

Words From Above
LB President Jon Carnahan
'gits' down to the nitty gritty

Bridging The Gap
LB welding students take
on a joint project with OSU

Green Jello
Alternative rock band puts new
meaning into breakfast cereal

THE COMMUTER

A
Student
Publication

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Commuter rated No. 1

Staff members of *The Commuter* were presented with an unprecedented eight awards—including first place in General Excellence—at the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association's (ONPA) annual conference last Friday in Beaverton.

The *Commuter*, claiming the top award for the first time ever, competed in the category of 5,000 circulation or under, along with 11 other community colleges and four-year-universities from throughout Oregon.

The state-wide competition, sponsored by the ONPA, acknowledges excellence in the field of journalism, photojournalism, editorial cartooning and advertising in college newspapers.

In addition to first place in General Excellence, *The Commuter* won top honors in three individual categories, along with two seconds and two honorable mentions.

- First place, Best Headline Writer, went to Editor-in-chief Jack Josewski, a Lebanon resident.

- First place, Best Columnist, was accepted by Arts and Entertainment Editor Cory Frye, of Albany.

- First place, Sports Photography, was awarded staff photographer Steve Norris of Corvallis. Norris also won a second in the same category.

- Managing Editor Trisha LaFrance of Corvallis claimed Second place in

Feature Writing.

- Photo Editor Linda Wallace of Corvallis won two Honorable Mention awards in the category of Best Feature Photography.

"Being recognized as the top small circulation college paper in the state is something this staff can take pride in. They work hard and always try to put out the most professional news possible week after week", said Rich Bergeman, instructor of journalism at LB.

"It's particularly gratifying for a two-year college paper to be rated above those at four-year schools, such as Linnfield or Western Oregon, where staffs have more time to work together."

"We've been working towards this goal for most of the year," says *Commuter* editor Josewski.

"I feel the quality of our college is reflected in this student newspaper and that is what the staff has attempted to do. We couldn't be happier with the results of this competition."

McMinnville's Linnfield College placed second and Southern Oregon State College in Ashland came in third in the under 5,000 category.

In the larger newspaper category, which included four papers, *The Emerald* of the University of Oregon took first place in general excellence, with the OSU *Barometer* in second.



Photos by Linda L. Wallace

Dancing on a String

Colorful puppets and marionettes by internationally known sculpture artist Louie Gizyn of Corvallis enliven the AHSS Art Gallery this month. They are part of an exhibit called "Puppets and Paintings" that also includes Painter Linda Fire of Corvallis and runs through April 23. Gizyn has been creating puppets since the early 1970s. The 8-pound creations have fiber fill bodies fashioned out of wire and wood. Then stoneware heads are painted, fired and given their own personality. "The personality of the characters come mostly from the colors and fabrics that I use in the clothes," said Gizyn.

Two students named scholars of the year

By Mickey Shanon-Monroe
Of *The Commuter*

Angela Upmeyer of Lebanon and Shawn Dalrymple of Corvallis have been named Student Scholars of the year by LBCC.

Together with students selected from other community colleges, Upmeyer and Dalrymple are members of the All-State Academic Team, which was honored at a reception with governor Barbara Roberts in Salem on March 19.

Upmeyer is a full-time student and the mother of two small children. Although she married right out of high school and started a family, she never lost sight of her goal of becoming a physical therapist.

When Upmeyer was 15, her great-grandfather suffered a stroke. Upmeyer saw how much help the physical therapist was in his recovery, and was immediately intrigued with the profession.

She is an active member of Phi Theta Kappa, the student honor society, and has been involved in the community as a volunteer, worked as a student lab assistant and volunteered as a tutor, all the while maintaining a 3.59 G.P.A. Upmeyer was instrumental in designing and implementing a Phi Theta Kappa program of mentoring and tutoring for LBCC district high school students, with a pilot program currently underway at West Albany High School.

Upmeyer cites her activities and the networking opportunities provided through them as giving her "experiences and important learning tools that I will use throughout my lifetime. Without the opportunities to network that LBCC has provided, I would not have discovered my own potential to succeed."

A biological science major, Upmeyer plans to attend OSU this fall and hopes to eventually pursue a masters degree in physical therapy to be accepted into Pacific University.

Dalrymple, the other award winner says that as a new single parent, it didn't take long to learn that working three jobs was not the key to her future. "Receiving this award was a real honor, and a big boost to my self esteem," she said.

The 28-year-old LBCC student says going back to school was a frightening step because she had been out of the classroom for nine years. She says that the encouragement from her LBCC instructors helped her quickly overcome her fears.

Dalrymple earned a 4.0 G.P.A. her first term. Since then, she has maintained a 3.67 G.P.A., earned a Business Management and Technology scholarship and was nominated as an Outstanding Business Administration student.

Dalrymple says that winning the scholarship not only meant extra money but, more importantly, is an acknowledgment of the hard work and sacrifice she has put into her education.

"The atmosphere created by the faculty and support staff (at LBCC) is empowering," she said. "I have been given the confidence I need to succeed."

Dalrymple is currently enrolled at OSU, which she describes as "exciting, but a big change from LBCC."

Dale Parnell, former commissioner for Oregon community colleges and now at OSU, founded the all-state academic team last year to highlight the academic excellence at Oregon community colleges.

Today & Tomorrow Career Fair explores opportunities

The Linn-Benton Community College Career Exploration and Community Resource Fair marks its 15th anniversary this week.

Today's event, held in the Activity Center Gym, is open to the public.

The program affords students an opportunity to be directly involved with the potential job market, through direct access with interviewing employers.

The LBCC Student Employment Center sponsors the Fair in conjunction with the Oregon Advanced Technology Consortium.

Over 74 employers are slated to attend this year's fair—from Bi-Mart Corporation to Willamette Industries.

