

THE COMMUTER

A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

Wednesday, March 5, 2003

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 34 No. 16

Hawksford, Chan elected to lead student government

by Heather James
of The Commuter

"Student participation in school and government activities are my goals as president," Oren Hawksford stated following his election as president of the Associated Student Government in last week's election.

Hawksford, who ran unopposed, won with 103 votes. He said he hopes to gain more support from the student body, and to get them more involved in student activities that are in danger of being canceled. Hawksford also said he wanted to get more students active in student government, noting that the election turnout was disappointing, attracting only 120 voters out of the entire student body.

Hawksford is pursuing an AAS degree in Environmental Technologies and plans to work in a water or wastewater plant after graduation. His hobbies include spending time with his two sons and family, and teaching his older son the fine art of fishing.

In other election results:
Joanna Chan, who was unopposed, was elected

vice-president with 97 votes;

Brandi Hereford defeated Daniel Tibbits for Public Relations Secretary 67 votes to 41;



Oren Hawksford

David Villeneuve narrowly defeated Troy Kemper for the Science/Industry representative seat, 59 votes to 55;

Jared Harding was elected as the Business/Health representative with 97 votes;

Danielle Bryant won the at-large representative seat, defeating challenger Devin Remmington 46 votes to 29.

Roxanne Allen, current president of the ASG, ran the elections for the new officers, who will take office spring term. In the meantime they will be mentored by the current office holders.

Write-in candidate Edward Hildebrand won the Student Services representative seat with 13 votes, but he must first contact the Student Life and Leadership Office to be eligible to take office.

The Liberal Arts representative seat had no candidates so it will be open to applications next term and filled by appointment.



Photo by Jeremy Hennig

Time for a Light Trim

Students from Greg Paulson's arboriculture class gave the flowering plum trees along the northeast parking lot a pruning last week. Students in the class regularly use the campus trees as a training ground for pruning and limbing techniques.

Oregon ranks among states afflicted most by Seasonal Affective Disorder

by Erin Bartelds
of The Commuter

On Friday, LBCC hosted Dr. Thomson, former photobiologist and current family practitioner from Corvallis, who shared his expertise on Seasonal Affective

Disorder (SAD), which afflicts approximately 6 percent of Americans, most in the northern states like Oregon.

SAD recurs in a seasonal pattern, typically between November and March. He said those affected tend to be between the

ages of 20 and 40 although children, especially teenagers may also have the condition.

SAD affects approximately four times more women than men, with a lower percentage of men reporting symptoms of the

▼ Turn to "SAD" on Pg. 4

Health Fair focuses on nutrition

from the LBCC News Service

"Eat Right, Feel Good, Look Great," with Deanna Latson on March 6 from 10 to 11 a.m., is a free and open to the public presentation in the Activities Center Gym at the LBCC main campus.

Latson is an internationally recognized speaker on nutrition. She gives multimedia presentations with audience interaction, free giveaways, stories and humor. The presentation is part of the annual Health Fair presented by the student programming board and LBCC's staff wellness program. The Health Fair continues in the gym until 1 p.m., with representatives from local gyms, health-related organizations and other vendors.

No "fad diet" information is included in

Latson's presentation. The lecture is a hard-hitting, nutritionally sound, research based discussion about food and how it affects your body. Latson discusses foods you can eat to stay fit, meals perfect for test days and finals week, "slow poisons" you eat everyday, how to avoid feeling lethargic, and the top ten foods that sabotage your weight loss efforts.

Latson's lecture helps students understand how health plays a vital role in their athletics, academics and life goals. This program is a proven winner on all fronts—strong attendance, excellent content and lasting value.

Latson transforms audiences with nutritionally sound health advice and her powerful per-

▼ Turn to "Health Fair" on Pg. 4



Photo by Thomas Lin

ASG President Roxanne Allen prepares a sign for the Health Fair.

WEATHER THROUGH THE WEEKEND

SOURCE: WWW.WEATHER.COM

High: 51° Low: 40°
WEDNESDAY

High: 52° Low: 36°
THURSDAY

High: 50° Low: 39°
FRIDAY

High: 55° Low: 41°
SATURDAY

High: 54° Low: 36°
SUNDAY

Opinion.....2
Campus News.....3-4
Local News.....5
A & E.....6-7
Funny Page.....8
Sports.....11
National News.....12

INDEX

THE
COMMUTER

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OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter:
 Turn into Forum 222. Please sign them and
 keep them at 250 words or less

Calling it the U.S. Patriot Act is an oxymoron

The USA Patriot Act has generated much debate. The name alone makes it hard to dispute; no one wants to be seen as unpatriotic. Actually, to be silent with your dissent is unpatriotic. It is every American's duty to be involved with the workings of the government; after all, we ARE the government.

The Patriot Act is a reminder that we, as the government, have fallen in our duty to protect our freedoms and that our elected leaders and law enforcement agencies are stripping us of constitutional rights with little fanfare or opposition. We are being propagandized into submitting to an act that will have long lasting consequences for the American people.

The Act was passed hastily and without debate. Most people thought it applied only to foreign nationals and terrorists. Instead, many provisions in this law apply to citizens, in many, bad ways.

On Dec. 6, 2002, before Congress, John Ashcroft equated civil liberties with aid to terrorists and declared that any public debate would "give ammunition to America's enemies." These are un-American views! Our country is founded on the principles of public debate and input. If we lose the rights that define us as Americans in return for a false sense of security, we will have truly allowed terrorism to rule us.

In 1798 the Alien & Sedition Acts were enacted after attacks on Americans. This was a time of fear and hysteria. These acts failed to protect Americans and resulted in extreme violations of

American's civil rights. We are supposed to be more socially and politically advanced now; but, are we? A CNN poll revealed that 45 percent of Americans would not object to torturing someone if it would provide information about terrorism. The Patriot Act opens the door for that type of abuse. Amnesty International has already released reports of the inhumane treatment of detainees, who are not proven to have anything to do with terrorism and are being held indefinitely.

You may say that this is what terrorists deserve: to be beaten, tortured, and stripped of clothing and civil rights. Maybe, if we knew for sure they were terrorists. Who wants to bear the torture of innocent people, or anyone for that matter, on their conscience? The ends do not justify the means. If that were so, we would descend to the level of terrorists ourselves. Ends by any means is a terrorist motto.

At this moment, a wave of hysteria similar to the one that interned the Japanese Americans is sweeping the country, innocent immigrants are being arrested and detained without cause or proof. Some of these people are being held for routine visa violations, such as filling out the wrong form.

Back to us: American citizens, what does this have to do with us? The Act grants the executive branch unprecedented and largely unchecked surveillance powers, including the enhanced ability to track email and internet usage, conduct sneak-and-peek searches, obtain sensitive personal records, monitor financial transactions, and conduct nationwide roving wiretaps. These powers do not discern between citizens and aliens.

The sneak-and-peek searches are already being used in routine drug enforcement cases. This circumvents the Fourth Amendment's requirement of probable cause. The agents can come into your house when you are away, look in all of your belongings, seize property and then leave. The subsequent arrest warrant can be issued on any evidence regarding any crime they find in your house.

The USA Patriot Act blurs the distinction between criminal investigations and foreign intelligence investigations. These areas have been kept separate up until now for good reason. There are procedural protections inherent in criminal law that provide safeguards of our constitutional rights.

These rights were written into the Constitution in response to the abuses of

basic human rights during our colonial days: warrantless searches, secret accusations, seizure of property and so on.

Foreign intelligence, on the other hand was governed by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Under FISA, there were no Fourth Amendment probable cause protections and no judicial review. Now the boundaries between these territories are breached. The immediate consequence is a direct loss of constitutional protections for both American citizens and immigrants.

Judges are now required to issue blank warrants for telephone and computer wiretaps, without reference to location or jurisdiction. Probable cause that a crime is being committed is no longer a requirement.

Morton Halperin, former National Security Consultant, writes in *The New Yorker*: "... the government can wiretap you and never tell you, search your house and never tell you, break into your home, copy your hard drive and never tell you that they've done it."

Your student records are no exception, neither is your financial information. If considered relevant to any investigation; not just a terrorism case. Educational and financial institutions have no choice but to release your information. This can include ethnicity, grades, coursework and all financial information.

I hope that the loss of our own constitutional rights is worth the ephemeral sense of security this Act may bring us. Do YOU feel more secure now?

Adele
Kubein



IN MY
OPINION



by Tom Benham, Fine Arts Major, LBCC student

EXPRESS YOURSELF

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues.

Both letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome. Letters should be limited to 250 words.

