

The Commuter

Vol. 25, No. 26

May 25, 1994



Roadrunners swing
for NWAACC
playoffs

7

Linn-Benton Community College, 6500 SW Pacific Boulevard Albany, Oregon 97321

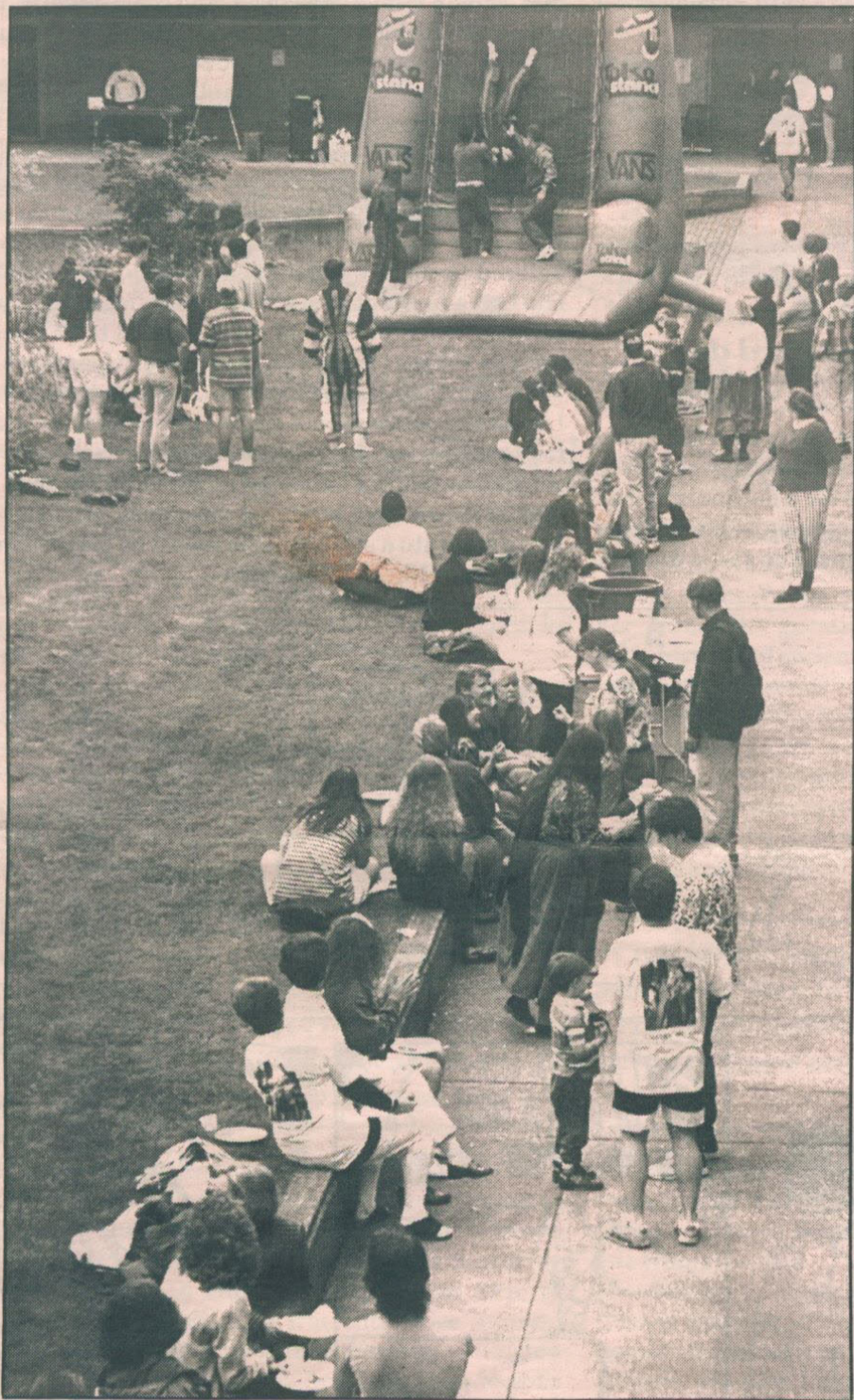


Photo by Linda Wallace

Sticking to It

Students line up to take their turns leaping onto the huge Velcro Wall installed in the courtyard last Friday as part of the Spring Days events organized by Student Leadership. Friday's events also included an all-campus picnic and mini-golf in the courtyard, a sand volleyball tournament and an evening concert featuring the Caribbean Super Stars Steel Drum Band, which was attended by approximately 100 people.