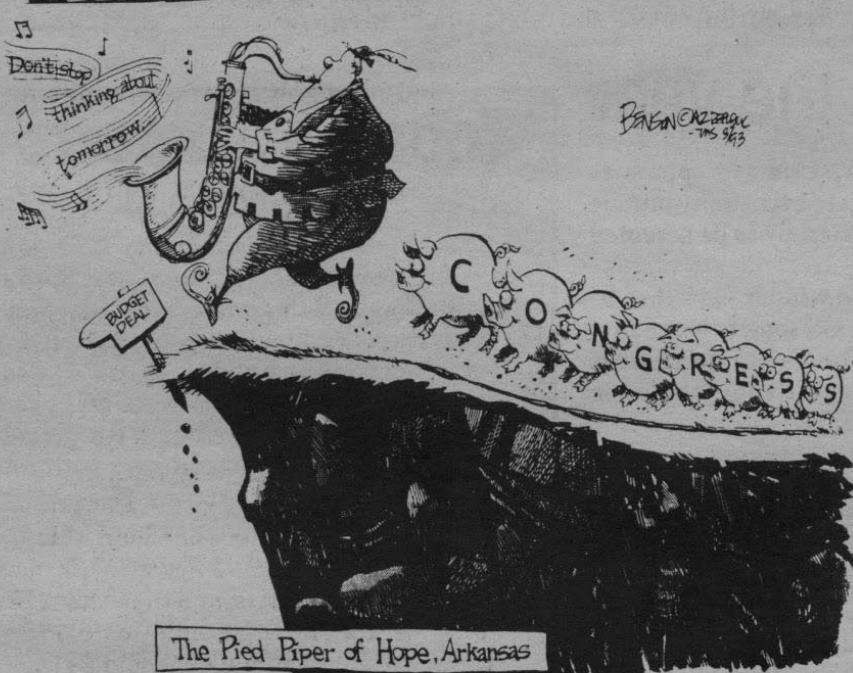
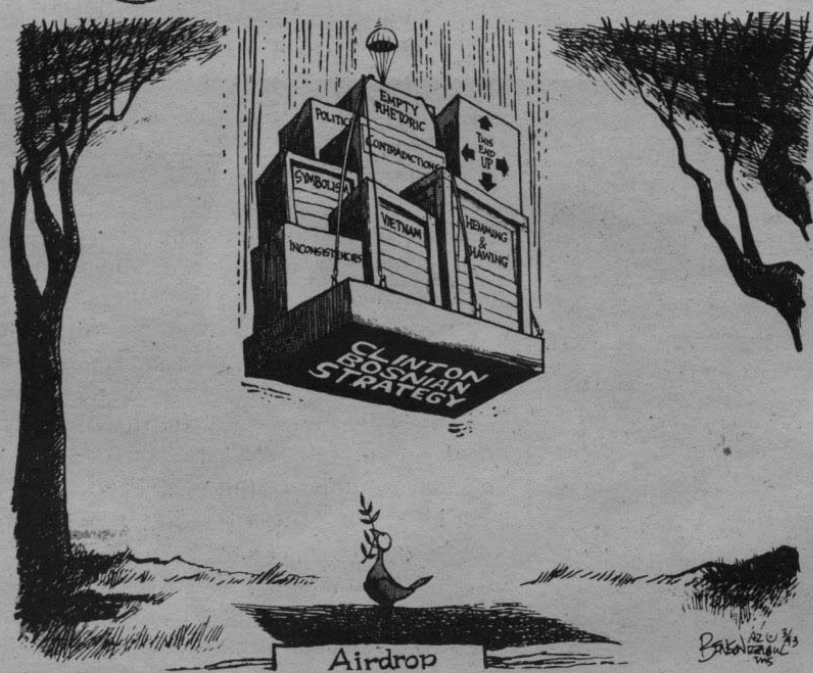
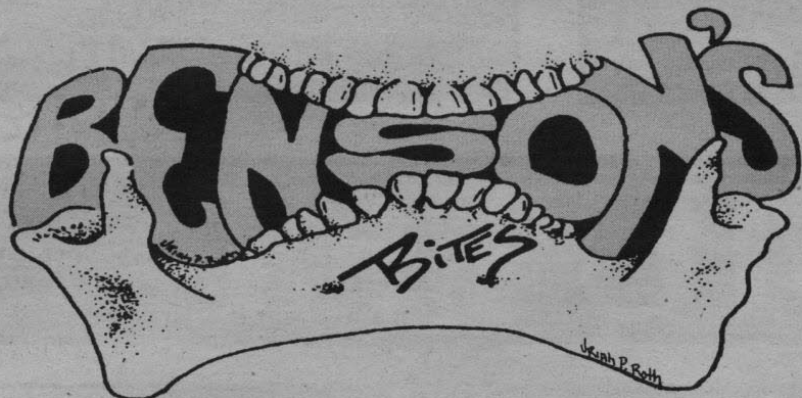
Legal forum examines gay issues

The Linn County Bar Association will hold a forum entitled "Homosexuality And The Law", on April 8, at 7 p.m., at LBCC in room F-104.

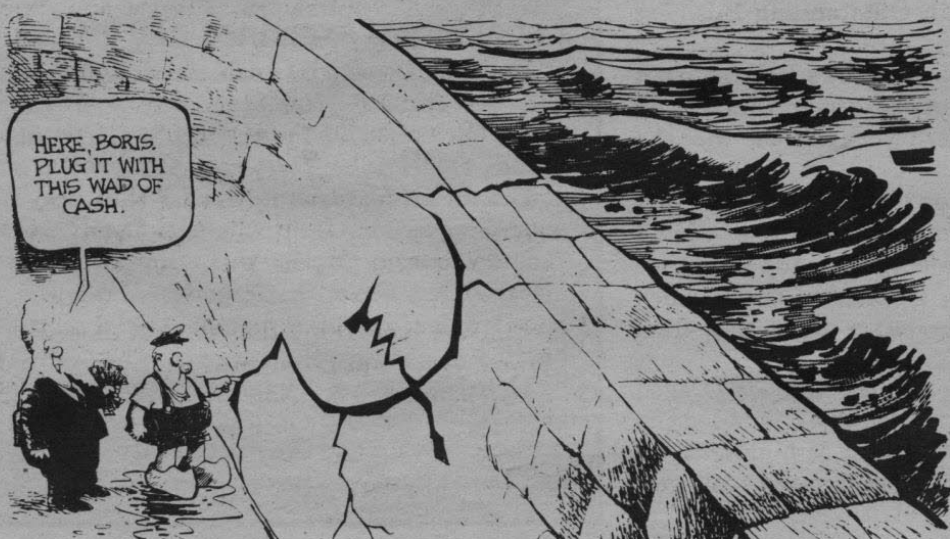
The forum features Edward F. Schultz, a legal counsel for GAPS; Thomas Corr, Linn County counsel; James V.B. Delapoe, city attorney; Roy V. Smith, Oregon legal services; and Douglas W. Moore, member GAPS school board.

This lecture will examine controversial issues and questions raised by recent OCA initiatives to amend the Albany City Charter and Linn County statutes.

opinion forum



The Pied Piper of Hope, Arkansas



Paying to cure stupidity

mike royko

There's this old joke. A guy is walking on a very dark street. As he nears the glow of a streetlight, he sees a drunken friend bent over and peering at the sidewalk. "What are you doing?" he asks. "I dropped my money and I'm looking for it," the drunken friend says. "I'll help you look," the guy says. And the two of them wander in circles, looking for the money. Finally, the guy says: "You're sure you dropped it here?" "No," the drunk friend says, pointing down the dark street. "I dropped it back there." "Then why were you looking for it here?" says the guy. "Because," the drunk says, "there's a streetlight here and it's too dark to see back there."

This story came to mind when the Clinton administration came out with its latest plan to make us a happier, healthier society. Recognizing that large numbers of preschool children don't get immunized against diseases, the White House came up with a new program.

It wants the federal government to provide free vaccines for every child in America — rich, middle-class or poor. Regardless of your income level, your child would receive the vaccines free. If you have money or medical coverage, the doctor could still charge a fee for wielding the needle. If you are poor, everything would be free.

Of course, the word "free" is used loosely in this case — sort of the way it is tossed around by advertising people, con men and politicians.

