

The Commuter

A Weekly Student Publication

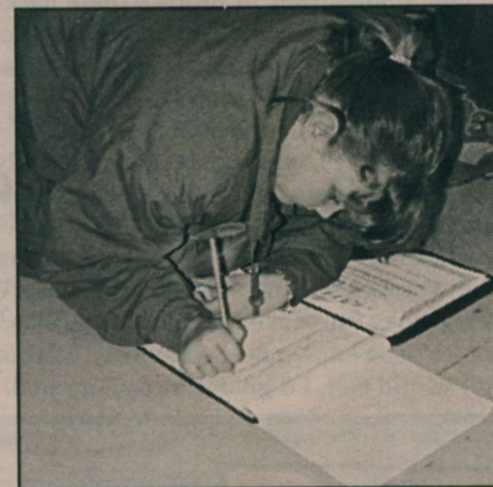
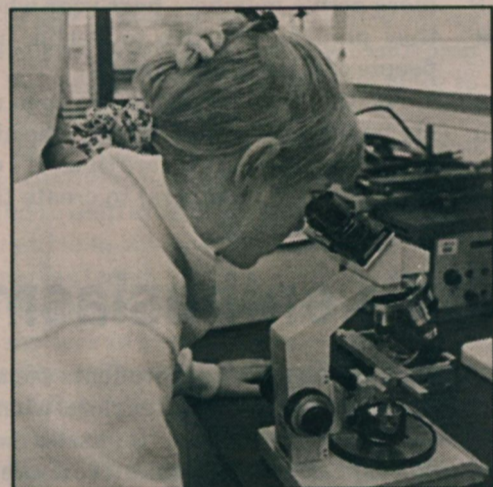
Wednesday, May 3, 1995

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 26 No. 22



Photos by Amy Radie



Daughters' Discovery Day

Twenty-eight daughters of LBCC employees and students joined their parents as part of the third national "Take Our Daughters to Work Day" last Thursday. The day was founded by the Ms. Foundation for Women and is intended to introduce girls between the ages of 8 and 18 to career opportunities. LBCC sponsors focused on non-traditional career opportunities by giving the girls a tour of the auto, diesel, and wastewater management programs. One daughter is shown here examining water specimens through a microscope. This is the first year LBCC has had any kind of organized recognition of the day, thanks to Pete Bober, assistant to the dean of Business Technology /Health Occupations. Bober brought his daughter to work last year, but "didn't know what to do with her all day," according to Virginia Moskus, one of the organizers of this year's event. He called the president of the Association of Women in Community Colleges, who helped put this year's event together in cooperation with the LBCC Gender Equity Commission, the Women's Center, and Student Programs.

"I think it's cool that even women can work on cars and refrigerators and stuff."

Mollie Peterson (at left)
Third grader, Tangent Elementary

New phones suffer from installation hang-ups

by Marie Oliver
of The Commuter

All campus offices got new phones on their desks on Monday.

Some worked, some didn't.

Ten technicians from United Communications and three LBCC staffers worked around the clock last weekend to install an entirely new digital phone system designed to make the campus more accessible and user-friendly.

But the transition had a few bugs to be worked out Monday and Tuesday.

Although the old campus numbers were supposed to be in effect along with the new ones, callers to the campus Monday were unable to get through.

Ann Woods, LBCC's director of Computer and Communications Services, blamed the static start on U.S. West, which she said "did not do their job."

By Tuesday, incoming calls to the campus were back on line.

But on-campus calls were still having problems as late as Tuesday afternoon. Several office phones—including those in The Commuter office—

"More are working than are not. We're getting to problems as we can."

—Ann Woods

were not functioning. Even those phones that work have new four-digit extensions, so college staffers have to learn new numbers for old offices.

"I think it's going to go fine," said communications specialist Jo Alvin, who operates the switchboard. "It's just learning a new system—working from a PC, which makes it different."

Installed over the weekend were 63 department numbers, 478 individual phone lines, 21 fax lines, 105 modem lines, and 120 direct lines.

Anyone experiencing problems or wishing to attend training should contact Gail Wise at extension 4353.

"We're trying to be sure they're all working the way they're supposed to be—trying to find the problems," Woods said Monday afternoon. "More are working than are not. We're getting to problems as we can."

The new main number is 917-4999.

'Heartland' T-shirt sales raise more than \$3,500

by Paul Turner
of The Commuter

Sarah Roome of Family Ties and Experteers was overwhelmed by the success of her "Our Hearts to the Heartland" T-shirt fund raiser. The total amount of money raised for the people of Oklahoma City was over \$3,500.

Last week her Albany and Corvallis T-shirt shops printed and sold over 700 shirts with all proceeds going to the Red Cross for the victims of the Oklahoma bombing.

"It was a very pleasant response. We were very encouraged by how much everybody wanted to be involved," Roome said, sounding somewhat exhausted.

She had high praise for all those who donated money and

shirts to the project.

"The employees were wonderful," she added warmly.

The donations are still coming in. Just today she opened a letter that contained a check for \$150.

Contributions came from all over the state. Coastal Farm Supply donated 100 shirts last week. Cal Com donated the ink and Gary at Country Companies Insurance Groups was "energetic in doing leg work for donations," Roome said.

Donations came from as far away as Portland's Wellington House.

