

Car break-ins, thefts, traffic woes greet students

by Josh Burk
of The Commuter

We're now in the third week of the term, and all is well. Or is it?

On the surface things seem just dandy. New students are getting to know their way around campus, returning students are starting to remember their way around campus, and the faculty . . . well, let's just say they love their jobs.

But underneath the surface lies a problem. While the students and teaching staff are just getting started on their lesson plans, the security department has already had enough—enough car break-ins, traffic problems, theft and vandalism—to last them awhile.

Despite a security staff of 10 officers and 24-hour, seven-day-a-week surveillance, criminals are still able to prevail. "The criminal element is around us everywhere," stated Vern Jackson, LBCC security officer.



*"Don't be a victim.
Always keep valuables
out of sight."*

—Vern Jackson

Not helping the problem is the fact that the campus is extremely open to the public. Anyone can wander onto campus, and nobody would suspect a thing.

Since the start of the term, two cars have been broken into in the parking lot. One car, which was thought to be left unlocked, had its in-dash stereo stolen from the northwest parking lot near the WEB Building. The other, parked in the southeast lot, was thought to be forced into on the passenger side. Various items were taken, including a cellular phone.

And the LBCC Bookstore has once again become

target for petty thieves. Two bags have been reported stolen from the open cubicles outside the bookstore.

Bookstore personnel and security urge students to use the small lockers, which are also outside the bookstore, to secure all bags that contain anything of value. However, the 25-cent charge to use the lockers apparently dissuades patrons from using them.

Even though there is always security on campus, Jackson urges students to look out for themselves.

"Don't be a victim. Always keep valuables out of sight. If they can't see anything to steal, then they probably won't steal it."

Jackson also wants drivers to be more careful. The changes in accessing the campus off Highways 34 and 99E have posed as a problem for some commuters used to the old access routes.

The real problem spot early in the term seems to be
(Turn to 'New Traffic' on Page 2)



Down 'n Dirty

Roadrunner baseball players find the sliding a little slippery as they participate in fall drills. At left, Ryan Starwalt appears to lose control as he flies past the base, while Barry Banville, below, gives it his best shot. More than 50 prospects are taking advantage of "fall ball" to show coaches what they can do. Story on Page 5.



Photos by Rebecca Hundt

Local employers seek students for 240 jobs

by Mary Hake
of The Commuter

Looking for a job?

Over 240 positions, both full- and part-time, are currently listed with LBCC's Student Employment Center, located in the Career Center in Takena Hall Room 101.

Carla Raymond, career and employment specialist, said they are eager to match students and alumni with potential employers, most of which are located in Linn and Benton counties.

Some of the employers include Hewlett-Packard and various contractors who work for them, OSU, Teledyne Wah Chang, Oremet, Western Pulp, the IRS, Wal-mart and Oregon Youth Authority.

Many of these are willing to provide flexible hours for students.

Anyone who has ever taken at least one credit at LBCC or been in the GED or JOBS programs is eligible to receive free referrals to job openings through the Student Employment Center, open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., except Tuesdays, when they

remain open until 7 p.m.

A 24-hour Job Hotline of employment opportunities, which is updated weekly, may be reached by calling 917-4798, using a touch tone phone to reach the desired job category.

Students employed in the area of their major may earn cooperative work experience credits through LBCC.

In addition to employers outside the school, 35 work study positions are still open for fall term. Work study is very flexible and convenient for students, said Raymond, because they don't have to leave campus to go to work.

The Student Employment Center, which began in the early 1970s, also offers help with resumes, cover letters, interviewing, job search and follow up, as well as current labor trends and statistics.

Four notebooks there, along with ones on various departments, contain details about each position, including pay rates, with new listings first. Included are 82 open referrals, which are either minimum wage jobs or those continuously needing help, such as food service and production work.

(Turn to 'Employment' on Page 2)

President sets smoking forums

Three public forums to discuss the proposal to limit smoking to designated areas on campus have been scheduled by President John Carnahan. The sessions will be:

- Monday, Oct. 20 at noon;
- Tuesday, Oct. 21 at noon;
- Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 6 p.m.

All hearings will be held in the Fireside Lounge.

Carnahan said he wants student and staff opinions about the number and the locations of the designated areas before he makes a decision on whether to adopt the policy.

He encouraged all students to attend to let their views be known.



✓ Never to Late

55-year-old mom finds herself back in school

Page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Check This Out

Know your rights! A public hearing is being held today at 10 a.m. in CC-135 on revisions to the ASLBCC Constitution.

✓ Facelift

Historic local theater recycles the old to make itself new

Page 4



H-P donates computer equipment worth \$38,000

From the LBCC News Service

Hewlett-Packard Company recently donated computer equipment to LBCC's new Instructional Technology Training and Development Center, now being built in the college's Media Center.

The equipment, valued at approximately \$38,000, will "enhance faculty training and development opportunities for technology-based instruction," said LBCC President Jon Carnahan.

H-P's donation includes three computer workstations for high-end multimedia development, a color laser jet printer with near-photo quality output, a flatbed scanner, two hard drives to increase the network server storage and user capacity, and two desktop computers with multimedia capabilities for student use.

For the past few years, H-P has made annual, planned donations based on the college's highest technology needs at the time. With H-P's help, the college computerized its library operations, created a new computer lab and now the new Instructional Technology Training and Development Center.

"Teachers can use this equipment to develop multimedia materials for the classroom, the college's web pages and distance education classes," said Rick Barker, the college's technician in charge

of setting up the Instructional Technology Training and Development Center.

Barker said the center is now offering slide and flatbed scanning services, and has the capability to store interactive multimedia projects, music, and archive photos and documents on CDs. The workstations are networked with the college's system and will eventually be linked with each other in a special "intranet."

"Teachers can use this equipment to develop multimedia materials for the classroom."

—Rick Barker

"We hope to be fully functioning in the fall," said Barker. The center plans to spend an additional \$30,000 on equipment that will enable it to offer instructors

help with video services and other multimedia packages.

Barker expects the new center to grow busier as the college offers more distance education courses in the fall and winter terms.

President Carnahan has encouraged the faculty to develop new teaching approaches and materials.

Advances in telecommunications, computer networking, and the Internet give students opportunities to complete classes at home or at work during any time of the day or night. Students and employees can choose to take more courses without disrupting their work schedules.



Photo by Josh Burk

Security officials warn students that the open cubicles outside the bookstore are not safe places to leave their backpacks and advise students to use the 25-cent lockers instead.

New traffic signal at Allen Lane and 99E causes confusion over left turns to campus

From Page 1

the confusion caused by the new sign and signal at the intersection of Allen Lane and Pacific Boulevard (99E). Drivers headed north and turning left to the campus are faced with a sign that's caused some to hesitate.

There are two sets of green lights at the intersection—a standard solid green light, followed moments later by a green arrow. The sign above reads "Left turn yield on green," but Jackson said that refers only to the solid green light. When the green arrow comes on, the drivers turning left have the right of way and no

longer have to yield

It's going to take a little getting used to, says Jackson, some drivers are waiting to yield on the green arrow. People are going to have to be patient, he said.