It won't be free. The government will buy the vaccines with tax dollars. More than \$1 billion a year. But to the high rollers in Washington, tax dollars and "free" often mean the same thing. The logic behind this plan is that large numbers of children don't get vaccinated because the vaccine costs too much. So President Clinton's solution is to make the federal government the only buyer of vaccine, so it could negotiate a better price. Then it would make the vaccine available to all children.

That's very warmhearted, and it's what we would expect from a lot of former '60s activists who still have their big government game plans and wish lists.

The only flaw in this solution is that it isn't addressing the real problem. Yes, many children don't get needed immunization, primarily the vaccines that doctors recommend before the children enter school. It's estimated that in some big cities, as few as 10 percent of inner-city preschool children get the necessary protection.

But the cost of the vaccine isn't the reason. In Chicago, for example, low-income children can get the shots free at city clinics.

In fact, they might not even have to go to clinics because medical vans go into low-income areas and offer curbside immunization service.

So what is the problem? I know it is politically incorrect and insensitive of me to say this, but I'll do it anyway. The source of the immunization problem is the same as in the pathetic achievements of the inner-city schools.

The problem is the same as it is with the brutal rate of murder and other violence among young people in the cities.

The problem is the same as it is with the growing rate of child abuse and neglect.

As a bumper sticker might put it: "It's the stupid parents, stupid."

Those curbside medical vans I mentioned a moment ago? The Chicago Tribune recently had a report on what they deal with. As the story said of one of the health workers: "(She) has been cursed at, shot at and has had countless doors slammed in her face."

Later, it said: "The vans are staffed with a public health nurse, an investigator who screens the child's records and determines what shots are needed, and (a worker) whose job it is to persuade parents in public housing to bring their children downstairs for vaccinations."

"... an investigator who travels with the vans said that although the free services are literally brought to people's doorsteps, it is tough to get them to cooperate."

That's not unique to Chicago. The same kind of ignorance, stupidity and neglect can be found in many parts of this country where free vaccines are offered.

Ask a pediatrician. The problem isn't in communities where people can afford to pay and do. It's where vaccines are already being offered free.

What is the Clinton solution? Let the federal government take over and give everybody in America "free" vaccines. Even those who don't need a handout and are already taking good care of their children. And even many of those who can already get it free but are rejecting it.

Good luck. But unless the government includes a plan to somehow persuade the indifferent, hostile or ignorant parents into rare acts of responsibility, it won't work.

If that requires intimidation, so be it. Maybe these parents should be told that if they are receiving welfare or living in public housing, they either get their kids immunized by a given date or see their welfare checks and housing benefits cut off.

I'd even favor making it a criminal offense for a parent to ignore the opportunity to give a child needed immunization. If that isn't child neglect, what's your definition?

Is that harsh? Maybe, but so what? It's not nearly as harsh as needlessly exposing a child to disease.

But if you think anything will change because the government becomes a purchasing agent, while local government still has to grapple with the real problem, I have a suggestion.

Go help that drunk look for his money under the streetlight.

opinion forum

Best & worst of times for community colleges presents challenges, opportunities for LBCC

By Jon Carnahan

President of Linn-Benton Community College

You have not heard a lot from Linn-Benton Community College about the budget crisis facing the state and education, or the involvement of community colleges in the 21st Century Schools Act and the preparation of the workforce for today and the next century.

By design we have tried to manage the financial uncertainty facing us. Through cautiously optimistic planning, we calculated the impact of Measure 5 in 1990 and made a reduction to our current level of service by three-quarters of a million dollars in 1991-92. We also raised

guest column

tuition by 8 percent in 1992-93 to help us through 1993-94. All of these moves in cooperation with the Board of Education, budget committee, college employees, and students will allow Linn-Benton Community College to provide a continuing level of quality programs and services to our community and students through 1993-94, assuming our "cautiously optimistic" planning is on target.

Our projections anticipated that by the second year of the next biennium (1994-95), a state plan would surface that would provide stability in the way education is funded in Oregon.

The student editor of our college newspaper recently referred to our finance plan as a "fairy tale" approach and wanted to know when reality would hit LBCC. My response was that reality did hit in 1991-92 when I personally met with and eliminated 33 full-time equivalent employees. This resulted in a reduction of a number of programs and services. Reality will hit again in this coming school year if the legislature provides less money than is in the governor's budget. It will hit even harder, to the tune of nearly \$2 million, in 1994-95 if there is no resolution to the budget situation during this session of the legislature. This will again cause reduction in programs, services, and students.

It will take all of the college's resources, including tuition revenue, to make up a million dollar reduction in state funding next year.

Budget planning today has to be the worst of times in education, but let me discuss for a minute about the best of times in education. I have never liked the term "Education Reform" because it has the connotation that education has been doing something bad and that, like a naughty child, we need a reform school. The fact is that since 1983, when the first "Nation at Risk" report came out in this country, there has been an increase in the number of high school graduates, a decrease in the number of drop-outs, and better results on test scores. That does not mean, however, that we do not need to change and continually improve. The best of times in education is now. We have a partner in the process in business and industry that recognizes that education and the economy are interdependent.

Just as industry must re-tool and change the way in which it does business to compete internationally, so must education prepare a workforce with the necessary skills. That requires education to work in

cooperation with business and industry and provide a workforce with the skills, knowledge, and work ethic that meets today's and tomorrow's standards of a high performance work organization that can compete at the international level. The college is involved on many levels and in many aspects of development. The lifelong education mission of the college is a continuum, starting with parent and early childhood education programs that help parents prepare their children to be successful in school. It continues with working with middle and secondary schools in career exploration and articulation between high school programs and our professional technical programs, assisting students with transition from the community college to higher education, and training and retraining the existing workforce. To participate in this effort, the college will need the help of the entire community.

Linn-Benton community College is meeting these challenges while at the same time:

- enrollments are at the highest level in the history of the college;
- nearly one-third of all the high school graduates in Linn and Benton counties are enrolling at LBCC each year;
- the needs of the unemployed and the underemployed are growing; and
- the current workforce requires more training than at any time in the history of our nation.

Oregon has an opportunity to be competitive and to ensure that our children will have options. The Oregon Progress Board has set some achievable benchmarks for our state. The Workforce Quality Council, which is driven by business, has a plan to organize workforce training by region with less duplication, and the 21st Century Schools Act was enacted by the legislature.

All of these combine to provide a unprecedented opportunity for education and training in Oregon. The challenge is to capitalize on this opportunity at the same time we are dealing with the budget crises.

When industry retools a manufacturing plant, they invest millions of dollars in capital improvements and training so as to be more competitive and efficient. Yet it seems we expect education to re-tool, retrain, become more efficient, and be competitive with fewer resources. The investment we as a state must make is a human investment. We must think carefully about whether short-term reactions to the budget problems, through decreasing the investment in our schools, teachers, students, and future workforce, is really in the best interest of Oregonians.

The future success of this state lies in a healthy economy and a trained workforce. The two to hand-in-hand. We will not achieve one without the other. I know my colleagues in our local schools and higher education are committed to doing their part in education to prepare the next generation. It will take unique cooperation with our local communities, business, and industry. We cannot fulfill all of your needs until the state decides on an equitable and fair approach to fund and invest in the future of this state.

