

## GROWTH OF GAMING

Track the progression of video game consoles as they grew in sophistication from 1986 to 2001 ▶ Pg. 8-9

## ROAD TO VICTORY

Albany's Victory Gym is fast becoming a local magnet for renewed interest in boxing ▶ Pg. 10

# The Commuter

a weekly student publication

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

Wednesday, February 11, 2004

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 35 No. 13

## Students sought to fill eight positions on ASG

Laurent L.N. Bonczijk  
The Commuter

The Feb. 13 deadline for Associated Student Government (ASG) applications is fast approaching and even though 22 people have picked up an application package, only two have returned it so far.

What is at stake in this election? All eight positions of the ASG.

The positions are: President, vice-president, public relation secretary, sci-

ence and industry representative, business and health occupation representative, student services and extended learning representative, liberal art and human performance representative and at-large representative.

To be eligible to pick up a package, students must be enrolled for at least six credits per term and have a G.P.A. above 2.00.

Applications have been available since Jan. 5 and consist of two letters of recom-

mendation from people other than member of the applicant's family and a series of essay questions. Once the package is turned in, applicants are allowed to start campaigning on campus.

A candidate meeting will be held in the Commons on Feb. 18 at noon. Current Vice-President, Ryan Kirchner, said that candidates were advised not to spend over \$50 on the campaign trail.

Candidates elected to the positions will be required to attend weekly meet-

ings and hold office hours.

Kirchner explains, "It takes a couple of weeks for students to have a steady schedule and hold steady office hours."

Some perks of holding office include: Full tuition grant for spring, fall and winter term for the president, vice-president and the public relations secretary. The five representatives get full tuition grant for spring and winter only.

Voting will be done in the computer labs Feb. 24 and 25.

## Benton Center to reopen with 7 more classrooms

Jacob R. Smathers  
The Commuter

LBCB students attending the Benton Center will have more class options and services available to them, starting spring term of this year, according to Penny York, director of the Benton Center.

With an extra seven classrooms, all LBCB classes previously held at Corvallis High School will be moved to the Benton Center. This move will be more convenient for students, with close access to the bookstore, labs, and registration offices.

The ceramics studio is receiving a major facelift as well.

It will be increased in size

and will have a permanent kiln available for students. To accommodate this growth, the parking lot will also have an additional 10-15 parking spots, five of which are handicap parking spots.

The new section, currently under construction, will be opened in time for spring term classes, though that is not the end of remodeling.

Once opened, the space currently being used for classes will be moved to the new section, in order for the old classrooms to be remodeled.

Construction is to be completed by mid-June, though the official grand opening will not

▶ Turn to "Benton Center" on Page 4



photo by Jeremy Hennig

Workers for Slaughter Construction finish up the stucco on the north exterior wall of the new addition of the Benton Center in Corvallis. College officials expect the new section to be open in time for spring term, when work will shift to remodeling the older section of the former elementary school.

## Tax failure leads to \$3.9 million cut for state police

Peggy Isaacs  
The Commuter

Serious crime statistics may be down in the future for Oregon, at least on paper anyway.

With the defeat of Measure 30, the Oregon State Police will be greatly affected in multiple departments. Forensics, the state's only full-service crime lab, will be where the biggest cuts will be made in the budget for the next fiscal year.

The adjusted budget cuts will take effect after July 1.

The forensic department's cut totals \$3.9 million, which means: 55 percent of the DNA testing staff, 67 percent of the alcohol-breath-testing staff, 60 percent of the fingerprint examiners, 80 percent of the forensic firearm examiners, and 75 percent of the crime scene team will be gone.

To begin to understand this, let's look at this sce-

nario: An alleged criminal starts drinking, gets drunk and holds-up the local gas station for the drug money. He robs the attendant and on the way out of the station, stumbles and scrapes his hand on a newspaper rack, leaving some blood on the metal. The attendant tells what happened and a report is made.

Here is where the trouble begins for the police department. With 75 percent of the crime scene team laid-off, there will probably be no one to come document the crime scene, take fingerprints and/or blood samples to be sent to Eugene to cross-check in the database for known criminals.

If this could happen with a gas station robbery, what will happen in more extreme crimes?

Albany Democrat-Herald reported on Jan. 25, that County District Attorney Scott Heiser said, "What I've told people is that one of the first things I'm going to do if Measure 30 fails is invoke a newly-enacted statute

that allows DAs to designate a host of class-C felonies as misdemeanors."

The statute would also allow all drug possession charges to be treated as misdemeanors, regardless of felony class. That will save indigent-defense costs and crime lab costs, Heiser said.

"There's a law that says if drug possession is prosecuted as a misdemeanor, you don't have to have crime lab analysis that says it's drugs," Heiser said, adding "a field test is OK."

On Monday Heiser said "The Legislature's decision not to adequately fund the criminal justice system and to force these types of cuts just stinks." He added that he wants to wait and see what the governor is going to do before he acts on anything.

"The DA's office is going to take a lot of political heat for this one and it needs to be put back on the state."

So, when you see any officer stopping someone on the highway, just remember it may be a routine stop that catches a hardened criminal, which might end up being the only way for the future of Oregon.

**"The Legislature's decision not to adequately fund the criminal justice system and to force these types of cuts just stinks."**

▶ Scott Heiser, Benton County DA

### WEATHER THROUGH THE WEEKEND

SOURCE: WWW.WEATHER.COM

high 53 low 33  
WEDNESDAY

high 55 low 40  
THURSDAY

high 52 low 37  
FRIDAY

high 52 low 37  
SATURDAY

high 56 low 37  
SUNDAY

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Commuter

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# OPINION

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



## Going after big, fat pundit feels like shooting fish in a barrel

**Laurent L.N. Bonczijk**  
 The Commuter

Last week I claimed that the right wing didn't have intellectual integrity.

Let me prove it to you this week.

I was browsing the website of popular pill-popping populist radio host Rush Limbaugh, when lo and behold, I found him attacking Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY).

Can you believe that?

The right wing is always whining, saying the left is being too bipartisan, and here is Limbaugh, a notorious right-winger, who likely sees Adolf Hitler when he looks over his left shoulder, attacking a young innocent senator from New York.

All right, it may not have been this dramatic, but I wanted you to have a good picture.

This was the quote from Sen. Clinton:

"I am sick and tired of people who say if you debate and disagree with this administration that somehow you're not patriotic. And we should stand up and say, we have a right to debate and disagree with any administration."

In other words, she is calling attention to the Republican's favorite game: Avoid the draft and then

wrap yourselves in the Star Spangled Banner.

Criticizing the government seems to be the essence of the First Amendment and what it means to be American and to be living in a healthy democracy.

Limbaugh though, disagreed. His website transcript was describing such comments as "pedal to the metal" liberalism.

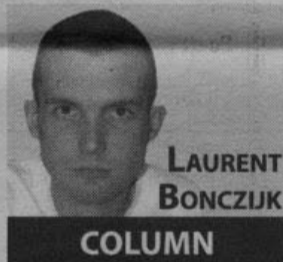
Sure, Sen. Clinton is a Democrat, but both of the Clintons tend to sit in the moderate aisle of the party. So I decided to apply a logic test to Limbaugh and his comments.

It goes like this. Because he equated Sen. Clinton's comments to being liberal. The test is:

- 1) If you openly critique the administration, you are a liberal.
- 2) Limbaugh thoroughly critiqued the Clinton administration during the eight years Clinton was in office.
- 3) Limbaugh is a liberal. That is the first conclusion that could be drawn from this logical test. The other conclusion is that Limbaugh is a hypocrite.

Take your pick.

I know that going after Limbaugh isn't necessarily taking the high ground for me, but sometimes I can't resist shooting some fish in a barrel.



**LAURENT BONCZIK**  
 COLUMN

### EXPRESS YOURSELF

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. Letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome and should be dropped off at the Commuter office, Forum 222; or e-mail [commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu)

## The Commuter

VISIT THE COMMUTER ONLINE  
[www.linnbenton.edu/commuter](http://www.linnbenton.edu/commuter)

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The Commuter is the weekly student-run newspaper for LBCC, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty, and Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of the authors.

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### WORD ON CAMPUS

What do you think is the most important issue to students on campus?

**"Finances. Making ends meet. You've got to work."**

▶ Mark Wilkinson



**"The rising cost of tuition and education in general."**

▶ Tera Nickell

**"G.P.A. and financial aid. Making sure that financial aid goes through on time. I think that's a huge issue."**

▶ Aaron White



**"Graduation, grades. Something to get us through this whole mess!"**

▶ Charlyn Sparkes

**"Faculty. For the most part, they're pretty good here, so I think having small community colleges is important. The teachers are a lot more personal. The teachers will give you their home phone number and email address. They want to make sure you have a firm grasp on the concepts. If you can't contact a teacher during offices hours at a university, you're S.O.L."**

▶ Ivan Williams



**"(Respect to cultural differences) It's really important to have different cultures. At bigger schools, there are more different cultures, so there would be more racism than here."**

▶ Erika Hernandez

Want change?

Make change.

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Send a letter to the editor.

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# CAMPUS NEWS

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

## Buying habits help determine food service menus

**Mandy Clark**  
 The Commuter

They are tracking what you eat, and they've been doing it for years.

The Courtyard Café, the Commons and the Santiam Restaurant on campus all offer a varied menu selection that students and staff have helped develop over years of dining and making choices.

According to Scott Anselm, culinary arts department chair, chef and instructor, the foods offered are directly related to market need and what students and staff have purchased over the long-term.

"Our role is to be knowledgeable about what people ask for," states Anselm.

The menus are decided each year in a collaborative effort with Anselm and Gary Snyder, food services manager. Items such as clam chowder, chicken cordon bleu and Reuben sandwiches are a few of the most popular foods, they said.

Monday through Thursday the Commons carries a fixed menu of items. Fridays are what Snyder refers to as "black box days," when they use

up products from the week.

Snyder adds another factor that affects what items end up on the menu is the curriculum for the students in the culinary arts program. Stuffed squid and even caviar have been offered in the cafeteria when students were putting into practice what they study.

In the first year in the program, students learn fundamental cooking principles and primarily work in the Commons. The second year focuses on applying these principles to advanced techniques, and students mainly work in the Santiam Restaurant.

Anselm mentioned that pressure from low carbohydrate diets, such as the Atkins diet, have caused a shift in sales. The high protein items are being purchased more often, he said, and some high carbohydrate side dishes, such as potatoes and breads, are being discarded. This is one reason Snyder is planning on going to a la carte items in the cafeteria. The single portions will still cost about the same as when they were together as a meal, but students and staff will be able to choose exactly the combina-

tions they want.

The Courtyard Café is located on the first floor of Takena Hall and specializes in grilled items and soups. It is open longer than the other two eating venues. It is the only place on campus that serves students taking night classes.

The cafeteria is on the second floor of the College Center in Room CC-209 and offers a varied lunch menu, including a full salad bar, steam table entrees, sandwiches, special salads and desserts.

Occasionally, the culinary arts students also serve made-to-order dishes, such as pasta and sub sandwiches, during the lunch hour. The cafeteria opens in the morning, but the steam table is set up only during lunchtime.

The Santiam Restaurant is located on the second floor of the College Center, down the south hallway from the cafeteria in Room CC-201. This is the only sit-down restaurant on campus, offering table service and a menu of about 10 entrees, including specials every week. Second-year students manage the restaurant, handling everything from waiting tables to cooking and menu planning.

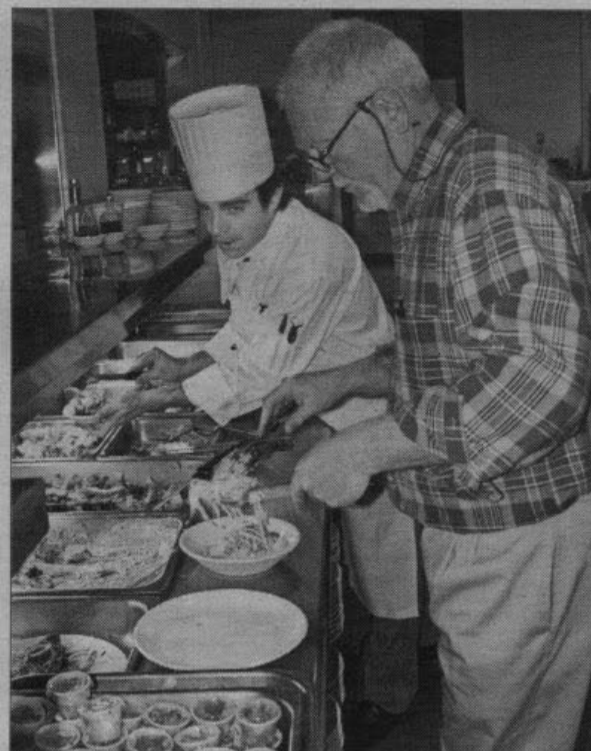


photo by Bonnie Quinones

**Chef Scott Hurley and Food Services Manager Gary Snyder serve dishes in the Commons last Friday. The cafeteria offers three entrees a day, along with a full salad bar, special salads, desserts and soup every lunch period. Other food services on campus are the Courtyard Cafe and the Santiam Room.**

## CAMPUS SHORTS

### Valentines Day flowers on sale

The Student Programming Board is taking orders for valentine flowers every morning in Takena Hall from 9 to 11 a.m.