Jackson wants everyone to know that if they see anything out of the ordinary they should report it to the Security Office(CC-123), 917-4440.

"You need to trust your gut feeling. If you're not sure about something, let us know; we'll check it out," he said. "A lot of the time your gut feeling is incorrect, but that one time it is correct, it's worthwhile."

Employment Center offers full-time and part-time job opportunities

From Page 1

These may be contacted without a referral.

A voluminous reference library fills the shelves with information about occupations and education, including admission forms from several Oregon institutions. Vocational biographies share career stories of real people, following them from high school to the present.

A computer offers the Oregon Career Information System (CIS), which is open to anyone and updated annually. It includes such information as career outlook, expected wages and which schools offer the necessary training. It will also identify scholarships and loans for post-secondary study.

The Career Center offers both counseling services and training courses to help students achieve success. Raymond and Molly Staats, also of the Career Center, often teach classes relating to preparing for and finding employment. For example, they have been called on by the metallurgy and the P. E. departments to give one-time lessons.

The first step for a student seeking employment is to fill out the Student Employment Center's general job application form, answering questions regarding skills, education, work experience, location preference, availability, transportation and status at LBCC. Students may choose up to seven job match preferences for

which they receive printouts with specific information about the position and how to contact the employer.

Raymond, herself an LBCC graduate with a business and marketing degree, has been employed with LBCC since 1989 and at her present position since March, believes that people "need to be pro-active in job hunting."

She said her office has not had to recruit employers, but receives plenty of requests to list jobs. Even the Oregon Employment Bureau sometimes contacts them with jobs. Many of the 79 companies at last April's Career Fair have used this service to find workers.

The Student Employment Center only lists jobs that employers call and ask them to list. Mailed in requests for workers, including out-of-state jobs, are posted on the bulletin board in Takana Hall.

She explained that employers are looking for workers with good work ethics and professionalism, and that many young people don't realize how their lack of punctuality and poor attendance affects their job situation. Companies are willing to train good workers, she said, but don't want to invest time and money in those unwilling or unable to perform their jobs.

Oregon is currently experiencing a labor shortage—with more jobs than available employees who are qualified to fill them. As a result, wages are rising,

according to Raymond, partly because many lack basic skills or cannot pass drug tests.

Throughout various parts of Oregon there are shortages in such areas as health-related occupations, skilled trade workers, truck drivers, auto mechanics, welders, millwrights and electricians, horticultural workers, security guards, fast-food workers and machinists. Raymond said that in Albany alone there are shortages in food service occupations, cashiers, computer software and hardware technicians, welders, certified nursing assistants and home health workers.

United Parcel Service will conduct an orientation on Oct. 15 at 7 a.m. in the Alsea-Calapooia Room for anyone interested in working during the Christmas season. UPS may hire permanent help from their temporary workers, offering good pay and benefits.

The mid-Willamette Valley has one of Oregon's most varied work forces. From 1996 to 2006, growth is expected to parallel statewide growth, with nearly 20,000 jobs to be added.

"Faculty people are very supportive of working," Raymond said. "They want their students to succeed. They want students to stay in class and to stay in school." For those who need income to make this possible, the Student Employment Center is ready to help.

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.

Address correspondence to The Commuter, 6500 SW Pacific Blvd., Albany, Ore. 97321; telephone (541) 917-4451 or 917-4452; Fax (541) 917-4454;

E-mail commuter@gw.lbcc.cc.or.us.

The newsroom is located in Room 210 of the College Center.

The Commuter Staff:

Editor, Melani Whisler; **Managing Editor**, Pete Petryszak; **Photo Editor**, Josh Burk; **Photo Assistant**, John Bragg; **Sports Editor**, Shawna Phillips; **A&E Editor**, James Eagan; **Chief Copy Editor**, Mary Hake; **Assistant Editors**, Schellene Pils, Jennifer Hodges, Lindsay Kenning; **Advertising Manager**, Kate Johnson; **Digital Page Designer**, Jason Reynolds; **Production Assistant**, Michele Dardis; **Advisor**, Rich Bergeman.

Reporters: Ayne Patricia Vernay, Keisha Merchant, Curtis Larson, Jeremy Parker, Erica Larsen, Valerie Blank, Ed Harris, Deborah Cain, Jennifer Smith, Leslie Smith, Julie Smyth, Michele Dardis, Jason Ouellette, Eva Ambler, Ben Sell, Justin Dalton, Brock Jacks.

Photographer: Rebecca Hundt.

CAMPUS NEWS

Monroe woman back in class 40 years after dropping out

by Debi Cain
of The Commuter

Back in 1958, when Nancy Reader was a sophomore in high school, she walked out of school and never looked back.

Until now.

Reader, a 55-year-old GED student and resident of Monroe, is back in school at the Benton Center in Corvallis and just recently returned from a forum in Washington, D.C., for adult learners.

"I liked school as a child, but I never had money for school supplies, clothes or lunches. One day, the principal called me to the office and told me if I didn't show up more for class, I didn't need to come back to school at all."

Growing up, her parents hardly supported education. Her mother finished high school; and her father did not. Within a year-and-a-half of quitting school, she was married to the man who is her husband today.

Reader decided to go back to school after she learned her husband had a heart condition. Her goal is to prepare herself to get a job in case she has to support the two of them. Also, she said it was for self-satisfaction and just to prove to herself that she could do it. A high school graduate himself, her husband supported her choice of trying to go back and get her GED degree.

Reader said the hardest part of going back was "just taking the first step and going through that door." At first she wanted to turn around and walk right back



"If I would have been able to talk to someone, I don't think I would have quit."

—Nancy Reader

out, but one of the instructors took her by the arm and steered her back in. "I then realized that if the young kids saw me, they would know that if I could do it, they could, too," she said.

The GED, Graduate Education Development, degree is a substitute for a high school diploma for those who failed to get one. The program consists of many topics, with seven tests to pass on different subjects.

During class one day, Reader was asked to write an essay on her reasons for dropping out of school. The next thing she knew, her teachers, Carolyn Gardner and Mary Anne Nursrala, announced she had won a trip to Washington to attend a forum called "Views From Adult Learners." Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education, it intended to gather information from adult learners about their challenges and successes.

This was her first trip to Washington, D.C., and the first away from her husband. "He is like my security blanket," she said. "I rarely do anything without him." But she found the atmosphere at the forum, which was held Sept. 7-9, was very relaxed, and she met many

other people like her who had returned to school.

One of the similarities among the older returning students, she said, was a common problem with math.

"None of us could do fractions," she said, but added things have changed for her. "I'll go home from school, my GED class, and do math for hours. I love it."

Reader believes the teachers and staff in schools today are much more supportive and encouraging than in her day. She says it makes it easier to go back when someone is there motivating you and helping you along the way. Also, she thinks she would have stayed in school if they would have had the school counselors they have now. "If I would have been able to talk to someone, I don't think I would have quit."

Some of the women at the forum found it hard to get their husbands to let them go back. "People are scared of change," Reader stated, referring to the women who wasted their time waiting for their husband's approval. "My husband helps me with my homework."