Early fall registration begins after Memorial Day holiday

When students return to campus on Tuesday after their Memorial Day holiday, they'll find the lines already forming in Takena Hall for early fall term registration.

The main campus and all Extended Learning Centers will be closed for Memorial Day, Monday, May 30.

On Tuesday, May 31, fully-admitted students who are attending classes this term can begin signing up for fall term classes. The Early Fall Registration period, inaugurated last year, runs from

Tuesday through Thursday, June 2.

In order to register, however, eligible students must first pick up a pre-printed form at the registration counter between now and June 2. This form will print the earliest date and time the student may register, based on LBCC credits previously completed.

Tuition may be paid at the time of registration or anytime through Aug. 11. The next opportunity for fully admitted students to register will be Aug. 31 or Sept. 1.

Crime on Campus

Thefts and vandalism lead the list, according to statistics released by campus security

By Trista Bush
Of The Commuter

Theft is the most common crime occurring on the LBCC campus, according to statistics recently released by Safety and Security Services.

During the 1993 calendar year, LBCC and its students were the victims of more than 50 reported thefts, costing a total of \$11,554 in losses.

Fifteen of those thefts involved college property, causing losses totalling \$5,163.89, and 35 involved the personal property of students and staff, for a total loss of \$6,390.

At least 10 of those thefts came in a wave between Oct. 27 and Nov. 1, according to Security and Safety Manger Mick Cook.

"No one was apprehended, but increased surveillance and student awareness are credited with a decrease since then," said Cook. According to earlier reports, Cook said the perpetrators successfully busted into four of the cars but failed in their other attempts. All of the break-ins occurred during daylight, and valuables were visible in all of the violated cars.

The Safety and Security Office compiled the report under U.S. Department of Education regulations that went into effect last year. The rules require all colleges and universities that receive federal funds to distribute an annual crime report to current students and employees that catalogs statistics on murders, rapes, robberies, assaults, burglaries, motor vehicle thefts and arrests for weapons, liquor and drug violations.

According to LBCC's 1993 report, there were no murders, rapes, robberies or narcotics infraction on campus, while thefts and criminal mischief (vandalism) dominated.

Criminal mischief accounted for 29 reported incidents in 1993 that caused property damage both personal and to the college. Eleven of those reported crimes were to personal property, causing a total damage of \$168. Of the damage to college property, 18 criminal mischief crimes cost the school \$510.

There were also 20 reports of student misconduct, harassment or menace.

Between January 1994 to April 1994, there were 18 reports of theft, 15 of which involved personal property for a total loss of \$3,668. Three of this year's thefts involved college property for a total loss of \$255. The total amount of

damage for thefts of both personal and college property was \$3,923.

In the same four-month time period there were seven reports of criminal mischief that caused damage totaling \$654. Three of the crimes were to personal property and totaled \$234 and four were to college property, causing \$420 in damages. There were also four reports of student misconduct, harassment or menace this year.

Cook attributed the lack of narcotic infractions to the fact that the colleges has no dorms or living facilities. Although syringes and other drug paraphernalia have been found in the parking lots in the past, Cook said that visitors on campus may be responsible.

One of the most memorable cases of vandalism this year was an attack on the greenhouse in February by three teenagers and one adult, who claimed to be members of the "18th Street Gang," which originated in Woodburn, according to Theresa Vandusen, assistant director of the Marion County

Juvenile Department.

The suspects painted gang symbols on the side of the greenhouse and knocked over several signs in the

area. At the time, Albany Police estimated they did about \$750-1,000 in damage to the building. Prosecution is pending.

Despite this incident, Cook said the campus has a relatively low rate of vandalism, which he attributes to the rural setting and the watchfulness of neighbors.

"We have established a limited rapport with the neighbors in the area who have been a help by watching the grounds," said Cook.

Some of the miscellaneous criminal incidents on campus include one in which juveniles attending a karate tournament here were arrested for destroying school property while practicing kicks on signs. Other cases include a medical call for an ambulance, two minor motor vehicle accidents and one report of disruptive behavior.

Cook said his office has to guard 560,000-square-foot of buildings with one full-time person every shift. He added that the Albany Police Department regularly patrols the campus parking lots with both car and motorcycle.

Students interested in getting a copy of a crime data sheet can call Security and Safety Services at extension 552.

