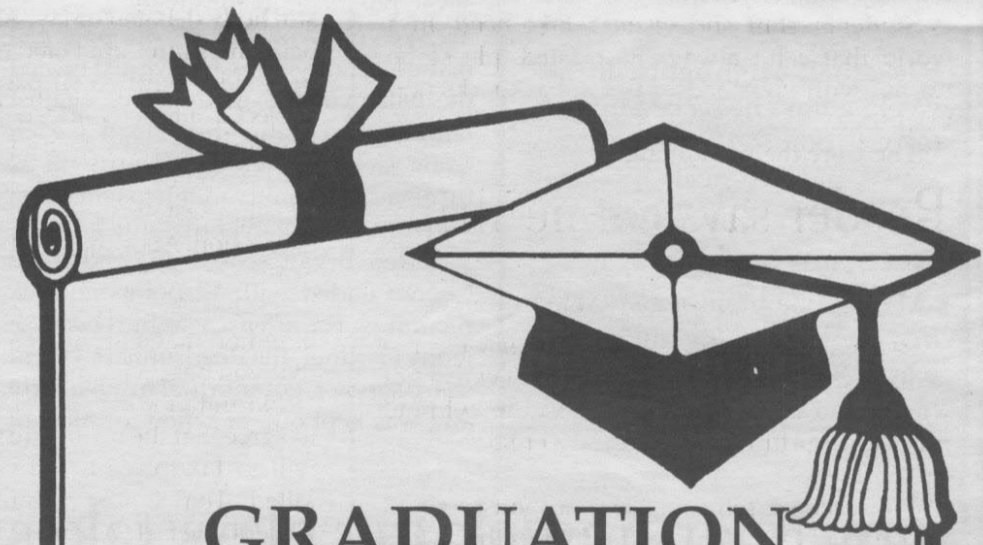
The American Water Works Association is offering three \$750 scholarships to students at two year colleges. Contact the Career Center in Takena Hall. Deadline April 15, 1998.

The Gonzaga University School of Business Administration is offering the Daniel G Brajcich Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500. The scholarship is for students who plan to transfer to Gonzaga University in the fall of 1998. Contact the Career Center in Takena Hall. Deadline is Feb. 1, 1998.

The Orealis Scholarship Fund Inc., is proud to promote education for students interested in a legal support staff career. Applications are available in the Career Center in Takena Hall. Application Deadline: March 20, 1998.

The University of Oregon has a new scholarship called The Diversity Building Scholarship. Additional information is available in the Career Center in Takena Hall. Deadline: March 1, 1998.

The St. Elizabeth Health Service Auxiliary of Baker City Oregon will award a scholarship of \$1500 to a graduate of the Baker County High School or a current Baker County resident. Requirements available in the Career Center in Takena Hall.



GRADUATION APPLICATION DEADLINE

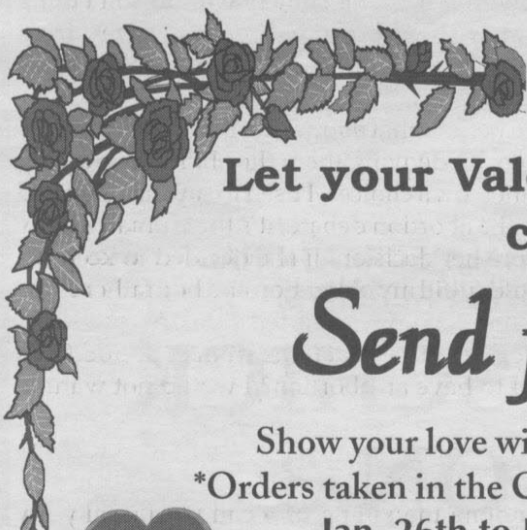
If you plan on participating in the graduation ceremony and/or graduating Spring Term 1998, you must apply at the Admissions Office by:

APRIL 10, 1998

Note: The graduation process has changed. You may be required to meet with your advisor before you apply so....
DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!

Caps and gowns will be available in the Bookstore prior to the graduation ceremony.

The ceremony will be held on June 11, 1998.



Let your Valentine know you care...

Send flowers!!!