Due to the response Roome is planning one more press-run of the shirts this week on Thursday and Friday.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



✓ **A Matter of Commitment**
LBCC student Michelle O'Connor devotes her life to helping teens in trouble
Page 3

✓ **A Linn-Benton Tradition**
After a quarter century teaching sociology, Max Lieberman's still going strong
Page 2

✓ **The Going Gets Rough**
The Roadrunners manage to stay above .500 as the season passes mid-way point
Page 5

CAMPUS NEWS



Photo by Amy Radie

Math keeps them a float

Ryan Jameson and Eli Dart load weights onto their makeshift ark during last week's Math Awareness contest. Students were given acetate, popsicle sticks, rubber band, styrofoam cup, foil, baggie, fishing line and glue to build their boats. Jameson and Dart managed to load 84 ounces onto their craft, good enough for fourth place. Taking first were Craig Munsen and Greg White, who reached 99 ounces before sinking their ark.

LBCC's Peace Studies Club focuses on teaching conflict resolution and non-violence

by Craig Hatch
of The Commuter

The LBCC Peace Studies Club usually spends one day a week discussing matters of conflict resolution, decreasing violence, and raising money to send students overseas.

The club meets with its eight or so regular members and five or six drop-ins to mull over current world events.

The Peace Studies Club was founded in 1988 by Leon Valk, a Fulbright exchange teacher from Denmark. Valk, who traded jobs with Doug Clark for a year, was the founder of the International Peace Studies Symposium. He generated interest in the club here at LBCC, and that year the members made the first Peace Studies Club trip to Berlin to visit the symposium.

When Clark returned, he continued to work with the club and students have gone to every biennial symposium since—to Hungary in 1990, Poland in 1992, and Lithuania in 1994.

In addition, the Peace Studies Club attempts to bring some of the host country's students to see America.

"We'd like to do that for the Lithuanians who hosted us," said Seth Barry, coordinator for the Peace Studies Club. "They just don't have any opportunity to get over here. I think

seeing America would really make an impression."

The club usually doesn't have as much enthusiasm during the non-trip years.

"This year we're just trying to get the things rolling," said Barry. "If people are interested or have issues they want to explore, we're up for it."

The club plans to host several guest speakers this term so that the club is not exclusively fund raising. They also try to interact with other peace clubs as well as international organizations.

People who usually join are students who want to be in a club and this one intrigues them, or those who feel it pertains to their majors, Barry said. The latter are usually disappointed.

"We're not a stance kind of group," explained Barry. "We just explore peace issues. We're not activists. That wouldn't be appropriate for this institution."

Barry said the club will probably see more active members next year when they plan for the trip to Berlin, but people can come in anytime.

"It (the club) caused me to open up my imagination," said Barry, who had never been in a club before this. "It's up to them (club members) to create the future for the club."

A quarter century on the job fails to dim Lieberman's enthusiasm

by Alan Hawkins
of The Commuter

After 26 years of teaching at LBCC, sociology instructor Max Lieberman is still on the job and still enjoying his work.

"He is the oldest fossil on campus," joked Michael Weiss, LBCC history instructor. Actually, at 70 plus, Lieberman is second in age to Jerry Connors. He teaches sociology and family and marriage and is a favorite of many students.

"Teaching is still a challenge. The students keep me young. I plan to keep on teaching until it isn't fun anymore," said Lieberman.

Lieberman grew up in New York City and attended New York University. He tired of the crowded conditions and landed in Ohio, receiving his BS in education at Defiance College. He also attended

"I plan to keep on teaching until it isn't fun anymore."

—Max Lieberman

Miami of Ohio, Oxford, Stanford and UC Berkeley.

"I've been thrown out of the best schools in the West," said Lieberman in jest. "I wanted to be a doctor when I first started out because that was where the money was and it had prestige. When I realized I wasn't cut out for that I went into education and it grew on me like a fungus."

Being big on nostalgia and Americana, Lieberman has a standing offer to his students that he will pay half of the ticket price to a classical concert if it costs under \$20. He will also reimburse the cost of a soda at an old time soda fountain in Independence.

"There's a world in the main that students seem to miss. They need to get out and explore what society has to offer," said Lieberman. "It puzzles me that students don't speak up—they take it so docile. It is a student's obligation to protect their backside—society will bite. Maybe it's my teaching style. We like to think that we're unbiased in the classroom, but we all put a curve on it."

Lieberman's hobby is bee-keeping.

"With over 300 hives, it's a hobby that pays. My wife says that I love pain. It's impossible to work bees without getting stung," he said.

He also raises rare goldfish in an outdoor pond and said he watches Seinfeld and Frasier on TV "because they make fun of everyday life situations."

I would like to be known for my honesty. It's not something I would sell, I'd give it away," he said.

Editor Wanted!

The Commuter is looking for an editor for the 1995-96 year. Individuals interested in journalism and communications careers are encouraged to apply. Students with coursework and/or experience in journalism preferred.

Contact Rich Bergeman
Forum Rm. 108;
or stop by
The Commuter Office
CC-210 for an application.