"We have established a limited rapport with the neighbors in the area who have been a help by watching the grounds."

—Mick Cook

The earth must be cleansed of the evil flute

By Jim Schaefer
Of The Commuter

I don't want to make a habit of writing the kind of column where all I do is complain about something I hate, but life is like a cattle drive. Every now and then you've got to stop chasing strays and get the burrs out from under your saddle blanket.

So here's my burr. It's my least favorite instrument in the world. It's the flute. I hate the flute

Commentary

The flute beshames all wind instruments. A respectable horn commands a second look from every eye because it's shaped and shined like a Rolls Royce hood ornament. Trumpet and sax players move and groove as though their heart, soul and jelly roll are welling slaves to the labor of music making.

A flutist, on the other hand, looks like a liposuction patient trying to lose 20 pounds the hard way; or a drooling clown with his lip caught in a piece of conduit.

Sometimes I have nightmares where I'm locked inside the LaSells Stewart Center during a week-long Jethro Tull concert. For those readers whose ears haven't been razzed by the sound of a Jethro Tull song, I'll fill you in. Jethro Tull is this nasty little '60's-'70's band that recorded rock albums with lots of flute music in them. I don't get it. The flute is a rock 'n' roll instrument? Right. And if you drive to the top of Vinyard Mountain, you'll find a monastery full of monks who build flame-jobbed hot rods and roll cigarettes with their knees.

Bruce Springsteen Fans: Imagine The Boss and The E Street Band on a reunion tour, tearing their way through "Born to Run" or "Darlington County." the Boss rears his head back and yells for The Big Man, Clarence Clemmons, to step up to the mike and blow some corn through his horn. But instead of honking his heart in half with a saxophone riff that'd blow all the spontaneously donated panties of female fans back into the crowd, what if Clarence started puffing into a wimpy little flute? I'll tell you what would happen. Clarence would wind up in the emergency room, with no desire to sit or discuss the whereabouts of his missing flute with anyone but a discreet physician.

There is no substitute for the saxophone. I look at a sax and I think of a waitress I used to know at a Mexican restaurant in Palm Springs. I look at the flute and I think of a piece of pipe that escaped from underneath a sink and tried to disguise itself with chrome and lots of holes.

The flatulent sound of a flute is like that of the last lung full of air wheezing from a euthanized dog.

Two saxes running at full bore sound like a couple of bored-out bikes dragging for beers on a Saturday night. The flatulent sound of a flute is like that of the last lung full of air wheezing from a euthanized dog. Comparing the flute to the saxophone is like comparing baby aspirin to crack cocaine. The sax is danger-

ous, the flute is a rated "G" crib toy.

In the movie "Heathers," Winona Ryder asks Christian Slater what he'd do if he won \$5 million on the same day aliens from another planet announced they were going to blow the earth up in 48 hours.

Slater replies, "I don't know... probably row out into the middle of a lake somewhere, bring along a bottle of tequila, my sax, and some Bach." Pretty cool answer, huh? Can you imagine how lame that would have sounded if Slater planned to spend his last two days on Earth in a boat with a flute? If he had, Winona Ryder wouldn't have hung out with him, the plot wouldn't have developed, and consequently, the movie would be about as much fun to watch as a haircut. That's why you'll never see a member of Jethro Tull playing the lead roll in the movies.

Remember that famous painting of the three American Revolutionary War soldiers—the guys with the flag, fife and drum? Do you know why their heads were bandaged and their clothes were all torn up? When they learned that their picture was going to be painted to inspire future generations, that famous trio had a fistfight to see who was going to get stuck carrying the fife. None of them wanted to be known as "The Father of the Weenies of Our Country."

I'm alarmed at the number of flutes on our streets. I think the police should conduct a buyback program to get people to turn in their flutes for cash, or even saxophone lessons. The surrendered flutes could be melted down and rendered harmless, perhaps by being cast into a statue of someone who played a real instrument like Jimi Hendrix.



The Commuter is the weekly student-managed newspaper for Linn-Benton Community College, financed by student fees and advertising.

Commuter Staff

Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty or Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them. Readers are encouraged to use The Commuter Opinion Page to express their views on campus or community matters. Address correspondence to The Commuter, 6500 SW Pacific Blvd., Albany, Ore. 97321; (503) 928-2361, ext. 373 or 130. The newsroom is located in Room 210 of the College Center.