Prices are \$1.50 for single carnations or \$7 for six.

Flowers will be delivered to classrooms and offices on campus on Friday, Feb. 13 from 8 a.m to 2 p.m. by SPB members dressed in tuxedos.

### Winter Banquet tickets on sale

Tickets for the annual Winter Banquet, prepared by the Culinary Arts Department, are on sale for \$19.50 in College Center room 214. The theme for this year's event is "Marching Into Spring," and will feature prime rib or grilled swordfish as the main entrees. It will be held March 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the Commons.

### Film series focuses on racial issues

The Multicultural Center's film series continues on Feb. 23 with the showing of "A Place at the Table: Struggles for Equality in America" from 12 to 1 p.m. On March 1 and 3, the film "Out of the Past" will be shown.

The film documents a Gay-Straight Alliance Club initiated by a student in a Salt Lake City public school.

Applications Now Available for  
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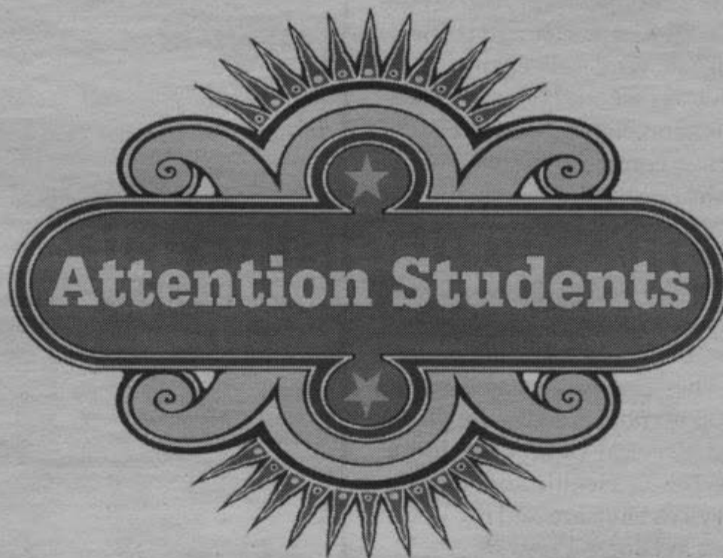
- Poetry—Typewritten and single spaced. Maximum of 3 poems.
- Fiction or Non-fiction Prose—Typewritten, double-spaced, and not to exceed 1,500 words. One piece only.
- Artwork and Black & White Photographs—3 pieces maximum, scanned images, min 330 dpi, TIFF format.

Submit copies only; not originals

All Submissions Due By Feb. 15

E-Mail Submissions to <Terrance.Millet@linnbenton.edu>

For more information, call Terrance Millet, Faculty Advisor, at 917-4555



## Earn valuable leadership experience, Service Learning credit, and free tuition

The Student Programming Board is looking for the 2004-2005 team. Interested students should come to the Student Life & Leadership Office to pick up an application. For more information on this opportunity, contact Ian Baker, Team Coordinator, at (541) 917-4472.

Applications are due  
 by noon on February 13, 2004



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# CAMPUS NEWS

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

## Seminar gives tools to fight breast cancer

**Peggy Heidt & Peggy Isaacs**  
 The Commuter

"Share the Care," a seminar on breast cancer awareness that is open to the public, will be held Feb. 25, from 12 to 1 p.m. in the Alsea-Calapooia Room.

Three guest speakers—Patty Parsons, Health Promotion/Disease Prevention of the Benton County Health Department; Nancy Dunn, a consultant from ProHealth Inc. in Salem; and Carol Misrack, from the Breast and Cervical Cancer Coalition—will provide up-to-date information on breast cancer.

The seminar will focus on early detection of breast cancer and self-examination as well as statistics and personal experiences with breast cancer.

In addition to the seminar, a workshop will be held March 3 from 4 to 8 p.m., also in the Alsea-Calapooia Room. Emphasis will be on obtaining skills in self-examination, and teaching materials, including silicone breast models, will be available as instructional tools.

The workshop is free, but limited to the first 20 students who sign up. It is not open to the general public.

A sign-up sheet is available at the Student Life and Leadership office in the Student Union. Valid student I.D. is required.

The goal of the workshop is to empower motivated women to increase their knowledge and skills for conducting breast self-exams and in guiding them to understand the importance of breast health and early detection. The objectives are to list the risk factors for breast cancer, explain why self-examination (BSE) is essential to early cancer detection, demonstrate BSE, describe common breast abnormalities, outline risk reduction strategies and determine a plan for screening and rescreening.

At the end of the workshop there will be an interactive question and answer sharing period.

The "Share the Care" workshop is sponsored by the Breast and Cervical Cancer Coalition, the LBCC Health and Human Services Division and the LBCC Staff Wellness Program.

For more information, contact Petr Horak, student ambassador in the Student Life & Leadership Office (541) 917-4466.

National statistics indicate that a woman in the United States is diagnosed with breast cancer every three minutes. In 2003, it is estimated that about 211,300 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed, along with 55,700 new cases on noninvasive breast cancer. And 39,800 women are expected to die from this disease this year. Breast cancer incidence in women has increased from one in 20 in 1960 to one in eight today.

## Benton Center: Current tenants brave cold

▲ From page 1

be held until September.

Perhaps most controversial are plans to rebuild the gym. Once used by many different organizations, the new gym has been solely designed for use with LBCC programs offered at the center.

York stated that the gym will be safer and more efficient, though being slightly smaller than its previous design.

Planning began back in November of 2000, with a \$19.1 million bond granted to LBCC for expansion and improvements.

Of that, \$4.5 million was reserved specifically for the Benton

Center. Construction began April 2, 2003.

Since construction began, the noise created first by the tearing down of the north wall, then with the building of the new section has been something that teachers and students have had to adjust to.

The office staff has braved the cold since new heating and air conditioning is being installed, and can't be used until construction is completed. Space heaters have made the adjustment more bearable.

In the past, space available for students to have study groups, tutoring and to pass the time between classes has been

limited.

A new lounge being built on the north side of the building will remedy the problem. Students will also be able to purchase snacks and coffee from the bookstore window.

York seemed proud to say that the Benton Center would also be adding a Learning and Career Center upstairs.

Though the center already offers all general education classes required for graduation, space has been limited, forcing students to travel to the main campus for the same class.

Requests have been made by Benton Center administration for additional general education

classes to be held at the center, giving students more options.

York, in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Department, has worked to develop a plan for improving the adjacent Washington Park.

The improvements are to include more play equipment for children in day care, as well as additional benches and tables. Though easily overlooked, Washington Park lies to the south and east of the Benton Center campus.

These improvements to the park are designed to provide a peaceful environment for students and members of the community.

## Extended learning centers seek better representation on ASG

**Sheena Bishop**  
 The Commuter

It has come to the attention of the Associated Student Government that the Lebanon and Corvallis campuses do not have fair representation on the ASG.

One of the ways the ASG is considering to help remedy the situation is to have a representative from each of the learning centers. By doing so, these new representatives would attend meetings and communicate what is happening in their respective locations.

Another idea is to have student government meetings float between campuses instead of adding representatives to the council.

By doing so, the current representatives would have the opportunity to approach students that

don't attend the main campus.

This will be among the issues that the 2004-05 ASG will try to resolve.

Representation for the Sweet Home Center may be an issue in itself. If ASG were to decide on adding representatives or floating meetings, it would be a long drive for some representatives, who would have to travel the 27 miles between the campus and Sweet Home.

In any event, the distances between campuses could pose a dilemma for student representatives trying to schedule meetings and classes.

If one is interested in this idea or others facing the ASG, elections are right around the corner with voting scheduled for Feb. 24 and 25.

Asking the candidates where they stand on the things that matter to you as a student may help you better decide on how to cast your ballot.

## Students invited to Portland lecture

The LBCC Science Club has space available for "The Acquiring Genome," a lecture by Dr. Lynn Magulis and Dorion Sagan in Portland Feb. 20.

Magulis and Sagan are the wife and son of the late Carl Sagan. They present an answer to the one enduring mystery of evolution that Charles Darwin could never solve: The source of the inherited variation that gives rise to new species.

The van will leave from the lot in front of the Activities Center at 4:45 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each. Contact Melissa Kilgore to reserve a spot at 917-4967 or kilgorm@linnbenton.edu.

### COMMONS

Put it on your plate!  
 Feb. 11th - Feb. 17th

#### Wednesday

Baked Stuffed Snapper  
 Pork Lyonnaise  
 Rommali Roti w/ Curried Vegetables  
 Steamed New Oatatoes w/ Fine Herbs  
 Currant Almond Pilaf  
 Glazed Carrots & Turnips  
 Grilled Vegetable Beef  
 Roasted Garlic Pesto

#### Thursday

Lemon Chicken w/ Steamed Rice  
 Braised Lamb Shoulder  
 Huevos Rancheros  
 Mashed Potatoes  
 Cauliflower w/ Cheddar Cheese Sauce  
 Gazpacho & Beer Cheese

#### Friday

*Chef's Choice!*



#### Monday

No School

#### Tuesday

Hungarian Chicken  
 Garlic Shrimp Tacos  
 Vegetable Lasanga  
 Roasted Red Potatoes  
 Batonet of Root Vegetables  
 Paysanne Marmite  
 Vegetarian Tomato



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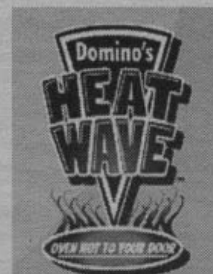
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# LOCAL NEWS

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

## Police educate drivers on revised crosswalk law

Erica Hennig  
 The Commuter

As of Jan. 1 drivers are required by law to stop and remain stopped for pedestrians in crosswalks who are in the same lane of traffic or in an adjacent lane.

The law, Senate Bill 315, is meant to clear up any confusion for drivers and to make the law easier for authorities to convey.

Officer Matt Baldwin of the Albany community resource unit affirmed, "I like it. The bill cleaned up a lot of the wording so it's easier to enforce and for (drivers) to understand."

"The pedestrian crosswalk law, or the details of it, are not really recognized by drivers. Pedestrians always recognize it because they are the ones standing there waiting for traffic to stop to go. But I think there's never been a lot of attention given to that specific law and enforcement of that and education of it," he explained.

About five years ago, the Oregon Department of Transportation put together a program to enforce pedestrian safety laws and educate communities. Over the last few years, awareness of traffic safety in cities has increased where the program has been adopted.

Some of the guidelines for the operation are that it has to be daylight, good visibility and good road conditions. "We're not going to go out in the dark, fog or rain," assured Baldwin.

The pedestrian operation involves a team of policemen who use a safe stopping distance for a vehicle traveling 10 mph over the posted limit to determine how many feet it should take the car to stop for a pedestrian after they apply the brake. They add a few more seconds for the time that it



photo by Jeremy Hennig

**Officer Matt Baldwin of the Albany Police Department talks about how his department has been enforcing the new pedestrian crosswalk law.**

will take to perceive a pedestrian and place a cone at that distance before the crosswalk. If they do not stop for the pedestrian—a police officer who leaves the crosswalk before the car reaches the cone—then they will be issued a citation.

During a pedestrian operation March 24, 2003 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., officers stopped 42 cars in downtown Albany.

Of these, 33 were cited for failure to yield to a pedestrian and nine received a warning for failure to yield to a pedestrian.

Five citations were issued for offenses including driving uninsured, failing to renew registration, driving while suspended and failure to use a seat belt. Nine warnings were given for failure to use a seat belt.

As most drivers may not be aware of the new law, the Albany Police Department spreads the word via city websites, newspapers and word of mouth when making traffic stops.

Baldwin welcomes drivers and pedestrians to "come down and ask" when they have concerns. He mentions a source for information on laws is findlaw.com. "I know that I heard it on the radio and they tried to do some educational stuff, but it was mostly on the local stations," said Officer Jennifer Williams of the new law.

Williams is especially concerned about downtown Albany, citing the many visitors and merchants doing business and large number of people who walk due to the centralized businesses.

"I think it's definitely something that should be in effect. There is tons of foot traffic downtown and it's a two-lane road. You have two people that stop and once that pedestrian gets past the first car, then they usually go. It's just safer all around if both lanes stop and you wait till the pedestrian gets across."

"It's probably too early to tell (if the new law is working), because it's only been in effect for a month," Williams explained.

Local police are working to enforce the new law by stopping drivers when they see an infraction, either to give a verbal warning or to issue a ticket. Officers stress it is ultimately up to the individual officer to decide the most beneficial method.

Senate Bill 315 revises an earlier law that stated a driver commits the offense of failure to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk if the driver does not stop before entering the crosswalk and yield right of way to a pedestrian when the pedestrian is on the half of the roadway on and along which the driver is proceeding.

**"The bill cleaned up a lot of the wording so it's easier to enforce and for (drivers) to understand."**

▶ Officer Matt Baldwin

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# It's No Competition.

Commuter • January 22, 2003

## Online book sellers can not compete with LB Bookstore

Regardless of the continued rise of book prices and the increase in Internet technology, a majority of LBC students still occupy the line outside the Bookstore at the beginning of each term.

An estimated 20,801 students showed up this fall to receive their books from the Bookstore rather than other sources, such as the online book sellers Amazon.com or ecampus.com. "When you buy them from the bookstore you get them faster and you don't have to worry about people losing them in the mail," said welding technician major DJ Seufert.

