

The Commuter

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Wu addresses LB concerns

Rick Casillas
The Commuter

Congressman David Wu stopped by Linn-Benton Community College on Friday to discuss upcoming legislation about rising textbook costs, tuition, and transfer policies between community colleges and universities.

Wu, serving his fifth term in office, is a founding co-chair of the U.S. Congressional Caucus on Community Colleges and has introduced provisions in upcoming higher education bills that will prevent bundling of additional materials with textbooks, and continue to encourage partnerships between community colleges and four-year colleges and universities. Both of which would lead to lower costs and greater accessibility for students.

Dual enrollment has already been established between OSU and LBCC, which allows students, after meeting basic prerequisites, to apply to attend classes either campus and utilize the services of either, something Wu hopes to see across the state.

"People take classes differently as opposed to a one size fits all. Oregon has really led the way in having articulation agreements between colleges as a solution," said Wu.

Another issue addressed at the forum was the rising cost of textbooks, and the questionable necessity of revisions. Textbooks can cost up to \$100, are often packaged with supplemental books, and are constantly

revised, removing the value of used copies students try to sell back.

According to Robert Harrison, a teacher at LBCC, professors are pressured and told by publishers and bookstores to use the updated versions for their classes, even if the change of material is insubstantial. The first few weeks of classes are often littered with angry muttering about these exploitative procedures, and it has turned into a financial burden for students.

"What we have is a broken market," said Wu. "The numbers I have indicate the publishing industry is not a small profit industry, it is a matter of fairness."

Wu indicated that although there are limited steps that could be taken by law, students, bookstores, and faculty can play a major role in pricing; by starting student-run combines where they set resale values and having bookstores contact teachers earlier so that they can offer listings to students in time to get materials off-line.

Financial aid is a mercurial beast, however, and not so easily solved. Wu attributed lack of funding to tax cuts made by the current administration in 2001-02 that he says lead to a revenue loss of an estimated \$200 to \$400 billion a year, in addition to the over \$500 billion spent on the conflict in Iraq -- funding, Wu says, that would have otherwise been spent on Pell grants and



photo by Will Parker
Congressman David Wu visits LBCC on Friday to discuss legislative issues with students.

federal funding of education. Wu hopes to see the tax cuts removed and says if not made permanent they will disappear by 2010 or 2011.

"I think that it's practical to keep some of those tax cuts for middle-income folks, but I think it's time to stop having a huge amount of the benefit go to a tiny part of the population," said Wu.

Internet neutrality subject of debate

Lief VanAtta
The Commuter

Your high-speed Internet connection may have undisclosed restrictions.

Many consumers are peeved at Internet Service Providers (ISPs), specifically Comcast, for throttling bandwidth dedicated to peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing.

Comcast asserts that they limit P2P traffic to provide faster Internet traffic to their customers, while critics argue that this practice limits how customers use the Internet they pay for, while also using subversive techniques in doing so. This has sparked a renewed debate on 'net neutrality. Should ISPs control the content and traffic of Internet data with the aim of making it better and faster, or should consumers have control over the service they pay for?

Bandwidth limiting isn't an uncommon practice among ISPs. According to TorrentFreak.com, Canadian ISPs Cogeco and Rogers do the same thing on a smaller scale. Specifically, Comcast targets P2P bandwidth to be controlled, and does so by disrupting users' connections with peers.

This debate has lasted for more than six months. It started with some BitTorrent users noticing that their connections were being interrupted, which led to an investigation by disgruntled customers that revealed Comcast uses Sandvine, a P2P management application, to disrupt the use of P2P applications like BitTorrent. Eventually, this led to a lawsuit filed against Comcast in which the plaintiff argues that, "Comcast's promises of providing Internet connections that let users 'download at crazy fast speeds' are false and misleading since Comcast limits downloads by transmitting 'unauthorized hidden messages to the computers of customers' who use peer-to-peer file sharing software," according to Wired. Soon, the FCC got involved. They held a public hearing on Feb. 25 to discuss the subject of 'net neutrality, where they determined that the ISP was using "hacker techniques" in its bandwidth management. Comcast ran afoul of public opinion when it was discovered that they paid people to fill up the seats. Comcast admitted to employing people to save seats for Comcast employees who wanted to attend the hearing, but a paid attendee told a

reporter at savetheinternet.com that he "had no idea what the meeting was about."

While Comcast contends that they did not hire seat-warmers to exclude the public from the event, many had to be turned away. The venue's capacity had been nearly filled after the paid seat-warmers arrived 90 minutes before the event.

Rep. Rick Boucher, D-Va., a strong consumer rights supporter, also chastised Comcast. "Comcast has made a major mistake in attempting to hinder peer-to-peer file sharing as an aspect of its network management," Boucher said to CNET News. "The inability of customers to (share files) significantly diminishes their ability to utilize the Internet for one of its most important applications, which is user-to-user content," he said.

Boucher added, "File sharing is already being used for a wide variety of perfectly lawful and appropriate applications."

Even students at LBCC have their opinion on this. David Cobos, a student at both OSU and LBCC, said, "I think it's wrong for Comcast to filter Internet traffic."

"Their job is to provide (their customers) a service," Cobos added.

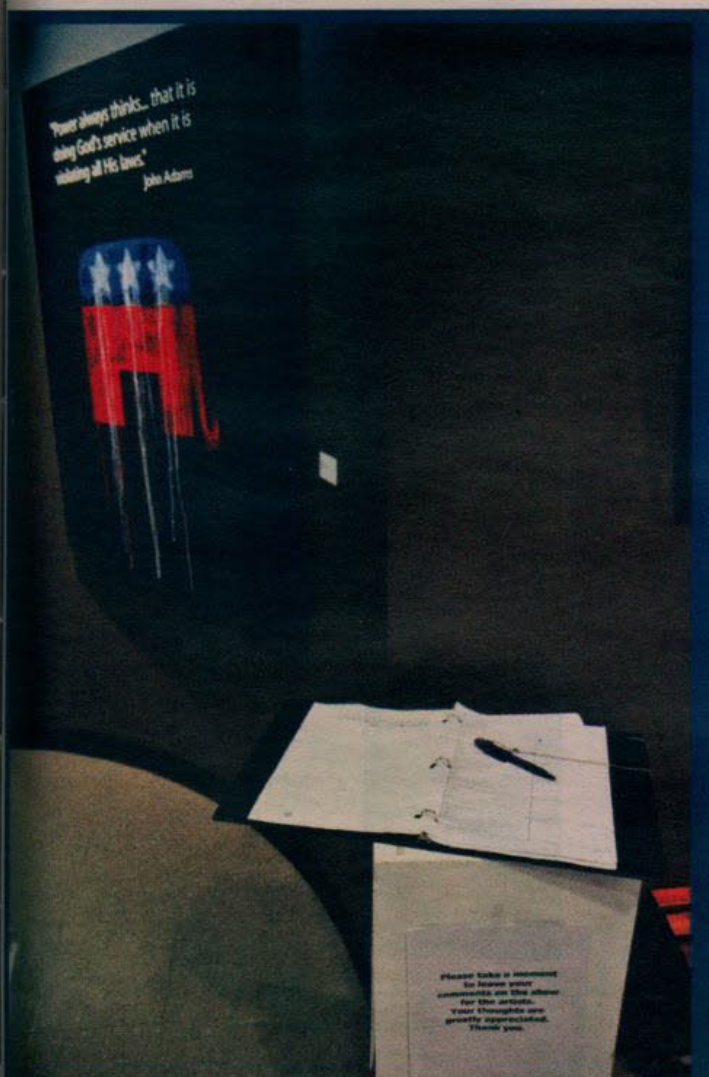


photo by Will Parker

"Untitled" by Mark Harris hangs in the entry to NSH as part of the "Political Show." For more info, check out The Back Page.

"Semi Pro" Faces off



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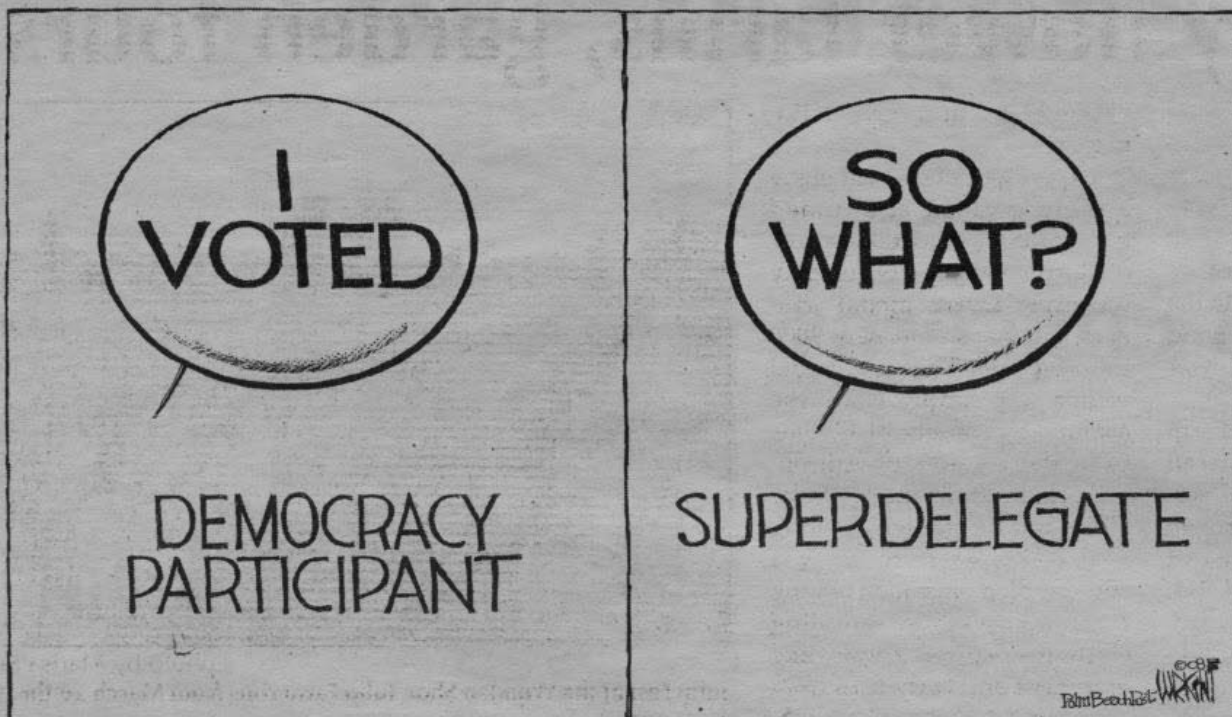
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OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter
 commuter@linnbenton.edu (F-2)
 Please sign and keep to 300 words or less



Gygax, I tip my flagon of mead to you

Gregory Dewar
 The Commuter

Last week a mortal tragedy struck the gaming world. E. Gary Gygax, creator of the famed franchise, "Dungeons and Dragons," died at the age of 69.

I would like to dedicate this space to a great human being, one I never had the pleasure of knowing personally, but who nonetheless was an influential figure in my life. Someone whose creativity and ingenuity have inspired and provoked untold numbers of gamers to dream, to rosin up their bows, and to cast magic missiles against the "darkness."