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Opinion



The superiority of American culture found in the workings of a Florida school board's policy

By Richard Cohen
Washington Post

WASHINGTON—The Lake County, Fla., school board, complying with a state directive, agreed to teach multiculturalism—but with a twist: that no matter what, American culture is “superior to other foreign or historic cultures.”

With that, the phone rang off the hook at school board headquarters.

The news media, an indisputably superior element of American culture, knows a good story when it sees one.

The head of the school board, a woman with a charming Southern accent, had to defend herself in countless interviews. In one, she counter-punched neatly.

If American culture is not superior, Pat Hart asked, why are so many people elsewhere trying to live here? Not a bad question, actually. But there are other questions as well. One is, What is meant by culture? The board cited “our republican form of government, capitalism, a free-enterprise system, patriotism, strong family values, freedom of religion and other basic values,” the last being the board’s version of “et cetera.”

Trouble is, most of those elements can also be found elsewhere—family values, for instance—are reputed to be on the wane in the good ol’ U.S. of A. Or so say the very Christian fundamentalists who now control the Lake County school board. Still, with reservations galore, I agree with Hart. I, too, think American culture is just swell, maybe—even—superior to all others.

That does not mean that I cannot find worthy cultures elsewhere or aspects of American culture—its violence, for instance—with which I could easily do without. To that, I might add rap music, the grunge look, Muzak and Newt Gingrich. It’s not enough to emigrate.

Having declared my love for American culture, I confess to not knowing what it is. It is this thing, concocted by blacks and whites, Asians and Native Americans, Christians and Jews and, increasingly, adherents of Eastern religions as well. It is more white than it is black, still basically Christian, but in certain industries and in certain places (show biz, for instance) a little bit of Yiddish wouldn’t hurt...bubbe. American culture may well come down to this: In Washington, an erstwhile African-American rib joint is not run by Koreans.

Still, I think I know what the Lake County school board was trying to do. It was rebelling against the proposition that all cultures are equal. If that was its intent, I think it was on to something.

This notion that any culture is equal to any other

is downright mindless. Saul Bellow tried too make that point years ago when he asked, “Where is the Proust of the Papuans? The Tolstoy of the Zulus?” For posing the question, he was instantly slapped silly, accused of racism, ethnocentrism, elitism, and other isms too awful to mention. He later added that he could not find a Tolstoy in Bulgaria, either.

We must guard against cultural arrogance, of course, or linking culture to worth. But it is hardly racist or whatever to suggest that in certain ways one culture may be superior to another—that weaving baskets and having an oral tradition is not the match of the Taj Mahal or “Hamlet”—or, even, “Herzog.”

A hierarchy exists that cannot be wished away—the gradual accretion of knowledge, the maturing of

taste. It is a fact, too, that some cultures seem to do some things better than others. America has produced no Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, or Bach. Those gentlemen—and Schubert, Schumann, Mendelssohn—all spoke German, as did a disproportionate number of the theoretical physicists who gave us the Atomic age. Something about Germanic culture, you might say—and you might be right.

But when it comes to political culture, it seems to me America is unparalleled. However you define that term, it has meant an almost miraculous success for countless peoples—blacks being the obvious exception.

We have done some bad things, but for most of the people most of the time, America has been a grand place. Excuse me for thinking it’s the grandest place of all.

The true glory of American culture is its eclectic nature—its plasticity, the wonderful adaptability that not only has produced ham and Swiss croissants but, more importantly, the throat-catching letters of immigrants to their relatives back home.

So many of these people were stunned by the hearty openness of American society, its willingness to accept them as individuals, not as tribal representatives.

This emphasis on the individual is very American. It can be overdone, but overall it’s wonderful.

If that is what the school board meant by American culture, then I am with it all the way. But I suspect its version and my version of American culture are not the same—that its’ is stagnant while mine relishes mutation.

The superiority of American culture may be found in its very reluctance to assert superiority, its humble appreciation that American culture remains work in progress. For those reasons the Lake County school board ought to rework its policy.

Among other things it’s culturally deficient.

Viewpoints

Native American ruins need spiritual protection

The following editorial appeared in the Detroit Free Press on Sunday.

Looting of Native American artifacts has become such a problem that the U.S. Interior Department is literally wiping the country’s most notable ruins off the map.

The latest editions of some National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management maps no longer include the locations of several Southwestern archaeological sites, lest they be found and damaged by looters and vandals. Anything in the countryside that isn’t nailed down—and a lot of stuff that is—is apparently at risk in this new cultural crime wave.