Now back from her trip, Reader isn't sure when she'll get her GED, but she is going to start with the easiest tests first and work her way up. As of now, she is unsure what she wants to do after obtaining her diploma. She'd rather take things one step at a time. One thing is for certain: she wants dropouts to realize it's never too late to finish their education.

"Nothing can hurt," Reader stated. "School may not work for everyone, but go back and try it. There's nothing you cannot do."

Programming Board plans activities to boost student involvement

by Mary Hake
of The Commuter

The Student Programming Board (SPB) plans to become well-known on campus this year.

Team Coordinator Rebecca Bruner said the board is involved in many activities, both fun and educational, and wants to be recognized for its contribution and support. "We're definitely taking a new approach this year," she said. "We want to be user friendly."

Bruner said, "This term started out on a really good note," adding that the "Welcome Back" barbecue drew about two times the crowd that the Spring Days barbecue did last May. She explained that at each event the team members want to be accessible to students and interact with them.

Bruner, an Albany student in her second year at LBCC, heads the eight-member board. Others on SPB include: Dan Hildenbrand, Intramural/

Recreation; Neil Jensen, Health/Recreation; Bridgett Bailey, Multicultural Activities; Tim Garnier, Campus/ Recreation; Elijah Van Flack, Community Events; and Laura Caswell, who just joined last Wednesday as Series Events Specialist.

At today's 2:30 p.m. meeting they are interviewing for a Current Events/ Political Action representative.

Among the October activities are:

•Saturday's trip to the Oregon Coast Aquarium. This excursion, free to 12 students, filled up before the ad even appeared in last week's paper.

•Oct. 20: A class about how to study for a test, with instructor Douglas Cazort, will be sponsored by Family Connections and SPB.

•Oct. 21: Dr. John Frohnmayer, lawyer, ethicist and the former chair of the National Endowment for the Arts, will be speaking about censorship. A light breakfast will be served, along with the first discussion on free speech and the Internet from 8 to 9:30 a.m., followed by one on hate vs. free speech from 10 a.m.

to 11:30 a.m. in the Board Rooms.

•Oct. 31: The Student Life and Leadership office will host a Hal-

loween open house in College Center Rm. 113 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Treats and information about SPB programs will be available.

A Health Awareness poster contest is a new event this year. Students are invited to submit an entry to raise awareness of health issues facing college stu-

dents. Two categories allow both amateurs and arts/graphic arts students to compete separately. The deadline for entry is Nov. 3.

In November, Rhythm on Rye, the noon-time performances in the Commons, returns. On Nov. 5 from 12 to 1 p.m. in the cafeteria concert pianist Bob Dahl will entertain the lunch-time crowd.

Bruner said that they are now passing out 10 feedback forms at each SPB event in order to get a feel for what students want.

"We really do care if people like it," she said, explaining that there's no point to putting on something that no one cares about. They are encouraging more volunteers to help with events and want SPB to be representative of all students.

Both ASG and SPB have web pages accessible from the the LBCC home page, and will soon have direct email access from their pages.

"We're definitely taking a new approach this year. We want to be user friendly."

—Rebecca Bruner

Advertise in this space.

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

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

Wanted:
Ad Assistant

For The Commuter, LBCC's student-run newspaper. Workstudy position, starting immediately. Call ext. 4452 or stop by The Commuter office, CC-210.

The position requires basic office skills.

Learn about working at a newspaper while earning \$\$!

Majestic Theatre gets ready for future with renovations

by Schellene Pils
of The Commuter

Like to sing?

Would you like to learn to act?

Or is volunteering more your style?

Last year the Majestic Theatre started renovations on the top floor of the building to handle the growing needs of the community-owned, non-profit performing arts hall.

The 5,000-square-foot space will now house a large rehearsal room, a small kitchenette, a classroom, an elevator, a community room and, in the balcony overlooking the stage, a glassed-in technician's booth for sound and lighting.

When the theatre, which once was used for everything from vaudeville acts to a movie house and OSU theater productions, was bought by the city in 1985, the first floor was renovated for \$1.5 million. But the upper floor needs work, so three years ago renovation preparations began again.

"It's always been the vision that we would do that too," said Barry Kerr, managing director for the Majestic Theatre.

The price tag for these renovations is

\$430,000. The city council and three private foundations donated \$50,000 each. So far all but \$50,000 of the funds needed to complete the renovations has been raised.

The demolition, which is almost complete, was done by volunteers and youth groups, lowering the cost from a projected \$35,000 to a mere \$2000.

"In an effort to cut costs we hired a project manager," said Kerr, who suggested a "green approach." There is also a full-time professional contractor working on the project.

The idea is to recycle usable wood from the renovation for reuse and design innovative projects for new environmentally friendly products in order to do the environment a favor. In the end, Kerr said, they will save a projected \$60,000. The reused materials won't be noticeable and the work won't cause adverse health reactions.

A festive glass canopy and lights will go in the front of the theatre, making it look less like a bank and more like a place for entertainment.

All this expansion will provide children and adults interested in the performing arts with more space, more room



Photo by Schellene Pils

The Majestic Theatre in Corvallis is undergoing a \$430,000 facelift that will eventually include a canopy and lights over the entrance on Second Street.

for rehearsals, more large conference and meeting rooms for companies interested in the space, and a better room for lights and sound.

The theatre attracts many forms of entertainment, from regional musical acts to plays performed by local companies and even opera, all of whom rent the building and sell tickets.

Ticket prices vary, depending on the performance. The average ticket prices are between \$5 and \$8.

Renters are given a list of names of over 400 volunteers trained in everything from lights and sound to ushers and concessionaires.

The theatre depends on volunteers to work as ushers, food concessionaires, stage managers, lighting and sound technicians, and office help. Help with publicity, facilities maintenance and fundraising is always welcome.

Anyone interested in volunteering can call 757-6976. For tickets, call 757-6977.

entertainment this week

From the Community Center for the Performing Arts in Eugene:

•Friday, Oct. 10: The Community Center for the Performing Arts and U of O campus radio KWVA proudly welcome "Marigold," "Hot for Chocolate," "The Asthma Hounds" and "Johnny Voodoo" for a night of pop-rock music at the Woodsmen of the World (WOW) Hall. Admission is \$5 at the door. Doors open at 9 p.m. and show time is at 9:30. Adult refreshments (with ID) are available downstairs.

•Sunday, Oct. 12: The Community Center for the Performing Arts and U of O campus radio KWVA proudly welcome "Strangefolk" for their WOW Hall debut, with special guests "Ashleigh Flynn & the Equestrian Bonnets" and "Nectar Way." Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$7 at the door, available at CD World, EMU Main Desk, La Tiendita & Taco Loco, Record Exchange and the WOW Hall. Doors open at 8 p.m. and show time is 8:30. Adult refresh-

ments are available downstairs.