A comparison of prices from the LB Bookstore, and the three most popular online sites—Amazon.com, Textbook.com, and Ecampus.com—showed that despite what students might assume, LB was actually cheaper than many of the online sources. For instance, a Psychology 231 book that was \$79.70 new at

the LBCC Bookstore was over \$81 at two of the online sources, and at Amazon.com the book was priced at exactly \$88.

The site that offered superior bargains, besting the LB Bookstore in four out of the eight books in The Commuter's

sample, was Textbook.com. Ecampus.com was higher for all the books sampled, and Amazon was more expensive for five out of the eight books [see accompanying chart].

Also, the basic book price online is just the beginning. Shipping and handling costs are added to the bill at check-

out, and then there's the cost to return the book if you decide to drop a class.

Online bookstores present other problems for students. For example, one book for a Spanish class was unavailable at all three of the online stores, and

none of the three carried all the texts in The Commuter's sample. The financial aid that some students receive may also sway a student's decision to purchase books at the college store. Financial aid allows students to purchase books before they receive their check in the mail. Without this partnership between the Financial Aid Office and the Bookstore, some students may not be able to afford books before classes start.

The assortment of editions available for particular books is yet another problem students must be aware of. Even though the name of the book may be the same, the instructor may have a preference for a certain edition, and having the wrong edition could cause confusion for students during the course. "[Something] to consider is the Bookstore receives textbook orders directly from the instructor of the course. This is first-hand information and we have the ability to ensure the exact text for the course," said LBCC Bookstore Manager Brenda Pace.

"For the most part our student population appears to have a high level of confidence in our knowledge and experience in our books for classes," said LBC student Casey.

"It's more convenient. You can go there, get the book you need. You know they [the books] are going to be there. You don't have to look around as much and you don't have to order them

COMPARISON OF TYPICAL TEXTBOOK PRICES

Class/Text	Bookstore	Amazon	Textbook.com	E-Campus
BIO 101 Living World	\$98.45	\$110.05	\$95.67	\$105.65
GEOG 121 Intro. Phys. Geog.	\$80	\$90.88	\$78.37	\$105.84
MTH 111 College Algebra	\$86.90	\$93.95	\$86.98	X
PHY 201 Physics	\$112.50	\$135.90	\$105.40	X
SPN 102 Panorama	\$71.25	X	X	\$42.73
WRT 121 Bedford Reader	\$42.50	X	X	\$84.48
PSY 231 Human Sexuality	\$79.70	\$88	\$81.48	\$89.23
REF/HEAT/AIR Refrig. & AC Tech.	\$85.95	\$84.95	\$80.87	X

X - The book was unavailable at the online store.  
Research compiled Jan. 15, 2003

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**LBCC Bookstore**

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**Newsroom Desk:** 917-4451  
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# PHOTO GALLERY

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

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### SCHOLARSHIPS

The OSAC application is due by March 1. One application offers over 400 different scholarships valued at over \$10 million dollars! To get the application and more information go to : [www.GetCollegeFunds.org](http://www.GetCollegeFunds.org) This process is better odds than playing the lottery!!

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**Oregon Women for Agriculture -** Male or female, resident of Marion or Clackamas county, in an agricultural related field may apply. One \$500 and one \$250 scholarship will be awarded. DUE DATE - March 10. Information available in the kiosk next to Financial Aid, Takena Hall.

**OSU Folk Club Scholarship -** For the "older than average women." Must be a resident of Benton County, over the age of 25, and attending OSU at least 8 credits next Fall. For information and application, check out the kiosk next to Financial Aid. Application due date is March 26.

### WANTED

**Clerical Aide,** If you have a Federal Work-study award for 2003-04 academic year, and you are not currently employed as a work-study you may apply. Duties include filing, typing, scanning, and special projects. For more information call Lorraine at 917-4301.

**Photography student** looking for people for portrait studies. Normal, everyday portraits. Will trade photos for time. Please call Scott or Melissa at (541) 981-9091.

### HELP WANTED

**Teller 2 (#2276-Lebanon)** How about a part-time position in a bank! Could be you if you have cash handling and customer service. Please see Carla, Student Employment in T101 for more details!

**Receptionist & Accounts Payable Clerk (Albany)** This is a wonderful student job! Pays \$8.50-10/hr DOE. They need someone 16 hours a week (2 hrs Mon-Thurs for lunch relief and 8am-5pm on Friday) See Carla in Student Employment (T101).

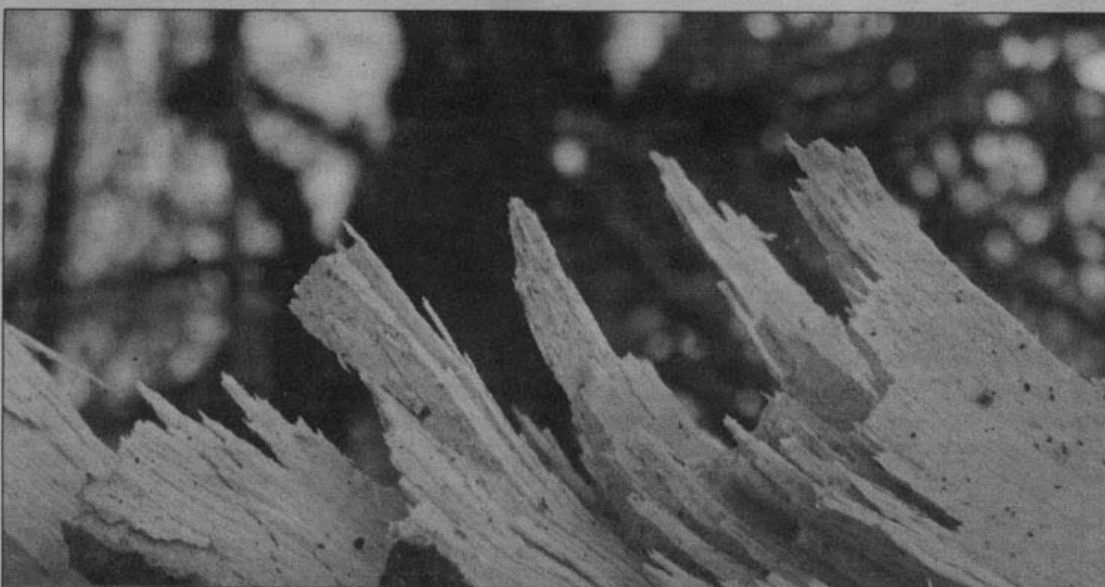
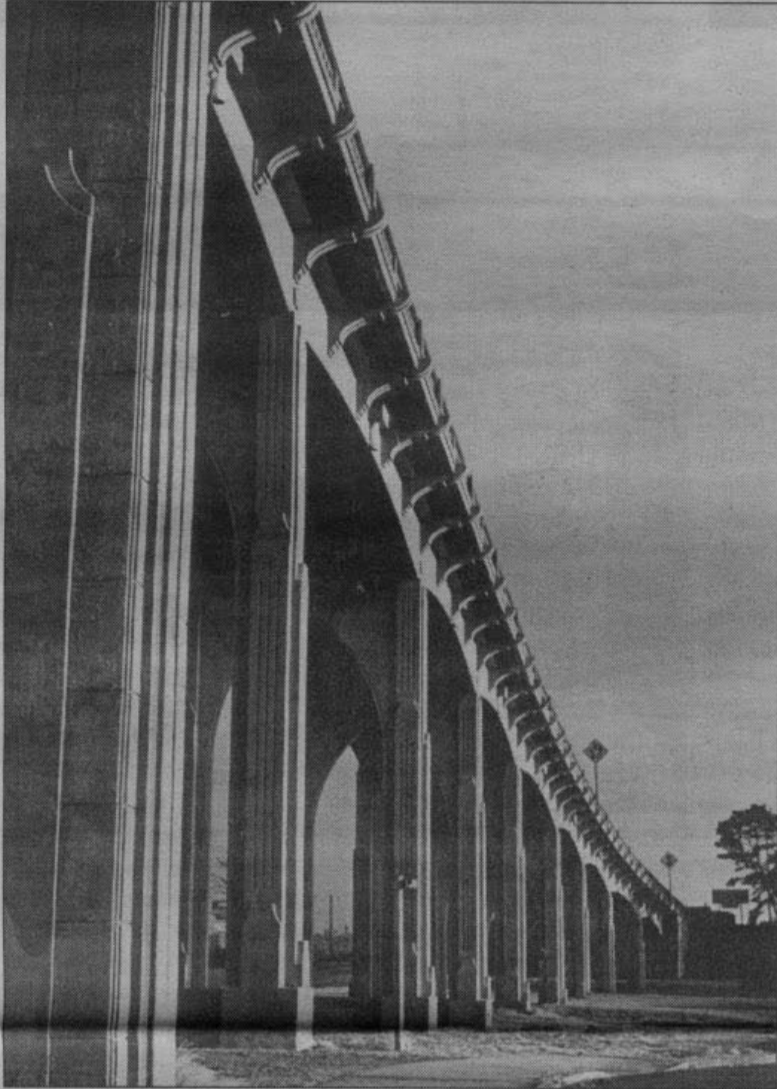
**Restaurant Assistant Manager (#2283-Corvallis)** Three years of restaurant management experience gets you a possible interview with this new sushi place. Formal training is a big plus. See Carla in Student Employment (T101).

**Food Prep (cook) & Wait Help (#2282 & 2281-Corvallis)** New Sushi restaurant will have application/interview fair on Saturday!! They want LBCC students & so far are not advertising to the general public. Less competition makes a better opportunity to get a job! See Student Employment in T101.

**9-1-1 Dispatcher,** City of Eugene. Salary Range \$14.38-\$20.25/hour. Must possess one year work experience in a fast-paced and high-pressure public contact environment. Must have computer and telephone work experience and type at least 40 wpm. Closing date: March 5. We encourage applications from people of color. Accessible work stations are available. To obtain application packet call (541) 682-2676 or e-mail for application to: [application.requests@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:application.requests@ci.eugene.or.us). Application materials also available at [www.ci.eugene.or.us/jobs/default.htm](http://www.ci.eugene.or.us/jobs/default.htm).

# Perspectives

Students in Rich Bergeman's Introduction to Photography class were recently assigned to pick a subject and explore it with their cameras from different angles. They came back with a wide variety of subjects, from boats and bridges to fallen trees and flowing streams, each revealing their own unique point of view on the world around them.



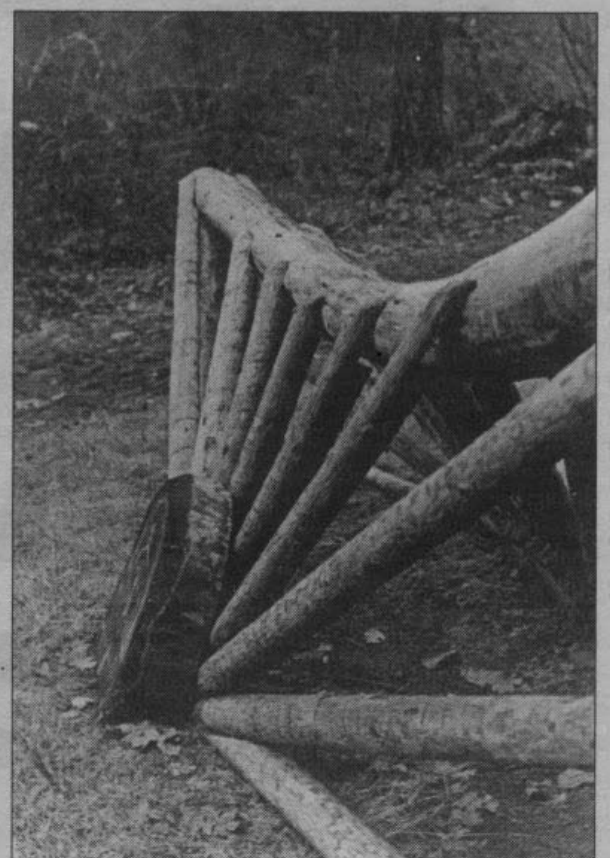
Top Left: Tyler Nofziger took a long look down the ramp of the Yaquina Bay Bridge for this perspective on a famous and oft-photographed landmark. (original in color)

Top Right: Jacob Espinoza turned a playground hoop into a meditation on aspiration. (original in color)

Left: Peggy Isaacs got up close and personal to show the pain suffered by this tree that was ripped down by January's snow and ice storms in southwest Corvallis.



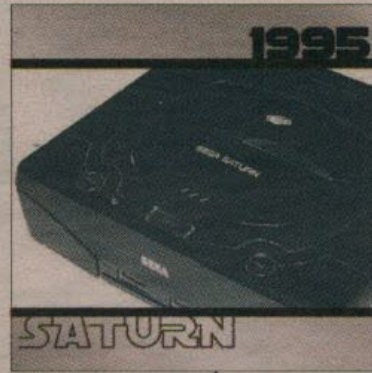
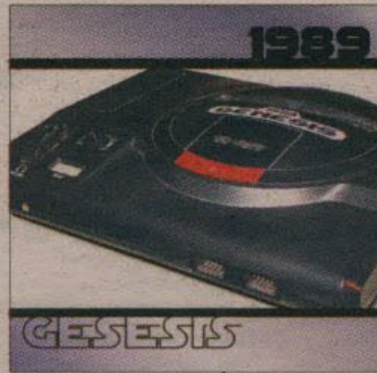
Above: Brandon Schaumann found this boat reflecting the setting sun in Newport Harbor. (original in color)



Right: This unusual fence-like structure was photographed by Kailin Kristosik.