Psycho anyone?

Welcome to another exciting, sweat-drenched, adrenaline-filled term of the Poets' Corner. I'm your host, Chuck Skinner, and I'll be guiding you through issues that matter to you and affect your life. Honest.

This week, I'll be doing accolades to Hollywood for their honoring 'The Year of the Woman' in film—a celluloid tribute to half of the human race. To this effect, I'll be providing a retrospect of the films that most embody women in film for 1992.

poet's
corner
chuck skinner

First, a little sleeper starring Drew Barrymore (from the great thespian family that begat great acting talent including Ethel Merman, Erm, Ethel Barrymore. And probably Richard Burton.) called 'Poison Ivy'. This movie is about a poor girl who, through no fault of her own, has misplaced her family. Luckily, her best friend has one she can borrow. The pleasant, unassuming girl then becomes a raging psycho who wants to kill her friend, so as to take her place in the nice, Norman Rockwell family.

No less a cinematic work of art, the suspense thriller 'The Hand That Rocks the Cradle' stars Rebecca DeMornay as a pleasant unassuming nanny who becomes a blessing to a normal, Rockwell family. Then she becomes a raging psycho who wants to kill the mother, so as to take her place in a sort of Oedipal themed plot twist.

And in 'SWF' (Single White Female) starring Jennifer Jason Leigh and Briget Fonda (Not to be missed as a shoot 'em up kinda gal in 'Point of No Return'), we see the story of a poor girl with no place to stay who finds a new friend with an apartment they can share. Then she becomes a ragin psycho who wants to kill her roomie, so as to take her place in a lovely, idyllic Rockwell life with a cute boyfriend.

Now, in Sharon Stone's 'Basic Instinct' (And Madonna's mirror-image 'Bodies of Evidence') we lose the concept of two women, and the air of innocence. Matter of fact, we toss that innocence puppy right out the window. Splat. The idea of the story is a woman accused of killing a lover using sex, who becomes involved with, and ultimately ends up sleeping with one of the men investigating the crime. You could call it conflict of interest. Or you could just call it brain-eating hormones. Either way, for Sharon Stone you could call it major career enhancement.

'Bodies of Evidence' adds little to Stone's movie, except the line 'You ever seen animals making love, Frank?' Right up there with 'We'll always have Paris,' and 'Love means never having to say you're sorry.'

And as a late entry (Too late for the Oscars I'm afraid), 'The Temp' with Lara Flynn Boyle (Yeah, from Wayne's World). Continues the theme of one woman and one man, this film is about a temporary secretary who becomes indispensable to her boss, and then starts killing off competitors in an attempt to help him get ahead, and make him a paranoid psycho.

That covers our review of last year's plum roles for women, but as a preview for this year: A sneak review of 'The Crush' starring unknown Alicia Silverstone and Cary Elwes (Westley from 'Princess Bride' and the pilot with a grudge in 'HotShots'). In sort of a reversal on 'My Love (Never Gonna Get It)' this story is about a young woman who decides My Love (Really Gonna Get It) when she falls for a journalist.

You'd almost think that some of these Hollywood writers/directors/producers were afraid of women. . . . Naaaah. Anyhoo. To wrap things up for this week, I just want to close with a quote from Plato.

"You've come a long way, baby."

The Commuter is the weekly student-managed newspaper for Linn-Benton Community College, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty or Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them. Readers are encouraged to use The Commuter Opinion Page to express their views on campus or community matters.

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the
commuter

local news

Zoology club explores desert and ocean ecosystems

By Tricia Lafrance
Of The Commuter

Over spring break, a group of students headed off to the sunshine and sand of Arizona and Mexico.

They returned last week with sun-bronzed skin and memories of great times.

And two college credits.

All the students were from OSU, but they could have been from LBCC. Sponsored by the OSU Zoology Club, such trips are open to interested LBCC students and others.

The purpose of the spring trip was to introduce students to field biology, giving them an opportunity to observe wildlife in its natural habitat, said Dr. Sylvia Yamada, an assistant professor and head advisor for the zoology club at OSU.

It all started at 7 a.m. on Saturday, March 20 when 26 undergraduate and graduate students packed three vans outside Cordley Hall. They took turns driving until they reached CEDO, a marine station in Puerto Penasco, Mexico, which is on the upper tip of the Gulf of California.

The Centro Intercultural De Estudios De Desiertos Y Océanos (CEDO), an intercultural center for the study of deserts and oceans, sits at the point where the Sonoran desert meets the Pacific Ocean. CEDO is a non-profit organization with U.S. and Mexican sponsors, built on the beach and copied after a modern Greek villa with a courtyard in the middle.

For two days, students soaked in the sunshine, the cultural aspects of a different country and inspected a rocky intertidal zone, where they discovered sergeant major fish, an octopus, sea cucumbers, anemones, mussels and coral.

On Tuesday, the group drove to Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, a natural preserve in southern Arizona that contains almost all the organ pipe cactus in the United States. The desert was alive with color from red cardinals, blue lupines, pink owl clover, gold poppies and the violet and red blooms of the cholla cactus.

Within the miles of dry desert was an oasis called Quito Baquito, which was a natural spring that had been dug out by settlers to create a small pond, explained Yamada. A subspecies of blue 3-inch desert pupfish, which are found no where else in the



Rick Boyer, co-director of CEDO, and a group of students examine marine life on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico.

world, were out feeding in the pond, doing their mating displays and darting about defending their territory, she said.

Then two rattlesnakes crawled out from underneath bushes and everyone started snapping photographs. "We were within three feet of these rattlesnakes and they were not aggressive at all," said Jason Podrabsky, an OSU senior majoring in marine biology. "One was a Western diamond-back and the other a Mohave rattlesnake."

"I've seen rattlesnakes at work," said Marci Kari, an OSU senior in marine ecology who works for a snake breeder in Corvallis. "But I'd never seen one out in the wild!"

Another day students hiked a canyon in the Ajo mountains, the highest range in the area, up to the base of some natural arches. For about an hour-and-a-half, they climbed over steep red, tan and yellow rock to the top of the canyon—about 2,000 feet. "It was beautiful looking over the edge," Kari said. "It was the highlight of my trip. We could see miles of green vegetation dotted with giant saguaro cactus and no people and houses."

"From that height, it looked like a deep shag carpet with green toothpicks," Podrabsky added.

On the way home to Corvallis, the group stopped at Joshua Tree National Monument in the Mohave desert to see the spiky, sharp edged Joshua Tree Cactus and the strange rock formations there. "It looked like some giant piled up a bunch of pebbles, They're huge rounded rocks stacked in mountainous piles," Podrabsky said. "And they got formed in that way from wind erosion."

The last stop was to Monterey Bay Aquarium, which has aquariums that are three stories tall full of all kinds of fish. The most notable thing there was a fantastic jellyfish display, which contains jellyfish that have been selected for their beauty from all over the world, Yamada said.