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

Letters can be dropped off at The Commuter office in Forum 222 or emailed to: commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu

COMMENTARY

Augusta golf club causes un-needed national controversy

by Matt Boase
of The Commuter

Everybody remembers those tree-house clubs with the motto "no girls allowed," where every little boy on the block got together to do guy stuff. It turns out there are some men in Augusta, Ga. who just can't seem to let go of those glory days.

Augusta National Golf Club, home of the Master's golf tournament, has never admitted women, and still doesn't; but if National Council of Women's Organization (NCWO) chairperson Martha Burk gets her way there will be a female member before she can say the words "chauvinist pig."

The controversy taking place is whether Augusta National should be allowed to limit its members to men only. Augusta National chairman William "Hootie"

Johnson believes it's the right of the club to make that decision.

"Dr. Burk and her colleagues view themselves as agents of change and feel any organization that has stood the test of time, has strong roots in tradition and does not fit their profile—needs to be changed. We do not intend to become a trophy in their display case. There may well come a day when women will be invited to join our membership, but that time table will be ours, and not at the point of a bayonet," said Johnson.

Burk has taken her own view and isn't going listen to anyone who opposes her. She will however take pot shots at them, like she did with Johnson's nickname: Hootie.

"It's kind of cute, but it's a little hard to take a Hootie as seriously as you would a William or a Bill," said Burk. In an interesting twist there have been some new-

comers entering the fray lately. Rev. Jesse Jackson will be at the Master's this April to protest against the club.

Also joining in the festivities will be the Ku Klux Klan. One Klan group is seeking permission to show their support for Augusta at the Master's as well. For the sake of everyone involved I hope they don't cross paths with Jesse Jackson and his posse.

This is a matter of women's rights, isn't it? It doesn't really seem to help women who aren't millionaires living in Georgia. This national debate doesn't seem to have a great upside other than getting everyone involved mentioned in newspapers across the country.

If Augusta National does admit a woman member will it really help a female college student attending LBCC? There is no need for Augusta to continue admitting only men, but it doesn't necessarily seem worthy of being national news on a daily basis.

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CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus

Physics students take the plunge for science

by Thomas Lin
 of The Commuter

Physics class last Tuesday involved oxygen tanks, flippers and a whole lot of water.

At 7:30 p.m., students of GS 104 met physical science instructor Greg Mulder at the Osborne Aquatic Center in Corvallis for what has become an annual underwater science experiment.

"We were trying to measure the speed of sound in water," Mulder explained, adding that they also studied optics and the effect of depth on pressure. Beyond those specific topics, he said, the goal was also to show students how the pursuit of scientific discovery happens today. "In this experiment, a team of students has to design an experiment, carry out the data acquisition, and, finally, interpret the data."

The added complication is that students must design an experiment that takes place underwater where they can't talk to one another and there is a time limit determined by the amount of air in their tanks. Mulder said the idea for these experiments spawned last year from "creative students and other physics instructors from all around Oregon."

Mulder thinks it's a great time to be involved in science. "In the past 30 years of my life, we have begun to be able to read the language of genetic code; we've taken great pictures of suns as they



Photo by Thomas Lin

Greg Mulder (center) and students Donelda Higgins and Jason Onstot prepare to do underwater experiments at the Osborne Aquatic Center. For the second-year in a row Mulder has taken his class under water for scientific tests.

are born and as they die; we've discovered much about the structure of particles smaller than the nuclei; and topics such as special and general relativity, which were esoteric ideas when I was in grade school, are now everyday parts of our lives."

Other physics projects in Mulder's class include measuring the mass of Jupiter, calculating the speed of a potato launched from a "spud launcher," measuring terminal velocity, bouncing a laser beam off the moon, and studying "roller coaster physics."

"In the past 30 years of my life, we have begun to be able to read the language of genetic code; we've taken great pictures of suns as they are born and as they die; we've discovered much about the structure of particles smaller than the nuclei; and topics such as special and general relativity, which were esoteric ideas when I was in grade school, are now everyday parts of our lives."

▶ Greg Mulder

"Every day I get to watch someone suddenly grasp the concept of a black hole, or play with physics at the bottom of a swimming pool in full scuba gear, or climb a live volcano, or be able to shoot a ball through three hoops and into a cup on the first try with nothing but math to help them," said Mulder, who has taught at LB for six years. "Helping people better understand the universe in which we live and then watching them accomplish things that they personally never thought they would be able to do is simply the best job that I could dream of doing."

Benton Center to break ground on renovation April 2

by Kiah Gravel
 of The Commuter

The aging Linn-Benton Community College Benton Center is receiving a dramatic renovation beginning this May. Ground breaking ceremonies will be held on April 2, at the Benton Center.

The building, which was originally an elementary school was built in 1922 and has received limited additions since then. The new Benton Center, which is scheduled to be completed spring term next year at an estimated cost of 3.5 - 4 million dollars will be radically different.

When the interior and exterior additions and renovations are finished the new entrance to the Benton Center will be on Polk Ave. instead of Seventh Street. The eastern parking lot will be expanded and the parking strip on the southern side of the building will be removed and replaced with grass, connecting the Benton Center to nearby Washington Park.

Inside, the gym will receive a new exercise room as well as a state-of-the-art ceramics studio. A new two-story student lounge is also to be added along with a larger bookstore and new learning/career center that will have all the amenities of the main campus on a more limited scale. Seven new classrooms and eleven

new offices will also be constructed.

Many questions have been raised in the community about LBCC spending millions of dollars on construction projects when measure 28 has ensured dramatic cuts in funding. The reasons the renovations are proceeding amidst these new monetary problems are simple according to Benton Center director Penny York. First of all, the money used for the additions will come from a \$19.1 million construction bond passed by voters in November 2000 that can only be used for that purpose. Second, York says it's important to look to the future, the growing community will always need more educational facilities.

ASG seeks student input on presidential search

by Wendy Geist
 of The Commuter

Last Wednesday, representatives Mike Vandehey and Carrie Sossie from the Student Programming Board, presented Associated Student Government with their concerns that students' voices might not be heard in the upcoming college presidential search.

A consultant from the Oregon School Boards Association will be on campus this Thursday looking for input from faculty, staff and students on the criteria that will be used to select the next college president. Vandehey and Sossie stressed the need for student government to quickly assemble, distribute and collect a student survey in order to represent the student body on that day. They said that it is crucial that the students be heard.

The special project was also

discussed at the student government meeting.

ASG Student Ambassador Seth Williams and President Roxanne Allen met with college president Jon Carnahan last Tuesday to ask for a recommendation as to where to place the proposed wooden peace poles. At last Wednesday's meeting, Allen explained the proposed site for the poles.

The discussion for the site of the poles centered around the northeast corner of the Courtyard in the flower bed in front of the Student Life & Leadership Office. The idea will be to place three four-sided poles with staggered heights in a triangle.

Carnahan asked student government to provide a written proposal with floor plans to distribute to various college committees.

The extended learning centers declined the placement of peace poles at their locations.

At the end of the meeting ASG approved the allocation of \$1,000 to place the poles on the main campus grounds. The cost to supply peace poles to the main campus will be approximately \$574. Student government is waiting on a quote for the cement.

For the other part of the special project; along with the peace poles, ASG has placed an order in the amount of \$2,304 for recycling bins that will be placed around campus.

Last fall, students provided ASG with ideas for what to do with the money earmarked for the special project. Fifteen students suggested donating it to the Family Resource Center. This idea didn't work though, because it wouldn't meet the project's guidelines of lasting five years and benefiting the majority of students. Other suggestions were to lower the food prices on campus, make more

nature aspects and seating available, provide microwave ovens and recycle bins.

In other business, SL&L Advisor Tammi Paul Bryant recommended to ASG that they work on informing students of a state community college student lobby day that will be held at the state Capital on Tuesday April 3. The officers discussed arranging transportation for students.

Student government also discussed making outlets available for students in regard to the invasion of Iraq. Ideas that came up were keeping the student lounge open later in the evenings for watching news updates, setting a counselor aside for students to talk about this issue, and sending letters or packages to troops. No decision was made.



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CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus

Off Beat

Married and Crazy

Authorities in Stavanger, Norway, agreed to allow a psychiatric patient to marry his girlfriend and go on a brief honeymoon even though he was institutionalized as a menace to society.

After a wedding under heavy security, the couple was taken to a hotel room for a stay of a few hours, and the guards discreetly withdrew.

The newlyweds immediately escaped, robbed a convenience store and went on a drunken bender before being recaptured downtown.

Gas Prices Explode

A man in England complained to the gas company that he had been overcharged. The company investigated and agreed that it had mistakenly billed him for the gas "used up during the explosion that blew his house to pieces."

Are You My Mother?