Gygax began his gaming career with tactical war games in the 1950s. In 1967 he organized the first meeting of what would come to be known as "Gen Con." The year 1971 heralded the precursor to "Dungeons and Dragons," "Chainmail," and by 1974 he had helped found TSR (Tactical Studies Rules) and released the first edition of "Dungeons and Dragons."

His love for gaming continued to the end; even as his health failed, he continued to remain active in the community. His gaming career led him to voice himself on the TV series "Futurama," and to have Molly Ringwald offered to him as a virgin sacrifice on G4TV.

"Dungeons and Dragons" is a dice-based game of the imagi-



"I would like the world to remember me as the guy who really enjoyed playing games and sharing his knowledge and his fun pastimes with everybody else."

Gary Gygax

Photo By Alan De Smet

nation, where you can be anyone and do, literally, anything with only the limits of your imagination as your boundaries. It is a game of camaraderie as well as exploration.

Like many of the 20-somethings in America, during my formative years I was more akin with a "Fallen Ranger" than your typical diligent student. "Dungeons and Dragons" soothed my soul, it freed my mind, and it gave me a support network. It was as much a creative outlet as an escape that wasn't drug-induced or self-destructive. It allowed me the ability to introspect and journey through a social setting with my peers and limited cost.

Through it, I tread the dark planes of my childhood and discovered who I really was. I found purpose, I found friends, I regained my class as a full-fledged ranger and survived being a teenager. Gygax was more a celebrity to me than any Hollywood

casanova could ever have been, due to his creativity. For giving the world "Dungeons and Dragons," for giving gamers the tools to become themselves (whether that's a Dwarven Cleric or a Halfling Rogue), for dedicating your life to hobby gaming, I, as I'm sure many in more frequent publications already have, salute you for giving the world the gift of humanity.

Every time I roll a natural 20, I'll think of you, Gary Gygax. From victory to an inn!

Cliquish ASG shies away from competition

Davis LaMuerta
 The Commuter

The end of February brought some changes to LBCC; the Associated Student Government elected its new officials: Hannah Gzik for president and Stephanie Ware for vice president to name a couple. Now I pose this question: How many of you in the student body—the very people these "officials" are purported to represent—even knew there was an election?



"The ASG is like a high school clique that requires exclusive membership to become a part of it."

Davis LaMuerta

Yeah, that's what I thought. All last month, I kept my eye out for any sign of life from the ASG; having run for student body president last year, I knew that the elections should have been approaching. But still I saw nothing; no bulletins, no fliers, no sign whatsoever that there even was an election this year.

Being the nosey reporter that I am, I finally went down to the Student Life & Leadership office to investigate, and possibly run a story to help inform students if and when the election was to take place. I was given this response: "No comment!"

They refused to tell me anything about the elections; not who was running (if anyone), not when voting would take place; nothing. "No comment!" was their final answer.

I found out later from a friend who works in the office that immediately after my empty-handed departure, the people I spoke to started trashing me behind my back. Well, that's fine. I know I caused quite the controversy last year with my running (and not to mention with my very opinionated opinion columns). The only thing that bothered me was how unprofessional it all seemed.

These "student" government officials are in place for one purpose, and that purpose is to act as the voice of the student body. How can a group of individuals who ignore the students possibly speak for us?

I think this "election" was held as much in secret as possible to prevent "outsider" interference. The ASG is like a high school clique that requires exclusive membership to become a part of it. I'm glad I did not win the presidency last year; I would be ashamed to find myself a part of such a group.

PERSPECTIVES

Q: What annoys the heck out of you?



"When people are texting or have their headphones on while you're talking to them."

• Danielle Lee •
 High school student

"When people say they're going to do something, and they don't."



• Sean Brown •
 Theater



"Naggers, I can't stand people that nag."

• Esteban Ayala •
 Undecided

"Teachers seem to lose sight of all the work we have in more than just their class."



• Robert Rasmussen •
 Undecided



"When people pay with a check at the express line in the market. Because it's supposed to be fast!"

• Ali Krebs •
 Theater

"When people clear their throat, like they're preparing to spit. It totally grosses me out."



• Courtney Baggett •
 Nursing

Compiled by Chris Negahbani

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LOCAL NEWS

News about our local community, including Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon, Sweet Home and Philomath.

Willamette Valley flower farms, garden tours

Marisa Silver
 For The Commuter

Spring is a time of renewal, and it seems that each passing week brings a new set of glorious blooms to feast your eyes upon. If you're into extremes, heading out to a flower farm allows you to enjoy an overwhelming rainbow of colors, starting in late March through mid-June.

All three of the following farms are located about 30 minutes south of Portland near Wilsonville. Just minutes from the freeway you can enjoy spectacular views, a few goodies, and a myriad photo ops.

Tulip Fest at the Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm runs from March 20 through April 20, with 40 acres of gorgeous tulips in every color. The Iverson family first opened its fields to the public on Easter in 1986, and they've made it a spring tradition ever since.

As you walk through the gently rolling fields, each row seems more spectacular than the last. The neat rows of tulips are glorious to take in both as a whole and individually, with amazing variation in height, color combinations, size, and shape. When you're not taking photos at every possible angle, try your hand at

the rubber ducky races. Using hand water pumps connected to gutters, racers pump furiously as each rubber ducky swims to the finish line. You can also lasso hay bales, climb aboard vintage farm equipment and take in the view from the windmill. Food vendors, a gift shop and flower sales await visitors.

The Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm is located east of I-5 and you can enjoy spectacular views of verdant fields and majestic barns en route. From Portland, take exit 271, then head east on Ore. 211. Turn south onto Meridian Road. Admission is \$5 per car on weekends, and free Monday through Friday, open 9 a.m.-6 p.m. The festival web site provides field updates and special event information at woodenshoe.com.

Just north of Salem is Schreiner's Iris Gardens, the nation's largest retail grower of irises. With 10 acres of free viewing fields and world-class display gardens, Schreiner's draws visitors from all over and ships irises around the world. The display garden features well-manicured beds of chest-high iris, bursting in colors including orange, yellow and trademark purple. Equally entertaining are the names, like "Ruffled Velvet,"

"Jazzed Up," and "Gypsy Romance."

Expert gardeners will enjoy a more detailed self-guided tour of the gardens, taking note of flower varieties on display including Dykes medal winners, Siberians, and new 2008 introductions. The more casual visitor will simply enjoy the astounding variety of blooms from the comfort of Adirondack chairs in the shade. Picnic tables rim the garden, inviting weekend visitors to enjoy a sun-dappled afternoon among the blooms while sampling German-inspired foods like bratwurst and curly fries from the Mount Angel food booth.

Schreiner's Iris Garden also features a plant show, gift shop, food booths, with special events throughout the spring. Dates are from May 4 to June 3, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Contact the gardens at (503) 393-3232 or www.schreinersgardens.com. For the display gardens, take I-5 south to the Brooks exit 263. Go west on Brooklake Road, turn left on River Road for one mile, then turn left on Quinaby.

Just a few miles due east of Schreiner's is Adelman Peony Gardens. Formerly apple farmers, the Adelman



photo by Marisa Silver

Tulip Fest at the Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm runs from March 20 through April 20

family switched to peonies in 1993, and their fields have been open to the public every spring from late April to mid-June. This late-spring field of groomed pastel blooms is a delight for photographers, with wide rows to accommodate various angles. Enjoy learning about the five types of peony blooms, including full double, bomb-type, semi-double, Japanese, and single peonies.

The Adelman's host a variety of weekend events, including a

Mother's Day weekend, a Peony Fairy weekend with young ladies dressed as fairies giving out free flowers, and the annual Volkswalk with the Volkssport Club. A special Education Day provides selection and growing guidance.

Adelman's is located on the east side of I-5, off Exit 263, 1.5 miles down Brooklake Road. The Gardens are open from 9-7 from April 28-June 15. For more information, call (503) 393-6185, or www.peonyparadise.com.

Celebration of Learning Library & Learning Center Willamette Hall March 31 – April 11, 2008 We're back!

Easy access to resources!

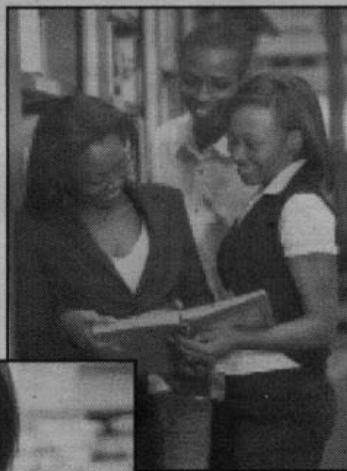
Research Help, Tutoring Center,
 Math Help Desk, Science Help Desk,
 Computer Labs, College Skills Zone
 and Writing Center

Registered LBCC Students!

Enter the Celebration of Learning
 Scavenger Hunt April 7-11!
 You could win an iPod* or a 3-credit
 tuition certificate** just for participating!
 Drop in for more details!

You'll love our new design!

- Lots of open study space
- Group study rooms
- Interior stairs
- Interior restrooms
- Elevator access



Calendar of Events

March 31 - April 4

Daily:
 Tours at 10, Noon, 2 & 4
 Meet by the 1st floor elevator
 Daily:
 Refreshments

April 1 Noon-1 p.m.
 LBCC/Faculty/Author Peter
 Jensen
 "Shakespeare and Playing the
 Fool"
 Library Reading Room

April 1 3-4 p.m.
 Poetry Club &
 Sigma Kappa Delta
 Library Reading Room

April 2 1-2 p.m.
 LBCC Faculty James Wilson,
 Celtic and Classical Music
 Learning Center Atrium

April 4 Noon-1 p.m.
 LBCC Faculty/Authors Jerri
 Wolfe & Dennis Green
 "Experiences Getting
 Published"
 Library Reading Room

April 7-11

Daily:
 Celebration of Learning
 Scavenger Hunt

April 7 11:30-12:30 p.m.
 Math Department
 Learning Center Atrium

April 11 Noon-1 p.m.
 LBCC Culinary Arts Faculty
 Jon Jarschke, "Wine and Food
 Pairing."
 Library Reading Room

*donated by the Student Ambassador Program
 **donated by the LBCC Foundation

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CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College campus events

Students struggle to balance work and school

Toni James
 The Commuter

Students who have to work to support themselves face a difficult task that can lead to some either not finishing school, or a longer road to their degrees. With everything working students have to accomplish, is it too much?

Difficulties working students face include finding a school schedule that works with their work schedule, and how much work and school they can bal-

ance.

LBCC counselor Dael Dixon says every student's balance is unique. Dixon helps many students find jobs and sees the challenges working students face.

Dixon said it takes a couple of terms to find your balance. After those first few terms a student needs to stop and assess.

"Balancing the least amount of work to get by with school; honoring yourself, and not comparing yourself to others; making the right schedule for yourself can help you balance stress, and

ensure you pass your classes. It's a lot to juggle," Dixon said.

With all of these challenges, many students will not continue their education. In May 2005, the New York Times said a national survey found that about 75 percent of students enrolling in community colleges said they hoped to transfer to a four-year institution. But only 17 percent of those who had entered in the mid-1990s made the switch within five years, according to a separate study. The rest were out working or still studying toward

the two-year degree.