Each year the OSU Zoology Club sponsors three major field trips, side trips around Oregon, such an excursion to the Primate Center in Beaverton, plus monthly speakers. The trips and talks are open to LB students interested in wildlife education.

The zoology club receives a \$4,000 endowment for annual field trips, which helps keep the cost for students to a minimum. The spring break trip to Arizona with field trips to the Ajo mountains, a desert lagoon, the Gulf of California and the Monterey Bay Aquarium cost each student \$150.

"We'd like to get more people involved in the world around them," said Wes Safford, an OSU senior who plans to create a brochure about the zoology club for high school and community college students who may be interested in studying zoology at OSU.

"We'd all like to help educate the human part of the world around us to the rest of it and help them realize how fun and neat the rest of the world is. There's mankind—but look at all these other species that share our environment with us. We need to be appreciative of what's out there, before we lose it."

The club's final field trip of the year is to Mount St. Helens over Memorial Day Weekend, May 28-31. It will be a camping trip to tour the devastation and regeneration of plant life. The estimated cost is \$35.

For information about science scholarships, speakers and field trips, check the zoology club bulletin board in Cordley Hall or call OSU Zoology Department at 737-3705.

news briefs

Valley Writer's Series

LBCC's sixth Valley Writer's Series begins this Friday with WOSC English professor Joseph Soldati reading from his poetry from 12-1pm in the

College Center Boardrooms. On Saturday, April 10, he will conduct a poetry writing workshop. Soldati serves as associate poetry editor for the nationally acclaimed "Calapooya Collage" and has published poems in a variety

of magazines and journals. "Making My Name" is his first book of poetry. The series continues through April and May with five additional readings by local writers, a fiction writing workshop and the traditional open mike readings from aspiring writers.

Honor Society nominations

Phi Theta Kappa is now accepting nominations for all offices. The deadline is Tuesday, April 20 until 5 p.m. An election forum for speeches by the candidates is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21. Elections will be held Wednesday-Friday, April 28-30.

OSU Representative

A representative from the Oregon State University will be in the Commons Lobby on Wednesday, April 14, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. to talk with students interested in a college program.

Seminar on the easier life

The Business Technology Department is holding a one-day seminar, "Making Your Life Easier - Now!" on Saturday, April 17. The registration fee is \$25, which includes lunch, materials and one college credit. The fee for classified staff is \$20, and Business Technology students may register for \$10. The deadline for paid registration is April 12. For more information, call 967-6505, during regular business hours.

Dean of students receives award from national council for leadership

By Nikki Degerstrom
Of The Commuter

Dr. Ann Smart, dean of Student Services and Extended Learning, is to receive the Regional Leadership Award from the National Council on Community Services and Continuing Education.

The council selected Smart "because of her leadership and contributions to the profession of continuing education/community services."

Smart will be honored at a Leadership Awards Breakfast in Portland later this month during the American Association of Community Colleges convention. Smart has a bachelor's degree from Ball State College in Indiana and a master's degree and doctorate from Oregon State University. She has been working at LBCC since 1975.

In 1987, she was named Adult Educator of the Year by the Northwest Adult Education Association and was selected by the League for Innovation in Community Colleges for their "Leaders of the 80s" project.

Smart developed the Parent Education Program at LBCC and has been a director of the Albany and Benton centers, as well as director of Community Education for Linn and Benton counties.

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campus news

LB-OSU combine forces for engineering competition

LB welding students bridge the gap in intercollegiate engineering and design competition

Dave Bishop
Of The Commuter

Collegiate engineering students from throughout the Northwest converged on Walla Walla, Wa., this week for the American Society of Civil Engineer (ASCE) Bridge Building competition.

The OSU contingent is packing an additional element of expertise this year—the LBCC Welding Department.

The competition tests bridge design, construction, strength and weight, in addition to the aesthetic appeal of each entry. Awards are given in each area.

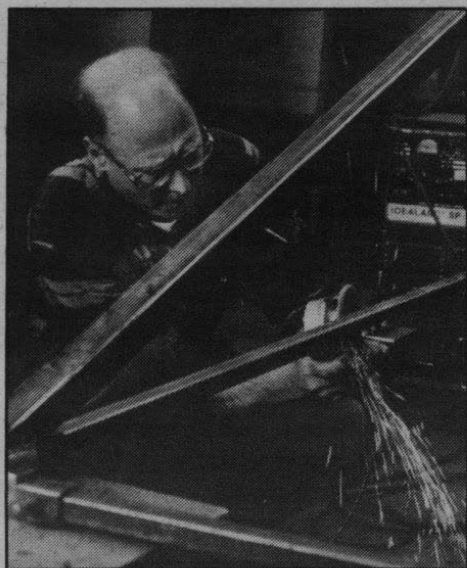


Photo by Jack Josewski

OSU Civil Engineering student Karl Birky welds a bridge in the LB lab.

Engineering student Karl Birky, a veteran of last year's competition, who heads up the OSU team. "Working here at LB has proven beneficial beyond just the bridge construction," he said. "For engineers to understand that fabricators know a tremendous amount about steel and how it goes together is a lesson not usually taught in the classroom. Designs developed in the office may not be formulated with a complete understanding of the properties of steel."

The benefits of this year's collaborative effort aren't confined to engineering students. "If welders can think about what the engineer is trying to do, and if the welder has been exposed to the various aspects of engineering, simple, costly mistakes can be avoided," said Birky.

First-year LB welding student

Lawrence Pickens has taken an active role in the fabrication of the project. "I've really enjoyed this experience," said Pickens.

"Lawrence's craftsmanship is superb. His comment is 'Hey, I don't want that bridge to fail because of one of my welds.' The level of student ownership of the project, both LB and OSU, is tremendous," remarked Birky.

The OSU team is advised by Dr. Tom Miller and received financial support for materials this year from CH2M Hill of Corvallis, and OBEC of Eugene. "We, as students, have the ability to make this bridge. Without the guidance of Dr. Miller and the financial support of CH2M-Hill and OBEC we wouldn't be in the competition," acknowledged Birky.

"It's a simple, clean design. All the calculated strengths are there. It isn't going to fail."

Joining Birky on the team is design team leader Paul Larsen and fabrication team leader Pat Barr. Joe McCormick coordinates the public relations team for the project.

This is the second year OSU has competed and Birky is hoping for a happy ending this time.

"Last year we finished building our bridge. We then began to place the weights on it to prove its strength. We had about 1800 pounds on it, and as I was turning to get more weights, behind me I heard 'ka-thud.' Our bridge had failed."

Education didn't stop with the de-

mise of the bridge. "I learned more in those two seconds than I've learned in some courses," admitted Birky. The team had decided not to use some structural members in an effort to save construction time. "We needed them," acknowledged Birky.

The team contends that last year's failure will lead to this year's success.

"Last year's bridge weighed about 300 pounds, this year's will go about 160. Last year we used about 120 bolts, this bridge doesn't have bolts—everything is slip-pins. Last year it took six of us 16 minutes to construct the bridge. This year four of us should be able to get it done in under 10 minutes. It's a simple, clean design. All the calculated strengths are there. It isn't going to fail," said Birky.