A lioness in Nairobi, Kenya, has been snatching baby antelopes from their mothers for months now, but instead of eating them, has been adopting them, because she cannot give birth herself.

All the adoptions have failed. Most of the babies have escaped back to their mothers, but the latest one died, apparently from stress.

Damn the Weather

A British yachtsman embarked on a round-the-world voyage from St. Malo, England, aiming to break the record of 65 days, but gave up when, after 130 days of being blown back by stormy weather, he was unable to get out of the English Channel.

Do Not Disturb

A German couple, visiting Cuba on vacation, were making love in their hotel room when they were interrupted by the maid who came into their room despite the fact they had put a "Do Not Disturb" sign on the door.

A few days later, they were making love again, and in she came once more. They are suing the tour operator.

CAMPUS SHORTS

Tree Planting for Stait

LBCC student Priscilla O'Larey would like to announce to faculty, staff and students that she is planning to plant a tree this Friday, March 7 at 11 a.m. in the campus Peace Garden in a memorial to student Jared Stait, who took his life February 16. The Peace Garden is located on the northeast corner of the campus grounds, near the northeast entrance to the college.

Women's History Month

Films will be shown in the Fireside room from 12 - 2 Wed., March 12th for Women's history month.

Car Prowler Warning

Campus Security reminds everyone to take a few moments when exiting your vehicles to take the following steps to discourage potential theft:

1. Activate your car alarm.
2. Remove all valuables from your vehicle.
3. Remove your stereo face plate, if your stereo is equipped.
4. Ensure that all vehicle doors have been locked and all windows are rolled up before leaving your vehicle.

Report any suspicious activ-

Health Fair: National speaker tells students what to eat

▲ From Pg. 1

sonal story about her own road to great health. Before switching to better eating, she suffered from an eating disorder, excess weight, severe migraines, colds, flus and low energy. During college, she began eating right and dramatically restored herself to great health within one year.

The facts about college students' diets:

- 1/4 of U.S. students eat no fruits or vegetables on any given day.
- Eating disorders are epidemic on college campuses.
- Students that drink soft-drinks risk becoming fat, weak-boned, cavity-prone and caffeine-addicted.
- 48% of all college students complain of low energy.
- 56% of all college students are overweight.
- 59% of students say their

ity and thefts to campus security at ext. 4440 or CC-123.

Purim Celebration

Enjoy refreshments and an interactive story of Purim from 11 a.m. until noon, then join a guest from the Jewish community to learn about this tradition. The celebration will take place in the Multicultural Center.

Presidential Search

Students are invited Thursday, March 6 from 1:30 to 3 p.m. in the Boardrooms in the College Center Building to share criteria and qualifications they think the new LBCC president should possess.

Family Resource Fair

The 20th annual Family Resource Fair will be held at LBCC Saturday, March 8. The day will be filled with parenting work shops on a variety of topics from 9:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Lunch will take place at 12:30 p.m. Registration for child care and lunch are required by March 6. Admission for adults is \$1 per person. Lunch is \$2 per person and child care is \$2 per child (ages 6 months - 10 years). For more information call 917-4897.

diet has gone down hill since they went to college.

The National Association of Campus activities programmers nominated Latson Speaker of the Year. She is a member of Physicians Committee of Responsible Medicine.

Latson lives in San Diego with her husband and daughter. She is Director of the Good Thinking Co., a provider of success-oriented services, products and experiences.

The Health Fair is sponsored by LBCC's Student Activities and Programming Committee, Student Programming Board, and In/Rec Team; Linn County Department of Health, Algae for Life, Juice Plus+™, and Family Connections.

For more information on the Health Fair, contact Gabe Adams in the Student Life & Leadership Office, 917-4463.

Female student reports assault in Industrial A building

According to an article in the Albany Democrat-Herald, a 17-year-old LBCC student reported to Albany police and campus security that a young man

pinned her against a wall and fondled her in a second-floor hallway near the IA building on her way to class about 1:45 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18.

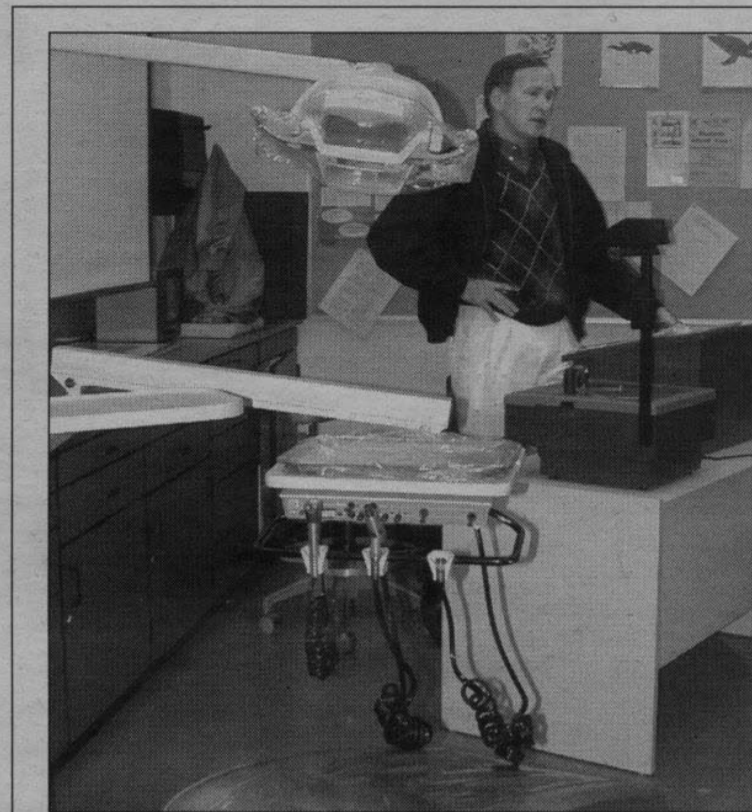


Photo by Wendy Geist

Recognizing Smile Makers

Vice-President of Instruction Ed Watson talks to an assembly of LBCC dental assisting students Monday to kick off National Dental Assistant Recognition Week March 2-8. Dental assistant students learn how to take X-rays, manage the business office and work as a chair-side assistant to dentists.

SAD: Light may help

▲ From Pg. 1 illness.

Dr. Thomson said that SAD can sometimes be difficult to diagnose since many of the symptoms mimic other conditions such as under active thyroid, hypoglycemia, chronic fatigue syndrome and clinical depression.

The main difference between these conditions and SAD is SAD occurs in a regular seasonal pattern whereas the others may occur at any time.

Symptoms to look for if you suspect you may have SAD are: decreased activity, low energy, sadness, anxiety, depression or despair; increased appetite particularly for carbohydrates and sweets, especially in the afternoon and evening; increased sleep without feeling refreshed; difficulties with work/school; weight gain.

Other signs are irritability, crying for no apparent reason and/or inability to concentrate, complete tasks or think creatively; lack of interest in socializing, lack of enjoyment in life and a decreased libido.

Dr. Thomson recommends speaking with your doctor re-

garding any of the symptoms you may be experiencing.

Therapy used to assist in treating SAD may include medication, light therapy, Cognitive Behavioral therapy and counseling.

Dr. Thomson emphasized that all treatments do not work for all patients with this disorder. Some may benefit by simply keeping a regular work, eating and exercise schedule throughout every season.

Certain people see greater results from light therapy. Dr. Thomson advises patients to sit under fluorescent lighting for one hour every morning for a week then patients may reduce their time to one half hour every morning.

The standard prescribed amount of light is 10,000 lux. A common classroom light fixture provides approximately one fifth of the light needed to see results in most patients.

Many resort to medications, for example, Prozac, Zoloft and Paxil. Dr. Thomson said that these medications contain serotonin, a chemical useful in combating the over production of melatonin in SAD sufferers.

According to the report, the man asked her to come over to him so he could ask her a question. She said that when she got close to him, he grabbed her, pinned her against the wall and fondled her for four or five minutes. She struggled and repeatedly told him to get off her but couldn't get away. The next day, the man came up to her and warned her not to tell anyone.

The man is described as be-

ing in his mid-20's, about five feet, seven inches tall and weighing 150 pounds with sandy blond hair, was clean-shaven and wore a white baseball cap and blue jeans on both days she saw him.

Police and campus security officers are continuing to investigate the incident. Campus Security Manager Vern Jackson declined to discuss the details of the case.