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# INFO



## 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93

**NES** The Nintendo Entertainment System (or Famicom, as it's known in Japan) is the starting block for two generations of gamers. Nintendo's electronic machine made the company name commonplace. The system is the prototype of modern video games, with officially licensed software, iconic characters and elaborate control mechanisms.

The console is great for children because of its simple controller and two-dimensional games. NES is also rather childproof with its cartridge-based format.

Older gamers can appreciate all of the classic titles that were the launching points for series still played today. As the demographic that in its youth played the system frantically searches for childhood memories, the NES has been in high demand.

The console is easily found at garage sales during the warmer days of the year, especially in rural and suburban areas. However, these machines are approaching two decades of use and finding a working model may take time.

**Must-have games:** Contra, Final Fantasy, The Legend of Zelda, Super Mario Bros. 3, Tetris  
**Launch price:** \$199.99  
**Current price:** \$39.99 (used)  
**Best genres:** Adventure, puzzle, shooting

**Genesis** While Sega's first console didn't fare well in America and their Master System was beat by Nintendo's NES, Sega took a more aggressive stance in the growing market. The Genesis has better colors and sound than the Super Nintendo Entertainment System (SNES), but it never saw the same support from Japanese developers as Nintendo received.

The console was considered a failure in its homeland of Japan. Through an attitude-driven marketing scheme, Sega's second console held on to compete with the SNES in America.

Sega released the first mainstream CD-based game format with the Sega CD, an attachment devised for the Genesis. Early titles focused on interaction with full-motion videos.

Sega tried to repeat its success when they created the 32X. The add-on received virtually no interest from developers and was quickly scrapped. This seriously tarnished Sega's reputation with their audience who had just put out hundreds of dollars on instantly obsolete hardware.

**Must-have games:** Columns, Ecco, Mortal Kombat 2, Phantasy Star IV, Sonic 2  
**Launch price:** \$249.99  
**Current price:** \$19.99 (used)  
**Best genres:** Adventure, fighting, puzzle

**SNES** The SNES is the console of choice for fans of classic role-playing games (RPGs). SquareEnix, Nintendo and Capcom created a library for the system that remains unrivaled in the history of cart-based gaming. Many of the SNES sequels that appeared on the SNES land high on avid gamers' "Best Game Ever" lists.

The SNES is an ideal console for parents with children who are too young to handle discs. The console features vibrant colors and cartoon-style games. Nintendo released a series of educational games featuring their famous Italian plumber, Mario. Durability is less of an issue with the SNES, as its top-loading design was much more solid in construction than the early front-loading NES consoles.

Its controllers had shoulder mounted "trigger" buttons that would become a staple of gaming. All consoles after this would incorporate a similar feature, making index fingers part of a gamer's arsenal for saving the Princess, defeating Evil, or any other task at hand.

**Must-have games:** Gradius, FF3, Super Mario World, Super Metroid, Zelda: Link to the Past  
**Launch price:** \$199.99  
**Current price:** \$19.99 (used)  
**Best genres:** Role-playing, shooting

**Saturn** Sega's next console was released in a massive secret movement that gave the company a head start on their competition. The Sega Saturn featured an entirely disc-based library. It had an internal battery that offered limited memory for saved game files. A cartridge slot was included for memory expansion and peripheral devices such as the NetLink modem.

Along side the PS1, the system drove gaming into a new dimension. The previous attempts at three-dimensional games were restricted by the hardware's capabilities. With the Saturn's improved processing power, two-dimensional sprites soon were replaced with 3-D polygons. This advancement led to games that let players roam freely in a more engrossing world.

The console was a huge comeback for Sega in Japan, but the company couldn't seem to be successful on both sides of the Pacific at any given time. The Saturn fell behind Sony's PS1, but remains home to some of the best developments in video game history.

**Must-have games:** NiGHTS, Panzer Dragoon Saga, Shining Force 3, Daytona USA, Virtua Fighter  
**Launch price:** \$399.99  
**Current price:** \$19.99 (used)  
**Best genre:** Fighting

**PlayStation** Japanese electronics company Sony entered the video game business as a partner with Nintendo in production with a CD-based format. When the teamwork fell through, Sony launched its own foray into the video game market. The PlayStation marked a new point for gaming in popular culture.

The gain in popularity made gaming an acceptable pastime for a wider range of players, extending the age limit beyond Mario and his dinosaur-riding adventures "PG" setting. Games marketed at adults were produced featuring mature story elements and realistic gameplay.

Sony's gray platform boasted over 600 titles in its expansive library. With that kind of selection, there's something for everyone on PlayStation. This diversity makes the console a easy choice.

Sony noticed the potential for disaster with disc software and developed a protective coating that significantly prolongs the life of the PlayStation game. Sony also foresaw the limitation of internal memory and offered two ports for external memory.

**Must-have games:** Gran Turismo 2, Final Fantasy 7, Metal Gear Solid, Tekken 3, Resident Evil  
**Launch price:** \$299.99  
**Current price:** \$24.99 (used)  
**Best genres:** Driving, fighting, role-playing

From the early 8-bit years of the NES through the modern 128-bit systems, video games have become a growing market in the electronic entertainment industry. Simple two-button devices evolved into complex systems by dual analog control with pressure sensitive face buttons. Cartridge mediums have been replaced by disc format software for consoles more like a personal computer than descendents of Pong. We can see the monumental moments in modern gaming.

# A VISUAL HISTORY OF VIDEO GAME CONSOLES



# FOCUS

Expanded feature on selected topics, relating to student life and local issues.



**Nintendo 64**

Nintendo's third console brought solid frame rates to 3-D gaming. Affectionately called the N64, the system showed Nintendo's reluctant nature towards adopting new technology.

When Sega and Sony produced CD-playing machines, Nintendo opted for traditional carts for their faster load times. This choice restrained media capacity and resulted in inferior sound and video options.

Gamers admired the lush and colorful worlds N64 created. When Nintendo unveiled the Expansion Pak, things just got better. The RAM expansion let developers produce larger environments and more minute details.

The N64 controller set a new standard by including an analog stick for varying control, dictated by applying pressure. Mario could tiptoe behind an enemy or dash for a coin. Nintendo released the Rumble Pak, a controller add-on that caused vibrations produced corresponding to in-game action. These features are found in all four current generation machines.

**Must-have games:** Donkey Kong 64, GoldenEye, Zelda: The Ocarina of Time, Pilot Wings 64, Super Mario 64.  
**Launch price:** \$249.99  
**Current price:** \$19.99 (used)  
**Best genres:** Adventure, sports

**Dreamcast**

Out of the quiet shadows of Sony's Playstation, Sega launched what would be its final console. The Dreamcast was a 128-bit machine that utilized specially designed CDs that held up to a gigabyte of data, compared to the 650-megabyte capacity of normal CDs. This tactic also helped curb piracy, a growing problem in the electronic entertainment industry.

The hardware was far more advanced than anything in the past and was the first of the current generation of consoles. Sega's popular arcade board, the Naomi, made ports from arcade to home easy and cost effective. The system also shipped with a built-in modem for online gaming.

Sega recognized that it lost the gaming name it had when Genesis sales toppled the Super Nintendo's figures. After losing customers over the 32X and Saturn, the company tried to distance itself from the Sega name. The console was an off-white color in contrast to Sega's pure black past, and at one point the games removed the name "Sega" from its game cases.

In spite of the advanced hardware, the console's life was cut short. Sega, citing poor sales and costly production, discontinued the Dreamcast. The company removed itself from the hardware market and began to develop and publish games for other brands, including long-time rival Nintendo, Sony and Microsoft.

**Must-have games:** Shenmue, Skies of Arcadia, Marvel vs. Capcom 2, Jet Grind Radio, Soul Calibur  
**Launch price:** \$199.99  
**Current price:** \$39.99 (used)  
**Best genres:** Fighting, arcade, party

**Playstation 2**

The follow-up PlayStation console featured a state-of-the-art gaming system combined with a DVD player. At its launch in Japan, DVD movie titles outsold video games as complementary software.

The PlayStation 2 game discs can be either CD or DVD format. Most early titles were produced on CDs because they didn't warrant larger storage size and the expenses affiliated with DVD manufacturing. However, as developers worked with the system to create more complex games, most titles are produced on DVDs now. The PS2 is also backwards compatible with original PlayStation software.

Sony secured key exclusive franchises and put together a strong marketing campaign. Strong Japanese support has ensured a multitude of role-playing games and adventure titles. American publishing giant Electronic Arts gave the PS2 exclusive online functionality for its games, which include the best-selling sports series, as well as several big-name franchises.

After playing catch-up with Sega, Sony had uncontested reign of the modern market. While the older hardware doesn't match up with the newest consoles, the PS2 enjoys the number one selling rank in the industry. Sony plans to keep the PS2 competitive with accessories like the Network Adapter and upcoming Hard Disk Drive (HDD).

**Must-have games:** Final Fantasy X, Gran Turismo 3, Grand Theft Auto: Vice City, Ico, SOCOM: US Navy Seals II  
**Launch price:** \$299.99  
**Current price:** \$179.99  
**Best genres:** Role-playing, adventure

**Xbox**

Microsoft made the jump from personal computers to video games with its Xbox. The large, bulky console had speculation running rampant before its launch in late November 2001.

The Xbox includes a hard disk drive for saving game data. Saved progress and system files are stored on the 8-gigabyte internal memory device. Microsoft implemented a jukebox function, allowing the HDD to store music and playback custom soundtracks during certain games or from the operating menu.

Taking a cue from Sega's Dreamcast, the Xbox also features a built-in network adapter. The broadband only connection ensures players an optimized Internet experience. Up to four Xboxs can be linked together for play over a local area network.

Microsoft has focused on Internet-based gameplay for its console. They developed a subscription service called Xbox Live!, that allows players to maintain a friends list, download new content, and play online competitively or cooperatively.

In order to play DVD movies on the Xbox, a DVD Playback Kit is required. While gamers save money by not being forced to buy memory cards, those looking to use the Xbox for a secondary purpose will have to purchase the \$30 playback device.

**Must-have games:** Halo, Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic, Rainbow Six, Crimson Skies, Project Gotham Racing 2  
**Launch price:** \$299.99  
**Current price:** \$179.99  
**Best genres:** First-person shooting, racing, sports

**GameCube**

Nintendo released its Game Cube only days after the Xbox hit the shelves. Upholding the strange but intuitive style, the Game Cube is a mix of function and design.

The device has a handicap in functionality because of choices made by Nintendo in the design process. The company opted for mini-DVDs to prevent illegal copies of their software from hurting their market. The small space doesn't accommodate regular-sized discs, prohibiting use of standard audio CDs and DVD movies.

Nintendo teamed with Panasonic to correct this oversight and released the Panasonic Q, a full-sized disc compatible player with built in DVD playback. The unit was only available in Japan and has been discontinued. The controller features two different styles of analog sticks, and an asymmetrical button layout. This makes using the sticks in unison cumbersome and instinctive button presses are awkward with the askew layout.

Nintendo would have to rely on exclusive software and value to stay in the game. Key first-party franchises have been resurrected on the GameCube. The GameCube's sales soared over the holiday season when it sold for \$99.99. Fans of the brand continue to put faith and ultimately money behind Nintendo's quality.

**Must-have games:** The Legend of Zelda: The Wind Waker, Metroid Prime, Eternal Darkness, Pikmin, Mario Kart  
**Launch price:** \$199.99  
**Current price:** \$99.99  
**Best genres:** Adventure, party, survival horror

Video games have been replaced by DVD-roms. Read along and

# Y OF OLES

Jeremy, Hennig and Adam peoples

## CONTROL FREAK

Since the NES was released in 1986, exotic controllers have been a staple of video game playing. The NES was released with lightgun, called the Zapper, and a robotic assistant, named R.O.B. (used in Gyromite in place of a human second player). Here are some other examples of specialized controllers and their functions.