Birky said that working with LBCC students and faculty has provided an "irreplaceable dimension to everyone's learning process. We've all profited immensely from the interaction."

LB Welding Instructor John Alvin, a supporter of the LB-OSU project, offered a larger perspective on the benefits of this year's collaborative effort.

"Unfortunately, most engineering students neither get the opportunity to get hands-on experience, nor the opportunity to work with fabricators. This experience allows them to share the experience of tradesmen, ultimately leading to a minimum of design changes during the course of a project. This creates a win-win situation for all parties involved."

"It's unfortunate that our foreign competition learned this concept some time ago. American industry is now having to deal with the consequences."

Campus buildings shake and rattle during Spring-quake '93

By Sharon Nigh Adams
Of The Commuter

The "springbreak" quake that shook many Oregonians awake at 5:34 a.m. on March 25 did not cause any structural damage to the LBCC campus.

Dave Wienecke, director of facilities, said the only known result of the quake was that some pre-existing superficial cracks in the concrete facings of some campus buildings were extended slightly by the earthquake.

The "sweep team" of LBCC maintenance personnel who went over the campus the day of the quake found no new cracks or other structural damage.

Only two people—a security officer and a cook—were on campus when the March 25 quake hit.

They reported hearing strange sounds like air blowing through pipes. The cook went back to cooking, but the security guard realized that an earthquake had struck and immediately called in the emergency sweep team to check for damages.

At the time the campus was designed and built in the early 1970s, earthquakes were not a major concern. However, the architect and engineer who designed and built the campus exceeded the existing building codes, resulting in campus structures that are much stronger than they were required to be. Wienecke said they should be able to withstand an earthquake of

up to 6.5 on the Richter scale.

The concrete the campus is built with consists of waffle-slab reinforcement, which is much stronger than a flat design. Each concrete beam holding up a floor has double reinforcement.

Wienecke, along with the student government, the Safety Committee, Security Services and the President's Council, finished putting together emergency evacuation plans last year. Every quarter the criteria calls for an evacuation drill. Each building section has emergency coordinators who are in charge of evacuating that particular area.

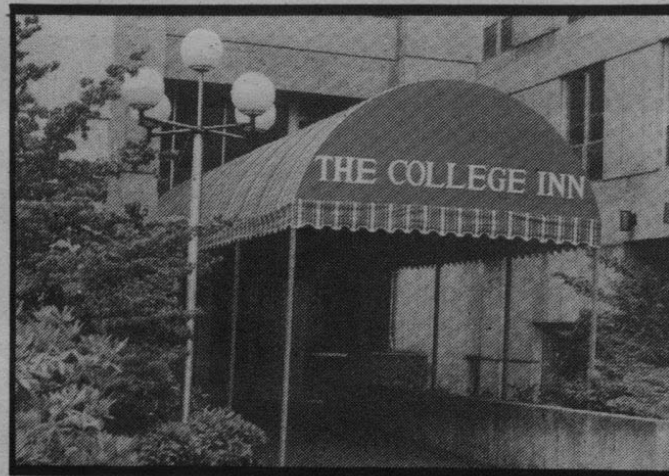
Three characteristics are used to determine earthquake vulnerability—geological proximity to a fault, type of soil, and population density. According to these factors, LBCC is in a moderate risk zone. By comparison, San Francisco and the Puget Sound area are in high risk zones.

In case another earthquake rocks the campus, students are advised by security personnel to remember the No. 1 rule: remain calm. If you are indoors, take cover under a desk or table or in a doorway. Evacuate the building only after the quake stops. If outdoors, move away from buildings, power lines and trees—protect your head. Do not re-enter buildings until the Emergency Services team has certified that the buildings are safe.

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arts & entertainment

Alternative fuzz and killer feedback do not a good band make

By Cory Frye
Of The Commuter

It's okay if you think Green Jello sucks.

No one will think worse of you if "Three Little Pigs" makes your teeth cringe every time some AOR-happy DJ spins it into the fibers of your brain, where the catchy ditty will be lodged forever and ever and ever. None of that matters because, as they chant on their anthem "The Green Jello Theme," they think they suck, too.

So I don't feel so bad now; in fact, I feel ecstatic that I can report that, yeah, Green Jello's "Cereal Killer Soundtrack" sucks and sucks bad enough to make you laugh out loud.

But it's a good kind of suck; you won't find it up in the cosmic reaches of suckosity with REM, Andy Gibb and Bread. These guys want to suck and by God, they pull it off like it's a life-long dream.

Apparently, they once had the notoriety of being strictly a video band; "Cereal Killer" was a compilation video series until the popularity of "Three Little Pigs" inspired them to release the soundtrack as a separate album.

Unfortunately, without the benefit of sight the meaning and irony of the lyrics are lost under inane growling and fuzzy feedback.

To describe their sound is simple: Megadeth plus

They Might Be Giants with a little bit of Metallica and old Deep Purple thrown in for good measure. Sound good? No? Oh, well. It sounded okay to me—a little bizarre at first but my ears got used to it around Side Two.

The album opens with "Obey the Cowgod"—yeah, okay. Use your imagination or hear the song for yourself. I'm not here to guide you through this mess. Leave me alone.

After they command the listener to consume his milk ("...for it is my blood."), a smattering of fingerboards drowns out the Cowgods and replaces them with the time-honored child's tale of "Three Little Pigs," made accessible for modern bloodthirsty urchins with a twist: Rambo blasting the wolf to cutlets in a manic, screaming, drum solo bloodbath.

The little piggies in this version are not the architects of the simple folk tale; one's a hick rock star, another's a sensimilla-smoking beach rastafarian and the third little pig is the son of a famous rock musician (Pig Nugent), and a Harvard man with a degree in architecture.

With the distance of the homes in the ditty, the Big Bad Wolf has to ride a Harley through the Mailbu-Los Angeles area to make good time on his huffing and puffing.

From there, it's all downhill into some pretty gross (albeit pioneering) territory.

The only song worthy of note is a tongue-in-cheek rendition of the Sex Pistols' classic "Anarchy in the U.K.," replacing the British locale with more familiar surroundings: Fred Flintstone and the town of Bedrock.

The stone-age sex machine rampages through the city, destroying Mr. Slate, the Upside Down Bubble Rubble Cake, his pal Barney and Wilma and Betty. It's a happy cartoon rendition, enough to distill the anger and fusion that went into John Lydon's original punk anthem.

Side Two welcomes a lot of fuzz, having already killed the fun on side one simply by getting old. Green Jello muddles through three numbers before settling back into familiar territory on "House Me Teenage Rave," where they wax poetic about touching and whipping each other, over a 1970s disco beat.

It's kinda cool, but the rest of the album is poo-poo—literally (especially in the Batman parody "The Misadventures of S-tman." Yuck!)

Overall, "Cereal Killer Soundtrack" is like a defective jelly doughnut: you buy it, it looks nice and big, but when you chomp into its innards you come up with a pocket of air. Aside from some killer cover art depicting all the heroes of the album (and some really neat-o trading cards that'll be all the rage on the alternative scene), "Cereal Killer" will be on the \$3.99 rack before July.

review

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Community Chorale are from 7:30 p.m.
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Sponsored by the LBCC Performing
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Jane Donovan, 928-2361, ext 216.