**The Deadline
is May 5**

1995-1996 Student Programming Board

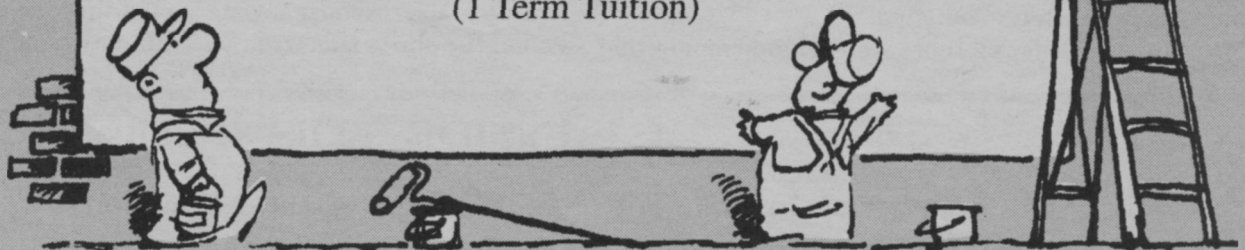
Positions Available

Series Events Specialist

(1 Term Tuition)

Health & Recreation Specialist

(1 Term Tuition)



For an application or job descriptions, contact
the Student Programs office, CC-213

CAMPUS NEWS



Photo by Carol Rich

Drive nets 78 pints

Tammi S. Paul Bryant, coordinator of Student Activities, checks out the Red Cross Blood Mobile outside the College Center last week. The twice-a-year drive netted 78 pints, just two short of the goal set by the Red Cross. The Red Cross comes to campus every fall and spring, but this is the first time the Blood Mobile has been used.

news briefs

Parenting Class Fundraiser

LBCC's Department of Family Resources will host the 18th annual "Family Fun Raiser" on Saturday, May 6, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Benton Center, 630 NW 7th St., in Corvallis. The annual event, which features a variety of interactive events, is the main fundraiser for the Parent Education Scholarship Fund.

Driver's education courses

Seven sections of Driver's Education classes will be offered this summer by LBCC. Registration begins Monday, May 15, 8 a.m., at the Albany, Corvallis and Lebanon extended learning centers. Early registration is encouraged for the \$100 course. For more information call LBCC at 967-6108.

Cinco De Mayo presentation

History instructor Micheal Weiss will offer a slide presentation of Oaxaca and the ruins of Mitla and Monte Alban as part of the Cinco De Mayo celebration, Friday, May 5, in the Alsea-Calapooia Room from 1-2 p.m. The presentation is free and open to all students, staff and the community.

Recruiting workshop

LBCC is offering a workshop, Wednesday, May 3, 8 a.m. to noon in the Boardrooms A and B in the College Center. The topic of the workshop is the changing demographic workforce and how to overcome hiring biases. The cost is \$15 and preregistration is required. To preregister, call the Training and Business Development Center at 967-6112.

LBCC student is dedicated to helping troubled teenagers learn to help themselves

by Deborah Borthwick
of The Commuter

Imagine the trauma of losing a 14-year-old daughter to the streets of Portland. That's what happened to LBCC student Michelle O'Connor about 10 years ago.

Michelle's daughter, Evelyn, had been sexually abused by her father and was unable to cope with the stress. When Michelle tried to get counseling for her daughter, she discovered there were few publicly-funded facilities set up to help teenagers. Her daughter ended up on the streets of Portland with no place to go, and was killed in a shooting.

Michelle grieved for a few years, but eventually realized that she had to do something to help kids in trouble, so in addition to her job as an executive secretary she began working in a home for teens.

That was eight years ago. Since then, Michelle has worked in shelters in Eugene, where she lives, but she discovered that it's difficult to find funds to help homeless teens. Most of the federal and state programs today are aimed at 8-12 year olds.

Michelle, along with co-worker and supervisor Catherine Amber, decided to start their own shelter in Eugene, focusing on kids aged 16-20. The new shelter, called Place of Peace, will be sponsored by various local churches as well as private funds and is non-denominational. They hope to open by May 15, Michelle said. It will be the homeless teenagers' first refuge in their escape from the streets.

Michelle and Catherine focus on not only helping teenagers, but helping them help themselves. Instead of just handing out food and giving the teenagers a place to stay, Michelle and Katherine try to prepare the teens for when they leave the home.

"What we try to do in shelters is try to give structure, reach out to them for a place of love, and to give them an alternative

to the way that they're living," said Michelle. "We want to present another way of looking at problems, to sit down and reason with them."

At Place of Peace, they plan to have group sessions in which the teenagers sit down to voice what is bothering them and help each other try to find positive solutions. They hope to give the teenagers a structured shelter with love, and help them find an alternative way of living, as well as another way to look at life's problems.

Teenagers will also be helped with fundamentals, such as decent clothes and food, Michelle added. Nice clothes are essential for job hunting, she explained, as is an address for a job application.

Her experience with helping homeless teenagers has shown Michelle that a common scenario that often pushes kids onto the streets involves so-called "latch-key kids."

Many parents who can't afford day-care decide that they don't need a sitter when their child reaches age 12.

"They may have started out as latch-key kids where there wasn't a lot of supervision, and they got in the wrong crowd and they're of the lower socio-economic level," she said. She explained that often they don't have a lot of resources to keep them occupied, such as athletic activities or a 4-H agricultural program.

She suggests youngsters join things such as Girls and Boys Club, choirs, Albany Parks and Recreation programs or the YMCA to form positive relationships.

Besides getting Place of Peace started, Michelle is taking 22 credits at LBCC and is active in religious activities and the Albany Youth Theater. What helps keep her going are calls like the one she received recently from a boy she had once helped. He called to tell her he was doing better, and to thank her.

Not only do teenagers call to thank them, Michelle said, but so do foster homes that the kids later are sent to. People who receive them into their homes often call to say "these kids are great," Michelle said.



Plan For the Future

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- ✓ Wondering what to register for Summer or Fall Term?
- ✓ Want to make certain that you are taking courses that will satisfy degree requirements?