"At some point a working student says to themselves 'I'm coming to school, because it's important,'" Dixon commented.

Greg Brice, 23, an Oregon State student living in Corvallis, said, "It is much easier for me to accomplish what I need to every term when I don't have to work to support myself. I am fortunate enough that my parents help me with expenses while I attend school."

Ahmarlay Myint, 24, an LBCC student seems to agree.

"I work at Wells Fargo. Working and going to school is tough. It takes so much discipline because they're constantly conflicting. School should be number-one priority, and I find myself not studying in order to work, because my job is important. It's what allows me to pay for school, for my housing for my food. I work full-time and attend school full-time. My job is high stress, because we have sales goals to make, but I'm usually so tired after school that I don't have time to take care."

High school students compete: EITD Industrial skills results

LBCC News Service

Approximately 200 high school students from 13 schools in Oregon competed in the annual EITD Industrial Skills Contest held Thursday, March 6 at LBCC.

Students competed in contests for automotive technology, machine tool, welding, heavy equipment/diesel and drafting/engineering graphics. Winners were announced at an awards ceremony held at the college following the competition.

EITD Industrial Skills Contest Results:

Automotive Technology-Written Examination

1st Place: Tim Wood, South Albany High School

2nd Place: Dan Hurst, Thurston High School

3rd Place: Cameron Wilson, South Albany High School

Automotive Technology-Hands-On/Parts Identification Test

1st Place: Eric Piatt, Mountain View High School

2nd Place: Jordan Cartwright, Mountain View High School

3rd Place: Daniel Kohlman, Roseburg High School

Drafting - 2D Mechanical

1st Place: Travis Smith, Roseburg High School

2nd Place: Kaleb Lowe, Thurston High School

3rd Place: Matthew Grove, Sweet Home High School

Drafting - 3D Mechanical

1st Place: James Brennwald, Roseburg High School

2nd Place: Ryan McMinds, South Albany High School

3rd Place: Andy Quick, South Albany High School

Machine Tool Technology-Milling

1st Place: Levi Halverson, Roseburg High School

2nd Place: Vance Wolfe, Sweet Home High School

3rd Place: Cody Camden, Roseburg High School

Machine Tool Technology-Turning

1st Place Tie: Levi Halverson, Roseburg High School

1st Place Tie: Jake Fisher, Stay-

ton High School

2nd Place: Garth Boggs, Roseburg High School

3rd Place: Brad Mabie, Roseburg High School

Mechanics

1st Place: Kaleb Koos, South Albany High School

2nd Place: Travis McClinton, South Albany High School

3rd Place: Dan Hurst, Thurston High School

Welding Technology-Novice Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW)

1st Place: Lance Welker, Douglas High School

2nd Place: Ryan Lackner, Stayton High School

3rd Place: Trevor Leseman, Stayton High School

Welding Technology-Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW)

1st Place: Riley Burk, Grants Pass High School

2nd Place: Austin Willetts, Roseburg High School

3rd Place: Robert Dunn, Central High School

Welding Technology-Gas Tungsten Arc Welding

1st Place: Casey Johnson, Sweet Home High School

2nd Place: David Mundy, Grants Pass High School

3rd Place: Tyler Horner, Sweet Home High School

Welding Technology-Oxy-Acetylene Welding

1st Place: Bryan Warth, Sweet Home High School

2nd Place: Michael Juarez, South Albany High School

3rd Place: Mike Nelson, Sweet Home High School

Welding Technology-Shielded Metal Arc Welding (SMAW)

1st Place: Shawn Richardson, Sweet Home High School

2nd Place: Vance Wolfe, Sweet Home High School

3rd Place: Caleb Keeney, Sweet Home High School

Welding Technology-General Welding Skills

1st Place: Jon Pope, Central High School

2nd Place: Kody Nunn, Sweet Home High School

3rd Place: Kyle Gilchrist, South Albany High School

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

You can sign up at www.linnbenton.edu/StudentEmployment to look at student & graduate jobs. For more information about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center in Takena Hall. (541) 917-4788

Piledrivers Apprenticeships (#6150, Oregon & SW Washington) Do you want to learn a trade? Apply for an apprenticeship. Application dates are several times a year.

Equipment Operator/Laborer (#6153, Junction City area) Are you interested in a job on a farm? This part-time job is on an organic farm doing all aspects of farming except fixing dinner.

Laborer 1 (Fire Fighter) (#6109, Sweet Home) These are full-time, summer jobs fighting forest fires and maintaining fire trails. Do something exciting this summer and get paid \$10.20-13.77/hr DOE. Summer jobs are being filled now so keep an eye by using Student Employment.

Summer help at Clear Lake (#6105, 6 & 8) Work full-time at a beautiful lake resort as a cook, Wait Person/Cashier, or Boat and Cabin Cleaner this summer. Housing provided along with the fresh air.

Misc. Info.

Need writing help? Have a major essay due? Need to discuss some of your ideas before you start writing? Need help brainstorming topics? Focusing? Organizing? The **Writing Center** invites you to stop by for help with these and any other writing questions. The Writing Center is in SSH-108. Drop in Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Can't stop by? Then visit our online service: lbcc.writingcenter-online.net.

Need to sell something? Have an organization? Place an ad in The Commuter. Come to The Commuter Office located at Forum 222

BUY. SELL. INFORM.



Graduation Application Deadline April 11

Cap & Gown Orders:
 April 30 & May 1, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.,
 Takena Hall

Cap & Gown Distribution:
 June 3, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
 June 4, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
 Takena Hall

PLEASE NOTE: You may be required to meet with your advisor before you apply. Don't wait until it's too late! Graduation applications and worksheets are available at the Admissions Office or online at www.linnbenton.edu/admissions, and click on "forms".

LBCC MAIN CAMPUS

Commons

MARCH 12TH - MARCH 18TH

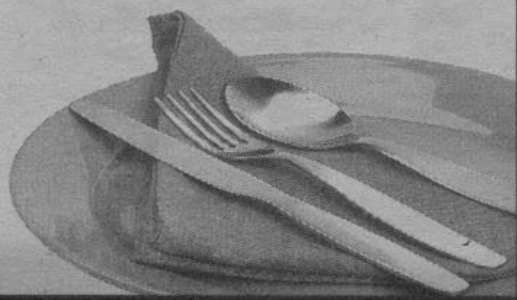
Wednesday:
 CHEF'S CHOICE

Thursday:
 CHEF'S CHOICE

Friday:
 CHEF'S CHOICE

Monday:
 CHEF'S CHOICE

Tuesday:
 CHEF'S CHOICE



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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

10,000 B.C. a mammoth flop?

Aaron Broich
The Commuter

Up above the skies of Hollywood somewhere there are storehouses of CGI graphics that are waiting to be poured out. All too often, the best CGI art is spilled out on numbskull blockbuster movies always lacking the same.

Roland Emmerich's new epic film with new-bee scriptwriter Harald Kloser, is a conglomerate of derivative clichés. "10,000 B.C." is a catchy name for a movie lost in time. It's more of a fantasy flick than historical science fiction. It's got incredible action scenes—it's good and cheesy, but it lacks characterization and originality. Emmerich focuses on a father/son dynamic as in his movies "The Patriot" and "The Day After Tomorrow."

When he is young, D'Leh's father leaves the Yagahl, a tribal group of semi-nomadic hunters. Our hero, D'Leh (Steven Strait) then falls in love with a blue-eyed orphan girl from a faraway tribe named Evolet (Camilla Belle). He compares his love for her to the Northern Star, which remains steady while all the other stars shift around—later on the star helps him find his way in the desert.

The movie plays off the superstitions of the pre-historic people in clever ways, and only truly ventures into the supernatural with the tribe's spiritual leader, Old Mother (Mona Hammond), who prophesies and has an empathic connection with some of the tribesmen (boy is this laughable at times). She prophesies that the man who pairs with Evolet will lead their people into a new land before the last of the mammoth die off—so they can be peaceful farmers!

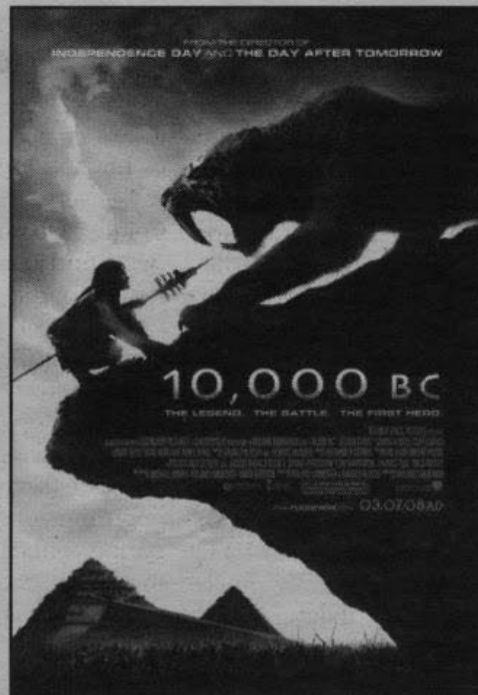
Whoever wins the tribe's badge of leadership, the White Spear, also wins Evolet. The White Spear will be claimed by the first one to spear the mammoth during the trial of leadership. Of course, since our hero D'Leh is in love with Evolet, he must prove himself by slaying the mammoth and also overcoming the dishonor laid upon him because his father abandoned the tribe.

As I watched the movie, during the scene when the young hunters are preparing to kill the mammoths, I wondered, 'How did the real hunters do it?' The CGI mammoths are well done massively towering over the men. The hunters use a technique that I would not have thought of. Well, the movie scores some points for originality in the first hour. They call snow, 'the white rain', and marauding tribesmen on horseback, four-legged demons, although historical evidence shows that human beings didn't ride horses until thousands of years later.

The mysterious riders kidnap Evolet, along with others who they intend to sell into slavery. D'Leh ventures after them to free his people and save the girl, and in the process he ends up fulfilling messianic prophecies and travels to the mountain of the gods to free the slaves of many people groups.

Of course, 'the god' turns out to be a slithery-tongued white guy in a silly mask and the mountain of the gods is a massive pyramid being built by miserable slaves and sun baked wooly mammoths. No, "10,000 B.C." is not a "Stargate" prequel, but it is reminiscent of that movie as well as last year's dismal "300."

The film develops the character of D'Leh and his sidekick, but spares no time for any others. Its numerous



clichés would have been forgivable if the main characters were more developed and if dialogue touched on more than just surface metaphors, but just like nearly every other action flick, "10,000 B.C." doesn't offer much in this department. The acting could be improved as well.

The film has a number of great action scenes and beautifully conceived prehistoric creatures, but there should have been more. The first half of "10,000 B.C." moves along relatively smoothly, but the second half feels like a Saturday morning cartoon. If you go to this movie expecting as much, you can sit back, have a good laugh, and enjoy a visually impressive, albeit cheesy movie that takes itself too seriously.