 <p>•The Stunner (Sega Saturn) Works with: Virtua Cop, Area 51</p>	 <p>•Karaoke Microphone (Xbox) Works with Xbox Music Mixer</p>	 <p>•Fishing Controller (Dreamcast) Works with: Sega Bass Fishing, Reel Fishing, Soul Calibur</p>	 <p>•DanceDance Revolution Pad (Xbox) Works with DDR Ultramix</p>
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# SPORTS

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

## Men get big win after holding off Lane comeback

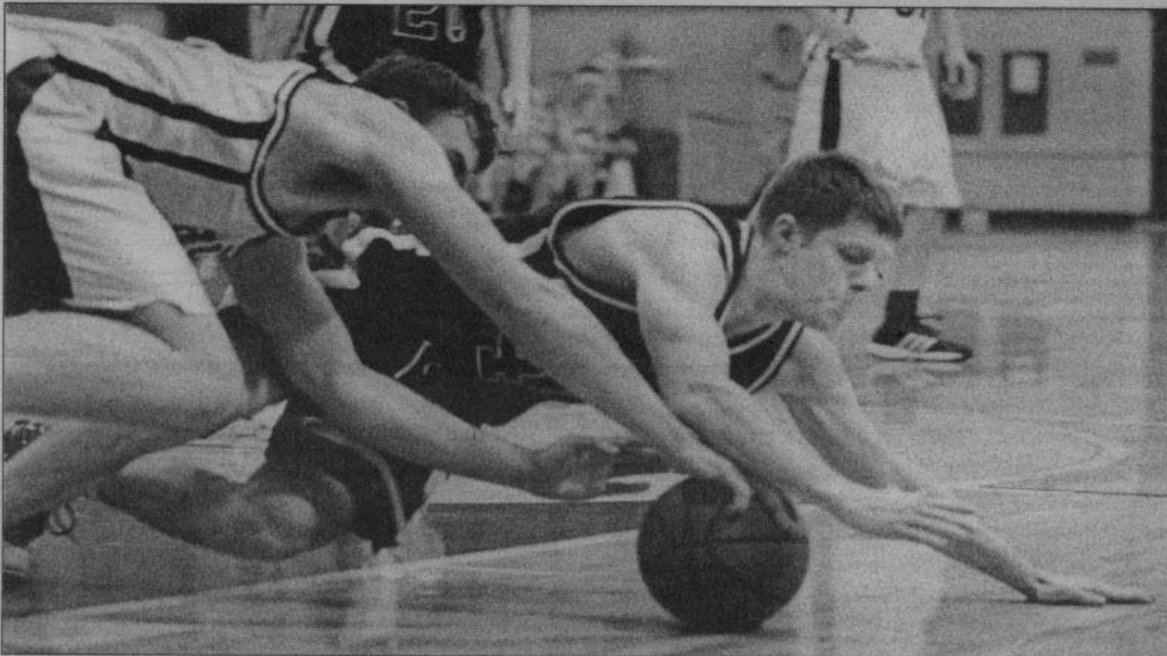


photo by Lewis Forquer

Bobby Schindler, left, dives for a loose ball in last Wednesday's game against Lane. Schindler scored 10 points and had two blocked shots, helping the Runners win and avenge their earlier loss to the Titans.

Caleb Mickel  
 The Commuter

The LBCC Roadrunners squashed the Lane Community College Titans on Wednesday night 64-57.

The Roadrunners won the tip off and jumped to a 14-4 lead, thanks to the sharp shooting of high scorer Ryan Schmidt, who finished the night with 21 points.

After calling a timeout to regain their composure, the Titans came back strong and closed out the half up by one point, 28-27.

Coach Randy Falk blamed the Roadrunners' first-half breakdown on poor rebounding. "We needed to do a better job of blocking out," stated Falk.

The Roadrunners seemed up for the challenge in the second half, as they played better on

offense as well as defense and quickly regained the lead.

With six minutes left on the Runners up by 10, Lane called another time-out to see if they could repeat their first half comeback, but they didn't have much luck. With just a minute remaining and still trailing, the Titans drained two from long range, but not without giving the Runners two easy points from the free throw line, which left the Titans with no chance to win.

"It was a good win for us," commented Falk. "It pushes us closer for a run at the end of the season."

Bobby Schindler added 10 points to the teams score, along with 5 rebounds. Michael Braziel also punched in 13 points. The Runners' next game will be at Umpqua on Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m.

### PLAYER'S DIARY

## Runner's World: Losses fail to discourage team

Ryan Schmidt  
 For The Commuter

What's up everyone? Another month of basketball has gone by and it has been an up and down year for us. We started off the first part of league play with a 0-4 record and for a while things weren't looking too great.

Starting off with four losses isn't fun and there was a lot of frustration building up amongst our team. In desperate need of a win, we played Umpqua at home for our fifth league game and things finally went our way. I felt like everyone played really well and best of all, we finally played a whole game together as a team instead of a bunch of individuals. Kyler Shinn had a great game and lead the team in scoring with 22 points and has been playing extremely well ever since.

It felt good to finally get a league win, not only because we needed one, but to give us a taste of what it's going to take to get more. Last weekend we played Chemeketa in Salem and didn't play completely bad, but when you shoot 29 percent you aren't going to beat many teams.

We are still two games out of playoff position with four games left and our schedule's to our advantage with the last two games at home. I am excited for these last four games because I know we can make the playoffs if we play like we are capable of.

As one of the captains on this team, I feel it's my responsibility to increase the intensity in our practices and do whatever else it takes to help



Ryan Schmidt

us clench that last playoff spot. Besides focusing on our season, I have been busy with school like everybody else and going to a lot of games.

My brother is a junior at McNary High School and I've had a couple of opportunities to watch him play against West and South Albany. My brother and I work out together during the summer and he's very supportive of me, so it's nice when I get time to go watch him play. I've also been going to a lot of OSU games and have seen some pretty exciting ones. With OSU being one of the schools I'm looking at going to next year, it's been a lot of fun being at the games and getting a feel for the atmosphere of Pac-10 basketball.

Recruiting is still going pretty good for me right now and I've narrowed it down to the five schools I'm most interested in: with Oregon, Oregon State, Arizona State, Washington, and Hawaii. However, I'm still keeping an open mind because recruiting sometimes doesn't go the way you want it to. I am very excited to make my decision on what I'm going to do next year, but right now I'm going to worry about the rest of our season and trying to get that last playoff spot. I know most of you are busy with school and work, but if you get a chance, come to our last two games of the year at home on the 18th, and 21st.

Take care, and I'll see you next month.

## Boxers find road to Victory

Jacob Espinoza  
 The Commuter

There's something mysterious about the white building on 34th Street outside of downtown Albany. Outside it's a little raggedy, not like Tyson under Bowe, more like Balboa getting ready for Creed. Step inside and discover that, unlike other fitness centers, Victory Gym has nobody standing in the entry way keeping outsiders outside. It gives an 'Am I in the right place' vibe, but with a 'Come in and find out' sort of way.

Downstairs is filled with a small weight and fitness room with a nice variety of free-weights, machine weights, and cardiovascular exercise options. Upstairs is a room filled with heavy bags, speed bags, a sparring ring, boxers, and coaches. The individuals working out, athletes in training, and the establishment itself all seem to be working toward a common goal of self improvement.

"The people here are really nice," says Tashina Skeen. "You feel like after your first time (working out) here, you're accepted."

Skeen is a sophomore pre-nursing major at Linn-Benton who has been working out at Victory Gym for a year. Though she has not fought competitively yet, she says that she hopes to soon.

Brothers Jeff and John Leonard have both been boxing competitively since their teenage years.

Jeff Leonard, 22, started boxing when he was 14 at Wolf Pack Boxing Club in Sweet Home. He won Oregon's Golden Glove every year between 1999 and 2002 and the regional Golden Glove award in 2000 and 2001, but took a break after a low blow ended his championship bout in the 2002 regional Golden Glove championships in Las Vegas. Jeff is currently a business administration major at LB and has decided to return to competitive boxing after reuniting with former coach Jessie Ramos.

"I'm gonna get down to 178 and fight there," said Jeff. "I've got a pretty good record for an amateur. I'll probably do it for fun, maybe for a little bit of cash, but first I'm gonna get my college degree and just go from there."

Brother John Leonard, 18, followed in Jeff's footsteps and began boxing when he was 12 in the

same Sweet Home gym. He competed in the National Junior Olympics in 2000 and 2001, placing sixth and 12th, respectively. However, in 2002 he was forced to quit boxing because of a kidney infection. John is currently the 10th ranked amateur boxer in the U.S. at the 141-pound weight division.

"I'm just getting back into gear," John Leonard said, "I wanted to be safe and wait long enough where I wouldn't be having kidney problem."

Jeff and John have two other brothers who also boxed competitively—Scott, who is now a Marine, and Caleb, who is still in high school but

plans on becoming a member of Victory Gym and returning to boxing.

"It's an awesome place to work out," John Leonard says, "I've really grown a lot as a boxer since becoming a member."

Jennifer and Justin Fraga are a married couple who joined the gym interested in its Jujitsu classes, which will debut this Friday, but became interested in boxing after participating in some entry

level classes.

"We originally came in and were (working out) downstairs and we knew they offered boxing and kickboxing and some other things, but we didn't have any experience at all," Jennifer said. "They offered an entry-level boxing course that taught you the technique. We just started going to that for probably a month and once we mastered that, he moved us up to the advanced class. (Boxing) wasn't something that we necessarily came here for, but it found us."

Jennifer works full time at LBCC for the office of Community Partnership, attends graduate school at OSU and now enjoys working out at Victory Gym because of the boxing class, which is offered every evening.

"Tuesday's my homework night. I box on Mondays and Thursdays, I have class on Wednesdays and Friday is my night off," she says.

Justin Fraga enrolled into the Army after high school and is currently dual-enrolled with LBCC and OSU, completing his degree in forest management.

"It's nice (to work out with my wife). It gives us something to look forward to at the end of the day," says Justin. "It's good for us."

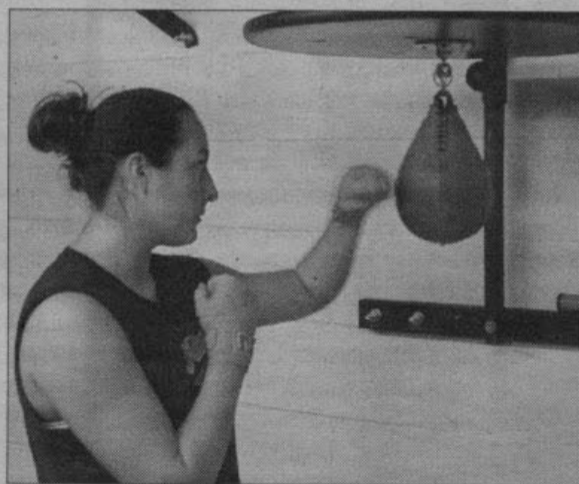


photo by Jacob Espinoza

LBCC student Tashina Skeen, a pre-nursing major, works on the speed bag at Victory Gym in Albany.

**Sports Editor:** Jacob Espinoza  
**Newsroom Desk:** 917-4453  
 commutersports@linnbenton.edu

# SPORTS

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

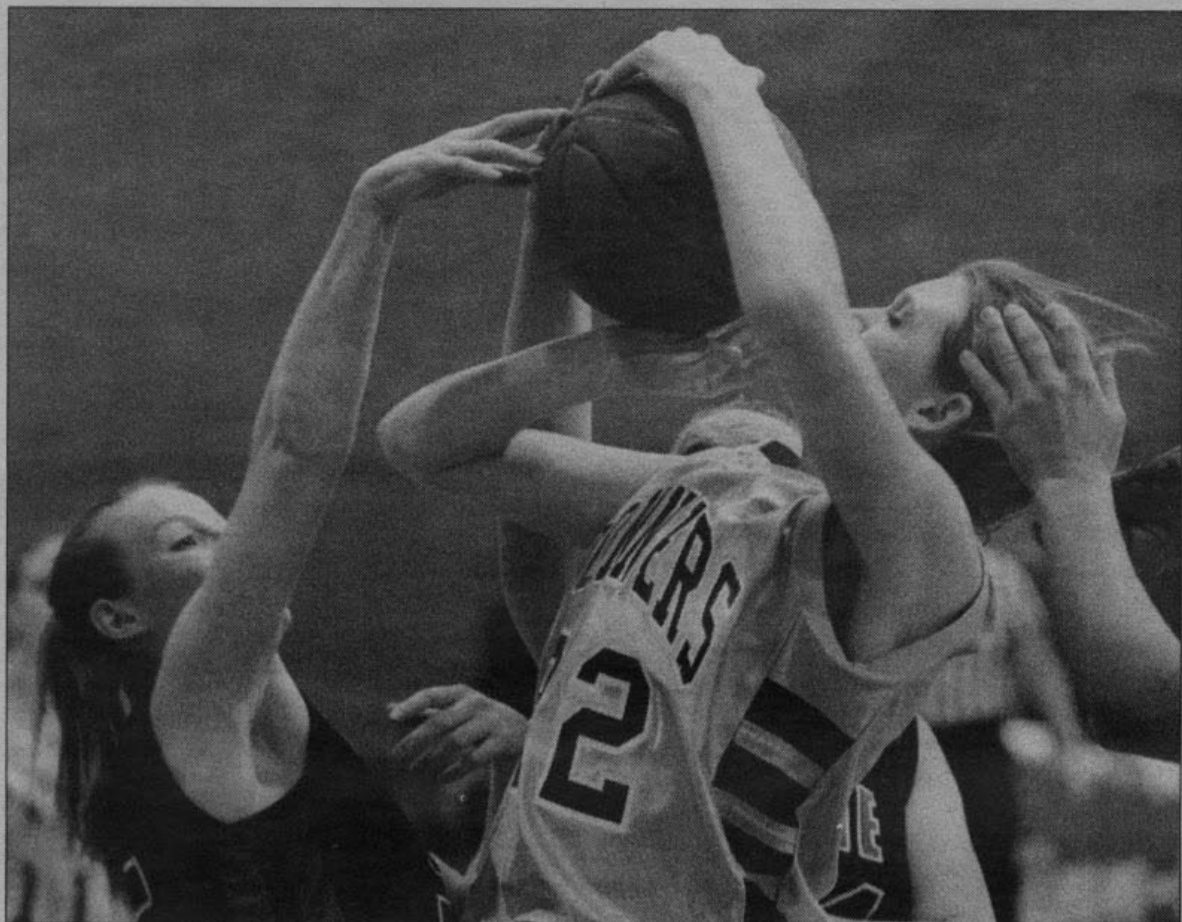


photo by Lewis Forquer

Megan Sutfin draws contact powering through a Lane defender at home last Wednesday. Linn-Benton has struggled with Lane so far this season and lost to them for the second time.