The Counseling Department will be hosting an advising Workshop to review the AAOT requirements and help you figure out just where you stand.

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Sign up today by stopping by the Career Center, T-101!!!

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Thursday, May 11, 1995
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video review

Film-maker's unconventional flair ignites the screen in 'Ed Wood'

by Paul Turner
of The Commuter

Remember when you would build a fort when you were a kid? Remember taking a wooden pallet, a cardboard box, a couple 2x4s, and a hub cap and making a palace that rivaled anything built by Frank Lloyd Wright?

Sure, the adults wanted to know when you were going to clean up the mess and where their tools had gotten to. But you were proud. This was your fort and it was awesome. What the big people thought didn't matter.

This is how Ed Wood used to make movies. He would assemble a crew of chiropractors, transvestites, and an old actor along with cardboard tombstones and stolen rubber octopuses—then make a movie! He was awed by his creations. He was taken by the power of the images he produced.

The public thought he sucked.

This didn't even slow him down. He cared no more about what the critics said than a kid cares what you might think of his fort. He was perpetually enthusiastic. He was in love with movies. How well they were made didn't matter to him. Just like a kid's fort is an expression, his movies were a way to express himself. It didn't matter that all the pieces didn't quite fit or some of the edges were a little rough.

Just as a 12-year-old would see parallels in his or her fort with the highest structures in the world, Ed Wood saw parallels in his movies with the films of Orson Wells. Ed Wood dared to dream.

"Ed Wood" shows how unflappable Wood's enthusiasm is. When he meets Bela Lugosi for the first time he is unwavering by Lugosi's gruff manor. In no time he befriends the ancient actor and makes it his personal mission to make a movie for him.

Soon he is sitting in a sleazy producer's office being asked, "Why would Bela Lugosi do a sex-change movie?" Wood answers, "Because he's a friend of mine." Soon they are making the movie and we find that Wood will stop at nothing to make a film. He drew

people from his everyday life and some people even drew to him.

"Ed Wood" stars Johnny Depp as the celebrated B-movie director Ed Wood. Depp is perfect in making you believe you know this person and might even share his zest for film.

When Martin Landau won his Oscar for Best Supporting Actor, a few said it was a token for all his years in front of the camera.

Not so. Landau's rendition of Bela Lugosi is superb from the first scene where he's trying on a coffin to his last scene when he slips into a coffin for the last time.

Bunny Beekinridge is brought to life by Bill Murray. His dry queenish-ness is perfectly understated. While garnering the favor of a local church to finance a movie, Wood has the cast and crew baptized. Murray's answer to the pre-dip question makes the scene.

The whole affair is piloted by Tim Burton ("Nightmare Before Christmas," "Batman"). Though best known for using special effects, in "Ed Wood" he keeps it simple enough that the story is the show, not the effects. Burton's love of the bizarre suits this movie.

Consistent with Wood's enthusiasm is his indifference to the opinions of others. "Plan Nine from Outer Space," perhaps Wood's best-remembered work, was financed by a church.

It did not go unnoticed by the elders visiting the set when Wood became a little agitated, disappeared into the dressing room and came out as a woman.

Seems he had an affinity for Angora sweaters which led to his making "Glen and Glenda," the premier transvestite film.

This is a movie about making movies. Unless you share a love for film that transcends its quality, this film might go over your head.

"Ed Wood" is rated R for language more colorful than this black and white movie and conical bras not necessary on women.



Photo by James Eagan

Quirky Comedy Opens at ACT

Pat Kight (right) plays Lettice Douffet, a rebellious tour guide in "Lettice & Lovage," which also stars newcomer Stephanie Heinsenn (left) as Lotte Shoen, a civil servant drawn into Lettice's odd world. The British comedy is being performed at the Albany Civic Theatre the evenings of May 5-6 and 11-12-13 at 8:15 p.m., and on Sunday May 7 at 2:30 p.m. The play won rave reviews on Broadway in 1990, and received nominations for Tony and Outer Critics Circle awards.

Public invited to watch audition scenes performed by advanced acting students

by James Eagan
of The Commuter

The Fundamentals of Acting III class is opening its doors for a performance of "audition packages" on Wednesday, May 3 at 11 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. in the Loft Theatre, T-205.

LBCC students and staff are invited to attend. Admission is free.

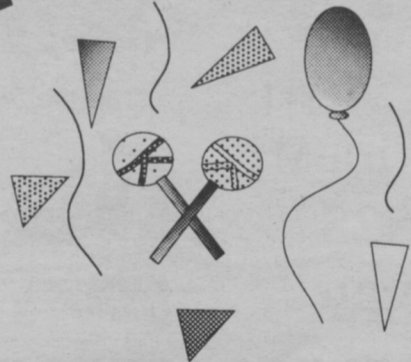
The students in the class will per-

form monologues from plays such as "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "Tracers," "Talk Radio," and "My Name is Alice." Some of the material which the Acting III class has chosen to perform includes adult themes and language, which viewers may find objectionable; viewer discretion is advised.

For more information contact George Lauris at extension 4566.

Come celebrate with us

CINCO DE MAYO



Come, join our celebration on **May 5, 1995** in the Alsea / Calapooia Room

Food, Fun and Music for all. From noon to 1 p.m.

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classifieds

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MEN AND WOMEN EARN UP TO \$480 weekly assembling circuit boards and electronic components at home. Experience unnecessary, will train. Immediate openings your local area. Call 1-602-680-4647 ext. 102c.