CAMPUS CALANDAR FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 5-11

3:30 p.m.
Student Gov.
Meeting SL&L Office

WEDNESDAY

10-2 a.m. Health Fair,
Activities Center
1:30-3 p.m. President
Search, Boardroom

THURSDAY

12-1 p.m. Elvis Presley
on campus
6:30 p.m. Spring
Culinary Arts Banquet

FRIDAY

8-2:30 p.m.
20th Annual Family
Resource Fair,
Commons

11-1 p.m.
Purim Celebration,
Multicultural Center

TUESDAY

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LOCAL NEWS

News on happenings around the county including Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon, Philomath, Tangent and Sweet Home

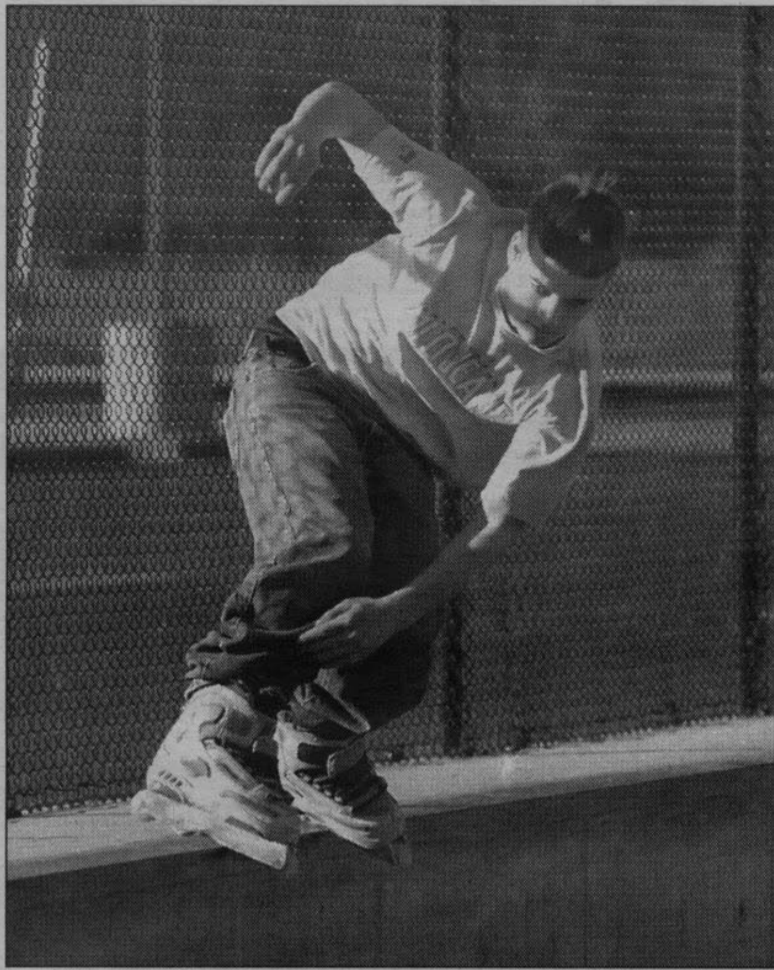


Photo by Jeremy Hennig

Chris Austin grinds along the lip of the Albany Skate Park last week. Skateboarders and rollerbladers will be able to use the park all days but Sundays and Wednesdays, which will be reserved for bikers.

BMX bikers and skaters share Albany Skate Park temporarily

by Lisa Terra
 of The Commuter

March 2 began the first Sunday in a three-month period in which bikes are being allowed in the Albany Skate Park.

The Albany City Council voted last Wednesday to allow BMX bikers to use the park for a three-month trial period, ending the controversy in a four-three vote. Bikers will be allowed to use the Skate Park on Sundays and Wednesdays, while skateboarders and in-line skaters have the park on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays through Saturdays.

The 12,000-square-foot park was designed and paid for by skateboarders and in-line skaters, with the help of the city. Bikes have been banned from the park since 2000 by city ordinance.

The Skate Park was built in hopes of providing a safe, easily accessible place for young people to develop individual skills and strengthen friendships. It provides year-round recreation opportunities that are free to everyone. The Skate Park is also supposed to provide positive alternatives to antisocial and self-destructive behavior, according to the 1999 Albany Skate Park Proposal.

Bikers who enter the skate park on the designated days must either tape or take off their pegs.

If there is an increase in litter, phone calls to the police, or violation of any rules posted at the skate park, the three-month trial period will be cut short, or bikers will not be allowed to continue using the park after the three-month period.

Sgt. Jim Coverstone, of the Albany Police Department said, they would be monitoring phone calls along with other issues and advising the City Counsel. Coverstone says the best thing to do when approached by officers at the Skate Park is to reply with a, "yes sir or yes ma'am."

Coverstone also sated, there will be a part-time officer in the park for a period of time to closely monitor what is going on at the park as well as at Eleanor Hackleman Park, across the street.

Bikers who are in the park on unauthorized days and hit a skater will get a \$92 ticket. The price increases if the park is under construction. Bikers are also going to be cited with a \$72 to \$77 ticket if they are under 16 years of age without a helmet or do not have a light or reflectors after dark.

An anonymous donor has donated the land next to the Skate Park, and there is talk of building a bike park there to meet the size needs of bikes. Bikers just need to write a proposal and start looking for donations to help pay for it, says Shawn Cooper, Park Development Coordinator of Albany Parks and Recreation.

Citizen group hopes carousel will brighten downtown Albany

by Dee Denver
 of The Commuter

Horses, giraffes, sea dragons and camels may be coming to the Albany Downtown area within the next few years. Last spring, a group of area citizens created the Brass Ring Organization and began working on the plans to erect a carousel as a tourist attraction.

Wendy Kirbey, the leader of the project and co-owner of Boccherini's Coffee and Tea House, brought the idea to Albany after visiting Missoula, Mont., and seeing the carousel that was built there. Kirbey returned to Albany with the intention of building one in the downtown area. At first people were skeptical, so Kirbey gathered over 1,000 signatures to show there was an interest in putting a carousel in town. Now there are about 75

people working on the project.

A few years ago, Salem erected a carousel in its downtown area, and it has attracted over 200,000 people to the site. According to Julie Jackson, a general organizer of Albany's project, Albany hopes to see some of those numbers. Jackson admits she was one of the skeptics until she started talking to the people in Salem who built their carousel. She said she got excited about the project when Salem got excited about it.

"This is not the total answer for the Downtown area, but it can do a lot," Jackson said.

A site for the carousel has not been decided on yet. The Brass Ring Organization hopes to find the location within a year, but a studio for carving the pieces of the carousel will hopefully be in operation by next month. Jack Giles, the

lead carver and a computer technician here at LBCC, hopes to get students to volunteer their time for the carousel. He has also thought about teaching a wood carving class at the college to get more people interested.

"I just hope we can get the community involved," Giles said. "We are always looking for volunteers." People of all skills are needed to carve, sand and paint each piece of the carousel. Volunteers will begin with small pieces and eventually work up to larger animals, depending on what size of project they want to do. According to Giles, most people will carve a little bit of every part of the carousel.

The plan is to have the carousel tie into the historical downtown area. It will be available for parties, celebrations and downtown events.

"There's nothing like a community

project to bring a community together," Kirbey said.

As a way to fund the project, every carved piece of the carousel will up for adoption. Prices may range anywhere from \$100 to \$10,000 depending on the section you want to adopt.

"Each person that adopts a horse will put different trappings on the creatures to make them their own," Kirbey said. One horse has already been adopted: a Shetland pony named Crunchy.

For more information Wendy Kirbey can be reached at Boccherinni's Coffee & Tea House at 926-6703, or you can call the Downtown Association at 928-2469 or the Albany Visitors Association at 928-0911.

"In my heart I believe the carousel will bring an energy and life to downtown," Kirbey said.

Students to protest today

for The Commuter

Students at OSU are joining more than 150 other college campuses around the country in a strike against the war on Iraq today (March 5).

The event is being organized by Wrench, an OSU student and community organization. An all-day protest and gathering will take place at the Memorial Union quad on campus.

The nation-wide strike, "Books Not Bombs," is being coordinated by the National Youth and Student Peace Coalition. The purpose of the strike is to cancel business-as-usual and shut down college campuses across the country in order to send a message to the Bush administration protesting the war and higher education's current financial predicaments.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Information about plays, movies, books, artwork and other entertaining or artistic endeavors

Two Ashland plays explore political themes

by Adele Kubein
of The Commuter

Ashland, Ore., is a great town to spend the weekend in. Spectacular views, nearby skiing, sunny weather, shops of all description with end-of-winter sales, great food and best of all: the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

This past weekend was opening weekend for the venerable Oregon company. This season is notable not only for its renditions of classic plays, but also for three completely new world premiere plays.

Two of the plays are actually two sides of the same coin. "Continental Divide," is a two-play offering by British playwright David Edgar, who also wrote "Pentecost," which played at OSU's Whitycomb Hall two years ago to rave reviews.