Poetry Corner

You read them in print
Write them at home
DREAM it at night
You must need a PROtest Son-G
The climate what of it
nuclear will flood with
WINDS OF WAR
Some don't understand
I do not think that they are here
Floods and war-100 year fears
Dreams, Premonitions, Veterans, and.....
Speak in my ear/truth appears in the mirror perfectly
SMEARED
I understand all your tears/
Which focuses your breathing/blinks your eyes..
Peace eaks up your spine/
NEWSPAPER told me
I would meet people like you/
People who dream about what they can do/
I am you with a Beatles CD/
So let's take it to the CAPITALS, from there to the streets.../
Fighting for peace, leads to civil liberties, targeting,
Revolutionists of our Century/
I would listen to our highness/ if he ruled with no violence/
white house Castle, kill us to silence/
Wait! But I'm not JFK/who are you assassinated in play day?
No I'm not John Lennon, but where's Marilyn Monroe?
Guantanamo?
Civil and world wars, coconut butter won't erase the scars/
BUT YOU COULD SOME DAY
WRITE FREE!

—KEIF BINDER

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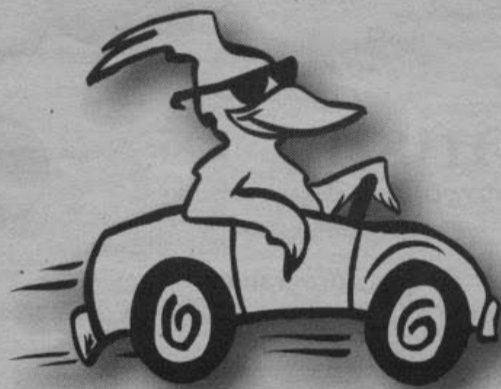
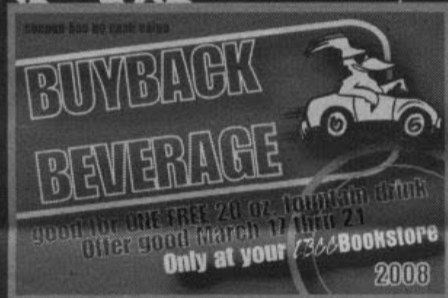
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Wednesday

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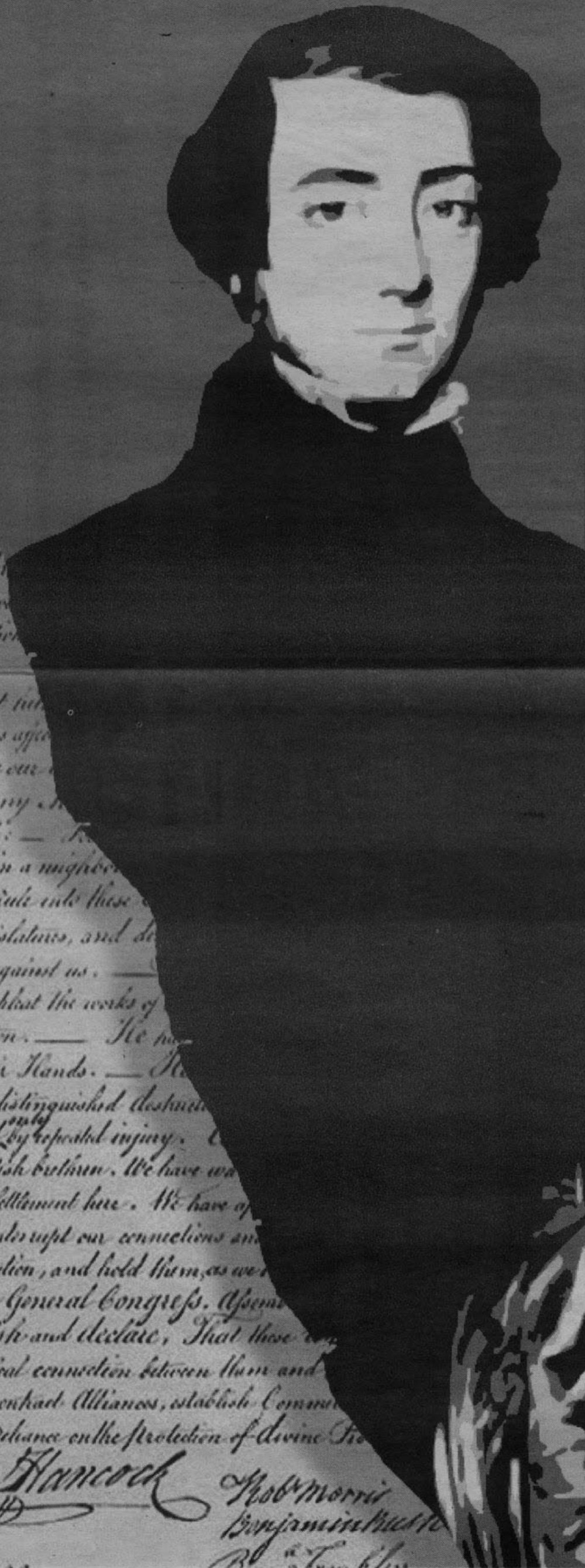
Mon thru Thurs

8:30 am to 4 pm

Friday

8:30 am to 1 pm

LBC Bookstore



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In the 1830's, Alexis de Tocqueville visited America and wrote his epic "Democracy in America", which probed into the nature of American democracy: its strengths, weaknesses, contradictions, prospects for success. In the spirit of de Tocqueville, we look again at our democracy in this presidential election year, and we ask some important questions:

Who controls our democracy today?

What's happened to the ideals and principles on which our democracy was founded?

What can we do to strengthen democracy and promote social progress?

Why aren't more citizens, especially young people, more interested in our democracy?

Why has the democratic process become so partisan and so corrupt? Can we have meaningful dialogue which produces bipartisan and effective results?

How can we move beyond the obsession with the "horse race" in our elections? How can we help fellow citizens focus on issues that really matter?

How well is the media fulfilling its crucial role? Is the media keeping our citizens informed and maintaining a watchful eye on our government and our liberties? How is the media's role in democracy changing today?



WHAT'S AHEAD FOR DEMOCRACY IN AMERICA

March 31:

New Course:

LBCC Spring quarter begins, and POSC 200 will offer students a chance to get hands-on experience in making democracy work. The course will be non-traditional, with only a few in-class sessions; students will team up to complete course projects and attend various events

April 9:

Speaker: John Frohnmayer,

Independent candidate for the U.S. Senate, will kick off a series of project events with a talk about "How You can Make a Difference", designed to show students and others that their voice counts and that they are responsible for making the democratic process work effectively.

April-May:

Star Search:

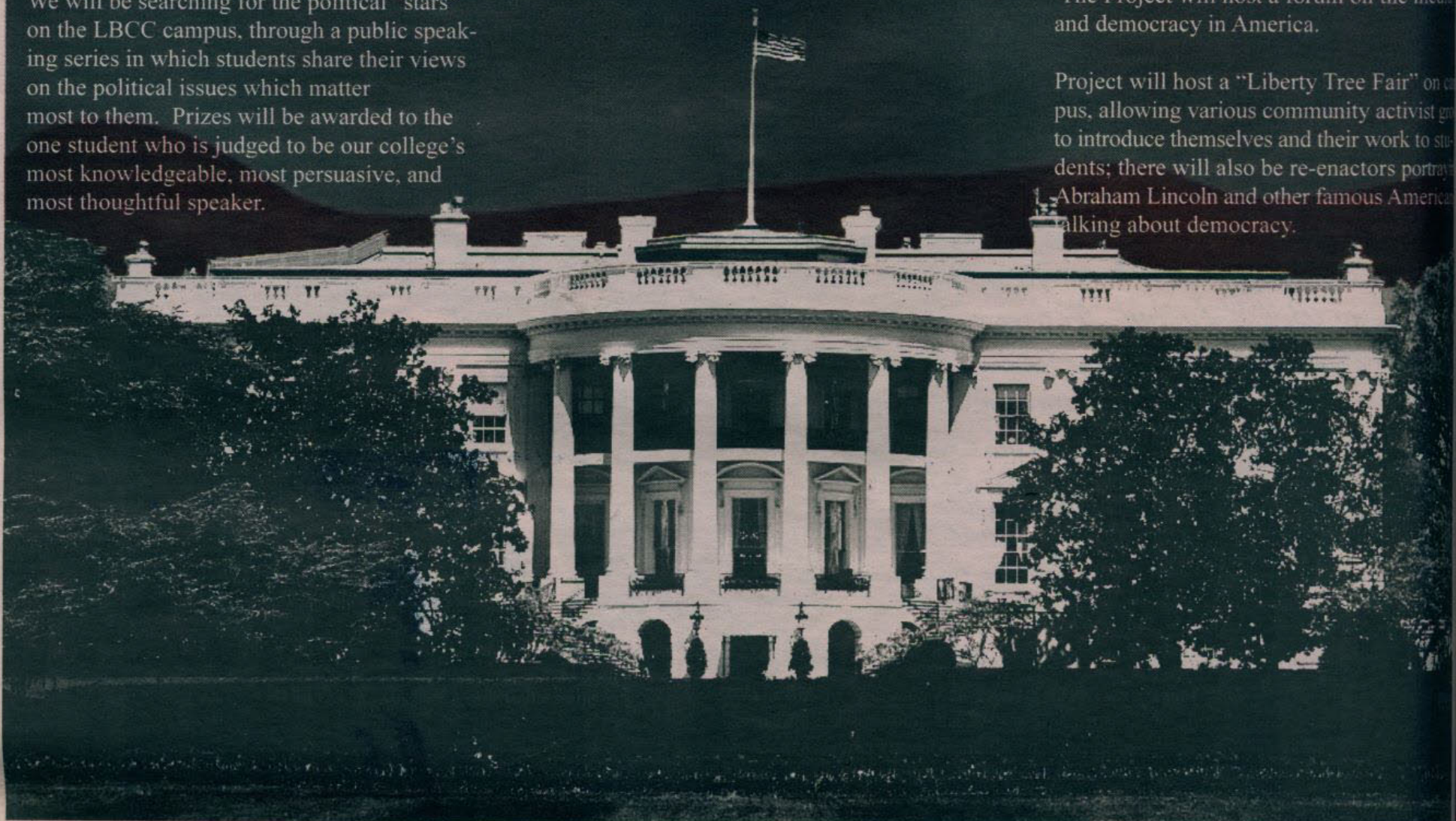
We will be searching for the political "stars" on the LBCC campus, through a public speaking series in which students share their views on the political issues which matter most to them. Prizes will be awarded to the one student who is judged to be our college's most knowledgeable, most persuasive, and most thoughtful speaker.

April 23:

Media Forum:

The Project will host a forum on the media and democracy in America.

Project will host a "Liberty Tree Fair" on campus, allowing various community activist groups to introduce themselves and their work to students; there will also be re-enactors portraying Abraham Lincoln and other famous Americans talking about democracy.



HEY, YOUNG AMERICANS

HERE'S A TEXT FOR YOU

By Naomi Wolf Sunday, November 25, 2007

Is America still America if millions of us no longer know how democracy works?

When I speak on college campuses, I find that students are either baffled by democracy's workings or that they don't see any point in engaging in the democratic process. Sometimes both.

Not long ago, I gave a talk at a major university in the Midwest. "They're going to raze our meadows and put in a shopping mall!" a young woman in the audience wailed. "And there's nothing we can do!" she said, to the nods of young and old alike.