## Women have rough week without inspirational leader

**Jacob Espinoza**  
The Commuter

Linn-Benton's womens basketball team went 0-2 last week, dropping them out of playoff position. The Runners lost to both Lane and Chemeketa, both teams for the second time.

"I don't think they were unbeatable teams for us," says Head Coach A.J. Dionne. "(Lane and Chemeketa) finished when they needed to and we didn't."

Linn-Benton was without starter Debra Arlyn for both games over the week because of health related reason.

"Losing Deb definitely hurt us," Dionne said, "Her presence, motivation, and overall competitiveness have had great impacts for us this year."

Debra Arlyn is questionable for Wednesday's game at Umpqua. If Arlyn does play, Dionne said she will probably try and work her in slowly with limited minutes.

A victory over Umpqua would move the Runners ahead of them for the fourth spot in the Southern Division, putting them back into playoff position.

In Linn-Benton's 71-61 loss to Lane last Wednesday at home, the Roadrunners experienced foul

trouble, allowing Lane to shoot 38 free-throws. "You can't let a team shoot 38 free-throws and expect to win a game," Dionne said.

Priscilla Hendrix led the team with 16 points in the game shooting 63 percent from the floor but struggled from the free throw line making only four of her 10 attempts in the game. Point guard Marissa Higgins led the Runners with eight rebounds and added 15 points of her own.

In Saturday's game at Chemeketa Community College, Linn-Benton was able to keep the game close, but failed to convert during key possession of the game.

Freshman Kendall Dionne played huge and had a game high of 10 rebounds while adding 12 points, but struggled shooting from behind the arc, making only two of her 12 attempts. Priscilla Hendrix again played well, scoring 14 points on five for eight shooting.

The Runners are on the road for both games this week, at Umpqua on Wednesday and at Clackamas on Saturday.

Umpqua and Clackamas are currently in playoff position, with only four games remaining in the regular season Linn-Benton will need a tough win on the road to keep their playoff hopes realistic.

## NBA All-Star game destined for glory

**Jacob Espinoza**  
The Commuter

All-Star weekend is on its way.

Viva Los Angeles.

It will be hard to top last year's All-Star weekend in the party central of America, Atlanta, but L.A. has as good a chance as any city of raising the bar.

Every All-Star weekend comes complete with unforgettable moments: Vince Carter's dunk, Mike in Chicago, but when the best do battle in Hollywood, get ready to see some special effects.

Marking the midway point of the NBA season, this year's NBA All-Star game includes two college-less players on both the Eastern and Western

Conference's starting line-ups (Kobe Bryant and Kevin Garnett on the West, Jermaine O'Neil and Tracy McGrady on the East), but no LeBron James or Carmello Anthony.

The All-Star game may suffer a drop in ratings because of the loss of the two hot products, but the Rookie Challenge will more than likely be one for the VCR to help us remember.

LeBron James and Carmello Anthony will be on the same team for the first, and possibly, only time in their NBA careers.

Joining them on the rookie team for the "Got Milk Rookie Challenge" is the Kansas graduate guard Kirk Hinrich, Georgia Tech's freshman forward Chris Bosh, and last

year's March Madness master from Marquett, Dwayne Wade, amongst others.

They will face off against a sophomore team filled with ex-Blue Devils and foreigners.

Mike Dunleavy and Carlos Boozer team up again to try and rekindle the success of their Duke days, while the rest of the team will try and break through five different language barriers.

Also included on the All-Star weekend's festivities list is the legendary slam dunk contest, 3-point shoot-out, the point-guard dominated skills contest, and Radio Shack Shooting Stars competition which is the evolved from worst idea in sports history, the 2-Ball contest.

This year the NBA has added an NBA legend to the mix of an NBA player and a WNBA player.

The legends scheduled to participate in this year's shooting stars contest include Terry Cummings, John Salley, Steve Kerr and Magic Johnson.

Fred Jones will be representing Oregon in this year's dunk competition. The Portland-raised 2001 U of O grad will be competing with Ricky Davis, Chris Anderson and the two-time winner Jason Richardson in what commonly is the weekend's most exciting event.

Shaq and Kobe will lead a home team spawned in five different countries to battle in a coliseum filled with their championship banners.



**JACOB ESPINOZA**

### COMMENTARY

*Shaq and Kobe will lead a home team spawned in five different countries to battle in a coliseum filled with their championship banners.*

### MEET THE TEAM

**Name:** Kim White (West)  
**High school:** Philomath  
**Major:** Elementary Education  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Favorite movie:** "Pirates of the Caribbean"  
**Favorite restaurant:** Red Robin  
**General interests:** Athletics, outdoors



**Name:** Cheri Roberson  
**Nickname:** Squeeze  
**High school:** Forest Grove  
**Major:** Business/ Accounting  
**Year:** Freshman  
**Favorite CD:** Rascal Flatts  
**Favorite movie:** "Tommy Boy"  
**Favorite restaurant:** Red Robin  
**Something people may not know about me:** I love to read books and write songs.



**Name:** Jessie Ziegler  
**Nickname:** 'Super Sue'  
**High school:** Wantonka  
**Major:** Nursing  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Favorite movie:** "Blazing Saddles"  
**Favorite restaurant:** Crazy Pepper  
**Something people may not know about me:** I've always wanted to be a sumo wrestler.



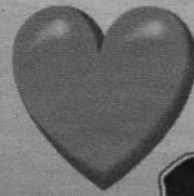
**Name:** Brittany White  
**High school:** Hermiston  
**Major:** Elementary Education  
**Year:** Freshman  
**Favorite CD:** Casting Crowns  
**Favorite movie:** "Liar, Liar"  
**Favorite restaurant:** Red Robin  
**General interests:** School, Church, Basketball  
**Something people may not know about me:** I'm a youth pastor.



**Name:** Priscilla Hendrix  
**Nickname:** Cilla  
**High school:** Alsea  
**Major:** Nursing  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Favorite movie:** "Finding Nemo"  
**Favorite restaurant:** Red Robin  
**General interests:** Play sports



February 9 thru 13



# Valentine Sale

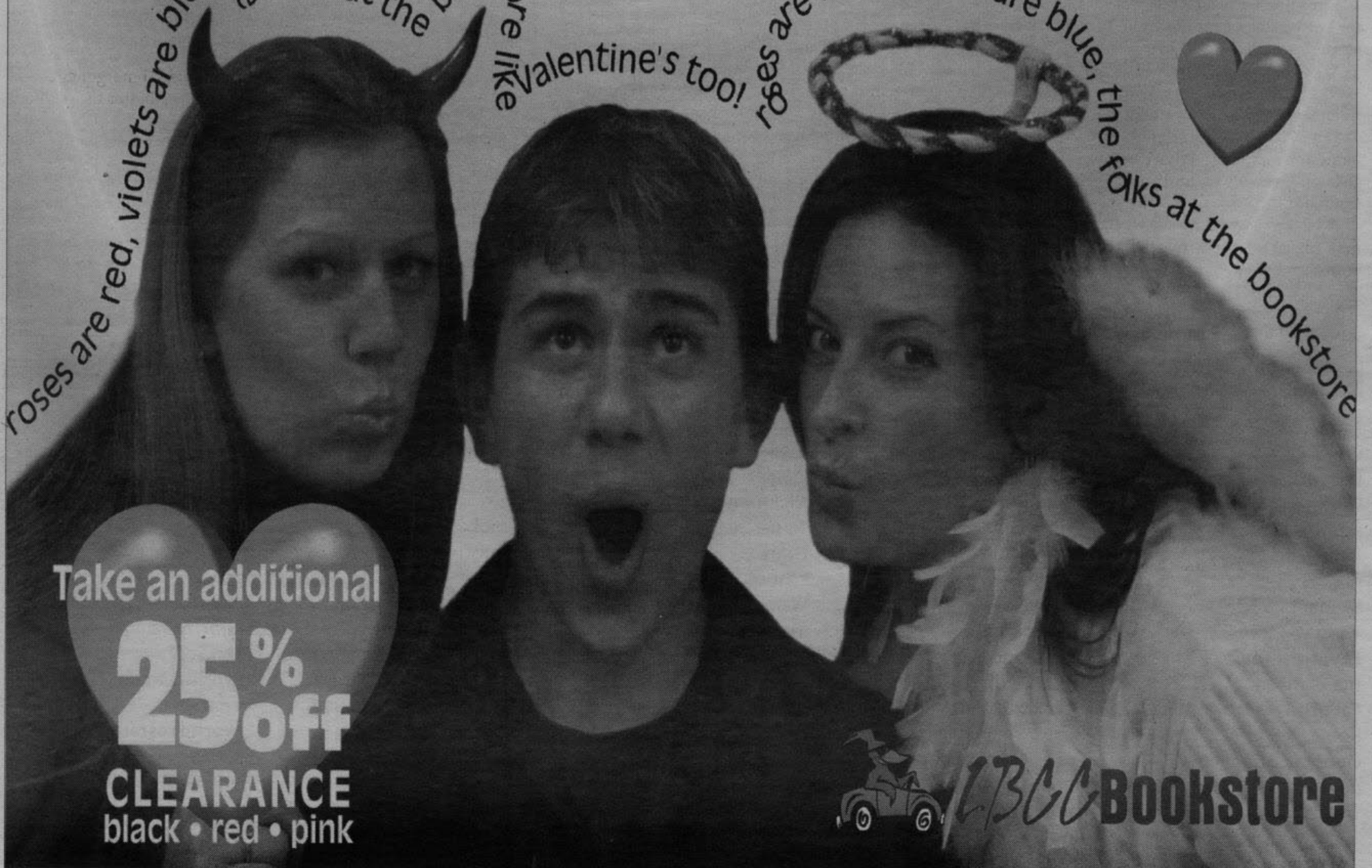
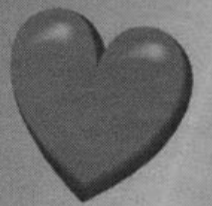
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# NATIONAL NEWS

Current events from across the United States and pertinent international news

## Hunt now focuses on intelligence failure on Iraq

**Warren P. Strobel and Jonathan S. Landay**  
 Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON— The Bush administration's case that Iraq had chemical, biological and nuclear weapons programs before the U.S. invasion weakened further this week, with new revelations from CIA Director George Tenet about problems with U.S. intelligence.

Increasingly, the question from here on out will be: What went wrong and who's to blame?

That's the focus of the new independent commission that President Bush named Friday. It's also the subject of a round of finger-pointing that pits the CIA against the White House, intelligence professionals against their political masters and Republicans against Democrats.

It's a question that Bush will face when he makes a solo appearance Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

There's no single answer, according to current and former intelligence officials, the administration's own public statements and a review of the publicly available documents on Iraq's weapons programs.

In what now appears to have been a cascade of errors, U.S. intelligence overestimated Iraq's weapons progress in several key areas. That was in part because analysts, mindful of Iraq's long history of deception, had to assume the worst, according to Tenet and others.

Compounding the damage, top officials including Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney and others exaggerated what the available intelligence said about Iraq's nuclear, chemical, biological and missile programs and left out important caveats.

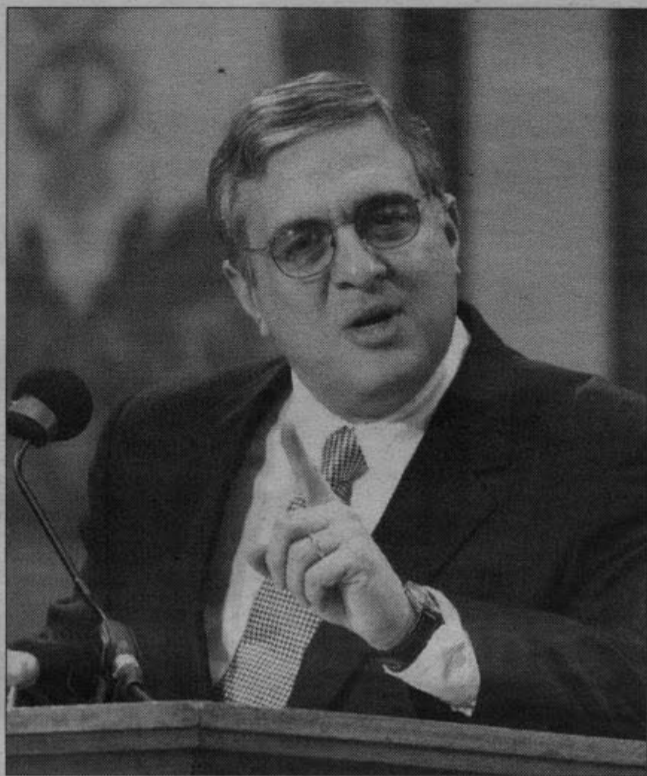


photo by KRT News

**Director of the CIA, George Tenet, broke a long silence last week on the CIA's role in the intelligence used to justify the war on Iraq, saying experts "never said" Iraq posed an "imminent threat." A commission appointed President Bush will spend the next year investigating why intelligence agencies mistakenly thought Iraq had stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction.**

And the process was warped by the Pentagon's creation of an alternate intelligence channel that fed questionable data on Iraq's weapons and links to the al-Qaida terrorist network into the system.