The standard response would be to call for more protection of sites, more enforcement, inspections of dealers who sell Native American art and antiquities, and perhaps spot checks of their shops. Throw in education, too, so that people understand that those who buy ripped-off cultural artifacts are as guilty as those who sell them.

Those things might help, although probably not enough, even assuming the money could be found to do them. The best you can do, sometimes, is to hope that the spirits who once dwelt in such ancient places are watching—and that they have something appropriate in store for destroyers of history and thieves who steal the past.

Forecast: Partly cloudy, a chance of radiation

The following editorial appeared in the Chicago Tribune on Friday, May 20.

Besides the staples of temperature, sunshine, precipitation and barometric pressure, today’s weather forecasts can offer a long and useful menu of things that can hurt you, among them wind-chill factors, smog indexes, pollen and mold spore counts.

Soon, compliments of the National Weather Service, there may be a new prediction to worry about—the Ultraviolet Potential Index, a calculation of the amount of harmful ultraviolet radiation reaching the Earth from the sun.

To tanning freaks, ultraviolet rays are a blessing, but a dangerous one. The rays have been linked to a variety of dire consequences, including damage to plant and aquatic life and, in humans, eye cataracts, hampering of the immune system and—of particular concern—skin cancer.

Warning people about this on a daily basis has a certain doomsday ring to it, but it is all to the good and may turn out to be one of the most helpful features of modern weather forecasting. Canada, in fact, already is doing it.

The weather service plans to introduce the index in selected cities this summer. The purpose is to provide information that will guide people to avoid or protect themselves—and especially their children—from excessive exposure to the sun’s rays. It will be accompanied by an educational program from the Environmental Protection Agency.

The index will measure risk on a scale of 0 to 15, from minimal to very high. Many factors influence the risk, including the amount of sunshine or cloudiness, dust or haze in the air, the time of the day and year. Generally, the farther south you live and the more the sun is directly overhead, the greater the peril. Even the ozone layer, in addition to its thinning, can fluctuate seasonally and day to day.

With proper warning, people can take proper precautions, such as covering up with more clothes or—if they insist on catching a few rays—using a sunscreen.

By all means, enjoy the sun, but respect it.

LB community chorale presents 'Pirates of Penzance'

"The Pirates of Penzance" will be presented by the LBCC Community Chorale on Sunday, May 29, at 3 p.m. in the Takena Theatre. Tickets are \$4 and available at the door and at Rice's Pharmacy in Corvallis and Sid Stevens Jewelers in Albany.

Directed by Hal Eastburn and accompanied by MaryAnn Guenther, this concert version of the familiar Gilbert and Sullivan operetta is known for its spirited melodies and witty dialogue.

"This work is just plain fun for both the audience and the performers," said Eastburn.

Eastburn has recruited professional singers from Portland to be guest soloists with the chorale for this final concert performance of the season. David Maier will be featured as Frederic and Elizabeth Lower as Mabel, one of the daughters of the Major-General.

Maier previously played Frederic in the Pirates of Penzance Musical Theatre Company of Portland and

has also appeared in a HMS Pinafore, "The Gipsy Baron" and in "Desert Song."

Elizabeth Lower currently sings with the Leyden Singers, performing "Pops" concerts with the Oregon and Seattle symphonies. This summer will be her third season performing Gilbert and Sullivan with Mock's Crest Productions as Peep-bo in "The Mikado," Fianetta in "The Gondoliers" and Mabel in "The Pirates of Penzance."

Other principal performers in LBCC's production include Pete Butler of Lebanon as the Pirate King, Paul Pritchard of Albany as the Major-General Stanley, and Valery King of Albany as Ruth.

Butler, a teacher at Lebanon Union High School,

taught choral music for 18 years until switching in 1990 to speech and language arts.

Pritchard is an optician at Corvallis Vision Center and has been involved in theatre and musical groups since high school. He has sung with LBCC Community Chorale for approximately 20 years and the Merry olde England Carolers for about 10.

King has frequently been a soloist with the LBCC Community Chorale and has performed in OSU Theatre productions of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado" as Katisha and in "Patience" as Lady Jane.

Other chorale soloists are Andy Cyrus of Tangent, playing Samuel; Ann Shriver, Jody Eleveld, and Patricia Lindsey of Corvallis, as the Police Sergeant.