•Monday, Oct. 13: The Community Center for the Performing Arts, Talking Leaves and Eugene Weekly welcome the 1997 Rainforest Deep Ecology Roadshow to the WOW Hall featuring Joanne Rand, John Seed, Neil Pike and "Joyful Noise" performing to benefit the Earth Trust Foundation. Proceeds will benefit rainforest conservation efforts in Ecuador and India and the Headwaters "Save the Redwoods of Northern California" action. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door and are available at CD World, EMU Main Desk, House of Records, La Tiendita & Taco Loco, Record Exchange, and the WOW Hall. Doors open at 7 p.m. and show time is 7:30.

•Tuesday, Oct. 14: Joanne Rand presents "Singing Into Being," a vocal workshop at the WOW Hall. Included are exercises in sound, listening, movement, and breath. Participants should bring a percussion instrument, a pillow and a favorite song (optional). The

workshop is from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. Cost is \$10.

•Wednesday, Oct. 15: The Community Center for the Performing Arts and U of O campus radio KWVA welcome "DJ Spooky" and "Scanner" for a night of experimental electronic music at the WOW Hall. Tickets are \$7 in advance, \$8 at the door, available at CD World, EMU Main Desk, House of Records, La Tiendita & Taco Loco, Record Exchange and the WOW Hall. Doors open at 8 p.m. and show time is 8:30. Adult refreshments are available.

For more information on any of these events call (541) 687-2746.

From the OSU Department of Music:

•Baritone Richard Poppino, accompanied by pianist Rachelle McCabe, will sing excerpts from Franz Schubert's "Winterreise" ("Winter Journey") on Thursday, Oct. 16 at noon in OSU's Memorial Union Lounge. Admission is free. For more information call the OSU Department of Music at 737-4268.

review

If you like movies that put you on the edge of your seat, try 'Kiss the Girls'

by Melani Whisler
of The Commuter

"Kiss the Girls," a psychological thriller based on the novel by James Patterson follows closely with other horror movies from the past such as "Seven" and "Silence of the Lambs."

Morgan Freeman plays Washington, D.C. detective Alex Cross, who discovers that his niece has been missing for three days and travels to South Carolina to help solve the case. He finds that there are several young women missing—most are very attractive and have exceptional talents.

After a young medical intern named Kate McCormick (played by Ashley Judd) escapes from the kidnapper, she teams up with Det. Cross to help track down the criminal. They trace orders of the drug that was found in McCormick's

body after she escaped to a plastic surgeon in Los Angeles, whom they find to be the kidnapper's partner in crime.

After days of dead-end clues and false tips Cross and McCormick find the kidnapper's hideout (but not the kidnapper) and set the girls free.

When the kidnapper surfaces for the finale, it's a suspenseful and action-packed ending that drops your jaw to the floor and dribbles the Coke on your shirt.

This movie is great, filled with black humor and brain-straining plot twists. It's a step above your basic "Who Dunnit," making everyone a suspect. If you like to sit on the edge of your seat and open your eyes wide for the scary parts, go and see this movie!

"Kiss the Girls" is now showing at the Albany Cinema Center.

The Basic System

AMD "P90" 586 CPU/Win 95 OS
Pentium Triton MB w/512K PBC
Procase Mid-Tower Case
16 Megs EDO DRAM
3.5" Floppy
Western Digital 1.6 Gig HD
Trident 2 Meg MPEG Vid Card
Hansol 14" Monitor
33.6 Modem/24X CD-rom
Speakers/Soundcard/Software

\$1139

386/486 Upgrade
Special! \$359.00
(labor included)

AMD P90 586 CPU/Fan
Elite Group MB w/512k Cache
Trident 2 MB PCI Vid Card
16 Mgs 60ns EDO DRAM
must have industry standard case

We Handle LBCC
Accounts &
Purchase Orders

check us out at: www.bellevuepc.com



Bellevue Computer, Inc.
2532 Santiam Hwy SE
Fred Meyer Center, Albany
967-1239 (fax) 967-1053

SPORTS PAGE

Coaches use fall workouts to evaluate baseball players

by Shawna Phillips
of The Commuter

If some of you hear the crack of a bat connecting solidly with a baseball as you walk out to your car in the parking lot, you may think, "It's too early for baseball, isn't it?"

Not at Linn-Benton. What you hear are the sounds of fall baseball. It's a chance for returning players to get into the swing of things and for the freshmen to show the coaches what they've got before the winter weather kicks in.

Unfortunately, the fall weather has been worse than it's ever been for Head Coach Greg Hawk and his players. Two out of their four fall games have already been rained out.

They hope to be able to play this Sunday at OSU against Lane at 1 p.m. and Chemeketa at 3 p.m., and then next Saturday against the Oregon Baseball Academy, which is a group of high school junior and senior all-stars, at LP's field. Some time soon they also hope to be able to reschedule the rainouts.

Fall ball does not stop there, however. Hawk adds a little bit of fun competition between the players. All of the 52 hopefuls have split into three separate teams: The Mudville Mashers, Maui Bulldogs and Big Time Braves. Those three teams will play against each other two or three times this fall, Mondays through Fri-

days, as long as the weather permits.

"Now we (the coaches) get to see how they play and how they react," Hawk said. "And any time there's a coachable moment, then we want to stop and point out that this is the way we do it. It's a real good evaluation time for us coaches."

Evaluating to Hawk, the competition for the preliminary and final cuts will be fierce. There are three or four good quality players at each position, and it'll be a tough decision come winter.

So far Hawk and his assistant coaches have come to the conclusion that the baseball team this year will have a potent offense, unlike last year when the team had only eight home runs and a .270-.280 batting average. He is expecting a great improvement this spring.

The sophomore pitchers will also be looked upon for good things this spring. After having only one sophomore pitcher last year, the Roadrunner pitching staff was still in the top three for the first three-quarters of the season.

Since the offense and pitching is already shaping up, the real test will be how strong LB will be defensively.

That's the advantage of fall ball. The players get to work on their skills outside before the bad weather sets in. So if you happen to hear some commotion coming from the baseball diamond, you'll know what's going on. Check it out.