The White House's charges that Saddam Hussein's regime had links to al-Qaida are missing entirely from the current debate, although they were key to the administration's argument for war. Tenet never mentioned them in his Thursday speech at Georgetown University in which he defended the CIA, which has argued consistently that there's no compelling evidence of anything more than occasional contacts between Iraq and al-Qaida.

Some of the questionable material, which came largely from Iraqi defectors, some of whom were considered unreliable by intelligence professionals, was weeded out. But not all.

Each of these factors was to blame, according to Walter P. "Pat" Lang, a former top official from the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency and critic of the administration's handling of Iraq.

"The intelligence community, generally, screwed up," he said. Lang blames administration hawks who favored overthrowing Saddam and who, he said, "acted out of conviction," and he blames intelligence agencies, which he said were weak in standing up to political pressure.

The administration, former chief weapons inspector David Kay and Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., the chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, have all denied that intelligence analysts were subjected to political pressure.

## Controversial morning-after pill to hit market if FDA approves

**Karen Uhlenhuth**  
 Knight Ridder Newspapers

If the Food and Drug Administration makes emergency-contraception pills available over the counter this month, some experts predict it will dramatically reduce unintended pregnancies.

Also known as the "morning-after pill" and sold under the names Plan B and Preven, the drug is essentially a large dose of the hormones found in birth-control pills. The pill, which was recommended for non-prescription status by an FDA committee in December, must be taken within 48 hours of sexual intercourse. It will cost about \$30.

It's been available for years with a prescription, but because the hormones' ability to prevent a pregnancy begins falling shortly after intercourse, any delay is problematic.

And getting a prescription means a delay, said Heather Boonstra, a public policy associate with the Alan Guttmacher Institute, a not-for-profit organization that researches sexual and reproductive health.

According to a survey of phy-

sicians, 25 percent of women seeking emergency contraception didn't manage to get a prescription within 72 hours.

"Even women who were informed, and these were college-educated callers, had trouble hunting that drug down," Boonstra said.

Plan B, the product for which over-the-counter status is being sought, is said to reduce the likelihood of pregnancy by 85 percent if taken within 72 hours of intercourse.

However, Boonstra said, the odds are better within 24 hours, and better yet if taken even sooner.

It's been estimated that making emergency contraception more quickly accessible could hugely impact the number of unintended pregnancies and abortions.

A researcher at Princeton University calculated that changing the drug's status from prescription-only to over-the-counter would likely reduce unintended pregnancies from about 3 million each year to about 1.5 million a year, and cut the number of abortions in half as well.

There were about 1.3 million abortions in the United States in

2000, according to the Guttmacher Institute.

Emergency contraception works in one of several ways. It can prevent the ovaries from releasing an egg, or prevent sperm from fertilizing an egg that's been released into the Fallopian tubes. Although the compound theoretically also could prevent a fertilized egg from attaching to the wall of the uterus, necessary for growth and development, there's no evidence that emergency contraception intervenes at that point, according to David Grimes. He's vice president of biomedical affairs at Family Health International, a not-for-profit organization based in Research Triangle Park, N.C.

Grimes has researched and written about contraception and testified before the FDA in December about reclassifying emergency contraception as over-the-counter.

That's an important distinction when it comes to concerns about whether emergency contraception actually causes an abortion.

Most medical people define pregnancy as starting the moment an embryo implants itself

in the womb, Grimes said. Even if emergency contraception can prevent an embryo from implanting in the uterine wall, it would not meet the medical definition of abortion.

Also, some people have questioned whether easier availability of emergency contraception might lull people into being more lax about using birth control during intercourse. If condom usage is reduced, it's conceivable that more sexually transmitted diseases could be spread.

"That's a good question, and it's something the clinical stud-

ies explored," Boonstra said.

Women surveyed who said they had emergency contraceptives at home found that they did not change their contraception practices.

And it's a good thing, she said, since emergency contraception, even if taken as soon as possible, is not as effective as most measures taken before intercourse.

In fact, Grimes said, "Women who've used emergency contraception are better users of contraception than women who haven't. It's a motivating event for many women."

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

## Awards take back seat to apologies at Grammys

Greg Kot  
 Chicago Tribune

The 46th annual Grammy Awards telecast turned into an extended apology rather than a celebration Sunday, as the besieged music industry struggled to regain its dignity after some embarrassing nationally televised controversies.

The awards themselves became an afterthought, the sideshow to a public-relations counterattack. Beyoncé Knowles won big, claiming five Grammys and tying a record set by Alicia Keys, Norah Jones and Lauryn Hill for the most trophies won by a female artist. The ailing R&B singer Luther Vandross captured four Grammys, including song of the year ("Dance With My Father"), which he shared with Richard Marx. And OutKast took home the big prize, album of the year, for "Speakerboxxx/The Love Below," only the second hip-hop act ever to win the honor.

The multiple winners also included the late Warren Zevon and June Carter Cash; Beyoncé's collaborator, Jay-Z; the White Stripes' Jack White; Eminem; and Alison Krauss. Goth-rock band Evanescence won best new artist, besting thug-rapper 50 Cent, who was shut out despite five nominations. And Coldplay's "Clocks" topped OutKast's ubiquitous single, "Hey Ya," for record of the year.

But the real buzz was the lack of buzz, the earnest attempt by the uptight Grammy gurus to suppress the chaotic spirit that puts the sizzle in popular music. It was a telecast that practically begged listeners to take it seriously, a disconcertingly middlebrow showcase for what are, at their best, defiantly lowbrow art forms: the pop, rock and hip-hop that dominate the awards. Only a performance led by Parliament Funkadelic's cast of funk freaks suggested that this was about the glorious mess that is popular culture, rather than some bland, spontaneity-free recital for the censors' approval.

After a wave of manufactured televised "controversies" in the music world, the Grammy poobahs went the extra mile to keep the event as sanitized as possible. There would be no breast-baring, a la Janet Jackson or French-kissing, a la Madonna and Britney Spears, this night, at least not for nationally televised consumption, with a five-minute broadcast delay installed as an extra precaution against any potential offensive displays.

More than ever, the show needed a host with a sense of humor, a Chris Rock to lob verbal grenades at how suddenly self-serious and defensive the music biz has become. Instead, we got a rotating list of co-hosts such as Queen Latifah.

Justin Timberlake marched to the podium like a chastened schoolboy to accept his best pop vocal performance Grammy, and then caved in to the powers that be by issuing an apology for his role in Super Bowlgate, a.k.a. the "wardrobe malfunction" incident.



photo by KRT

Missy Elliott kisses her trophy after winning the top Female Rap Solo Performance award at the Grammys. The big winner was Beyoncé, who claimed five Grammys.

"I know it's been a rough week on everybody," he said, "and what occurred was unintentional, completely regrettable and I apologize if you guys were offended."

To complete the picture of wholesomeness, Timberlake brought his mother as his date. Jackson, in contrast, was disinvited after her scheduled award presentation to Luther Vandross was canceled because of the singer's health problems.

Christina Aguilera got in a dig while receiving an award for best pop female vocal. "I don't want to (do) the same thing Janet has done," Aguilera said, as she struggled not to fall out of her dress.

With everyone feeling so chastened, it might have been appropriate for the music industry to do a little apologizing of its own. Let's see, where to start: Apologize for the thousands of recording artists who have never seen a single royalty check? Apologize to the consumers of America for spending \$14 million marketing dreck like the latest Jennifer Lopez album? Or perhaps apologize for suing its own fans over peer-to-peer file sharing?

No such luck. Instead, the National Academy of Recording Arts Sciences, the 16,000-member organization comprised of music business professionals that stages the Grammys, began airing ads during the telecast that discourage online music "piracy." The academy set up a web site (whatsthe download.com) that features artists discussing the impact they say online piracy has on their business, but the site's presentation is slanted in favor of those artists who have come out against file swapping.

### And the winners are...

#### Record of the Year

"Clocks," Coldplay

#### Album of the Year

"Speakerboxxx/The Love Below," OutKast

#### Song of the Year

"Dance with My Father," Richard Marx and Luther Vandross

#### New Artist

Evanescence

#### Female Pop Vocal Performance

"Beautiful," Christina Aguilera

#### Male Pop Vocal Performance

"Cry Me a River," Justin Timberlake

#### Pop Performance

by Duo or Group with Vocal  
 "Underneath It All," No Doubt

#### Dance Recording

"Come Into My World," Kylie Minogue

#### Female Rock Vocal Performance

"Trouble," Pink

#### Male Rock Vocal Performance

"Gravedigger," Dave Matthews

#### Metal Performance

"St. Anger," Metallica

#### Rock Song

"Seven Nation Army," The White Stripes

#### Rock Album

"One by One," Foo Fighters

#### Female R&B Vocal Performance

"Dangerously in Love," Beyoncé

#### Male R&B Vocal Performance

"Dance with My Father," Luther Vandross

#### Female Rap Solo Performance

"Work It," Missy Elliott

#### Male Rap Solo Performance

"Lose Yourself," Eminem

#### Female Country Vocal Performance

"Keep on the Sunny Side," June Carter Cash

#### Male Country Vocal Performance

"Next Big Thing," Vince Gill

## Packets of hip-hop condoms fit the bill for hottest events

Damon C. Williams  
 Knight Ridder Newspapers

PHILADELPHIA— There's no shortage of handouts at a hip-hop event. Fliers for other shows. Mix CDs. The occasional promotional T-shirt. A twin pack of condoms.

Condoms? Deesha Dyer must be in the house.

The 26-year-old woman passes out packets containing a pair of condoms and safe-sex literature as part of Cover Your Lover, a program she started in 2003 to raise awareness about sexually

transmitted diseases and their prevention among the local hip-hop populace.

"The cause is close to my heart," said the activist who has been volunteering "in the AIDS community" since she was 14. "This is the best way to reach the adolescent crowd. Some are aware, but they just don't realize how real the problem is."

Dyer, a Philadelphia resident who grew up in Hershey, Penn., can be spotted at the hottest hip-hop events passing out her little bags, and while her program was met with a cool reception initially, folks seem to be opening up to her

idea. In fact, she's about to run out of condoms.

Dyer said she "depends on the kindness of nonprofit organizations and my peers" for funds and condom donations. "Once I am out (of condoms), I have to wait until more are donated."

Though she has a full-time job as assistant to the vice president of a local real estate company, Dyer, who studied psychology and sex education at the University of Cincinnati, also finds time to be a contributing writer for B.Informed Magazine and the Web site Phillyhiphop.com. In fact, B.Informed (www.binformed

mag.com) and Girls Action Initiative, a nonprofit group in Kensington, are the main sponsors of Cover Your Lover.

"Deesha certainly has a passion for what she does," said Jeanine Lee, editor of B.Informed. "I met her through Philly hip-hop. It began that she started doing our press releases, and we saw her passion and wanted her to write a column."

Dyer said there were no turning points that inspired her. "I saw the ignorance and wanted to become involved. We are dying because of AIDS, because of ignorance. You don't have to wait for a traumatic experience to get involved."



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

## RESTAURANT REVIEW

# Grepmpsey's boils up Cajun

**Peggy Isaacs**  
 The Commuter

If you long for a taste of Cajun and can't get to Louisiana, try Grepmpsey's for that traditional sensation.

Grepmpsey's is located on the corner of fourth and Western at 370 SW Western Blvd. in Corvallis and has been open since last May.

They offer a wide range of moderately priced meals and a full bar with happy hour 4 to 7 p.m.

The hours of operation on weekdays are from 11 a.m. to close and from 10 a.m. to close on weekends.

Grepmpsey's is a Cajun-style steak house with great pasta dishes and the best chicken bisque in town. Although a bit salty for my taste, if the soup contained homemade noodles, it would be the best darn chicken noodle soup ever. The flavor was creamy without being too heavy and had a full chicken taste. M'mm Good.

Crawfish was the special of the evening and one of the most appealing dishes on the menu.

OSU student and waitress, Catie McEachern says, "You don't find crawfish on every menu."

Two crawfish dishes show off the extraordinary culinary techniques of this family restaurant.

One dish, with a whole pound of crawfish, boiled to perfection, is served with corn on the cob and red potatoes. The dish seemed so large when it was served, but the succulent tails seemed to

disappear way too fast. Delicious.

Cajun Crawfish Pasta is hailed by OSU graduate student, Betsy Blackie as her favorite dish. Blackie, with a kind gesture, offered to let me sample her meal.

Only after she said, in a low tempting voice, "You'll love it," did I agree. With only one bite did the realization come that this will be the next dish that I order, when I return. I was immediately impressed, the crawfish was moist and tender mixed with pasta and the right combination of

cajun sauce that was spicy and tantalizing.

Grepmpsey's is owned by Juel Gregory, who named the restaurant by combining his last name with his wife's, Dempsey. Gregory worked as head chef and baker at Loafers in Albany, kitchen manager at Ruby Tuesday's in Corvallis, and after gaining the knowledge to run his own business, he opened Grepmpsey's.

Grepmpsey's specials include Monday Night Football, Fat Tuesdays, Thirsty Thursdays (the bar makes a mean drink anytime though), live blues on Friday, and Elegant Night Saturday, which includes dressing the restaurant up with tablecloths.

It doesn't matter whether you are a college student, a couple dating, having a family night, or just want a good drink, Grepmpsey's is the place for you.

With friendly waitresses and good service, you can't go wrong. Bon Appetit!