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FOR SALE

Yamaha 105 Electone Organ, like new. Great for teaching music. Paid \$1000 for it, asking \$400. Call 924-0435 in interested.

The Peace Studies Program is selling its annual Earth Day T-shirts from 11-1 in the courtyard. Please support PSP!

79 Audi Fox. Rebuilt engine, good body, new starter. \$550 O.B.O. Call 752-3717 for test drive. Ask for Jake.

1982 Olds Tornado. Perfect burgundy interior. All options Power Moon Roof, new parts. 130k miles, \$1400, 1-800-223-3737 ex 314.

1992 Grand Prix. Excellent cond. only 28,000 miles. Loaded, \$11,050. Mon-Fri., 8-5, ext. 845. After 5:30 p.m. and weekends 926-7752.

WANTED

LBCC Soccer Club!! Come play soccer with us! Practice times are from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Located on the soccer field behind the gym. For more information contact the Student Programs office, CC-213, or call 967-8831

SCHOLARSHIPS

1995-96 Under-Represented Minorities Achievement Scholarship program has scholarships available to college junior transfer students who meet all eligibility requirements. Deadline to apply is May 1, 1995. Applications available in Career Center, Takena Hall.

OLD COLLEGE TRY

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Hardballers win 3, but fall to SWOCC again

by Jessica Sprenger
of The Commuter

LB's baseball team opened last week with three tremendous victories but then dropped two to a team that's proving to be the Roadrunner's nemesis—SWOCC.

LB beat Chemeketa in a doubleheader last Tuesday in a pair of contrasting games, dominating the first with their bats, 14-4, and winning the second in a pitcher's duel, 1-0.

In Game 1, the Roadrunners scored five runs in the third and seven in the seventh. Joel Greene went 3-for-5 with three RBIs and a double, and Ron Hardin was 3-for-4 with a double and an RBI. Skip Marler hit 2-for-3 with three RBIs and a stolen base. With the victory, pitcher Matt Ross, improved his record to 4-0.

In Game 2, Roadrunner reliever Troy Custer came on in the last inning with one out and a runner on third and struck out the final two Chiefs to earn his third save of the season. Matt Rice was 1-for-3 with a stolen base. Starting pitcher Jason Bronson improved his record to 3-1.

On Wednesday, Linn-Benton used a three-run fourth inning and a four-run ninth to defeat Lane, 9-2. In the fourth, down two runs, LB's Greene started the action with a double to left-center field and advanced to second on a fly out. Brian Thompson then doubled to score Greene, and eventually scored himself on Jovet Kercado's two-run homer. Jim Pex followed with a double, but the next two Roadrunners grounded out to end the inning.

In the ninth, Rice started the Roadrunner rally with a single, followed by Ben Ward's double to right-center. Ricky Lowe then singled in Rice and Ward. After Miguel Garcia was hit by a pitch, Bryan McMahon came to the plate and hit a shot through the shortstop that the Titan left fielder bobbled, allowing both Lowe and Garcia to score.

Starting pitcher Thompson and relievers Jesse Martin

and Chad Statler united for six strike outs, two walks and seven hits.

"They (Lane) played tremendous defense on us," Roadrunner Coach Greg Hawk said. "The pitchers did a fine job. I thought we played a solid nine innings."

Kercado finished the game 3-for-3 with two doubles, a home run, two RBIs and a dislocated shoulder. The injury should eliminate him from a number of games. Thompson and Pex were both 2-for-4, and Pex had two RBIs.

Sunday proved sour for the Roadrunners, as they dropped two games by identical scores of 5-3 to SWOCC.

The Roadrunners led 3-2 after three innings of the first game, but SWOCC chipped away until they climbed on top. The Roadrunner's last score came in the third inning, when Lowe singled, Thompson walked and Pex doubled. In the second inning, Hardin hit a double to score Miguel Garcia and Pex followed with a triple. Lowe, Pex and Rice were all 2-for-4.

In the second half of the double header the Roadrunners again grabbed the lead, and went into the bottom of the sixth ahead by a 3-0 score. But that's when SWOCC struck back, rallying for five runs in the sixth.

The Roadrunners started their scoring in the third inning on an RBI single by Greene, and picked up another run in the fourth inning, when Chris Carlgren singled in Pex. LB's final run came in the top of the fifth on an RBI single from Lowe.

Lowe finished the game 2-for-4. Greene, Carlgren and McMahon were all 1-for-3 and Ben Ward added a double in the fifth inning.

"We kicked the ball around," Hawk said. "We didn't hit in the clutch."

The Roadrunners are now 7-6 in league and 13-8 overall. They travel to Oregon City to play Clackamas Tuesday and then to Eugene to play Lane Thursday.

New soccer club promises students a kick

More players and a coach sought to help get new team ready for upcoming matches

by Bill Chiaffino
of The Commuter

For anyone interested in playing organized, competitive soccer, you need not look much further. Now students can play here on campus.

The Linn-Benton Soccer Club is one of many new clubs to make its way to the school's campus because of the interest of students.

The team gets together every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 4-6 p.m. on the soccer fields behind the Activities Center. There they practice in preparation for future games that will be scheduled against variety of schools, such as Woodburn High School, Central Oregon Community College, and nearby OSU.

The co-ed team welcomes anyone to play. Uniforms will be issued and there are no fees or charges to participate. Nineteen people make up the team's roster and a coach is being sought.