I stared at her in amazement and asked how old she was. When she said 26, I suggested that she run for city council. Then she stared at me-- with complete incomprehension. It took me a long time to convince her and her peers in the audience that what I'd suggested was possible, even if she didn't have money, a major media outlet of her own or a political "machine" behind her.

This lack of understanding about how democracy works is disturbing enough. But at a time when our system of government is under assault from an administration that ignores traditional checks and balances, engages in illegal wiretapping and writes secret laws on torture, it means that we're facing an unprecedented crisis.

As the Founders knew, if citizens are ignorant or complacent about the proper workings of a republic "of laws not of men," then any leader of any party or any tyrannical Congress or even a tyrannical majority can abuse the power they hold. But at this moment of threat to the system the Framers set in place, a third of young Americans don't really understand what they were up to.

According to a recent study by the National Center for Education Statistics, only 47 percent of high school seniors have mastered a minimum level of U.S. history and civics, while only 14 percent performed at or above the "proficient" level. Middle schoolers in many states are no longer required to take classes in civics or government. Only 29 states require high school students to take a government or civics course, leaving millions of young Americans in the dark about why democracy matters.

A survey released by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute in September found that U.S. high school students missed almost half the questions on a civic literacy test. Only 45.9 percent of those surveyed knew that the sentence "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal" is in the Declaration of Independence. Yet these same students can probably name the winner of "American Idol" in a heartbeat.

The study also found that the more students increase their civic knowledge during college, the more likely they are to vote and engage in other civic activities. And vice versa -- civic illiteracy equals civic inaction.

Here are some actual quotes from otherwise smart, well-meaning young Americans:

"I show my true convictions by refusing to vote."

"The two parties are exactly the same."

"Congress is bought and paid for."

• "Elections are just a front for corporations."

"My teacher says you shouldn't believe anything you read in the newspapers at all," a 16-year-old from affluent Menlo Park, Calif., told me last week.

Even those who are politically engaged don't have much faith in our system's potential. "I was taught that it's set up for the elites and for old white men and that there's not much you can do about it," said Christopher Le, 28, who works at a suicide hotline in Austin. Le's mother was a "boat person" who fled Vietnam with her 4-month-old son so that he could be raised in freedom. But few Americans in the under-30 set have her kind of faith in the United States. As Le put it, "No one taught us that democracy was this shining, inspiring thing."

The United States has been blessed with more than 200 years of a strong democracy, so it's easy to yield to a comforting and lazy conviction that it's magically self-sustaining and doesn't need to be defended, an idea that would have horrified the Founders, who knew that our democracy would be a fragile thing.

In recent years, the trend away from teaching democracy to young Americans has been at least partly a consequence of the trend of teaching to the standardized tests introduced by the Bush administration. Mandated by the federal No Child Left Behind Act, the tests assess chiefly math and reading comprehension. Basic civics and history have suffered. As a result, teenagers and young adults often have no clue why the United States is different from, say, Egypt or Russia; they have little idea what liberty is.

Few young Americans understand that the Second Amendment keeps their homes safe from the kind of government intrusion that other citizens suffer around the world; few realize that "due process" means that they can't be locked up in a dungeon by the state and left to languish indefinitely.

This dangerous ignorance is confirmed by the Knight Foundation, which has found an alarming decline in student support for the First Amendment. In a 2004 survey, more than a third of the student respondents thought that the First Amendment went *too far* in guaranteeing freedom of speech and of the press. By 2006, the number who held that view had swelled to half.

In the absence of strong civics training and in the presence of a "war on terror" that insistently portrays freedom and checks and balances as threats to national security, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights have become controversial for today's young people.

But this distressing situation isn't just George W. Bush's fault. Young Americans have also inherited some strains of thought from the left that have undermined their awareness of and respect for democracy. When New Left activists of the 1960s started the antiwar and free speech student movements, they didn't get their intellectual framework from Montesquieu or Thomas Paine: They looked to Marx, Lenin and Mao. It became fashionable to employ Marxist ways of thinking about social change: not "reform" but "dialectic"; not "citizen engagement" but "ideological correctness"; not working for change but "fighting the man."

During the Vietnam War, the left further weakened itself by abandoning the notion of patriotism. Young antiwar leaders burned the flag instead of invoking the ideals of the republic it represents. By turning

their backs on the idea of patriotism and even on the brave men who were fighting the unpopular war the left abandoned the field to the right to "brand" patriotism as its own, often in a way that means uncritical support for anything the executive branch decides to do.

In the Reagan era, when the Iran-contra scandal showed a disregard for the rule of law, college students were preoccupied with the fashionable theories of post-structuralism and deconstructionism, critical language and psychoanalytic theories developed by French philosophers Jacques Lacan and Jacques Derrida that were often applied to the political world, with disastrous consequences. These theories were often presented to students as an argument that the state even in the United States -- is only a network of power structures. This also helped confine to the attic of unfashionable ideas the notion that the state could be a platform for freedom; so much for the fusty old Rights of Man.

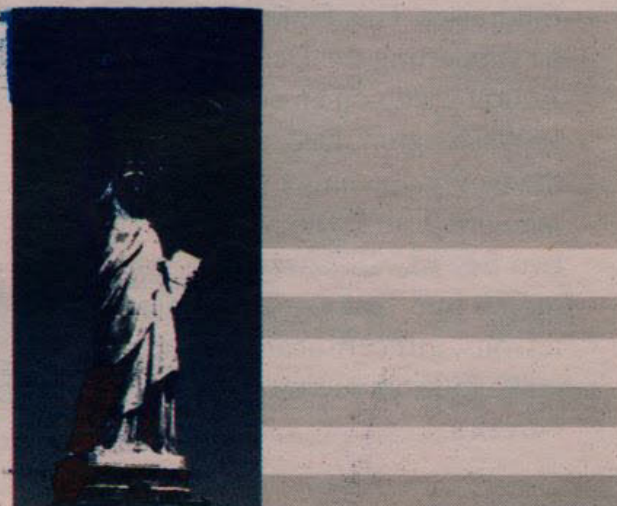
In the 1990s and the early years of this century, theories that globalization is the ultimate evil found their ascendancy on college campuses. Young people, informed by movements against sweatshops and the World Trade Organizations, have come to see democracy as a mere cosmetic gloss on the rapacious monolith of global capitalism.

All of these legacies have left the young feeling depressed, cynical and powerless. And yet our democracy needs them more than ever now. Young people are always in the vanguard of any movement to sustain or advance liberty. Students led the charge for freedom in Prague and Mexico City in 1968, in Chile in 1973, in Beijing and throughout Eastern Europe in 1989.

Young people helped lead the way in the U.S. civil rights movement, white college students joining with African Americans to sign up voters in the Freedom Summer of 1964. The feminist movement was revived after half a century of dormancy by a cadre of young, idealistic and politically savvy women. Same for the antiwar movement: Abbie Hoffman, Rennie Davis and Tom Hayden of the Chicago Seven were ages 17 to 22 when they were charged with conspiracy and inciting to riot while protesting at the 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago.

When I ask young people today whether they've been taught that immense positive changes have come about because small groups of people engaged in democratic practices, many look at me with puzzlement. They need a crash course in democracy and a crash course in how easy it is to close down an open society if steps are taken such as those we see our government taking now.

Earlier this year, I helped co-found the American Freedom Campaign to call for a national democracy movement to restore the rule of law. In response, some citizens called a national strike this month on behalf of the Constitution. It was a shaky beginning people showed up with their flags and their petitions, but the groups were sparse and shy and out of practice. In New York's Union Square, the sound system failed to carry one new young freedom activist's reading of the Bill of Rights very far. And yet it didn't matter. "For the first time in a long time," said Barbara Martinez as the wind whipped her scarf, "I feel hopeful."



DEMOCRACY

Oregon votes matter: ways to get involved

Jenna Conrad
The Commuter

Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton remain neck and neck in the democratic race as the candidates continue to make political history. So far in the race Obama has accumulated 1,385 delegates, with Clinton right behind him with 1,231. The number of delegates needed to win the democratic nomination is 2,025.

Because of how late Oregon's vote is in the primaries, the state usually does not have a prominent effect on them. However, this year, because of how close the two candidates are this far along in the race, Oregon's vote may play a bigger role than it has in the past.

According to an article in the Oregonian, there are six states that will vote in the primaries before Oregon, but neither candidate will have enough delegates backing them up to claim a "knockout blow." The article states that

"It is now clear that Oregon matters."

With 11 weeks until Oregon's primary on May 20, there are a number of ways to get involved in the democratic primary election.

Benton County Democrats hold monthly meetings where they discuss what others are doing and what volunteer opportunities are available. The meetings will be held on every third Thursday of every month, this month's

being on March 20 at Grace Lutheran Church in Corvallis on Harrison and Kings. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m. Among others to appear at the meeting will be Senator Vicki Walker. To find out more information on meetings or democratic organizations nearby,

visit the Benton County Democrat Web site at www.bcdems.net.

There is also a Web site for the Republicans of Benton County, who are all about electing Republican candidates and streamlining government and making it more accountable, according to their Web site. On April 1 they are hold-

ing their central committee meeting at the headquarters on Circle Boulevard in Corvallis. Speaking at this meeting will be a campaign representative of Rudy Giuliani. To find out more information on the Benton County Republicans, visit www.bentongop.org.

There are also a number of different groups supporting the individual candidates. For more information on these groups, one can go to the candidate campaign Web sites and search for groups and events nearby. For Barack Obama, visit his Web site at www.barackobama.com/index.php. For more information on Hillary Clinton, see www.hillaryclinton.com/.

The campaign Web site for John McCain, the likely republican candidate, is www.johnmccain.com. Here you can find information on the candidate and local events.

To find a listing of all of the presidential candidates and their parties, including independent, green, and other, go to www.votesmart.org/index.htm.

The deadline to register to vote in the Oregon primaries is April 29.

Voter registration can be done at local county elections offices, online at www.oregonvotes.org. Forms must be submitted by mail or in person.

For more information on Oregon voting, visit www.oregonvotes.org or call 866-673-8683.



Get your tickets starting now!

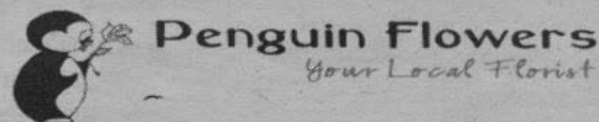
DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

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Meetings every
Thursday at 2:30 in
SSH 103

Over the month of March and into the first week of April the Democracy in Action club will be selling raffle tickets for a fundraiser. This Fundraiser will be supporting the Democracy in Action group on an education trip to Washington, D.C. next year for the newly upcoming presidential inauguration. Prizes will include two free months Jazzercise, one month free Teakwondo Karate lessons, gift certificates to local restaurants including Elmer's and Novak's.

Other prizes include gift certificates to Penguin Flowers in Corvallis and AMF Bowling Alley. T-shirts and more! To contact Democracy in Action about purchasing raffle tickets, email us at dia@ml.linnbenton.edu



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Editor: Davis LaMuerta
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College campus events

Campus Shorts

LBCC Offers Wildland Firefighting Training

Wildland Firefighting Training will be offered through Business and Employer Services at LBCC April 18 through April 20 and April 26 through April 27 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the main campus.