Show your love with carnations

Orders taken in the Commons Lobby

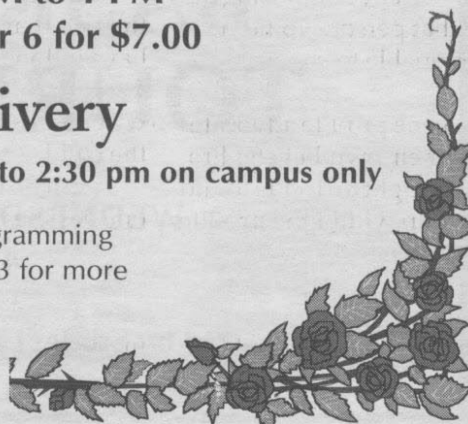
Jan. 26th to Feb 12th
from 11 AM to 1 PM

\$1.50 each or 6 for \$7.00

Free delivery

On February 13th from 8:00 AM to 2:30 pm on campus only

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information



OPINION PAGE

editorial

Takena thief steals fannypack, confidence

LBCC has always prided itself on its wide diversity of students. From fresh out of high school to middle aged adults to single mothers, being a student at LBCC gives all of these people something in common.

On such a small campus a student feels safe. If something is left behind in a class, it's usually there upon return to retrieve it, or one can be confident it was turned into Security.

But not lately.

A series of incidents involving items taken from classrooms has led me to not always give the benefit of the doubt. And unfortunately, I think that's wise advice for everyone on campus to take. Last Friday, a student left her fannypack inside a classroom by mistake. Her next class was in an adjoining classroom, and not wanting to disturb the class that was in the room she'd left, she waited for it to end before going back for the fanny pack.

She waited too long.

When she went back to the classroom, her fannypack was gone. Later that afternoon someone turned it into Security after he found it—by running it over with his car.

The person who took her pack first went on a shopping spree at Sears with her credit card, defaced a family picture, and then threw her pack into the parking lot (with the receipt from Sears wadded up in the bottom).

Since the bag was stolen from inside a classroom, the person who took it was most likely a student, and they know who they are. It's a shame when our belongings aren't even safe in the classroom anymore.

Students, staff and visitors, take heed. In a world that can't always be trusted, please be careful with your bags, purses, backpacks and briefcases.

There are thieves among us.

Reader says comic strip cheapens Commuter

In the last issue of The Commuter we ran a cartoon entitled "The KChronicles." It was about a boyfriend trying to smash a mosquito without hitting his girlfriend while they were both lying in bed.

We received some negative responses about the cartoon. One angry reader told us that it was a "waste of ink" and that The Commuter, which he once considered a "respectable paper," has now lowered itself to a "cheap tabloid."

As editor, I am responsible for everything that runs in The Commuter. I thought that "The KChronicles" we ran last week was the funniest one yet. I can't speak for the rest of the staff, but I got a laugh from it.

We buy our cartoons through the College Press Exchange, which offers cartoons and stories to college papers around the country.

We hope that none of the cartoons we run offend anyone, but of course that's tough to do these days. If you think anything we publish crosses the line, we invite you to submit a letter to the editor on this page to state your views. In the meantime, "The KChronicles" will continue to be published on the back page.

—Melani Whisler

EXPRESS YOURSELF

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

Submissions may be in the form of letters to the editor or, for topics that require deeper analysis, guest columns. All letters received will be published, space permitting, unless they are libelous or in poor taste



SIGNE
PHILADELPHIA DAILY NEWS
Philadelphia
USA

CARTOONISTS & WRITERS SYNDICATE <http://CartoonWeb.com>

commentary

Abortion denies rights of the unborn

by Benjamin Sell
of The Commuter

Jan. 22 was the 25th anniversary of one of the most controversial decisions ever made by the U.S. Supreme Court: Roe v. Wade, the decision that made abortion universally legal in the United States. This decision is still hotly debated today. Abortion clinics are bombed, ballot measures are voted on, and protesters argue for both sides with equal passion. Needless to say, this subject is a touchy one to discuss. So it is with apprehension bordering on trepidation that I present to you my take on the subject.