"Continental Divide," consists of: "Daughters of the Revolution: The Democratic Choice," and "Mothers Against: A Republican for Governor."

The characters are well-rounded and believable, the dialogue is deep and complex. The plays arouse thought and emotion. No one could accuse David Edgar of shallow writing.

The setting of "Continental Divide," is a hotly contested gubernatorial race. The polls show the candidates at a dead-even percentage.

The way the candidates react to current events transpiring around them, can throw the advantage to one or the other in a matter of hours.

In "Daughters of the Revolution," an innocent environmental activist is shot down in cold blood by an Hispanic security guard.

The Democratic candidate for governor, in spite of her own former activism and the suspicion that the shooting was a murder, still will do nothing about it for fear of losing the Hispanic vote. She also goes against her former principles by endorsing a bill, (Proposition 92),



REVIEW

that would require all voters to take an oath of allegiance that includes a promise not to engage in or support any organization which pursues its means by force.

A former 60s activist, Michael Bern, has it within his power to see justice served, but has to face the attrition of his principles and ideals over the years.

He was in the same organization as the other democratic candidate and has photos of her engaging in the same acts she is condemning. He also has evidence the shooting was a murder. In confronting the candidate, he also has to confront the loss of his own ideals.

He has to choose whether or not to blackmail her into justice or to face the fact that the greater good might be to allow her to win the race rather than allow the Republican opponent to.

The story is one of compromise by all of the people involved in the race. It asks hard questions about principles and what is really right or wrong. Both plays point out the blurring between political party platforms in the U.S., and the way that no matter what party, or what beliefs they started out with, candidates are starting to espouse the same views just to gain votes.

In "Mothers Against," the Republican candidate sticks to his belief that Proposition 92 is a gross violation of individual liberties, against all advice from his team.

They are urging him to support the bill because they are sure the Democratic candidate will not.

Ironically, both candidates are urged to support a bill that neither of them agrees with, because they think it is the only way to defeat their opponent. Both the candidates have to decide if any means are justified for victory, and whether or not to stick to their beliefs even if it means losing.

The people around them have to face the fact that a victory by one or the other may not necessarily be the best thing for the greater good.

The ending is ambiguous; you realize it does not matter who won or lost. Both of them faced the same choices and in the fight, became indistinguishable from each other. The needs of the constituencies and justice for the slain girl, all fall by the wayside in the political grab for power.

Each candidate is sure they are the best representative of the people, but the media, public apathy, and the shaky moral ground, reduce the race to one in which the outcome makes no difference.

The playwright and the cast deserved the standing ovations the plays received. The cast was inspired, the acting was excellent as were the sets. The playwright amazed me with the depth he managed to infuse into the plays. I recommend "Continental Divide."

I also recommend the other plays presented by the Ashland company this season. You can not only enjoy Ashland's pleasures but you can also spend an enjoyable weekend seeing great plays performed by excellent actors. The offerings range from modern adaptations of Shakespear's "Romeo and

Juliet," and "Anthony and Cleopatra," to a Noel Coward offering, "Present Laughter," along with "Hedda Gabler," by Ibsen, and "Continental Divide."

There is something for every taste: from comedy to tragedy to

current events. Movies aren't the only gig in town; enjoy the unrivaled thrill of feeling the actor's emotions, the resonance of their voices in person and the feeling of sharing something special with the rest of the audience.



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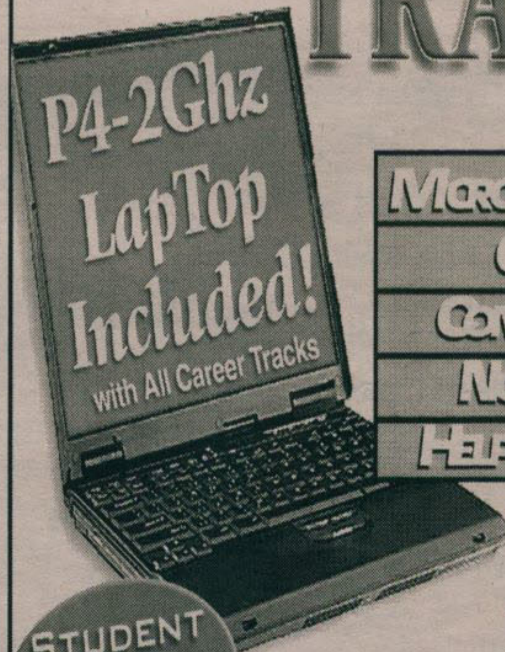


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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Information about plays, movies, books, artwork and other entertaining or artistic endeavors

ART HAPPENINGS

An Oregon Patchwork

"An Oregon Patchwork," featuring current and former LBCC faculty, will take place Sunday March 9 at the Corvallis Arts Center. It is at 7 p.m. and free, with donations encouraged. The program is a series of selected readings (stories, poems, newspaper articles, tall tales) performed by Jane White, Jane Donovan, and Paul Huppert, with music by Mark Weiss. The readings will be done chronologically, from days of the covered wagons to the present. The authors include many of Oregon's finest writers. The Corvallis Arts Center is located at 800 SW Madison.

Music at New Morning

The New Morning Bakery presents two musical acts this weekend. On Friday, March 7th, Muddy River will perform from 7:30-9:30 p.m. An Acoustic Showcase, featuring the talents of Rob Pugliese, Steve Martin, Laura South, Keith and Kathy Cantrell, Craig and Pauletta Risley, and Charles Crawford will be presented on Saturday, also from 7-9:30 p.m. There is no cover charge for either event, and all ages are welcome.

Chess, Anyone?

The new Chess Club at LBCC will meet every Tuesday from 1 to 3 p.m. in Room IA 201A. The new club received the 10 required signatures from students with a broad range of skill levels to start up their club. Students of all skill levels, from beginners to veterans, are welcome to drop in anytime during the 1 to 3 p.m. time slot. Students are also welcome to bring in their own chess sets. Cole

Miller, club organizer, believes students who know the least about chess will benefit the most from the new club.

"Go For Baroque"

The LBCC Concert Band presents its winter concert Sunday, March 9 at 3 p.m. in Takena Theater. The band will perform many famous works by Handel, Vivaldi, Strauss, Bach, and others. Tickets can be purchased for \$6 from Stainthorps Music in Lebanon, Gracewinds Music in Corvallis, Mid-Valley Gems and Jewelry in Albany, and the Takena Box Office. Tickets can also be purchased from band members.

CHS Band Fundraiser

On Monday, March 10, 7 p.m. at the Majestic Theatre in Corvallis, CHS Senior Kurt Mehlenbacher is producing a fundraiser for the Corvallis high school band program, "BANDEMONIUM2." Right Relations Jazz Quintet will anchor the show. Other performers are Valley Brass and fine local singer and songwriter Daniel Mahoney, with his friends Joe Casprowiak and Stephanie Mehlenbacher. Tickets can be purchased at Grass Roots on Second street in Corvallis. Prices are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors.

Poetry of Science

"A Poetry of Science: The Life and Works of Hildegard of Bingen" will be performed Monday March 10 at 9 a.m. in Takena Hall and again at 10 a.m. in Forum 115. Jan Emerson, a research associate at the University of Oregon's Center for the Study of Women in Society, will deliver the address.

OSU Music Department to perform Hadyn's oratorio 'The Creation'

for the Commuter

The OSU Music Department is continuing its annual Choral Masterworks series this weekend with a presentation of Joseph Hadyn's oratorio, "The Creation," on Sunday, March 9 at 3 p.m. in LaSells Stewart Center, 26th St. and Western Blvd.

The Choral Masterworks series was introduced four years ago when Dr. Steven Zielke joined the music department as the Director of Choral Studies. Previous concerts have featured the works of Mozart, Mendelsohn, and Carl Orff.

"The Creation" is based on excerpts from the King James Bible and John Milton's "Paradise Lost." It is arguably the most well known oratorio other than Handel's "Messiah." It is a celebration of the glories of nature, man's innocent joy, and his gratitude to God for creating simple things for his pleasure and benefit. The work combines the traditions of a Handel oratorio and elements of the Viennese mass with Haydn's symphonic style.

Several well known singers with strong OSU affiliations will sing the roles of archangels and Adam and Eve, with Janet Hackett, soprano, as Gabriel and Eve. David Howell, tenor, is Uriel; and Erik Hundtoft, baritone, is Raphael and Adam. Megan Sand, mezzo-soprano, joins the soloists in a quartet in the final chorus.

Soprano Hackett currently teaches voice at OSU. She has recently performed with the Portland Opera Outreach and Education Program,

the Portland Opera Chorus, and the Bravo! Vancouver Concert Series.