Taught by a lead instructor of the National Wildfire Suppression Association, this course is designed to provide entry-level firefighter skills including one day of field training. LBCC is the only college in Western Oregon to include field training essential for certification.

Learn what it takes to assist in the suppression of wildfires, the primary factors affecting the start and spread of wildfires, how to communicate on the fire-line and how to use the Incident Command System.

Course curriculum meets or exceeds the National Wildfire Coordinating Group 310-1 requirements. Participants must be 18 years of age or older, in good physical condition and must have two forms of government-issued ID. Class size is limited, so register early.

Cost for this non-credit course is

\$225 and includes all materials. For more information or to register, contact LBCC Business and Employer Services at 917-4923.

SBDC Workshop "Building an Online Presence for Artists: Learn to Sell Your Art Online"

Artists can learn how to sell their work online in the workshop "Building an Online Presence for Artists: Learn to Sell Your Art Online" offered through the LBCC Small Business Development Center.

Local artist, businesswoman and OSU computer science instructor Pam Van Londen will lead this seven-week workshop. Learn to incorporate an online presence in your art marketing plan and learn how to implement a presentation and sales method that works best for your style, schedule and budget.

Class will meet on Thursdays from 3 to 5 p.m. starting April 10 at the LBCC Benton Center computer lab, room 206, 757 NW Polk Avenue, Corvallis.

Cost for this non-credit workshop is \$245. For more information or to register, contact LBCC Small Business Development Center at 917-4929 or visit online at linnbenton.edu/go/sbdc.

Phlebotomy Volunteers Needed

The time when Spring is "springing," our spirits are "awakening anew," and... LBCC Phlebotomy students need arm donors.

Past response has been wonderful and we so appreciate the support given to our students.

As in the past, the current phlebotomy students must meet a certain blood draw quota prior to working their clinical sites. So please mark the following days and times on your calendar. Why not plan on asking a friend or two to join you in a great philanthropic endeavor? Sorry, no tax advantage, but we will have cookies and juice.

The blood draws will take place at the Lebanon Hospital Training Center, Room F, on Monday, March 17, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Wednesday, March 19, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Lynne Cox Promoted to Associate Dean of Student Development

Lynne Cox has been promoted to associate dean for Student Development at Linn-Benton Community College in Albany, Oregon. Cox brings a breadth of teaching and training experience and skills to work with students in difficult situations and has a strong

sense of service and of collaboration and creative problem solving. Cox was hired in January of 2005 as coordinator for LBCC's Office of Disability Services. She resides in Lebanon.

SSH Gallery Hosts Work of LBCC Graduates

The South Santiam Hall Gallery at LBCC will host the work of artists Leo Froquer and Chui Hui Shen through March 27.

Froquer takes large format conceptual photographs of room interiors that are based on miniature models he has constructed. Shen's work comprises large-scale charcoal drawings of his daughters engaged in the act of playing musical instruments.

Both Froquer and Shen earned their Associate of Arts degrees at LBCC. Froquer went on to earn a Bachelor of Fine Art in photography from the University of Oregon and Shen earned a Bachelor of Fine Art in drawing and painting from Oregon State University.

A reception will be held for both artists on Friday, March 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the SSH Gallery. Refreshments will be served. Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, contact the South Santiam Hall Gallery at 917-4247.

Understanding racism is key to challenging prejudice

Rick Casillas
 The Commuter

Racism and how it impacts today's generation was the focus of an LBCC forum on Feb. 26.

Callie Palmer, minority literature teacher and organizer of the event focused the discussion on white privilege and its incessant presence even today.

"Perhaps the lynching, maybe that's not happening today. But that doesn't mean racism is over, it's just changing. It's shifting, nefarious, and nebulous," said Palmer.

Subversive forms of racism that were brought forth by the attending audience ranged anywhere from marketing products like coffee shops in predominantly white areas because of its supposed lack of appeal to minorities, to interest rates of loans being higher for minorities than whites regardless of credit score, according to statistics obtained from the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act.

Lack of understanding the root cause of white privilege was attributed to many people not only being made aware it exists, but from benefiting from it

without knowing.

"There are members of my family that have benefited from it (privilege). People have rented to me that shouldn't have," Palmer discloses with a laugh.

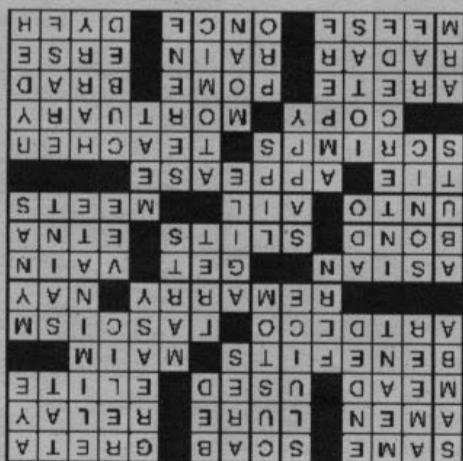
Dana Emerson, speech communication teacher at LBCC, sees the issue as being one of separation and exclusion, but finds it difficult to communicate the idea and feeling of being subjected to prejudice.

"The reality is how do you reach in, how do you internalize those changes that will help you change the world. Language is incredibly powerful," said Emerson.

Making the subject relevant to a generation of students that may have never met with the more direct, abrasive aspects of racism presents a new challenge for people that have seen it work, and comprehend the ugliness that can occur as a result of its presence.

"Students need to be aware, because you're still protected. That doesn't mean that's what your world is going to look like in five years, don't get lulled to sleep on this issue, don't think that another reality isn't out there," said Emerson.

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FUNNY BONES

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Identical
 - Wound coverage
 - Garbo of films
 - Prayer ender
 - Entice
 - Pass along
 - Lake formed by Hoover Dam
 - Secondhand
 - Select few
 - Advantages
 - Wound seriously
 - Erte's style
 - Police state
 - Get hitched again
 - Negative vote
 - Flu type
 - Obtain
 - Conceited
 - 007
 - Long, narrow cuts
 - Sicilian erupter
 - Biblical preposition
 - Feel unwell
 - Runs into
 - Equal score
 - Conciliate
 - Economizes severely
 - Educator
 - Duplicate
 - Funeral home
 - Sharp mountain ridge
 - Apple or quince
 - Small nail
 - Detection device
 - What to be right as?
 - Irish Gaelic
 - Reagan cabinet member
 - Formerly
 - Hair colorist

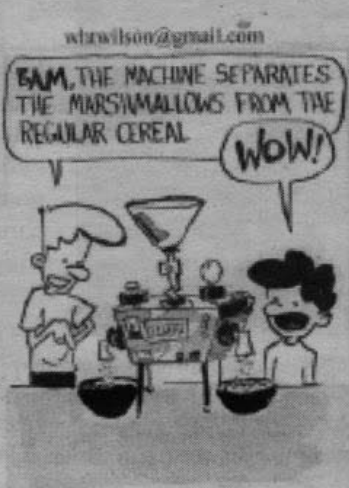
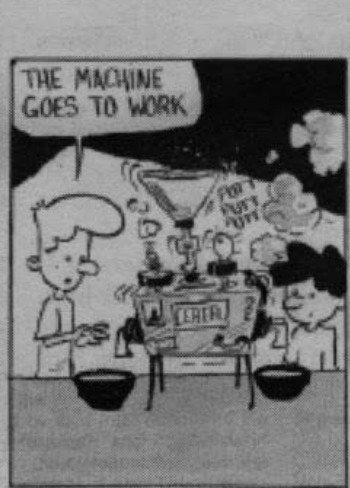
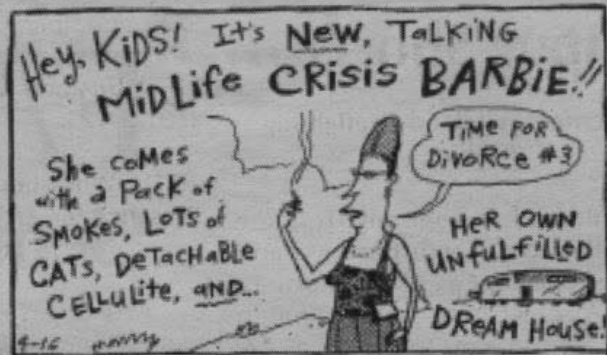
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12/11/07

- DOWN**
- Dance in duple time
 - Muslim prince: var.
 - Intended
 - Came to a conclusion
 - Millstream channel
 - Habitual practice
 - God of war
 - Bottom of a river
 - Slick
 - Object from antiquity
 - Get rid of
 - Make lace
 - Affirmative at sea
 - Simple plant
 - Trading centers
 - Worry
 - New Orleans player
 - Asian starlings
 - Nimble
 - Borders on
 - Type of boom
 - Plead on another's behalf
 - Fuss
 - Victory sign
 - Bathetic
 - Cup brims
 - Pithy part
 - Current unit
 - AEC word
 - Tranquil
 - Very small amounts
 - To the third power
 - Part of HST
 - Delete
 - Actress Winona
 - Ecstatic cry
 - Appendage
 - "Norma ___"
 - In favor of

**For answer,
 turn to
 page 12.**



Brothers Watt | www.wilson@gmail.com | by William Wilson

Sports Editor: Chris Kelley
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

SPORTS

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



Chris "Cheese" Kelley
 Tyler Dahlgren
 The Commuter

Chris "Cheese" Kelley: After watching "Semi Pro"...what did you think?

Tyler Dahlgren: I thought the movie was overrated. Despite the few scenes in which actual basketball is taking place I couldn't help but wonder if the movie was ever going to have an actual point. I was wondering if the plot was ever going to take off

Cheese: What about the fact that Will Farrell played a comedy about an actual event that happened?

Dahlgren: It seemed like he was trying to add a little more sincerity to this movie, making himself seem like a real life character who is concerned with the events that are taking place. In his previous films he always seems to play an egocentric type of roll, receiving most of his humor on the failure of others and the stunts he pulls although you do see signs of it in the film.

Cheese: That is Farrell for you though! He is the comedy in the serious terms of events. The movie was based on real events of the scene of the 1976 ABA's last basketball season before the NBA absorbed 4 of their teams. I thought the film did a great job showing the emotion of the players and their concern for their dying dreams to make it to the NBA.

Dahlgren: I thought it was a terrible portrayal of the former ABA players attempts at making it to the NBA. If I had been one of those previous players and had to watch this film I would either cry or

FACE OFF 'Semi Pro' or total bust??

find out where the director lived. I would believe that this film's intent was to make a mockery about the ABA as a league.

Cheese: A mockery? Wow, you are wrong. It made note of the true things that made the ABA look disgraceful to the NBA...fighting, free speaking players, odd specials to draw in fans. It is a minor league NBA with money problems but in all gives the league a reason to be there because of the fans!

Dahlgren: Woody Harrelson who plays Ed Monix, a former NBA champion who dwells on his achievement because he was a bench player, dulls the movie. Never have I seen Harrelson play such a serious roll in a comedy movie. I would say his comedic performance resembles that of Money Train and that film wasn't even a comedy. Putting him alongside Farrell made both the actors comedic performances mediocre at best.