David Maier

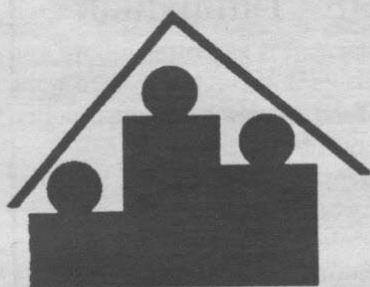


Elizabeth Lower

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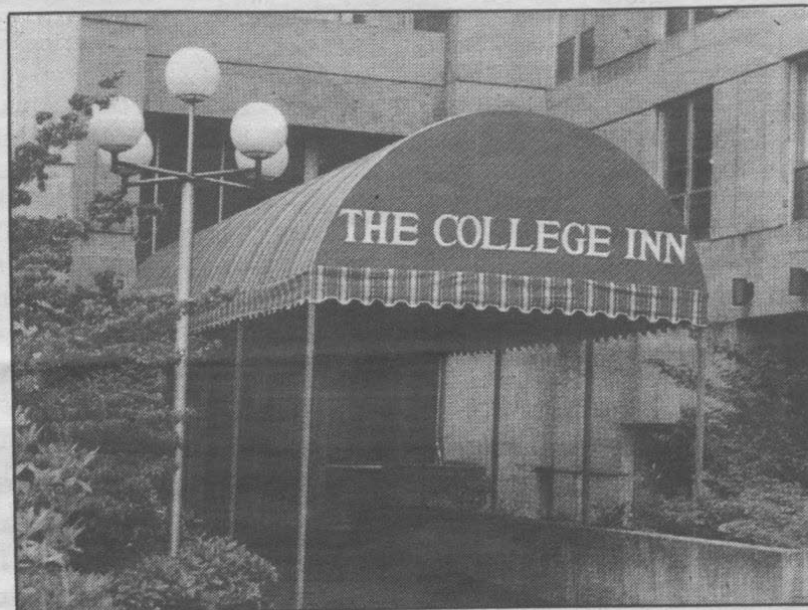
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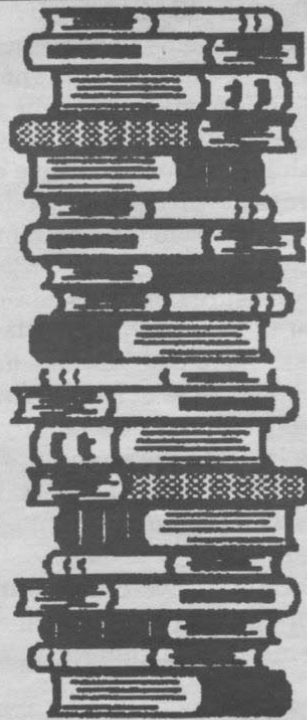


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Campus News

Payroll checks no longer available for pick-up on campus after July 1

By Dannie Bjornson
Of The Commuter

Beginning July 1, LBCC employees will no longer be allowed to pick their checks up at the payroll office. The department plans to mail all checks out to the faculty.

LB Benefits and Payroll Administrator Hal King said the checks will be sent out two days ahead of time so they reach employees on payday.

The new policy was approved April 19 at a College Council meeting after the Payroll/Human Resources department suggested that it might save the department time.

Approximately 1,200 employees receive checks on campus. Of these, 200 checks go to work study students and about 150 go to faculty.

King said he is primarily concerned with making sure checks are mailed to the correct address. Students "move around a lot," King said. That makes keeping their current address a "big problem."

Change of address forms are available in the Registration and

Business offices, he said. Employees can also drop by the Payroll office (in CC-108) to enter a new address into the colleges computer.

"Some students may go home for Christmas. They can let us know of this temporary change in address, so we can send their checks to them directly," King said.

Employees can also have their checks deposited directly into their checking or savings accounts on paydays. Direct deposit forms are available in the payroll office.

The service is available at all banks and credit unions.

King said the direct deposit system "eliminates the worry of losing your check in the mail or having it stolen from your mailbox."

Paychecks can also be divided between two accounts, or, a pre-specified portion of a paycheck can be deposited into a bank account while the remaining portion is mailed home.

King encourages college employees with questions or concerns to contact him at extension 524.