Let me establish one simple fact before any further discussion. Abortion is killing. Notice I said killing, not murder. I'm sure most of you have already decided whether you are going to continue reading this column based on that simple three-word statement. But I ask that you bear with me.

No matter what your opinion on abortion, you have to agree that the future life growing within the woman will not take place, therefore that life has, in effect, been killed. That is not a statement of opinion, it is an undeniable fact. Whether you believe that a fetus is not a human being until it is born or you believe that it is human at the moment of conception has absolutely no bearing on the fact that the future existence of that person has been destroyed by the abortion.

Abortion advocates often argue that under the constitution, U.S. citizens are guaranteed the right to choose, therefore they wave the pro-choice banner, arguing that they are only acting to protect a person's right to choose. They don't think people should be able to impose their will upon others and make decisions for them.

If you think about it though, this statement is hypocritical. Sure, the woman has the choice to discontinue her pregnancy, but the individual growing inside her, whether you believe it to be a person or not, has a future filled with choices, choices it will never be able to make. By having an abortion, that pro-choice advocate is going against the very core of her platform, the freedom to make one's own choices, by making the ultimate choice for another person—in effect imposing her will upon every future choice that person would have made by rendering him or her unable to choose.

Pro-choice advocates are not the only hypocrites in the abortion debate, however. Some pro-life advocates also cross the line and violate their own beliefs. Pro-lifers argue that no person has the right to decide to end another's life. But there is a group within the pro-life camp who take their beliefs to an extreme. These are the individuals who express their extreme dislike of abortion by attacking the facilities in which it is performed with bombings, drive-by shootings and the like. What is too often the result of these overzealous protests?

Death. People die in bombings and shootings.

It is rather absurd that the same people who believe killing an unborn child is wrong see fit to place others in a similar situation. Protesting killing with killing is idiocy. What kind of a message is a person sending with that form of protest? These people preach that killing is wrong, killing is evil, and then they turn around and kill someone who doesn't feel the same way they do.

Opponents of abortion also raise the point that history is made by people, and people have to be born to make history. Perhaps the individual destined to discover the cure for cancer or AIDS was aborted, and now those important discoveries will never be made. What if Thomas Jefferson had never been allowed to be born? Where would our precious nation be without the Declaration of Independence? Or what if Bill Gates had never been born? Where would I be without the computer I am typing this on.

Of course, there is a flip side to that particular argument as well. What if Adolf Hitler had never been born? Or Napoleon? Or even Saddam Hussein? As you can see, this argument really can't go anywhere.

Personally, I believe that imposing one's will upon another is wrong. Forcing someone to do something they do not wish to do is bad on any level, from convincing an adamant non-drinker to drink to committing rape.

But I also believe that abortion is imposing upon the will of others by denying them the ability to grow up and make their own choices. I used to say that men had no place in the abortion debate; it's the woman's body and therefore her decision. If she decided to keep the child, I would fulfill my obligation and be a father to the child. But then one day I started thinking about the other side of the coin. What if the woman decided that she wanted to have an abortion? I would not want to impose my will upon her to convince her that keeping the baby would be the best choice, especially given the pain associated with pregnancy and childbirth, but, could I condone the killing of a child, especially my own?

In the end the decision lies with the woman; she is the one that has to choose to walk into the clinic and have it done or not, there is nothing I could do to stop her short of tying her to a chair for nine months if she wished to do so. But I know I would argue for keeping the child, even if it was to be given up for adoption.

I am a firm believer in a person's right to choose. No one has the right to make a decision for another. But I cannot and will not condone the killing of a human being, and as I stated earlier, that is what abortion is, the deprivation of future life. I guess that places me firmly in the middle of the pro-life camp, right where my Christian upbringing says I should be.