Cheese: Woody needed to be serious in order to make his 'coaching' roll play out. Monix has the experience of the NBA and is a mentor for those struggling players on how to play true basketball.

Dahlgren: What do you expect? This was a league comparable to the modern NBA D-league, a bunch of scrappers trying to make it to the big time. Fighting occurred, sure what do you expect? These guys were playing like free agent players, never knowing when their career was going to take a turn for the worst, or when their next big break might happen. The intensity increased the fighting, but it was that intensity that brought the fans to the games, not the cheesy halftime Raisin Bran dancers.

Cheese: The dancing, bear fighting, free corn dogs after 125 points and half court shots for money are all real things that teams back then and today do to promote fan attendance. And in an odd way it works, just like it did in the movie. This movie wasn't supposed to be serious, it was a comedy based on real things that happened...a spoof movie. I paid the seven dollars to laugh, and we both spend times grabbing our sides laughing during the movie

Dahlgren: I don't know what movie you were watching. I agree, the movie did have it's bright moments that included some hilarious scenes but there is no way I will go as far to say it was anywhere near what I expected. It would be nice to see Farrell play a diverse role for once in his life but once again I find myself laughing at the same cheesy ass jokes.

Cheese: The movie lacked originality in the fact that too much of the movie was revealed in the previews. I wish it would've been more secretive, but no one should go to that movie hoping for a serious diverse role from Farrell because that isn't what was advertised. The ads that went along with the movie were brilliant too. Farrell sold this movie based on his past achievements in the comic roles he played. Talladega Nights, Blades of Glory and Semi Pro all go hand-in-hand depicting what it is like to be in the scenes that go along with those movies. I now have a greater respect for what athletes like Dr. J and Moses Malone went through in the ABA and how times have changed for basketball since the days they played.

Dahlgren: Farrell's attempt at a life

portraying an ABA player was not taken into concern for this film. The movie is loosely based, and I mean loosely. How can you say watching a comedy about the ABA gave you more respect for players who went through the ABA to get to the NBA? If anything the movie was made for fun of Dr. J and Malone's career in the ABA. This movie teaches you nothing about respecting the now non-existent ABA

Cheese: Jackie Moon (Farrell) in the movie was an ABA player/owner/coach/pre-game announcer...he is an entrepreneur of his time! haha

Dahlgren: Without Monix they never would have achieved their Flint Michigan Mega Bowl goal. Farrell was a terrible player, pre-game announcer, owner and in this film, actor.

Cheese: I'm sorry you hoped this was going to be a dramatic plot-rich movie. It did stick to the plot given, with a lot of comedy this movie wouldn't be the movie it was advertised.

Dahlgren: I never figured it was going to be a plot-rich comedy I just expected a little something for the price of admission, not a cheese-ball movie.

Cheese: I give this movie a thumbs-down because it fulfilled the advertised comedy role, despite any plot it left behind. I laughed and appreciated the efforts it took to play in those days with a dying league and hopes to make it to the next level.

Dahlgren: I am going to have to go with the thumbs-down on this one. This will be Will Farrell's worst comedy to date and I pray that he comes up with something original for his next film. Not a failed attempt at another sports movie.



THE SIDELINE

Warren Sapp retires after 13 seasons in the NFL...Randy Moss re-signs with the New England Patriots for an estimated three year \$27 million contract...New York Yankees sign actor Billy Crystal to a one game spring training contract in honor of his 60th birthday...

Houston Rockets streak up to 19 games, third longest in NBA history...Miami Heat sit out for season with knee injury...Drake clinches men's NCAA basketball tournament bid for first time since 1971 with Missouri Valley Conference championship win...Lute Olson to return

as head coach for Arizona immediately following the season after one year leave-of-absence...UCLA freshman Kevin Love earns Pac-10 player of the year honors.

OSU men's basketball makes history, sort of



(Above) Lathon Wallace scores two of his career high 22 points in Saturday's 74-61 loss to Arizona State. (Right) Josh Tarver goes up through defenders for the lay-up.



Chris Kelley
 The Commuter

CORVALLIS--OSU Men's basketball (7-24, 0-18) made Pac-10 history Saturday with their 74-61 loss to Arizona State, becoming the first team ever to go defeated through the entire conference schedule.

With six three-pointers, Lathon Wallace had a career high 22 points and Marcel Jones added 14 points, moving him to 20th all time in scoring for Oregon State.

Dating back to the Pacific-8 conference--which later ad-

opted Arizona and Arizona State to become the Pac-10 in 1978--UCLA had four undefeated overall and seven undefeated conference seasons and in the time frame only the 1989-90 Washington State Cougars have only won one conference game.

Oregon State faces Arizona in the opening round of the Pac-10 tournament Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. on FSN, with the winner playing No. 2 seed Stanford on Thursday. The Beaver's only hope for an NCAA tournament bid lies on winning the four-day tournament.

photos by Chris Kelley

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SPORTS

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

Runners' start out season strong, win four straight at home

Chris Kelley
 The Commuter

LBCC baseball was in full swing for the 2008 season starting March 1-2 in The Dalles, Ore. splitting series against Grays Harbor and Spokane C.C.

After losing the first game of the doubleheader 5-2 against Grays Harbor, the Roadrunners came back on a stronger note to win 11-4. Freshman outfielder Alex Poff went 2 for 4 with 3 RBIs and a home run for the win.

On Sunday March 2 against Spokane, the first game brought a pitching duel from Australian freshman pitcher Liam Baron. Baron threw a complete game two-out shutout for the 1-0 win, quieting any weaknesses from by the relatively young bullpen.

In the second game Linn-Benton lost 4-0, testing out a new lineup and playing the full team allowed for players to get

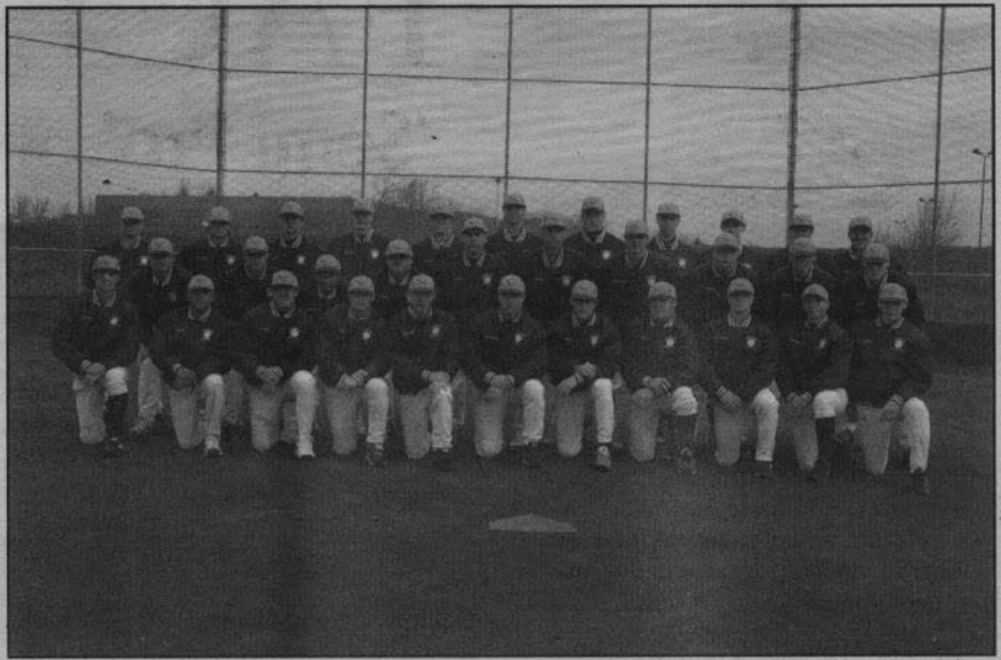
win.

In the second game Baron pitched yet another gem, allowing seven hits with 10 strikeouts in the complete game 1-0 shutout. Poff scored the only run on a single in the fourth inning.

Sunday brought a match-up at home against Centralia and another sweep for LBCC. In the first game, Poff had an RBI single in the eighth inning which broke the 1-1 tie and gave the Runners the 2-1 win. Sophomore pitcher Dan Maurer received the win after Trevor Smith shut down the Dolphins in the ninth inning for the save.

LBCC responded with eight unanswered runs in the second game after falling behind 5-0 in the first inning for the 8-5 win.

Beau Craig pitched five shut-out innings for the win after coming in for relief in the first inning. Smith had his second save of the day.



The 2008 Linn-Benton Roadrunner's baseball team led by sophomore leaders Mitchell Nelson, Kyle Kanaeholo, Brent Trask, Mitchell Nelson and Jake Rasmussen.

photo by Lori Fluge-Brunker

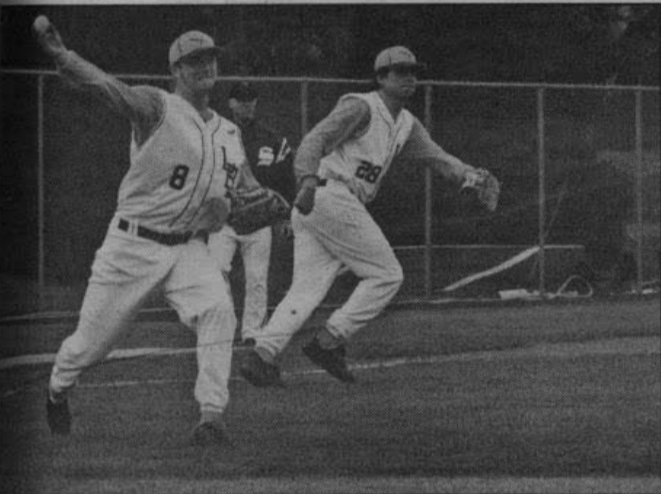


photo by Chris Kelley

Pitcher Scott Allred fielded a bunt for the out against Shoreline Community College on Saturday. Allred had a no-decision after giving up only two runs in the first game 3-2 win.

an early chance at improving their stock mentioned Coach Greg Hawk.

Saturday, the Roadrunners hosted Shoreline Community College, sweeping both games 3-2 in 10 innings and 1-0 in games that came down to the final pitch.

Freshman Nick Staller received the win after freshman Craig Dolmage hit in the walk off run in the bottom of the tenth inning with the bases loaded for the 3-2

"Last year we were a playoff team and we want to keep that streak going," said Coach Greg Hawk of this year's team. "But our game is still the same, we play situational baseball and focus on bunting and sacrifices."

Hawk and the 2008 Roadrunner's Baseball team are trying to re-peat as playoff contenders after breaking a 10 year drought last year. They were 21-25 (15-15) in 2007 after dropping their

first two games in the NWAACC playoffs.

Hawk brings 24 years of coaching experience here at LBCC with 975 wins and a .544 winning percentage. Searching for his 1000th win this year, Hawk is only two years renewed to the dugout after being the Athletic Director for 10 years.

2008's Roadrunner lineup features

sophomores Mitchell Nelson, Kyle Kanaeholo, Brent Trask, Mitchell Nelson and Jake Rasmussen as leaders for this relatively young team.

"Pitching is going to be a struggle this year for us," said Hawk.