Rice paper collages

Rice paper collages by Marjorie
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sports

Baseball squad ready for action

By Joel Slaughter
Of The Commuter

Rained out several times already, Linn-Benton's baseball team finally got suited up for their league opener yesterday versus Clackamas.

"I'm looking for better weather," tenth-year Linn-Benton head coach Greg Hawk said. "We need some time on the field."

Four starters return to the Linn-Benton baseball squad in 1993. Scott Hardin, shortstop; Todd Morehead, outfielder; Scott Anderson, first base; and John Downing, catcher, all are back.

On the mound, sophomore hurlers Phil Lyman, Ben Lofton, Mark Anderson, Jeremy Beard, Bill Pennick, and Brad Livsey give the Roadrunners some needed depth. A pair of freshmen pitchers, Jeff Tuck and Eric Schaffner, also look to contribute.

Other newcomers include outfielders Darin Piburn and Carlos Williams, third baseman Joel Kercado, infielder Jose' Cepeda, infielder Kevin Holland, catcher Ben Graves, and first baseman Doug McCauley.

The key, according to Hawk, will be Linn-Benton's pitching. "I think we'll have a good year if our pitching comes around," he said. "We don't have a lot of pitchers with experience. Our pitching has to come along with our offense and defense to make us really solid."

Mount Hood, last year's Southern Division champions, is a favorite this season. Chemeketa is currently 8-3 and Hawk called Clackamas "much improved."

"I think it's going to be a four-team scramble," he said. "I think it will come down to who stays hot and consistent."

Overall, Hawk is very optimistic about LB's outlook in 1993.

"We have sophomore leaders, strong pitching capabilities, tough fundamental defense, and the right kind of chemistry to make it work," he said. "We've been to the top, and we know what it's about. I think we have a team that can get the job done."

Roadrunners gear up for only home meet

By Joel Slaughter
Of The Commuter

Linn-Benton finally got its track resurfaced, but because it hasn't been painted yet, the Roadrunners won't be competing at home this weekend when they host Blue Mountain and Lane at West Albany High School.

"It's obviously better than we had, so we're optimistic," Linn-Benton fourth-year head coach Brad Carman said of the improved track surface. "We still have only one home meet the entire season. That may change now with the new track, but there's really so many big invitationals at four-year schools that there's not a lot of reason for us to hold a lot of small meets."

On the mens side, six competitors return for the Roadrunners. Matt Frketich is currently injured, but will compete in the pole vault; Craig Rilee will throw the hammer; Dean Barley will throw the hammer, discus, and shot put; Josh Bjornstedt will throw the javelin; Cliff Nimz will run the hurdles; and Russ Cox will run the middle distances.

Newcomers include: Scott Radetich in the hurdles and the high jump, Scott McKinley in the discus and the hammer, Curtis Chilcote in throwing events, Craig Swanson in middle distances and the steeplechase, and Russ Moline and Eric Pyles in long distances.

"For the men, I think our vertical jumps are strong," Carman said. "Our throws are going to score us a lot of points. All four of our throwers are among the best in the league, especially in the hammer. And our hurdles will be tough. Middle distances will be middle-of-the-road since there's a pretty strong league this year. And the weaknesses, obviously, are that our

sprints and our long triple jump is nonexistent.

"I would see our mens team as being a better big meet team this year because we've had people who are capable of going to a big meet and scoring very high. So, with that in mind, we'll do



Cliff Nimz practices the hurdles in preparation for this weekend's home meet at West Albany High School.

better in the championships as long as those people are healthy and jumping or running to their capabilities."

Leading the LB women is a trio of returners. Kay Magee will compete in the high jump, javelin, and has qualified in the heptathlon for the multi-event championships; Nikki Edgar will compete in the sprints, hurdles, long jump, triple jump, and has also qualified in the heptathlon; and Melanie Grant will run middle distances.

New additions are Chelsea Gardner in the sprints, Jill Paxton in middle

distances, and Carolyn Collis and Julie Marvin both in long distances.

"For the women, the sophomores, Nikki, Kay, and Melanie, are all strong," Carman said. "They all scored at the Northwests last year, so the leadership there is excellent. Chelsea has been doing a nice job in the 100 and 200. And Jill and Carolyn are pretty inexperienced in the distance runs, but as they improve, we get stronger and hopefully we'll score some points in those areas as well."

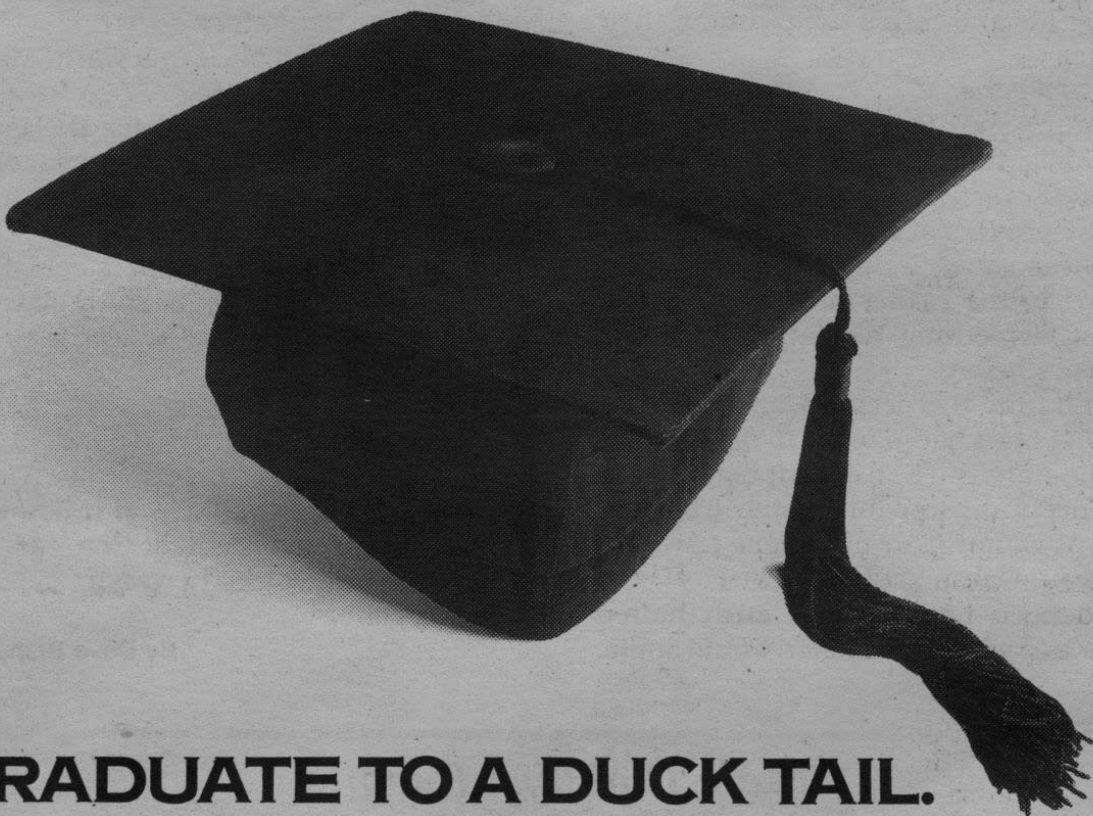
"Again we're a small team and so we're going to look for big points in the championships. Melanie and Kay and Nikki have all been there before and so if they continue to improve at the rate they are, then we'll be in good shape and we'll fit the other girls into areas where they can score."