"Most of the people practicing have played in the past," said Tammi S. Paul-Bryant, coordinator of Student Activities. "They are playing with the intent to competitively play others."

Plans to play year-round are under consideration, with fund-raisers taking place throughout the season.

Kari Bloss, one of the team members said, "It's a lot of fun. Come out and play." Those interested can check in and sign up at the Student Programs Office (CC-213) located near the cafeteria.

Paul-Bryant also encourages anyone with other ideas for sports clubs to pick up a petition at the office.

"The sports programs are up and coming," she said. Among other potential sports mentioned were sand volleyball, tennis and lacrosse.



Photo by Jessica Sprenger

Seifemichael Debessay (background) and Able Harrington, members of the soccer club, practice their skills in preparation for upcoming games.

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letters

'Vigilance' publisher denies using Commuter boxes

To the Editor,

I would like to thank Ms. Oliver for the free publicity for my very own publication in her stirring editorial of "Vigilance." However, I found it to be very disturbing the amount of misinformation it contained, but I will attempt to dispel some false information.

"...I found it necessary to go outside the normal means to prove a point, I don't need the administration to tell me what to print."

-Erik Bootsma

First, I did not use nor instruct any of my associates to use The Commuter's boxes to distribute "Vigilance." The newspaper was handed out by my ended up in two other hands. Perhaps one or two ended up in The Commuter's boxes, but I assure you I had nothing to do with it.

Second, I did not slander Mr. Kotara, I simply put into print what I had heard him say. I don't really care if he's pissed about me hearing it, it's still the truth.

Third, I never used my association with The Commuter to promote "Vigilance." It is true that I once did write for The Commuter, but I found it necessary to go outside the normal means to prove a point. I don't need the administration to tell me what to print.

Fourth, "Vigilance" was never a "Christian/anti-government" publication. The reference to "Vigilance" as being "anti-government" is disturbing, especially in the wake of Oklahoma City. Is this an attempt to label me as an anarchist? Better check your facts, I am not anti-government, I am anti BIG government.

Got a problem? Pick up the next issue of "Vigilance," maybe you might read something that will open your eyes.

Erik Bootsma
Publisher of Vigilance

Student concerned about religious club's posters

To the Editor:

I would like to express my concern for the signs posted around campus by Radical Reality. The signs invite the student body to "LEARN GOD'S WORD," in my opinion cross a very thin line. That line is the one which allows freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and freedom of association, on

one side and the separation of church and state on the other.

I by no means disapprove of Radical Reality, or what they stand for or what they believe in. What I am concerned about is the proclamation that the "Bible" is God's word. There are many other religions with other books that are considered holy, and the word of God.

The fact that Radical Reality or any other group of Christians wish to meet is not my concern. My concern is that they do not have the right to use the walls of LBCC to preach their particular doctrine.

The second they say that the Bible is the word of God they are preaching a particular doctrine. The belief that the Bible is the word of God is a cornerstone belief of Christianity. When Radical Reality or any other group does this they cross that line.

Signs saying "Come Study the Bible," which would be far more appropriate, would resolve any concern that I have. The supreme court has said that Bible clubs are acceptable, and I think that is what Radical Reality wants to have. I would ask they consider the diversity of the campus and change the signs to something more appropriate.

"Come Study The Bible" is just as true and as bold as what is being used now, and it isn't offensive. Thank you for leading by example and following the rules, so that others can meet to study their holy book, without incident or confusion.

Perry L. Martin

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OPINION



ellen goodman

A temporary sense of community brings Americans together after Oklahoma disaster

Boston—For once, we are in it together.

Never mind all the American watchers who say this is not a country but a giant centrifuge. On Sunday the center held in a state fairground in Oklahoma.

Never mind all the analysts who insist that our nation is subdividing into the lowest common denominator, splitting into units of one.

This week, we shared an expression of sorrow as wide as a continent.

The common wisdom is that Americans hold too little in common. We are said to be isolated inside our homes, communicating with disembodied strangers along the Internet. We are told that civic life has disintegrated. Why, even when we bowl, it's no longer in leagues: We bowl alone.

Maybe so. But we mourn together. We line up to give blood together. We arrive by the thousands to simply be together at a memorial service. And yes, we sit in front of the television set—a set of 100 options—watching the same service together.

What was it that Gov. Keating said? "If anybody thinks that Americans are mostly mean and selfish, they ought to come to Oklahoma."

Well, this year, many of us have felt a shock wave of meanness, an icy breath of selfishness across the land. The polarizing rhetoric of our political life has convinced us that we are poles apart.

But with the guts blown out of a building and the heart torn out of a city, with terrorism and teddy bears, Americans turned to each other as automatically, as naturally, as they can turn on each other.

At an evening press conference the day before the bombing, Bill Clinton seemed more like a candidate, a man defending his own "relevance."

By the end of the weekend, he was welcomed as the president of one nation, indivisible—surely indivisible by the hate carried in a truckload of incendiary fertilizer.

Just a week ago, a cottage industry of O.J. analysts, justifying the coverage, said we were only united by this media circus. After Oklahoma, the bickering among jurors in a murder trial seemed like the shameless whining of spoiled brats.

For far more than a year, the drumbeat of anti-government rhetoric banged out its monotone rage at faceless bureaucrats—the government—with their hands in our pockets.