Only two sophomores, Craig and Maurer are in the bullpen, both of which pitched minimal innings last year. It is up to the freshman pitchers and the players in the dugout to bring offense to help the two sophomores for LBCC to be successful this year.

"[NWAACC] baseball is whole different game," said Hawk on playing with wood bats rather than aluminum like high school and NCAA baseball. "The sweet spot is cut in half from 12 inches to 6 and usually takes about a year to get used to. We play a pure game, it's wood, the way it is supposed to be played."

LBCC improves to 6-2 this year with the next two weeks on the road. Their next home series are March 29 against Lane and April 1 against the reigning South champions Mt. Hood.

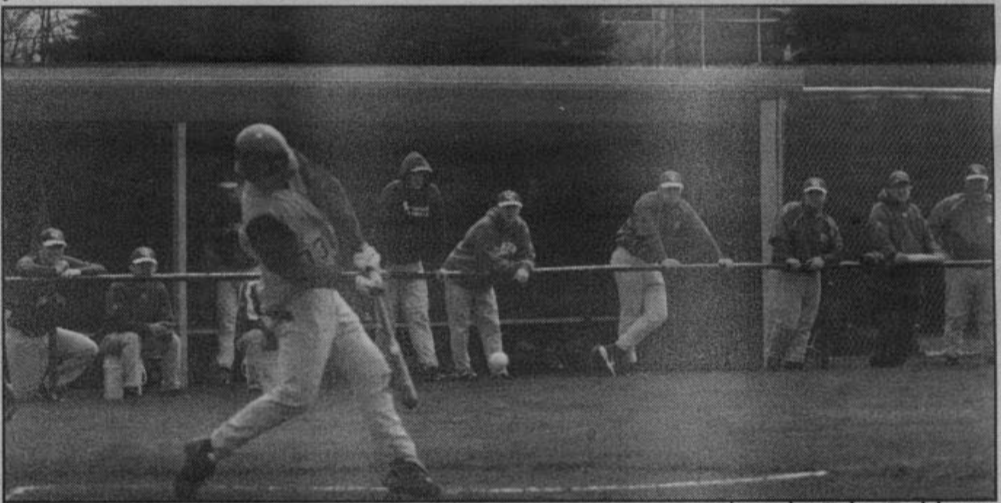


photo by Tyler Dahlgren

Tucker Whitten connects with a pitch from Centralia Community College on Sunday in the first game 2-1 win.

Favre calling it quits

After a 17-year career and record-breaking 2007 season, Brett Favre announces his retirement.

League leading

Favre holds the following NFL records:*

Pass completions	5,377
Pass attempts	8,758
Passing yards	61,655
Touchdown passes	442
Career wins	160

Awards and titles

Super Bowl victories	1 (1997)
MVP awards	3 (1995-97)
Pro Bowl selections	9

*Per regular season
 © 2008 MCT
 Source: National Football League, Green Bay Packers,
 MCT Photo Service
 Graphic: Angela Smith

Tyler Dahlgren
 The Commuter

Brett Favre announced his retirement from football this past Tuesday March 4. "I know I can still play, but it's like I told my wife, I'm just tired mentally. I'm just tired," said Favre, the NFL record holder with 442 touchdown passes, to Chris Mortensen in a voice mail

message.

"If I felt like coming back and Deanna [His wife] and I talked about this, that the only way for me to be successful would be to win a Super Bowl. To go to the Super Bowl and lose, would almost be worse than anything else. Anything less than a Super Bowl win would be unsuccessful," said Favre in the message.

Favre's retirement comes as a shock. Why retire after a career reviving 13-3 season, NFC championship game appearance, 28 touchdown passes, and a quarterback rating of 95.7, 95.8 being his career best '96 Super Bowl championship season?

Steve Young, former San Francisco Super Bowl winning quarterback now turned ESPN analyst gave his response on Sports Center.

"When I was contemplating retirement going into my eighteenth season my father asked me if this eighteenth season was really going to make the difference in my life. He told me to look at what I'd done in my career, and asked what else I wanted to accomplish. "Is the eighteenth season the secret?" he asked.

"Favre asked himself the same question. He then realized he had nothing else to accomplish. He said he's tired and if he was to come back, all he could accomplish is another Super Bowl. This decision is solely about Brett and what he wants to do with the rest of his life. I would be surprised if he were to come back."

The Mississippi native has played in 275 consecutive games (including playoffs), giving him the most consecutive starts at the quarterback position.

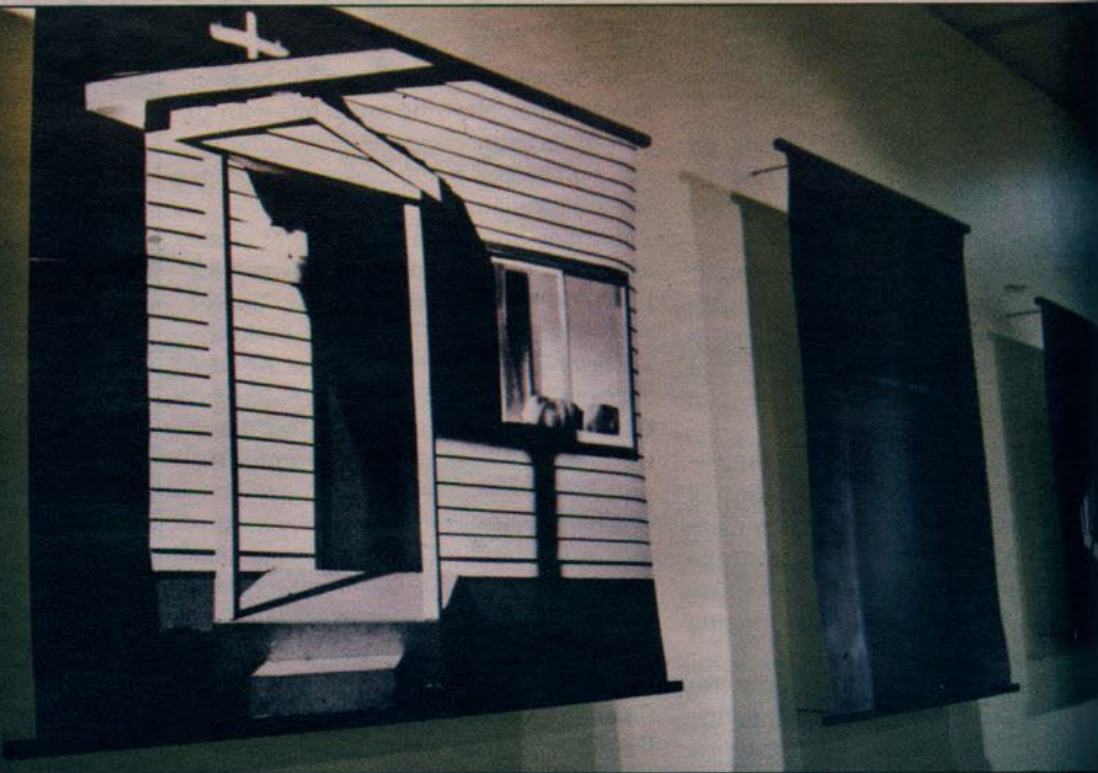
He is the only player in the history of the NFL to win three MVP awards, doing so in consecutive seasons '96, '96, and '97. He has played in two Super Bowls, winning against New England in '96, and losing to Denver in the following '97 season. Favre's 160 wins are the most ever for a starting quarterback--61,655 career passing yards, the most ever. His gun slinging vice for throwing the deep ball has cost him what? The interception record at 288 ints.

Favre told the Packers he would give them notice if he would be returning this season, in time for the upcoming NFL draft. He kept his word, no surprise, giving the Packers plenty of time to consider drafting a plausible backup, for Favre's former backup, Aaron Rodgers.

The question now is, can Aaron Rodgers lead this Packer team? Rodgers has thrown only 59 passes and one touchdown, going into what will be his fourth season, but he did outplay Favre against Dallas after Brett's injury in the first half. Questions have been raised as to whether he will be able to lead the young, still improving Packer squad.

Favre is considered one of the greatest quarterbacks in NFL history, by some, the greatest. His candor, toughness, savvy, and sling-shot arm, made him one of the most exciting quarterbacks to ever play the game. His presence on and off the field is truly an example of class and respect for the game of football.

THE BACK PAGE



Gallery dates to remember:

North Santiam Hall:

'The Political Show'

Feb. 25 - April 18

Reception: March 14, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Artist Lecture: Kabu MBII

March 13, 12 p.m. Forum 104

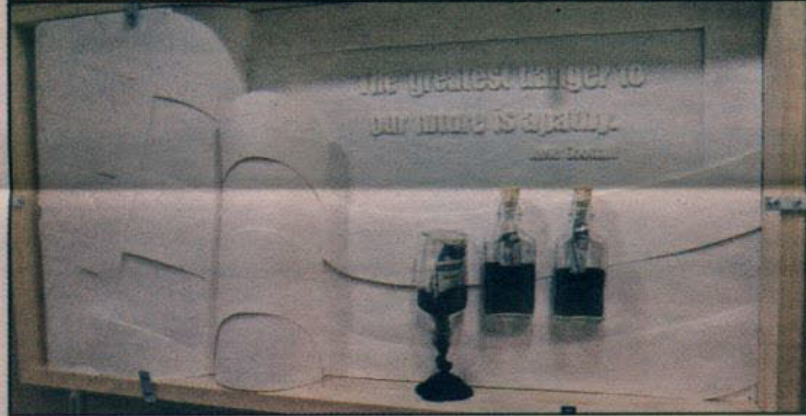


South Santiam Hall:

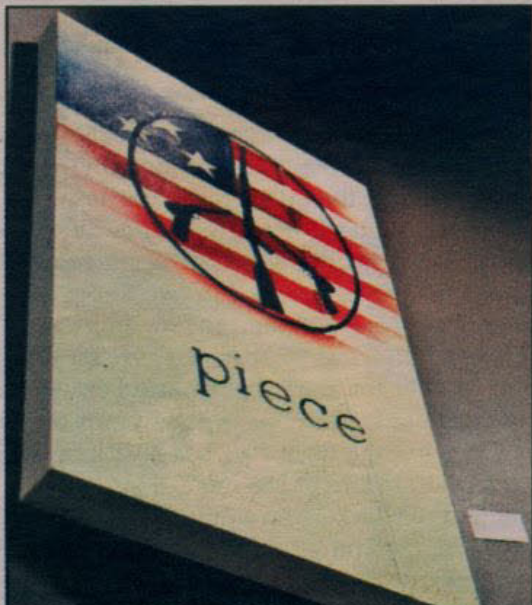
'Alumni Show'

March 3 - March 28

Reception: March 14, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.



ART SPEAKS OUT



Clockwise from top left:

- 'Where will the children play?' - Kabu MBII
- 'Untitled #5' - Lewis Forquer
- 'Practice' - Chia Hui Shen
- 'The Boogie Men are Coming' & 'Counting Bodies Like Sheep' - Adam Schneider
- 'Untitled' - Elizabeth Cook Sullivan
- 'Secure Homes' - Katheryn Byram
- 'Piece' - Jennifer Sands Dane
- www.greenisthenewred.com or Representation Without Incarceration - S. Tellez

photos by Will Parker