Patrons at Grepmpsey's sports bar enjoy happy hour drink specials before Monday Night Football.

photo by Peggy Isaacs

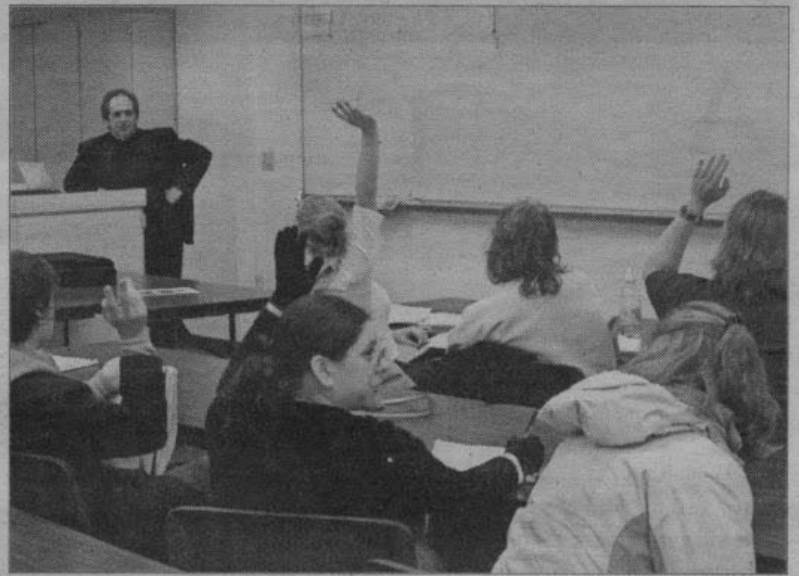


photo by Scott McClure

Students in Terrance Millet's Eloquent Umbrella class discuss the submissions to this year's edition. The students state their case for or against each work before voting on whether to accept it.

# Eloquent Umbrella shows off local writers, artists

**Laurent L.N. Bonczijk**  
 The Commuter

LBCC's journal for the arts, The Eloquent Umbrella, is well underway. The journal is the product of the college's winter writing class, WR 247. The students have already reviewed over 70 pieces of art and are firmly decided on including 25 of them in the publication.

The students in the class nominated Lindsay Jones as the editor. She was last year's assistant editor and LBCC's Publications Committee approved the nomination with a unanimous vote last Thursday.

Originally 25 people had signed up for the class, but only 15 have been showing up on regular basis.

Faculty advisor and published writer Terrance Millet says, "It's more than a class. It's an accomplishment."

"People get passionately involved in critiquing poems and it surprises them, and me sometimes," he continued.

Students vote on the incoming pieces and in case of close votes, or if the minority of voters feel strongly about their position, they debate their reasons in an attempt to sway more voters their way.

"350 to 500 copies will be printed at an estimated cost of \$3,500," says Millet.

Deadline is Feb. 15 for submitting artwork. Details are on their website: <http://cf.linnbenton.edu/depts/english/web.cfm?pgID=61>

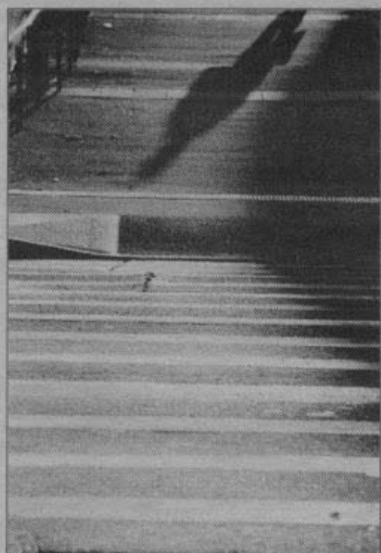
# Mexican Fulbright scholar's work exhibited in AHSS Gallery

From the LBCC News Service

Writer, photographer, and current Fulbright Scholar at Chemeketa Community College, Ivonne Saed, is the third guest lecturer and exhibitor in the Art Department's "International Artist Lecture Series."

She is currently exhibiting this month in the AHSS gallery, and will give a talk about her work at noon, Wednesday, Feb. 18 in Forum 113. A reception is to follow in the AHSS Conference room.

Saed received her BA in Graphic Design from the Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana-Azcapotzalco in Mexico City, and is currently working on her Masters thesis in Modern Literature. She has taught Animation Techniques, Audiovisual Production, Logo and Corporate Identity, a Photographer and Writers workshop, and is co-founder of "EntreSujetos," an international interdisciplinary group devoted to communication, philosophy and literature.



"Kafka No. 3" is one of about 40 prints by Ivonne Saed on view at the AHSS Gallery.

Her professional background ranges from editorial design and corporate identity to commercial and artistic photography. She has numerous publications, and has exhibited widely, including the Eighth Photographic Biennial in Mexico City.

Gallery hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. excluding holidays.

## MOVIE REVIEW

# Oscar-nominated 'Lost' attempts to translate awkwardness in relationships

**Michelle Bertalot**  
 The Commuter

Brought together by insomnia, loneliness and boredom, "Lost in Translation" will not leave its viewers at a loss of words.

Directed by Sofia Coppola, the film details an "accidental" relationship that develops between Bob Harris (Bill Murray) and Charlotte (Scarlett Johansson), who are both lost within the confinements of their own lives.

Visiting Tokyo to promote Japanese whiskey, Bob, an internationally known actor, is sliding down the hill of his acting career. Charlotte, a recent Yale philosophy graduate, is accompanying John (Giovanni Ribisi), her photographer husband of two years, on a photo shoot. However, John, busy with his own work, leaves Charlotte each day with a lot of time on her hands in a very unfamiliar territory.

Bob and Charlotte meet in the hotel bar and a friendship that we endure as the movie develops. It's as if the two just added water, and their friendship grew out of complete boredom.

The two now have a counterpart to explore Tokyo's sushi bars, stripper joints and bars

Do they sleep together? Does John walk in on the two mid-climax? Sorry kids, no sex here. However, the romantic tension is blatant in the

beginning, but toward the end it's almost excruciating how every word, every scene overflows with this tension.

The movie addresses life on a split level, one comically as well as realistically. Comically, "Lost" weaves the cultural differences to travelers. Language barriers, shower heads for Japanese-like bodies. Strange unfamiliarities are everywhere.

The script as well as direction was orchestrated by Coppola, who wrote the movie in with Murray in mind. This is Coppola's second movie, the first being "The Virgin Suicides."

Murray and Johansson's performances were brilliant. Both were a perfect fit for the roles. Although there were no tricky camera shots or elaborate special effects, you have to give her credit for getting such an excellent performance from her cast.

While the script sometimes resorts to making fun of Japanese people, it doesn't give off that slapstick vibe that other movies do. I enjoyed the humor, as well as the insight on the awkwardness of lust in a friendship.

Oscar nominations for "Lost" include Best Picture, Directing, Actor in a Leading Role (Murray), and Original Screenplay (Coppola). Although I'd rather see Johnny Depp win the Oscar for the Leading Role category, Murray's performance comes in a close second.

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 commuter@linnbenton.edu

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

## CALENDAR

### AFTER DARK

**Albany Civic Theater**  
 111 W. First Ave.  
 Albany  
 928-4603

**Feb. 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21,  
 26, 27, 28**  
**The Pirates of Penzance**  
 Gilbert & Sullivan's Classic  
 Comic Musical  
 8 p.m.  
 \$10

**Majestic Theatre**  
 115 SW Second St.  
 Corvallis  
 754-1551

**Feb. 12**  
**The Brothers from  
 Different Mothers**  
 Juggling Comedy Duo  
 7:30 p.m.  
 \$5 children; \$8 adults

**Oregon Coast Aquarium**  
 2800 SE Ferry Slip Rd.  
 Newport  
 (541) 867-3474  
 ext. 5301

**Feb. 14**  
**Octopus Encounter**  
 Hold hands with a giant  
 Pacific octopus and receive  
 a photo  
 Noon & 2 p.m.  
 \$15 members  
 \$25 nonmembers

**Platinum Promo**  
 126 SW 4th St.  
 Corvallis  
 738-6996

**Feb. 13**  
**Clinton Fearon & The  
 Boogie Brown Band  
 Bob Marley's Birthday**  
 Reggae  
 9 p.m.  
 \$8 presale; \$10 door

## 'Vagina Monologues' opens this week for three-day run at OSU's LaSells Center

**Laurent L.N. Bonczijk**  
 The Commuter

There will be three performances of Obie award-winning playwright Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" at OSU this week.

Performances are to be held at the LaSells Stewart Center on campus at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 12 and at 4 and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 14.

Tickets are sold in advance at Grass Roots Bookstore, 227 S.W. 2nd St. in Corvallis. Cost is \$6 for students, \$8 for general admission and \$10 at the door. The second show on Saturday will have interpretation for the hearing impaired.

The play focuses on ending domestic violence and general violence against women, as well as proclaiming Valentine's Day a women's celebration day.

The play is the result of over 200 interviews Ensler had with women talking about their sex organs.

Ensler asked those women, who represented of all walks of life, questions relating to female sexuality and its issues. She then compiled them and produced

the result as a one-woman show in 1996.

Because of the subject, OSU producers have already said that some people may find the play objectionable.

OSU faculty, staff, students, as well as community members will interpret the play.

Ensler's other plays include "Lemonade," "The Depot," "Floating Rhoda and the Glue Man," "Extraordinary Measures," "Ladies," and "Scooncat."

Since then, she has also published a book that is a compilation of the play.

Earlier presentations of the play used a bare stage and mood lighting, the power of the monologues being enough to carry it. As stated earlier, the play is not for all audiences since some of the monologues include re-enactment and simulated orgasms.

"Proceeds benefit the Corvallis-based Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence, with 10 percent going to relief funds in Juarez, Mexico, where 90 women have been raped and murdered during the past decade," according to the OSU website.



photo by Scott McClure

School children pour into Takena Hall Tuesday morning for the debut performance of "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," put on by the LB Performing Arts Department.

## Thousands of children swarm down 'rabbit hole' in Takena

**Colleen Jacks**  
 The Commuter

Be afraid. Be very afraid.

The LBCC campus is about to be invaded by an army so vast, so insidiously disguised, you won't believe it until you see it.

The first wave hit campus on Tuesday, when the tiny invaders descended from giant, yellow personnel carriers, checked their watches (if they could tell time) and muttered about being late—for the tea party.

Twice each Tuesday and Thursday for the rest of the month, thousands of school children will rush the campus and fall down the rabbit hole in Takena Theater to watch "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," directed by George Lauris.

"It's loud. It's fast. They'll enjoy it," speculated Director George Lauris, department chair for LBCC's Performing Arts Department.

"I chose 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' because of its standing as a classic example of the finest in children's literature and also because of its basic theme: A child's attempt to make sense out of a confusing and often contradictory adult world," stated Lauris.

The children's show has been a LBCC tradition for 29 years. All the school performances are sold out.

"Close to 7,500 children see these shows each year. The theater seats 466, and every seat will be occupied," explained Patricia Bledsoe-Wright, Takena Theater's performance coordinator. "Some kids think it's a great way to get out of school for a few hours," she adds. The cast will perform four 60-minute shows a week in addition to two public matinees.

"I like the fact that this a children's show. It's a lot of fun," said Kate Paul, who plays Alice. An LBCC freshman, majoring in languages, Paul is originally from Mitchell, Ore. Her previous stage experience includes grade-school shows and

church plays.

The rest of the actors echo enjoyment at performing for children. Many cast members play multiple roles in the show.

"I've never done a children's show. It should be fun because kids add immediate feedback," said Caitlin Perkins, who plays The White Rabbit.

Parkins is a dual-enrolled sophomore who is majoring in theater arts and hopes to become a drama teacher. Her stage experience includes roles in community theater and high school productions.

Nick Sheler, The Mock Turtle, says he had a bit of a challenge working with his costume. A LBCC freshman, he appeared in productions at Lebanon High School and participated in acting competitions taking first place in the regionals, and second place in the state.

Erica Jones, second-year LBCC student, designed the costumes.

"Some wardrobe pieces, I was able to pull from stock, but due to the unique nature of the show, many had to be built," Jones said. She did much of the sewing herself, but had to employ a few stitchers to complete the project on time.

When Jones completes her studies here, she plans to attend the Art Institute of Portland majoring in costume design.

Rounding out the rest of the cast are: Erin Bartelds (Duck and Queen of Hearts); Mischa Brittin (Dodo and March Hare); Jillian Brown (Mouse and Card Two); Linda Christie (Cook, Card Five and Knave); Hans Eleveld (Caterpillar and King of Hearts); Justin Gross (Gryphon); Michael Leavenworth (Lory, Frog Footman and Doormouse); Eric Nepom (Fish Footman and Mad Hatter); Talia Sweek (Duchess and the Cheshire Cat).

Maggie Anderson is assistant to the director and production stage manager.

Bruce Peterson is set designer and technical advisor. Original music by Susan Peck.

### Public Shows

Two Sunday matinees will be held for the public on Feb. 22 and Feb. 29 at 3 p.m.

The Feb. 29 show is a benefit for the Performing Arts Foundation Scholarship and will be interpreted in American Sign Language.

Tickets are available at the Takena Theater Box office, or can be reserved over the phone (541) 917-4531. Tickets are also available at Sid Steven's Jeweler's in Albany, and Gracewinds Music in Corvallis.