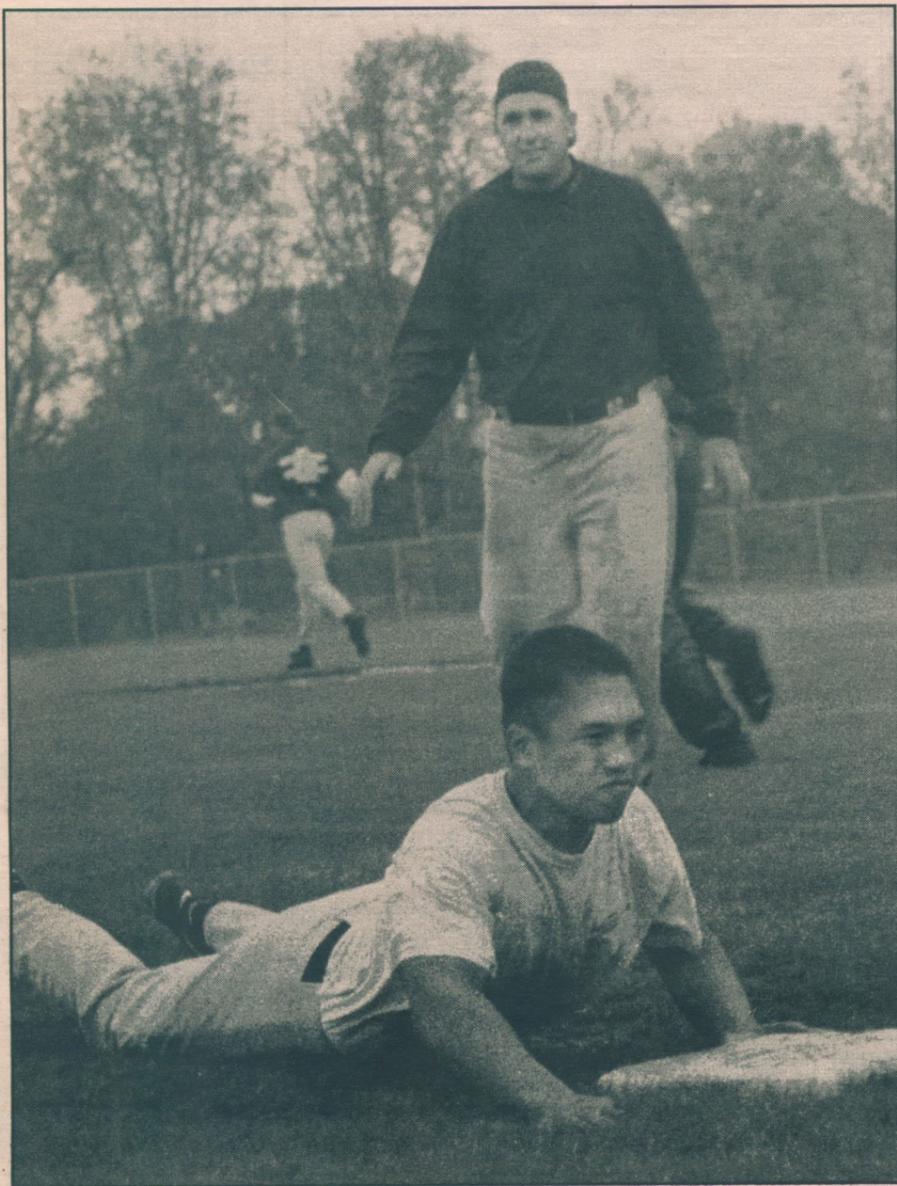


Photo by Rebecca Hundt

Roger Sebastian shows Head Coach Greg Hawk how it's done during fall drills.

Strong play from Gale, Schock nets first league win for 'Runners

by Shawna Phillips
of The Commuter

After going 0-3 in league, the Roadrunner volleyball squad finally managed to pick up its first league win on Saturday against Southwestern Oregon Community College.

Linn-Benton came out on Saturday and played 100 percent better than they have all season to beat SWOCC in four games; 15-7, 8-15, 15-12, 15-13.

Melissa Gale had an outstanding game for the 'Runners, racking up 21 kills and 13 digs. Dondi Schock had a strong game as well, with 12 kills, 10 digs and five of Linn-Benton's 14 service aces.

Freshmen Andrea Tedrow and Elicia McFadden also played well. Tedrow had 10 kills and 10 digs, while McFadden had 40 assists.

"Defensively we picked up some hard, driven attacks that we've let go in the

past," Head Coach Jayme Frazier said, while complimenting her team's defensive effort. "We were there and we gave a lot of heart. It was a completely different team than I saw Friday night."

Friday's game at home against Umpqua was another story, however, as the Roadrunners couldn't quite keep up their momentum after winning the first match.

"We came out real strong, both aggressively and defensively as the score shows, 15-5," said Frazier, "but we came out real flat in the second game losing 15-5."

They ended up losing the last two 16-14, 15-8. According to Frazier, the team played unaggressively as the Timberwomen gave them a lot of unexpected balls, and the Roadrunners couldn't make transitions quickly enough.

Another problem that plagued LBCC on Friday was serving and blocking errors. They had 16 service errors and 15 blocking errors.

Schock led the offense with 13 kills and added four service aces. Gale and Opal DePue both had eight kills, while separately adding five service aces and four digs respectively.

"If we continue to improve and play with the type of heart and desire that we showed on Saturday, we will do well," Frazier commented. "We'll at least be competitive."

The Roadrunners will get a chance to show any improvement in the Lower Columbia Crossover tournament in Longview this Friday and Saturday.

jock in the box



Who: Melissa Gale

What: Sophomore Outside Hitter**Background:** Philomath H.S./Philomath Ore.**Recent Highlights:** In the last two games she had 29 kills, 13 digs, and seven service aces.**Sports Hero:** Her high school track coach, Paul Mariman.**Worst Sports Moment:**

"My worst moment in volleyball was when I sprained my ankle at the beginning of the season."

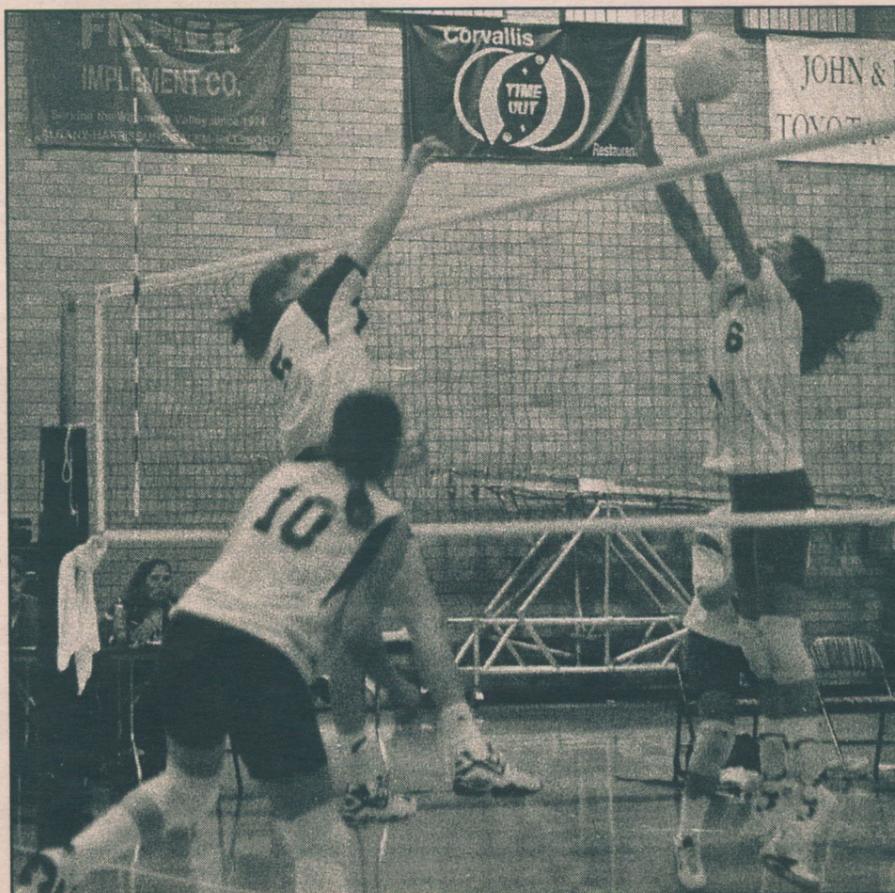


Photo by Melani Whisler

Jenny Gardner fires a shot over the outstretched arms of an Umpqua blocker during last Friday's home match. The Roadrunners lost in four games, but bounced back Saturday to beat SWOCC for league win. This weekend the team heads to Longview, Wash., for the annual Lower Columbia Crossover Tournament.