Howell is the stage director of OSU's Opera productions. He has performed with opera companies in Santa Fe, Milwaukee, Tulsa, San Francisco, Chicago, Virginia and Eugene.

Hundtoft is a graduate of OSU. His work with Opera Theatre Corvallis includes Sid in "Albert Herring," Malatesta in "Don Pasquale," Betto and Gianni Schicci in "Gianni Schicci," Father in "Hansel and Gretel," and The Jailer in "Die Fledermaus."

Sand, a current vocal performance student at OSU, has performed in Opera Theater Corvallis/OSU Opera Workshop productions of "Albert Herring" and "The Fowl Opera Trilogy."

Zielke directs the OSU Chamber Choir and the OSU Meistersingers. He is also the founder and music director of the Corvallis Repertory Singers, a semi-professional ensemble devoted to performances of the finest in choral literature.

High school and college students are admitted free with ID and younger students are free with an adult. Adult tickets at \$19 will be available at the OSU Department of Music, Scandinavian Trading Company, Emporium Department Store, Creative Crafts and Frame Shop, Grass Roots Bookstore, and Gracewinds Music in Corvallis, and at Sid Stevens Jewelers in Albany. Tickets will be \$22 at the box office on the day of the concert. For more information, call 541-737-4061.

Few tickets remain for Winter Banquet

The 2003 Winter Banquet called "Spring Is In The Air" is being held Friday, March 7 at 6:30 p.m., and there are still tickets left.

Tickets will be sold until Wednesday, March 5 in Room CC214 for \$19.50. The phone

number to call is 917-4391. The banquet will be held in the Commons.

The menu includes fried Camembert with a raspberry coulis; mushroom, walnut and spinach salad with mustard vinaigrette; and herb rubbed

prime rib au jus lie, served with baked potato and sour cream and seasonal vegetables. Dessert is pistachio and apricot baklava with orange cardamom syrup. Request for vegetarian selections can be made at the time of ticket purchase.

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March 5 - 11

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Chefs Choice

Thursday
Chefs Choice



Friday
Chefs Choice

Monday
Chefs Choice

Tuesday
Chefs Choice

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There will be a meeting of the Gender Equity Club on Wednesday, March 12 from 12-2 in the Fireside Room. We will meet, view, and discuss videos on Women's History. All students interested in promoting gender equity on campus are invited! Soup and rolls will be provided. Call Nancy at 917-4786 for more information.

Send our kids to Cheerleading nationals in Disneyland. 20+ family yard sale. Lots of fun items. Saturday March 8, 2003 8 a.m - 4 p.m 716 1st Ave Albany.

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Translator/Claims Analyst (#1692 Albany) You will make the difference in this job if you know medical terminology, ICD-9 coding, and Spanish. They are looking to hire full-time. Please see student employment in the Career Center (Takena 101) for more info!

25th Annual Career Exploration & Community Resource Fair will be 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 10 this year!! Local Human Resource personnel come to the Activities Center (GYM) to talk with you about career opportunities and their industry outlooks. These are the people that normally are hard to get in touch with, but here they are all in one space to answer your burning questions. Questions like: What degree fields so you normally hire from? What do you look for in a graduate? Do you have internships or summer jobs? Mark your calendar so you are sure to attend! This popular event is open to everyone, so bring your friends and relatives. See you there!!

CLASSIFIED AD POLICY

Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free. All others are 10 cents per word.

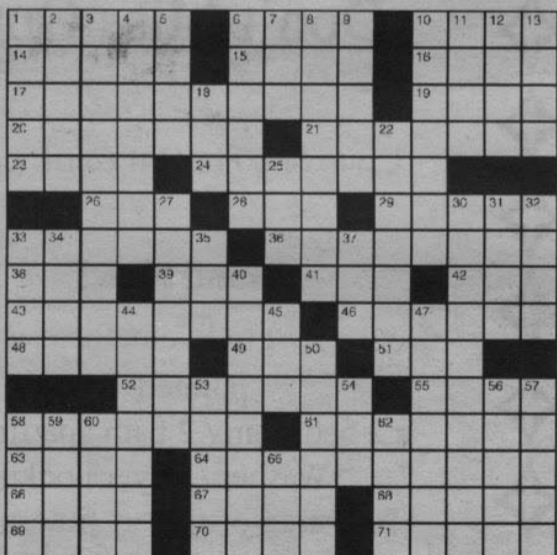
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Crossword

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- 1 Ballplayer
 - 6 Pod contents
 - 10 Linus of locks
 - 14 "Lovey Childs" author
 - 15 Actress Archer
 - 16 Haley or Trebek
 - 17 Person of property
 - 19 Musical symbol
 - 20 Stimulation
 - 21 Cricket targets
 - 23 Roman tyrant
 - 24 Money paid for unpublished work
 - 26 Crude shelter
 - 28 Recolor
 - 29 River of Hades
 - 33 More relaxed
 - 36 Removes with caution
 - 38 Debt letters
 - 39 Prevarication
 - 41 Pocket-watch accessory
 - 42 Author Deighton
 - 43 Greek letters
 - 46 Mother ___ of Calcutta
 - 48 PC operators
 - 49 Scoffer's comment
 - 51 McKellen's title
 - 52 Long journeys
 - 55 Mouth off
 - 58 Of the morning
 - 61 "Raging Bull" boxer
 - 63 Severn tributary
 - 64 Passion arouser
 - 66 Yao of the Rockets
 - 67 Adolescent
 - 68 Make amends
 - 69 Yard-sale warning words
 - 70 Fruity drinks
 - 71 Skin cream



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03/03/03

- DOWN**
- 1 Fastballer Ryan
 - 2 Chicago airport
 - 3 Seat of an estate
 - 4 Difficult

- 5 Cheers from the bleachers
- 6 Lacking vitality
- 7 Finish
- 8 1971 Matthau movie
- 9 Base for a letter
- 10 Bronx nine
- 11 Cosmetic ingredient
- 12 Riga resident
- 13 Former spouses
- 18 ___ Ridge, TN
- 22 Sulawesi
- 25 Potash
- 27 Squeals
- 30 Indulgence
- 31 Tints
- 32 Sicilian spouter
- 33 In ___ of Klutz's comment
- 35 ___ Grande
- 37 Rummy
- 40 Circled like a saint
- 44 Washington and John