LOONEY LANE

ACROSS

- Winter coats
- Taxis
- Healing waters
- Bring up (a subject)
- Sword end
- Cambridge sch.
- Van gogh painting, "Night"
- Estrange
- Visits dreamland
- City on the Illinois
- Man with a salty wife?
- Ship deserters
- Heads
- Flight venue
- Visualizes
- Jekyll's alter ego
- Boston fish choice
- Slow-movers
- Strut nonchalantly
- Lehain, e.g. Mrs. Marcos
- Smash
- More than enough
- Gandhi's garb
- Flat fish
- Times gone by
- Individual
- Home truth
- Way up
- Old Testament prophet
- Roman rides
- Least active
- One of the girls
- Christmas decoration
- Bank employee
- Mease and McBain
- Scorch
- Actress Mills

DOWN

- Network of "Nature"
- Simon's Garfunkel
- Some chickens
- Actor Maiden
- Land measure
- More of a
- wallflower
- Take to task
- Be ill
- Radar image
- Precipitous
- Know-it-all
- Felt sympathy for
- Relaxing
- Genesis craft
- Go by
- Highland girl
- Killer whale
- Salton or Caspian
- Primo pitching performance
- Eve's mate
- Gain a lap
- Lofting shots
- Sure enough
- Beach souvenir
- Casual farewell
- Slant
- Scale notes
- Author of "Sister Carrie"
- is sick
- Southwest
- Indian
- Tied down with ropes
- Academy Awards
- Annoying fits
- Unproved belief
- Flipped
- Brainstorm
- One on one's side
- English meal
- Bisoptic
- Attempt

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THE K CHRONICLES "CHOP SUE ME"

BY KEITH KNIGHT

WRITER: PO BOX 591794 S.F. CA 94159-1794

OKAY... SO THE LAST THING I REMEMBER IS I WAS RIDING MY SKATEBOARD &--

BOOM!!!

I GOT HIT BY A CAR...

WHEN I CAME TO, I FOUND MYSELF IN A SOFT, COMFY BED... Whoa... Where am I? In my BED Mr. Keefy Weefy!!

Who are you? Why... I'm your BIGGEST fan in the WHOLE WIDE WORLD... I read your comic ALL the time...

MY "BIGGEST FAN" WENT ON TO TELL ME HOW SHE PEELED ME OFF THE PAVEMENT AND NURSED ME BACK TO HEALTH...

Wow, THANKS!! I really appreciate you helping me out... Is there any way I can repay you?

Can you draw a comic with me in it?

SO I DID...

I don't get this one...

I TRIED AGAIN... I just don't think you're taking this very seriously...

What?! HEY, WAIT-- NO!!

Well... ya see... It's a take-off on a Stephen King story...

SHE TOOK OFF A LIMB FOR EACH STRIP SHE REJECTED. SOON I WAS DOWN TO MY DRAWING HAND...

You call this crap, funny?

Who said anything about your hand? I'm just plain sick and tired of all your whining--

WHAT? OH NO!!

OKAY, OKAY... SO NO ONE WHO READS THE STRIP IS THAT CRAZY...

I like your strip so much that I got a tattoo of the main character...

Can you sign the bottom?

But ya gotta wonder sometimes... STOP

OH GOODY WOODY!!

Yeah, sure...

Well... ya see... It's a take-off on a Stephen King story...

Who said anything about your hand? I'm just plain sick and tired of all your whining--

WHAT? OH NO!!

OKAY, OKAY... SO NO ONE WHO READS THE STRIP IS THAT CRAZY...

I like your strip so much that I got a tattoo of the main character...

Can you sign the bottom?

But ya gotta wonder sometimes... STOP

Paul Chen... you can't chop off my drawing hand!! It's the FRANCHISE!!

WELL MY DEFINITION OF 'MODERATION' IS ONE, BUT IT'S A GOOD ONE.

THE COOK
STAKESMAN REVIEW E-MAIL: mlhp@stakeman.com

U.S. OFFICE OF CIVIL TWO-WRONGS MAKE A RIGHT BILL LANN LEE DIRECTOR

RACIAL PREFERENCES
QUOTAS
SET-ASIDES

THE COOK
ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL

MUFFIN

BY NORA McVITTIE

EX-BOYFRIENDS!

How do we cope?!

After breaking up with a boy, you have to distance yourself.

No problem! We've got 450 miles between us!

Muff ————— Army Boy
450 mi.

(How 6th grade social studies?)

But it's not always EASY.

The ex called for you 43 times this morning.

yipe!

Lieb

Especially when he turns into World's GREATEST Man.

You're the only joy in my life.

SHUT UP!

Nora 9/5
nmcvitti@niu.edu