LB auto tech program holds onto 'excellence'

From the LBCC News Service

The Automotive Technology program at LBCC recently received master certification by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation and the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE). ASE gave the college a plaque to mark the accomplishment.

"Although many educational institutions strive for it, only a small percentage achieve this certification," wrote ASE President Ronald H. Weiner in the award letter to LBCC President Jon Carnahan.

The National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) evaluated the college's program under the industry's strict national standards for certification.

LBCC passed in all eight areas, including auto transmissions and transaxles, brakes, electrical systems, engine performance, engine repair, heating and air conditioning, manual drive trains and axles, and suspension and steering.

NATEF then recommended that the LBCC program be certified by ASE, a national, nonprofit organization that tests

and certifies repair technicians, in addition to certifying automotive and auto body training programs.

"During the past few months, we have worked closely with NATEF to make certain that our program would meet strict industry standards," said Michael Patrick, associate dean of the Science and Industry Division.

He added, "And now we are delighted to join the ranks of the ASE-certified programs. Students will be assured of a quality education, and shop owners will be assured of getting quality job applicants."

About 72 students are enrolled in LBCC's automotive and diesel programs.

"This is great news for automotive-minded youths and their parents," said Chuck Groves, NATEF chairman. "Because this program increases cooperation between local education and industry leaders, it gives added assurance that LBCC's graduates will be employable entry-level technicians. And as a result of the quality education provided by LBCC, the motoring public will benefit since better repair technicians will join the work force."

classifieds

HELP WANTED

The Student Employment Center offers over 240 jobs! There are part-time, flexible jobs to fit your school schedule and full-time positions to help you start a career. We also have a 24-hour hotline, bulletin board, help with your resume and much more! See Carla, Career Center (Takana 101).

Do you need a job, extra money, and the ability to set your own work schedule? The Children's Farm Home has immediate on-call openings for Residential Treatment Specialists and Residential Treatment Assistants. Day, swing and night shifts. Must be within 6 months of a BA/BS for day or swing shifts. Night shifts require HS diploma and experience working with adolescents. Pick up Farm Home application at 4455 N.E. Highway 20, Corvallis, OR 97330, and return with cover letter and resume ASAP. Out of area candidates may call 541-758-5980, ext. 4029, to request application.

Hewlett-Packard Contractor jobs- Do you have management skills/experience? We have several full-time manager positions open on-site at HP. Do you have some math and computer knowledge? You can work part-time at HP's Learning Center. See Carla in Career Center (T-101).

Production Packer- Are you wanting a steady income, whether part-time or full-time, in Corvallis, to help you through school? A progressive, environmentally-friendly company offers you great pay and benefits. This company recycles newspaper and cardboard into attractive functional plant containers. See Carla in T-101.

UPS wants you to help out during their Christmas rush! This is your opportunity to make Christmas or winter term cash. The wages are \$8.00/hour. Orientation and interviews begin Wed., Oct. 15, at 7 am in the Alsea/Calapooia rooms (CC-203). See You There!

MISCELLANEOUS

SENSE THE SPIRIT, EXPERIENCE THE ADVENTURE! Lutheran students of LBCC welcome you for conversation Thursdays, noon to 1, LBCC cafeteria. Bring your own lunch, pull up a chair, and look for the cookie jar. Then let's talk.

Lesbian, Gay, & Bisexual Group invites you to our planning meetings Tuesday, October 7th, 3-4 p.m. and Wednesday, October 8th, 12 noon to 1 p.m. Call Shawn @ 917-4660 for

meeting places and more information.

Off-campus tutoring, Corvallis area. Math (60, 65, 95) and Writing. \$12/hr. 929-6206, leave message.

FOR SALE

1984 Chevy S-10 A/T, light blue, good condition. \$2,000.00 OBO with canopy-stereo w/CD. 327-2056 leave message.

1986 Buick Century for sale V-6, auto, PS, PB, runs good. Asking \$1000/offer. Call Neil at 466-5200, E-mail, jensenn@lbcc.cc.or.us.

For Sale: Iguana with 55 gal. aquarium \$125. 928-5206.

Bicycle, 12 speed, 23 inch frame, like new. Lots of extras, new helmet, wheels and tires. Lets deal, sell or trade. Call Steve Lovelace after 6:00 p.m., 926-4696, or in the Diesel Tech class.

CUTE LITTLE KITTIES! Free to good home. Five kittens available. A bargain at twice the price. Call 753-6791.

WANTED

Wanted: a very nice person to share a large, quiet house in the country with other nice people. No deposits. \$300 a month, includes all utilities, phone and garbage. No other costs. 1 1/2 miles from LBCC. No smokers/drug users or party people apply. (Sorry, no children or pets.) 928-9363 evenings and weekends.

Classified Ad Policy

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

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

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

Libel/Taste: The Commuter will not knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in an unfair manner. Any advertisement judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.



Wet Welcome

Photo by Michele Dardis

The rain drives hungry students under the courtyard balcony during last week's "Welcome Back" barbecue. Despite the downpour, student organizers say the turnout was good.

Bober helps to improve communities

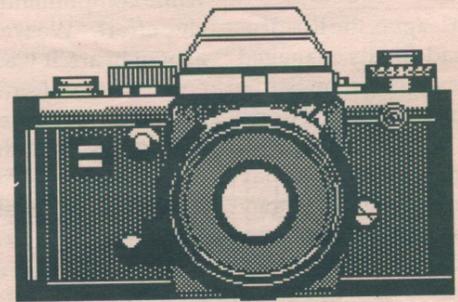
From the LBCC News Service

Pete Bober, assistant to the dean for the Business/Training/Health Occupations Division, recently served as a consultant and presenter at the Rural Community College Initiative's (RCCI) Summer Institute in East Glacier, Mont.

RCCI, a Ford Foundation-sponsored initiative, helps rural community and

tribal colleges improve the quality of life in some of the poorest communities in the country. The colleges were represented by staff and community members who have participated in an extensive year-long strategic planning process to design strategies to increase educational access and economic prosperity in their communities.

Photographers Wanted



The Commuter

needs a few good photographers to shoot news, features and sports assignments for the student newspaper.

You get all the film you can use and your name in tiny type under all the pictures you get published. All you need is a 35mm camera and the know-how to use it, a good eye for content and composition, and the guts to go for a little excitement in life. Not a lot of excitement, but it beats hanging in the cafeteria waiting for your next class!