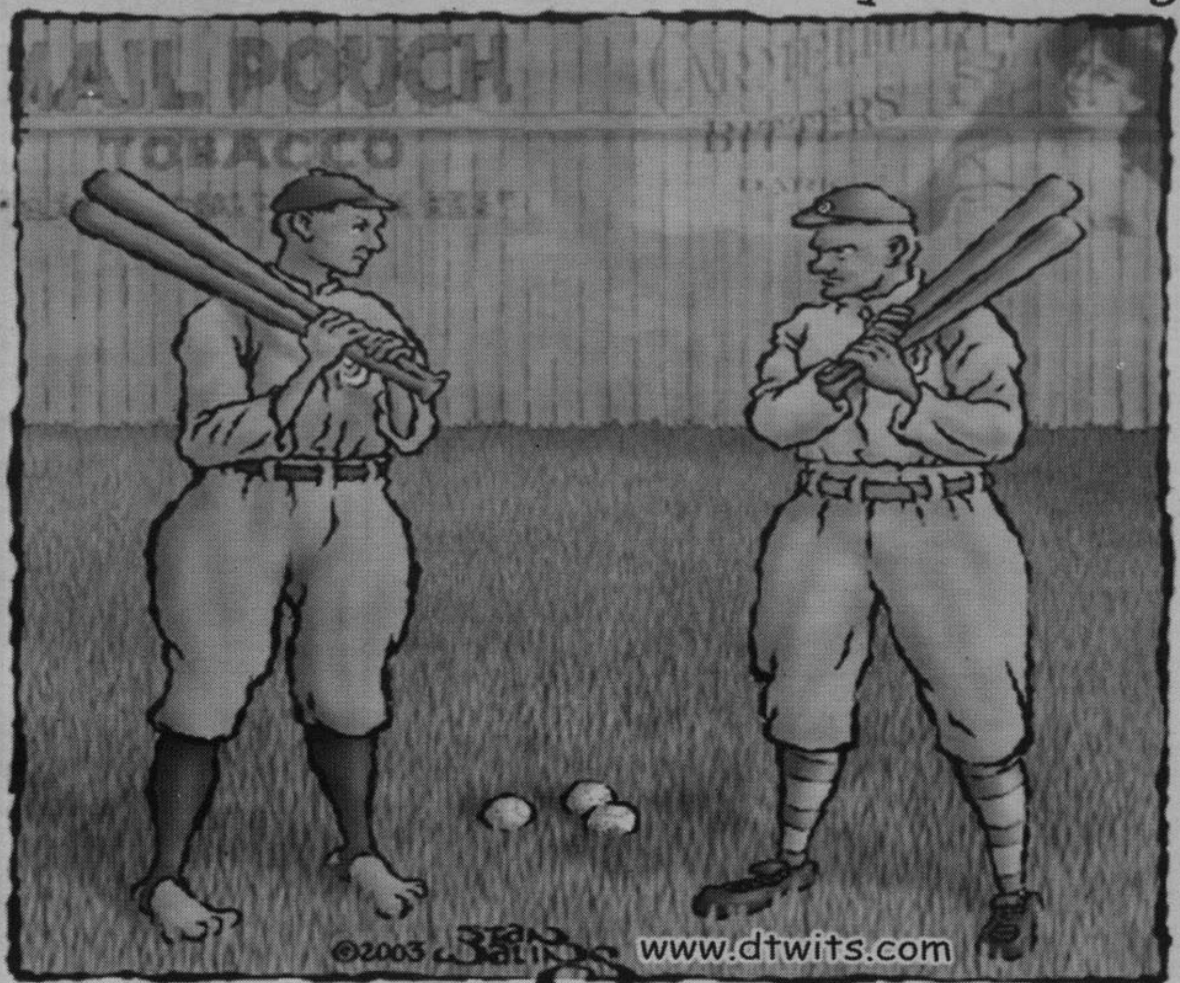
Solutions



- 45 Droop
- 47 Italian dish
- 50 Hunt and Reddy
- 53 Crimean resort
- 54 Gullible person
- 56 Scree element
- 57 More rational
- 58 Cradle call
- 59 Rara
- 60 Morrison or Braxton
- 62 Castle defense
- 65 Two-finger sign

DITHERED TWITS

by Stan Waling



'Shoeless' Joe left an indelible mark on baseball. Not to be outdone, baseball left an indelible mark on 'Cupless' Tom.

Cha-ching!

BOOK Buyback

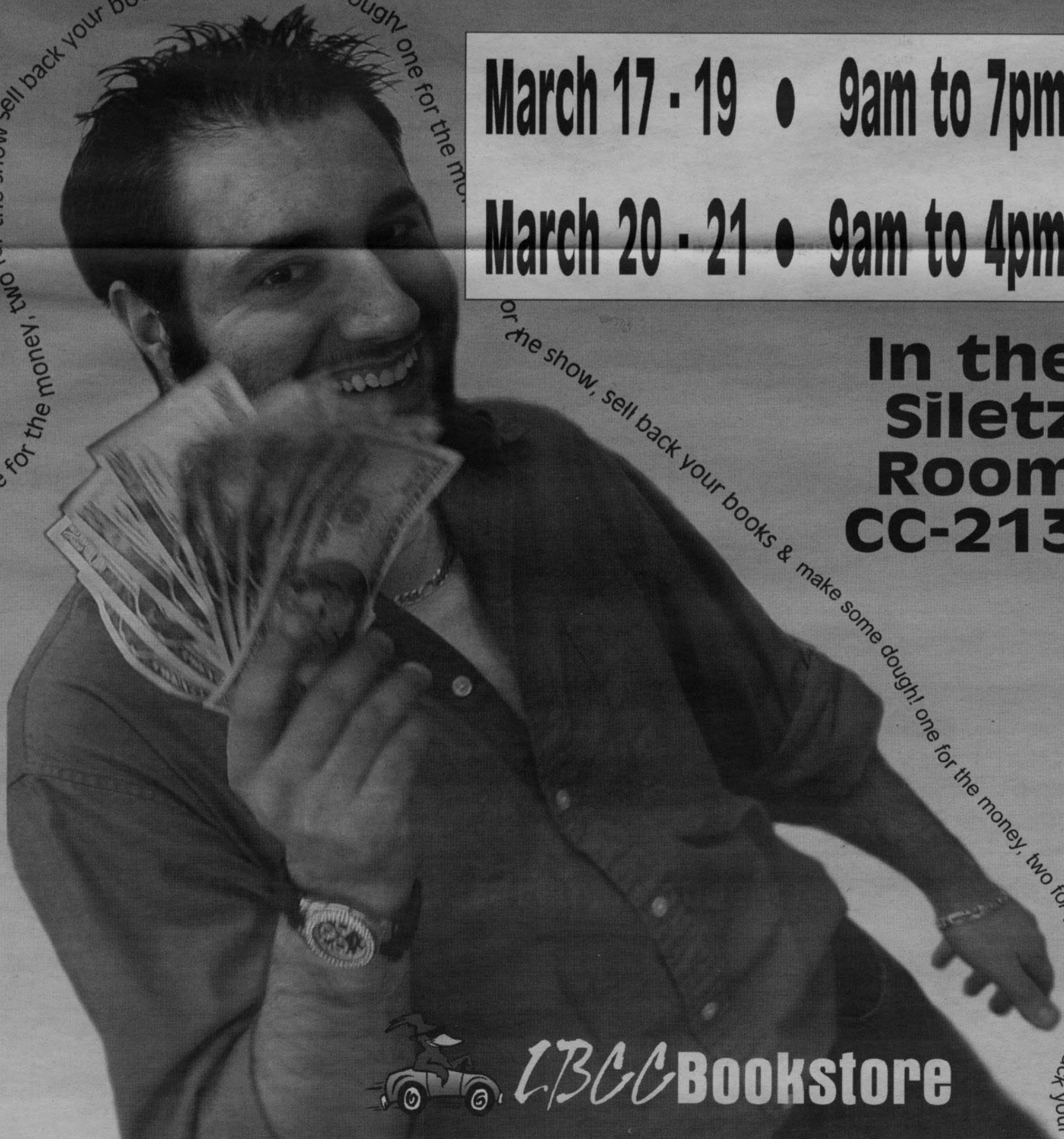
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SPORTS

Coverage of competitive and recreational activities at LBCC, as well as from around the state and nation

Shaky off-season gives way to spring optimism

by Robert Ward
 of The Commuter

After finishing last year with 18 wins and 21 losses, Athletic Director and Head Baseball Coach Greg Hawk is ready for the upcoming season. Despite having some unexpected obstacles to overcome, Hawk is confident his team will be alright. Going into fall workouts, Hawk expected to have 12 returning sophomores. Unfortunately, when it came time to get started, Hawk found himself with only six returning players.

"We were pretty let down by some returning starters who couldn't follow through," said Hawk.

The six sophomores returning for another spring season include pitchers John Best and Jeremy Robinson. Coach Hawk is really looking to his pitchers to anchor the storm for the Roadrunners this season.

Hawk understands that this year's club is a very young team with 22 freshmen and only seven sophomores. The one sophomore who isn't a returning Roadrunner is Junction City standout Shamen Johnson. Johnson, the Roadrunners third baseman this season, is transferring to Linn-Benton from Lane Community College.

"Shamen is an outstanding player," Hawk said.

Of the four infield positions, this years team boasts freshmen at half of them. Michael Myhre will be positioned at first base this year. In the middle of the infield the Roadrunners will play freshman Casey Nagler at shortstop and sophomore Neal Glynn at second base. This duo should turn a lot of double plays with their quick gloves.

Hawk expects big things out of this year's outfield squad. The outfielders are definitely going to bring experience and veteran leadership to the team this season. Sophomores Thomas Gullede and Cody Smith will cover the corners, while freshman Jason Cardwell will be manning the middle for the Roadrunners. One of the main concerns this year is behind the plate. The Roadrunners lost Ben Anderson to lack of interest this year, which serves as a major blow to the squad. However, Hawk believes this team can

"We were pretty let down by some returning starters who couldn't follow through," said Hawk.

▶ Greg Hawk

and will overcome that hurdle and do well throughout the season.

Among other major losses are right-handed pitchers Casey Lovell, who had surgery and Brad Barnes, who was lost due to some problems in his throwing arm. Overall, Hawk thinks that despite having to play teams with more experience, the Roadrunners will be competitive.

"We've got a good, young club and we'll be playing against some veteran clubs," said Hawk, "so we'll need a concerted effort from everybody to compete as a unit in the Southern Region."

The Roadrunners open the season in The Dalles against Pierce Community College on Saturday March 8 at 3 p.m.



Photos by Thomas Lin

Pitcher John Best (above) warms up before a recent practice, while Coach Greg Hawk (below) addresses his young team. Best is one of only six returning sophomores on a team with 22 freshmen.



Women drop final game Byron Orth scores 23 in last game, but Runners still fall to Lane Titans

by Thomas McGeary
 of the Commuter

The Lady Runners lost to fifth-ranked Lane Community College in Eugene on Wednesday 72-49, ending the Roadrunners' season on a sour note and putting the Titans in the four-way tie for first place.