But as bodies were brought out of the Alfred P. Murrah building, the drumbeat became a sad roll call

of mothers, fathers, wives, husbands, parents, neighbors. And worst of all, children.

I find no silver lining to paint on the edges of this bleak week of mourning. No disaster is worth the shared sense of community that comes in its wake.

But it does come.



It takes thousands of people to create a sense of community, and only a handful to destroy it.

loss—will be annoyed at them for spilling food on the floor or dawdling on their way to school.

Even a survivor of the blast will be cursed by a citizen put on hold, mumbling into the phone about "the government." And someone will talk, cynically, about the half-life of sympathy, the shelf life of unity in our society.

But today it's worth remembering that the impulses that bring us together are no less natural than the forces that separate us. We are a porridge of possibilities shaped by our world.

It takes hundreds of people to construct an office building and only a couple to blow it up. It takes thousands of people to create a sense of community, and only a handful to destroy it. The easiest thing in the world to make is noise.

On Sunday the president, not a partisan, but a president, talked on "60 minutes" about all the angry voices in our country: "I do want to say to the American people, though, we should all be careful about the kind of language we use and the kind of incendiary talk we have."

As we go about our business, the business of mourning and the business of justice, keep this one small piece of togetherness alive. A plea to lower the angry voices. A memory of how sadness sounds. As quiet as a house without children.

marla's musings

Hard lessons from Oklahoma

by Marla J. Lawrence
for The Commuter

The images from the April 19 bombing in Oklahoma City are still painfully fresh in my mind's eye as I write this: the ruins of the Alfred P. Murrah building, collapsing upon itself like a child's cardboard construction left out in the rain; the President, calling for swift justice against the perpetrators in a voice that shook with barely suppressed fury; the heart-rending amateur photo of a firefighter cradling a mortally wounded infant in his arms. And closer to home, the flags in front of Takena Hall flying at half-mast in silent tribute to that little girl and all the others who perished with her in the explosion.

Like most Americans, I'm still trying—and failing miserably—to make sense of this unspeakable tragedy. I want to know WHY that baby's life is over: what sort of monster fills a rental truck with explosives and sets it off under a day-care center? How in God's name can the guilty parties possibly justify their actions? As a mother, I find it utterly impossible to conceive of a worse crime than that of causing deliberate harm to a child; I also cannot imagine a worse fate for a parent than to lose a little one in such a shockingly brutal manner. Having once buried a newborn, I know how devastating even the natural death of a child can be, how it leaves a scar on the soul that never completely heals. But the magnitude of this type of loss is so great that I wonder how those poor mothers and fathers can stand it. Will they ever be able to pick up the pieces of their blasted hopes and dreams and go on? Or will the bomb continue to destroy lives, long after the wreckage has yielded up its last victim?

One thing I am reasonably sure of, however, is that this country will never be quite the same. The tears we shed for the lost will soon dry, and the impotent rage we feel toward the people who did this will abate somewhat with the passage of time; but never again will we feel as safe from terrorism as we did before the explosion tore away our illusions. Even when the World Trade Center was bombed, many of us consoled ourselves with the thought that it happened in a big, high-profile city which also seems to have more than its share of nut cases, not an all-American town like the ones we lived in.

We know differently now. And not only did this bomb strike at the very heart of Middle America, the people who put it there are—allegedly—our own countrymen. Not Islamic fundamentalists, not cult leaders with a grudge against the world, but Americans.

Crime, of course, is nothing new, and neither is American concern about crime. We all knew there were bad people in this country, and we've all seen too much to believe Americans are incapable of senseless violence. But we just never wanted to believe Americans would do something like this. Not to other Americans. Not in a place like Oklahoma City. Not to little children.

They did, though, and that single act—the Kennedy assassinations and the Vietnam War—changed this country forever. Never again will we presume we're safe from terrorists merely by virtue of the fact that we don't live in Beirut or Teheran or New York City. But while we have been forced to acknowledge the fact that fanaticism is alive and well within our own borders, let us hope that we won't allow this catastrophe to make us as suspicious of our neighbor as we are of those who look, speak, or worship differently than we do. Instead, let us turn our attention to the root causes of violence and subdue the forces of hatred, bigotry, and evil, so that the suffering of Oklahoma City will never be repeated elsewhere—and so that those precious innocents will not have died in vain.

THE LAST WORD

you said it

Do you think there should be a "Men's Center" on campus?

No. Men don't need a special place. If there was a "Men's Center," I wouldn't go.

Angel Cepeda, Puerto Rico
2nd year, AA transfer

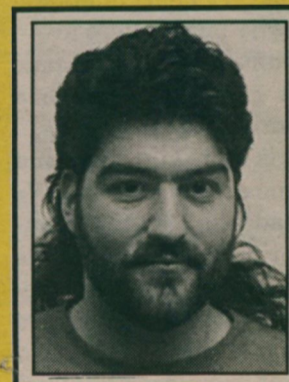
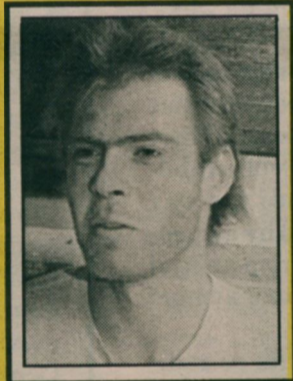


Sure, why not. If there's one for women why not one for men. If they are spending time on looking after women's concerns, they should spend equal time on men. Women are having a hard time reaching out for help. Men are probably having an even harder time.