Contact

**Photo Editor Josh Burk
College Center 210; ext. 4451**

OPINION PAGE

Whether science or superstition, it's best to heed winter warnings

by Melani Whisler
of The Commuter

Will this winter see a repeat of the 1996 flood?

Because his hair is the curliest it's ever been, history teacher Michael Weiss is sure we're going to see another flood. My boyfriend's mom's cats are eating more than usual; that must be another sign from the gods.

Roll up your pant legs and patch the hole in the boat, boys and girls, we're going to see another flood. Or are we?

We all suffered through the great flood of '96, and as unexpected as it was, it taught us not to always give Mother Nature the benefit of the doubt. Apparently it made us a little superstitious too.

The truth is, we very well could see another flood. El Niño is pushing warm and wet tropical storms north. By the time they reach us, there are only mild temperatures and rain, but all that rain can add up.

We saw it add up two years ago, when Highway 34 was a giant lake and the Willamette rose above its banks. The coast saw highways washed out and houses slide down cliffs. Tillamook saw grocery stores and houses underwater and many cows drowned.

It's impossible to predict what and how much damage weather can do. But it's not impossible to prepare for it. Start early. Stock up on batteries and candles in case the power goes out.

From my own experiences, I've noticed that the power in town doesn't stay off too long. But on the coast, where my dad lives, he went without power for over five days. It's hard to get your studying done without any lights.

Whether you think it's because your hair is curly, your cats are hungrier, or because there's a bunch of warm tropical storms headed our way, please be prepared for any type of situation that winter weather might bring.

... "EL NIÑO" FINDS ITS WAY into the AMERICAN VERNACULAR...



pete petryszak

Making ends meet on \$133,673 a year isn't so easy

by Pete Petryszak
of The Commuter

Last month the House of Representatives voted to tack a cost-of-living increase worth \$3,000 onto their paychecks in the next session.

Apparently, our legislators' six-figure salaries aren't enough to cover their rent, bills, groceries and other expenses.

It should be pointed out that what the representatives are asking for is not a pay raise. No one in the House has argued that they deserved a pay increase as a result of superior job performance or an increased workload or more responsibilities on the job.

They know better than that.

Instead, the House voted for a "cost-of-living adjustment" (COLA) an adjustment of one's income equal to the level to which the prices for various goods and services have risen over a period of time. Social Security checks and welfare payments are often given COLA's so pensioners and others on fixed incomes are able to keep pace with inflation.

There are those who would argue that members

of Congress, who earn a minimum of \$133,673, don't need a COLA to make ends meet. With a little bit of restraint, a congressman can meet his basic needs on \$133,000.

They might even be able to put a little aside in a rainy day fund to pay for the kids' college tuition, vacations (which can't be paid for by lobbyists anymore), bail bonds, attorneys' fees or even haircuts (which they once got free but sadly had to be eliminated in these penny-pinching times.)

Obviously, this argument is ludicrous. Paul Jacob, executive director of U.S. Term Limits explains why a congressional COLA is so necessary in the latest issue of the organization's newsletter, "The Legal Limit."

"Members of Congress have never shown themselves to be good at managing our money," Jacob said. "How can we expect them to manage on their own and survive, especially with only \$133,673? They're likely to spend that much on a hammer or a toilet seat."

The leadership of the House of Representatives also believes that a COLA is absolutely necessary at this time. House Majority Whip Tom DeLay (R-Texas) justified the increase, saying: "Some members of Congress are living in their offices. It's difficult to raise a family and serve under these conditions."

So convinced were they that arguments against the adjustment were completely without merit that the House leadership barred members of Congress from even bringing that specific issue to a vote.

Conditions would be Spartan indeed for our sena-

tors and representatives without this COLA. They might be forced to give up their memberships to trendy D.C. health spas and mingle with the hoy pallo in the Congressional gym members use free of charge.

Or perhaps they would have to use the free parking they are given at the National Airport rather than hiring a limo to bring them to and from their flights. Certainly free health care and multi-million dollar pensions don't come close to making up for these inconveniences, making a COLA the only sensible option.

I, too, would welcome a \$3,000 boost to my annual income, just like the one Congress clearly deserves. However, I'm not a member of one of those groups truly in need, like welfare recipients, pensioners, retirees living on Social Security, or Congressmen trying to pay the bills accrued in Washington, D.C., on a mere 100 grand and change.

I, on the other hand, earn a tidy \$6.50 cents an hour. Clearly, I am in no danger of being overwhelmed by inflation, like members of Congress are. While they struggle to get by on a mere \$11,000 a month, there are some months when I bring home a whopping \$700. Obviously, I cannot even comprehend their suffering.

The most significant reason why Congress is receiving a \$3,000 increase in pay next year and I'm not is that, unlike Congress, I'm not able to decide what my own salary will be. The value of my labor, like that of most other people outside of Congress, is determined by the market, dependent on what employers are willing to pay for the service.

Currently, I'm employed as a custodian, and employers are only willing to pay \$6.50 cents per hour for my custodial services. As Rush Limbaugh reminds me, I ought to be damn grateful that there's an employer out there willing to pay me even that much.

A lot of folks might get jealous when they have to struggle with low-paying jobs when they learn what a congressman makes. The salaries of most jobs are determined by the laws of supply and demand, but our Congress' salaries are insulated from those market forces. They simply pay themselves what they feel is appropriate.

It might be interesting to see what would happen to congressmen's salaries if they were subjected to market forces. How many people are really willing to pay a congressman \$133,673?

If fewer than 50 percent of registered voters voted (i.e. made a decision to hire a representative) in the last

congressional election, we could say that demand for legislators was less than half of what it was expected to be. When demanded for a product or a service is less than what was expected, prices fall.

Perhaps we should pencil in a salary amount for our representatives when we vote for them. Salaries suggested by the voters could then be averaged, and that would be what members made that session. This would better take into account how much the voters (employers) are willing to pay their representatives.

Another way to resolve the issue of how much to pay Congress and when to raise their salaries is to set their pay equal to the nation's median income. I like this plan because it would make Congress more aware of the financial situation of average Americans.

Congress, in the past, has approved tax breaks for corporations who relocated their factories overseas, putting thousands of Americans out of work. Those lost incomes factored into the median income in this country, bringing it down. If Congress' pay was determined by the median income, they too would feel the bite of these questionable fiscal policies and might be less likely to offer cut-rate tax options to employers who slash American jobs in favor of cheap labor in the Pacific Rim or Central and South America.

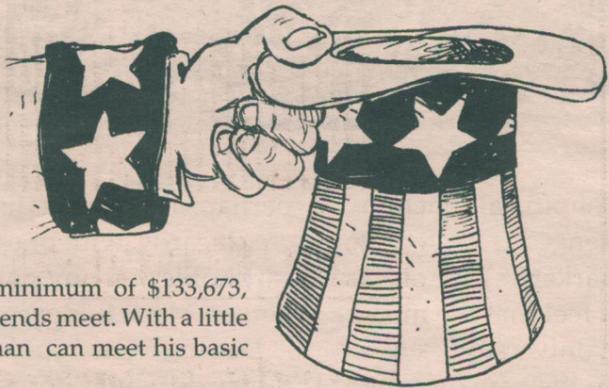
These alternative ideas for congressional pay might make good coffee talk, but our representatives need help now. Many members of Congress simply can't wait for the COLA to be approved by the Senate, and that is why Paul Jacob and U.S. Term Limits have launched "Congress Aid," a charity drive to provide members of Congress with the food, clothing and other essentials of life they so desperately need.