The Runners ended the season 3-11, with their last win coming against Portland Community College Jan 25. Lane, Clackamas, Umpqua and Chemeketa ended as co-champions of the Southern Region.

The tough, towering Titans had their hands full in the first half as the defense of LB caused the Titans to commit 14 turnovers in the half. Lane's 25-10 lead with nine minutes left in the half diminished to 35-33 by halftime and LB tied it at the opening of the second half on two free throws by Marisa Higgins, who finished with 18 points.

But Lane was able to pull away, thanks in part to their deep team, which had four players in double digit scoring.

The loss ended a tough season for the Runners. West put up 10 points and grabbed seven

rebounds, Janine Dionne scored 11, and Higgins had eight rebounds to go with her 18 points.

Size was a problem for LB down the stretch. Since the loss of Priscilla Hendrix to injury, and Runners were unable to pull out a win.

"We had our problems (this year)," stated Coach A.J. Dionne. "Three post player recruits did not show and injuries hit us like a plague. We had a young team of players play through a frustrating season, where we all felt that could have been in the top four"

by Thomas McGeary
 of the Commuter

The Men had their hands full as they took eighth-ranked Lane Community College. Lane beat visiting Linn-Benton 80-70 on Wednesday, which put Lane into a in a three-way tie for first place with Mount Hood and Clackamas, who lost a surprising game to Chemeketa. All three teams are 10-4 in the South-

ern Region.

The Titans played at Mount Hood on Friday, and the winner of that game played at Clackamas on Saturday to determine the No. 1 seed

Freshman Jered Alsup of Lane led all scoring with 29 points to become only the 10th player in school history to score 500 or more points in a season. He ended his regular season with 505. Byron Orth Led Linn-

Benton scoring with 23 points and followed by Ryan Schmidt with 22.

Coach Randy Falk, asked about the season stated "we had our traffic moments with a great group of guys and I am excited about a solid core returning." "What we need to work on is defense and ball handling." The Linn-Benton Season ended with a 5-9 record in the regular season 10-16 overall.

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NATIONAL NEWS

News and information
 from the United States
 and the world

Florida professor fired for alleged terrorism links

by Scott Powers
 The Orlando Sentinel (KRT)

Sami Amin Al-Arian, accused of aiding Palestinian terrorists, intends to fight to get his job back as a University of South Florida professor but probably only if he is cleared of criminal charges.

Al-Arian's civil attorney Robert McKee said Thursday that Al-Arian instructed him to file a grievance with the University of South Florida, charging that the school wrongly fired him the day before. He will seek reinstatement.

But McKee said any attempt to help Al-Arian get his job back will likely "take a back seat" to the former computer-science professor's defense against a 50-count federal indictment. That indictment charges him with helping finance and run terrorist activities in Israel.

Al-Arian, 45, of Temple Terrace, Fla., and three others were arrested Feb. 20 on those charges. In a 121-page indictment, the U.S. Justice Department says they helped finance and run the Palestine Islamic Jihad, also known as the Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

The indictment links that organization to 100 killings in Israel, including those of two Americans.

Four other suspects also were indicted

and remain at large. Al-Arian and two others are being held in jail in Tampa, with no bail set. U.S. District Judge Mark Pizzo postponed a bail hearing until March 24 because of the complexity of the case.

Insisting nothing has been proven, McKee said the university should have given him an unpaid leave of absence until the criminal charges are resolved.

"Obviously, if he is convicted of any of these very serious criminal charges, the employment matter becomes moot, so there is no downside for the university," McKee said.

"And if he's cleared of the criminal charges, there should be no hesitation on the part of the university to say, 'Well, we were wrong about this terrorism business, so you can come back and continue your career.'"

McKee has 30 days to file the grievance. He said he is not yet clear what the grievance would say, other than charging that USF wrongfully dismissed Al-Arian.

"The allegations contained in the notice of termination are unfounded and the university will have the obligation to prove them," he said.

Those allegations are spelled out in a four-page letter dated Wednesday from



Photo by KRT News Service

Supporters of Sami Amin Al-arian, a University of South Florida computer professor accused of aiding Palestinian terrorists, rally in support of his efforts to get his job back and defend himself against the charges.

USF Provost S. David Stamps.

It accuses Al-Arian of incorporating organizations called the Islamic Concern Project and the World and Islam Studies Enterprise, then using them and USF resources to promote conferences to raise money for terrorist activities, to bring

terrorists into the United States, and to directly raise money for terrorist groups.

McKee said he expects the university to agree to postpone any consideration of the grievance until after the criminal trial.

USF spokesman Michael Reich said that would be considered.

Anti-war protests have more impact on foreign policy than before

by Bill Lambrecht
 St. Louis Post-Dispatch(KRT)

While Vietnam-era war protests raged outside the White House, Richard M. Nixon watched a college football game and told protest organizers they could send him a letter.

Likewise, Lyndon Johnson proclaimed that the anti-war protesters would never alter America's course in Vietnam. He later complained that they were "on the sidelines kicking and crying" while Americans were dying.

Presidents back to Franklin Roosevelt have dismissed anti-war protests, much like George W. Bush did in declaring he wouldn't be swayed by the millions of people around the world who gathered last month to protest a looming American-led invasion of Iraq.

Several million people massed to voice criticism of the United States' policy in the Middle East in 600 cities in 60 countries.

Looking back, historians say it's hard to know if anti-war protests changed foreign policy, even during the turbulent era of the Vietnam War.

Nonetheless, they say, Vietnam taught us how long-running social rifts can have a profound effect on society, leading to diminishing respect for authority and fueling anti-establishment sentiment.

And even if Nixon and Johnson dismissed demonstrators, historians say that the turmoil in the streets weighed heavily on both.

Despite Nixon's cavalier attitude toward protesters, he ranted about the "bums" in the streets, according to White House tapes from that era made public several years ago.

Historians say that the protests played a role in the "paranoia" that Nixon later admitted to, a fear of en-

emies that would prompt him to set in motion events leading to the Watergate burglaries.

Meanwhile, Johnson was so upset at divisiveness in the land that he surprised the nation in 1968 by declaring that he wouldn't seek another term in office.

Observed historian Doug Brinkley, "He was devastated by the sense that Americans had abandoned his presidency. When a man filled with ambition like LBJ walks away from the White House, you realize the impact protests had."

The Iraq situation differs from the Vietnam War in many ways. There is no full-fledged war in Iraq at this point, while the Vietnam conflict was America's longest, stretching from the early 1960s until its conclusion in the mid 1970s.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld remarked to reporters last week that comparing the present day with the Vietnam era is "a real stretch. Any comparison to that period and that long, long, long conflict with enormous numbers of young people killed is not relevant."

Another key difference between now and then is the public attitude toward war. In Vietnam, it took several years — until August of 1968 — for overall public opinion to turn against the war. Bush continues to enjoy backing from the American public.

A Gallup Poll of 1,002 adults recently found that 59 percent of Americans are in favor of invading Iraq to remove Saddam Hussein. But the poll also found that a plurality now wants passage of a second United Nations resolution before doing so, a shift from earlier Gallup polls.

Nonetheless, if and when a conflict begins, opinion experts predict with certainty an immediate "rally around the president" response that will gird Bush for the initial stages of the war effort.

At this early juncture, Bush still may have the political luxury of tuning out the protesters.

"The key question is whether the protests are representative of a broader public opinion or just a narrow slice. So far, the protests are representative of a narrow slice," said University of Virginia political scientist Larry Sabato.

"But if that slice broadens into half the pie, then Bush will have no choice but to pay attention," he added.

The massive demonstrations abroad are another story. Protests from Melbourne to Manila, from Brussels to Berlin, provided a stark reminder of burgeoning anti-American sentiments and of the new capacity for mobilization in the era of the Internet.

The gatherings were especially notable in European capitals, where the United States needs backing for an Iraq invasion and where throngs turned out to demonstrate. In Britain, where more than 1 million protesters gathered, Prime Minister Tony Blair — Bush's unflinching ally up to now — saw his own approval rating plummet to 35 percent in a recent poll.

Jim Lindsay, of the Brookings Institution think tank in Washington, said the protests in Europe are having an impact.

"It puts tremendous pressure on European leaders to begin distancing themselves from George Bush. We've already seen some evidence of that taking place. The prime minister of Italy responded to having a million people marching through the streets of Rome by publicly calling on his good friend, George Bush, to think wisely before acting," Lindsay said.

But Lindsay, a former National Security Council official, said that he did not envision European leaders denouncing an American-led invasion. Regarding Blair, he added, "It's in for a penny, in for a pound. He's firmly committed to the policy."

THE COMMUTER

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