According to Carman, Linn-Benton's toughest competition this season will come in Clackamas, Mount Hood, and Clark.

"For the men and women, it's going to be Clackamas," he said. "They just have so many bodies that it's hard for our little team to score enough points. Even if we win every event, they're still going to get more points than us for second, third, and fourth."

The Roadrunner men and women are aiming towards improving on their respective eighth and tenth place team finishes at the Northwest Championships last year.

"Like always, we want to have people do as well as possible at the end of the year and in the championship meets," Carman explained. "As far as goals, obviously the top five in the Northwest is always my goal. We have a reasonable shot at that if things fall into place."



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Embers

When he finally got home, the house was dark, save for the light over the kitchen sink and the soft glow of the wood stove's embers.

Well banked, the embers slowly parceled out their measure of heat against the chill of the February night. His wife had carefully set both the breakfast table and the coffee pot's automatic timer.

Everything seemed ready, but not for what he knew was to come.

Everyone else had left the emergency room early, convinced that this time would be no different than the others. He'd stayed because that is what he's always done. Stayed.

He'd sat there, holding her hand as she sweat, rasped, vomited and tried to lose herself to the demons of the night.

Once inside the house and free of his coat, he added a handful of kindling and opened the vent. He heard the muted, reassuring crackle of flame.

He didn't feel the heat on his face; he was having to much difficulty with the chill in his heart.

He couldn't bring himself to awaken his wife. Drained, hurt and angry, she'd left the hospital six hours ago. There would more than enough time for her tears after she'd rested.

The morning would be soon enough to start her life anew, this time without their daughter.

She was gone.

This time she'd gotten her wish.

The pills had worked, in spite of the doctors efforts, the stomach pump and the hopeless prayers of a shattered father.

She was gone.

He sat in the rocker next to the stove, recalling something his father had said forty years before.

"Numb from the neck up."

The old man had used it to describe an alcoholic state, but that description seemed pretty accurate tonight. Numb from the neck up. Damn glad of it right now too, thank you. Damn glad.

She'd been one of those curly-haired little girls at whom strangers would smile.

They'd smile, stoop down to speak to her, and be captivated by green, twinkling eyes.

No one escaped those eyes. They were people magnets — irresistibly expressive and alive.

Three hours ago, those same green eyes had momentarily opened, then slowly closed one final time.

They weren't magnets now. They weren't expressive. The load of narcotics she'd taken had constricted the pupils and glazed the stare.

Her eyes were

still, and for a moment, fixed on him. He squeezed her hand tightly and lied.

"Daddy's here Sweetie, just relax. It's going to be ok," he whispered.

He wasn't a fool. He knew this time was different. He watched as her final wish came true.

He'd stared deeply into her eyes. He saw past the emergency room, past the tubes, needles and blinking machines. His gaze moved past the arguments, the tears and the cold silences which had punctuated their days together.

He clearly remembered her tiny hands exploring his face, her loud, slobbery kisses and the undiluted love shared by this daddy and this daughter.

His stare traveled back to a warm May evening, sixteen years ago.

As her eyes slowly closed for the last time, he remembered her soft, four year old voice saying, "Sing me the doggie song Daddy."

Now, back home, as the embers held the early morning's chill at bay, he softly played his guitar and whispered the words to a little girl's favorite song.

"I knew a man, Bojangles,

and he'd dance for you,

in worn out shoes."

She'd taken her own life, and unknowingly, she had stolen the light from his.

This time she'd gotten her wish.

She was gone.

Illustration by Mike Brendle

The Deciduous Dream

All men guided by one light,
bullets fly, by candlelight
protesting streams never cease!
Each child born a wild beast.
Where no men. Among men will live.
A hidden bliss conquered before alive.
Purgatories gates closed, Die.
No wings to fly to the new birth.

Inside!!
Slowly your programmed mind dies.
your sleepy religion is your only—
flight!
Laughter is harmonizing in sync,
above the gates of the wondering minds.
Above the gate!!
In which we speak. . .so crazed to Think!!
If in all the mid-night rage, One
question could give it all—All
away in one brave breath to say. . .

"Do you who sets on the other side of the world
see this very same Moon, as I myself see at the
same midnight?"

"Does this same Sun warm your back, as equally
as it does mine?"

"Is your Religious text filled with more of who is Damned,
so to speak, or does the bulk of this text speak more of
those things we choose not to go into, such as the obvious
Truth!!

Words of true strength, too weak to put into action. . .
Kindness, Forgiveness, Loving enough not to proclaim
your—
self judge of all those who roam the earth?"

For today, understand this—
is not a foreign land, but
a place right before your face.
your centered universe,
which is obviously, where ever you are.

deciduous '93, Forest Rain

Old Yellow Eyes

Stars stood against the darkened sky
As the short cut caught his eye.
His parents said to be home by ten
And not to be late again.
Hanging out with his friends felt pretty nifty
He had thought it fun to roam
By now he was six blocks from home.
he promised his mom that he would never lie.
But to keep his work he would have
To chance encountering Old Yellow Eyes.
A huge stray Labrador that had roamed
The neighborhood since the month before.
Many nights the lad had lain in bed
With his head resting upon his pillow,
fearing the beast with the eyes of yellow.
the monster had claimed as his domain
Second street to Maine.
He would eat from a garbage can
And boldly back up the dog-catching man.
And growl deeply at an outstretched hand.

The boy left his friends to walk alone
Along the shortcut toward home.
As he slipped through the broken boards
Of the fenced behind the little shop of toys
He was accosted by two neighborhood bully boys.
they tripped him and shoved him to the ground.
Against his wishes he shed a tear.
They thought it funny, until they
Heard a loud low growl from the darkness near.

Two eyes of yellow scared the heck
Out of those two fellows.
As they make their escape,
The beast gave chase.
But soon returning to lie beside
the boy who cried gently
Licking the tear-stained face.
Throwing his arm around the fur,
He stroked the softened fur, as the thought occurred.
Well, once he made it home
He would make his apology.
And he could well imagine the look
On his parents' faces when he said,
"Oh. . .look who followed me."

By Wayne Gray

More Than Just Rabbits

Easter is more than just rabbits laying hard boiled colored chicken eggs. And eggs are more than fertility symbols.

In this season of rebirth, it would be well if we would remember that this is really the celebration of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the only man in history who rose from the dead by the power of His own resurrection.

One of the most important aspects of the resurrection is that it gives those of us who believe in Jesus the hope of eternal life with Him.

by Sherman Lee Pompey