Jacob asks that all compassionate Americans help out the effort with canned foods, old winter coats or anything else they can spare. "Most of us have sincere concern for those who are homeless, for single mothers struggling to stay afloat financially, for the unemployed, or for children going hungry," Jacob said. "However, we've missed the tragedy that deserves our most heartfelt concern. We've got to wipe out politician-poverty in our nation's Capitol. Many folks raising families on \$20,000-\$30,000 dollars a year may wonder why they should sacrifice for congressmen making \$133,673. It does seem strange, but when you see the faces of sad, malnourished congressmen huddled in the cold, it just breaks your heart."

Donations of food and clothing should be sent to:

Congress Aid
c/o U.S. Term Limits
1125 15th St. N.W., Suite 501
Washington, D.C. 20005

U.S. Term Limits has asked that "Congress Aid" donations be sent out with all possible haste. "After all, winter is coming," said Jacob. "This is Valley Forge all over again."



LOONEY LANE

College students often have difficulty resisting lure of credit cards

Knight-Ridder/Tribune News Service

BRADENTON, Fla.— Students go to college to learn. Lots of them are getting more education than they bargained for.

Inundated with mailings and marketers trying to sign them up for credit cards, students can quickly find themselves buried under a mountain of debt.

Or, more optimistically, securing a credit card in college could lay the foundation for a positive credit history, which will be essential when they go to buy their first car, home or other major purchase.

"Credit cards are like a double-edged sword," said Ashley Jones (not her real name). "I'm not in over my head, but I owe about \$2,000 on three cards. (Credit card companies) still send me applications."

According to a study by Nellie Mae Student Loan Services, Jones' credit card debt is not unusual. Two out of three undergraduate students have credit cards. One in five percent have four or more. The average balance on those cards is \$2,226.

Jones admits that most of the things she purchased with the credit cards could not have been bought with cash, because she couldn't afford it at the time.

That's a trap lots of non-students fall into as well.

Jones said she knew she wouldn't be able to pay off the cards by the end of each month, but she pulled out the plastic anyway. "I bought clothes, jewelry, even snacks with the card," Jones said. "Everyone who took VISA knew my name."

Several New College students agreed with their classmate, even though the college is one of a growing number of institutions to boot credit card companies off campus. Stephanie Martin said she made it through three years of college without a

credit card, and she will complete her final year of school free of credit card debt.

"I can hardly balance my checkbook," Martin joked. "I know I don't have the money to pay on a credit card, and I know I would mess it up."

That's precisely the reason Alex Villafane said he would not get a card either. "I have no temptation whatsoever," Villafane said. "I consider them evil. I know that if I buy \$2,000 worth of stuff, I have to know how I will pay for it."

Michael Cenzer, a first-year student at New College, prefers debit cards to credit cards. "The thought of buying things with money I don't have didn't appeal to me," said 18-year-old Cenzer. Those attitudes would make card issuers cringe.

Card issuers say they consider college students their "best high-risk group." That may sound like an oxymoron, but credit card companies are banking on students using their cards—accumulating interest—and then landing high-paying jobs after they graduate to pay off their debts.

"Students are important customers and they do tend to hold onto their first card for much longer after college," said American Express spokesperson Emily Porter. "(Their first year) is a great time for credit card companies to establish relationships with students because they tend to keep their first card."

Setting up on campus lends an air of official sanction in the eyes of some students.

"When (credit card marketers) are on campus, students might feel that the marketing company has the university's support or approval because they are on campus," Williams said.

To limit the in-your-face temptation, some colleges have kicked the marketers off campus.

"Universities are becoming increasingly sensitive to the needs of students on credit

card issues," Williams said. "They are cutting down and limiting the exposure of on-campus marketing practices." Still, where there's a will, there's a way, as seen by the direct mail marketing

many card issuers use, Williams said.

Credit card issuers also strike deals with other companies that sell products on campus. Makers of merchandise bags that supply college bookstores, for example, might not charge the store for the bags, if the stores promise to stuff the bags with pamphlets and applications for credit cards.

It was at his college bookstore that Michael Haponski saw his first credit card offer while at Georgia Tech in Atlanta. He signed up for a Chase VISA. Now, six years later, Haponski still uses his card, just like the issuer hoped. He said he had three active cards through school and admitted that he nearly got in over his head. "I got into a buy now, pay later mind-set,"

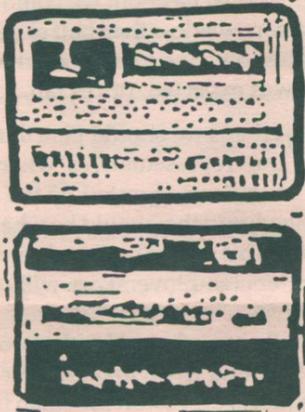
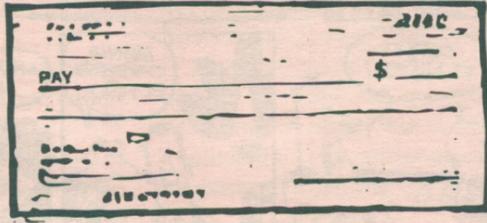
Haponski said.

Chase is among the top tier of credit card issuers to college students. Others include Discover, American Express and Citibank.

Citibank is perhaps the largest distributor of student credit cards, with one million student cardholders at any given time, said spokesperson Mark Rodgers.

Discover Card spokesperson Cathy Edwards would not reveal how many students held its cards, but said it markets heavily to students.

"We are represented at almost every four-year university across the U.S.," Edwards said. "We also do direct mail to students' home addresses."

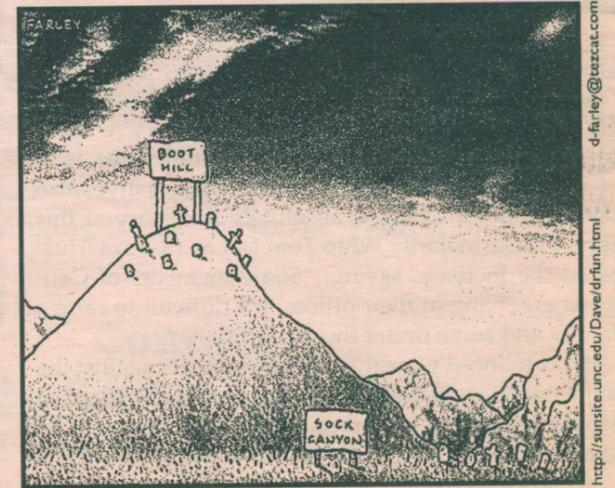


MUFFIN

BY NORA McVITTIE



DOCTOR FUN



Where lesser-known bad guys and lowlifes of the Old West were buried