Shelly Flanagan, Lebanon
1st year, Education

How about a people's center? Why genderize it? If you want people to feel equal why not level the playing field? What's the use of making one or the other? The Women's Center seems to be about having exclusively women in it—if they want equality, they should be equal.

Ernie Wisner, Coos Bay
2nd year
Eco Systems Management



No, the men do not need a "Men's Center." Men can go anywhere on campus and feel safe. They can go to the rec room, lift weights, or hang out anywhere else on campus and feel safe.

Peter Boucot, Corvallis
Transfer, Political Science

I think for a "Men's Center" it would be frivolous because I don't think very many men would go there. I think it is more of an equal opportunity issue.

Kristin Whitelaw, Lebanon
1st year, Criminal Justice



they said it

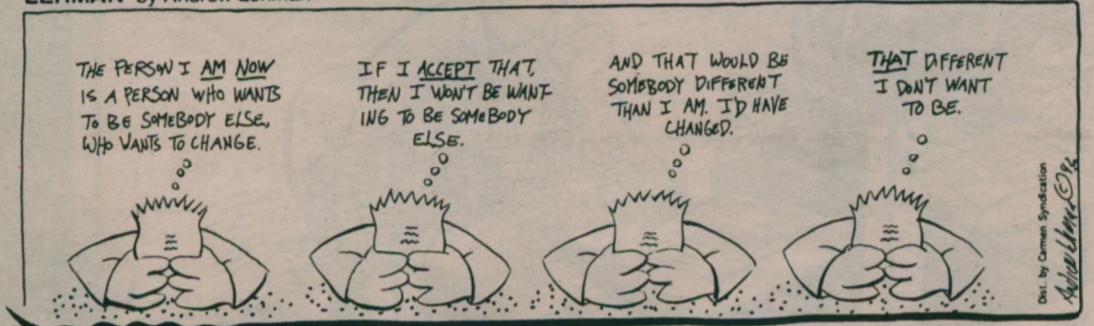
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One learns in life to keep silent and draw one's own confusions.

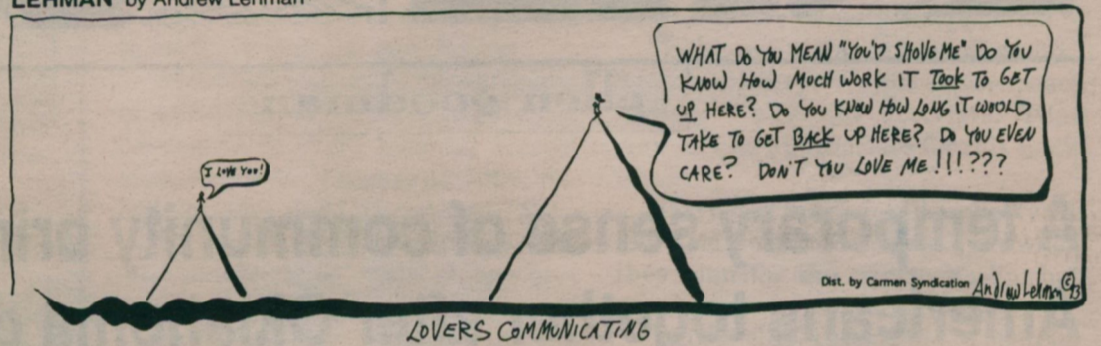
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LEHMAN by Andrew Lehman



LEHMAN by Andrew Lehman



Crossword 101

" Old College Try "

By Gerry Frey

- ACROSS**
- 1 Calif. college
 - 5 Freezer brand
 - 10 Long poem
 - 14 PGA members
 - 15 Jeans material
 - 16 Late night host
 - 17 Calif. College
 - 19 Dagger
 - 20 Hot time in Paris
 - 21 Army chow
 - 22 Showered
 - 24 Perceives again
 - 26 Slurs words
 - 28 Ivory source
 - 30 Peggy Fleming, e.g.
 - 33 Popular clige. boys
 - 36 Monastery heads
 - 38 Type of bandage
 - 39 Cheerleaders words
 - 40 Group of railroad cars
 - 41 Italian volcano
 - 42 Muhammad _____
 - 43 Sentry
 - 44 Avarice
 - 45 Nearest
 - 47 S-shaped curve
 - 49 Tent pegs
 - 51 Declare
 - 55 Go to bed
 - 57 Common contraction
 - 59 Bovine's hello
 - 60 Word with exam or hygiene
 - 61 DC college
 - 64 Speck
 - 65 Bert's friend
 - 66 Suits you to _____
 - 67 Chemical suffixes
 - 68 German donkeys
 - 69 Socially inept person

- DOWN**
- 1 Word with crust or class
 - 2 Greek island
 - 3 Runs easily
 - 4 Snake
 - 5 Buy _____ for the prom
 - 6 Doctors
 - 7 Licorice-flavored seeds
 - 8 Novelist Anais
 - 9 DC university
 - 10 Borden's cow & others
 - 11 Pennsylvania college
 - 12 Arrow poison
 - 13 College girl
 - 18 Large Australian birds:Variation
 - 23 Lemon and orange suffix
 - 25 Et ceteras
 - 27 Biological drive
 - 29 Art of self defense
 - 31 Teenage problem
 - 32 Peruse
 - 33 Bric-a-_____
 - 34 Shopping center
 - 35 Buckeye university
 - 37 Tavern
 - 40 Alabama college
 - 41 Poets' before

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Crossword answers on Page 5