News Briefs

Wheelchair Donations

Wheelchair donations are being requested to help LBCC fulfill Emergency Evacuation Plan requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA). Contributions of new and used wheelchairs in good condition can be made to the LBCC Foundation and may be tax deductible. For more information or to donate a wheelchair, call the LBCC Foundation at 967-6100.

Santiam Room Closes Soon

The last day for regular service for the Santiam Room this academic year is Wednesday, June 1. Reservations may be made by calling ext. 203.

Phillips on Board

Jerry Phillips, program coordinator for the Criminal Justice Program at LBCC, was recently reappointed by Gov. Barbara Roberts to the Community Corrections Board for another four-year term. Phillips, a

Corvallis resident and instructor at LBCC for the past 13 years, was first appointed to the board in 1988 by Gov. Neil Goldschmidt. He served as board chair during the past year and was reelected by the board to serve again for 1994-95.

Annual Diabetes Symposium

The Annual Diabetes Symposium will be held at LBCC, Saturday, June 4, from 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. The free symposium is sponsored by the Albany General Hospital Foundation, Lebanon Community Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital and LBCC Health Occupations. A buffet lunch is available for \$5.50 if purchased a week in advance. A products fair will run through lunch with most diabetes supply companies represented. Speakers and workshops will address a number of topics. Registration begins at 8 a.m. To register or for more information, call 928-2361, ext. 418.



By Micky Shannon-Monroe

Keeping the Flame

Rick Riley of Eugene had a little trouble keeping his candle burning while holding his playful son Noah at Sunday's AIDS Candlelight Memorial at the Benton County Courthouse. About 75 people attended the evening event, in which names were read from the Corvallis AIDS Memorial Quilt, the "Spread of Hope."

"The Peace Studies Program - Lithuanian Delegation would like to thank those people of the community who are helping to make our trip possible."

•Pete Boucot•Angela Rivera•Bill Siebler•David Hillabrand•Jeramiah Radka•Dan Hopkins•Andres Corral•Lanoah Babcock•Charles Crawford•Delane Crawford•Arlene Wuori•Mike Burns•Sandi Foster•Brian Foster•Judy Ellis•Cindy Epps•Glenda Foster•

Don and Betty Rea, The Friendship Force of the Willamette Valley, The Shanty Choir of Varel, Germany, Bruce Peterson and the Performing Arts Department, Gene Neville and the Food Service Department, Margi Dusek, Rich Bergman, Linda Spain, Ed Watson, Susan Cogan, Lynn Trimpe, Jane White, Wane Johnson of the Linn-Benton ESD, Christi Clark, Carol Trueba, Karen and Richard O'Brian, Jim Tolbert, LBCC Facilities Services, LBCC Student Programs, LBCC Media, The Commuter Staff, Representative Peter Dafazio, Tim Lichatowich, Monique Gifford, Beth Camp, Charlene Fellas, Lempit Congur, the Staff of the Camus Room, Fred Meyer's (Corvallis and Albany), Albertson's (Corvallis), Richey's Market (Corvallis), Payless Drug Stores (Albany), G.I. Joe's (Albany), Price Chopper Foods (Albany), North Albany Thriftway, Wholesome and Hearty Foods (Portland), Kettle Foods, Inc. (Salem), Fircrest Farms, Inc. (Cresswell), the Student Body of LBCC, and to everyone else for their support.

Sand Volleyball Tournament

Thursday
May 26

2:30pm-6:00pm

LBCC Sand Courts

All participants entered in drawings!!

Enter as an individual or in teams of 4. Prizes will be awarded to winners based on a double elimination tournament. There are beginning, intermediate and advanced levels. Students and staff encouraged to participate. Categories for everyone.

For an entry form, stop by Student Programs in CC-213.

Coming Attractions

Warner Bros. loses gamble with "Maverick"

Photo Exhibit Opens

The photography students at LBCC are displaying their works May 23-June 3, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Art Gallery. The exhibit includes black and white, color, toning, hand-applied color, combination printing and photograms.

Eloquent Umbrella Readings

"Opening the Eloquent Umbrella," a reading from LBCC's creative arts journal, will be held Friday from 7-9 p.m. in the Corvallis Arts Center, 700 SW Madison Ave. The Eloquent Umbrella will be available during this event and at the main campus bookstore, the Benton Center, the Sweet Home Center, Corvallis Arts Center and Grassroots Bookstore. The price is \$2. For more information, call Linda Varsell Smith at 753-3335.

Night At the Improv

"A Night At the Improv" will be performed May 27-28, and June 3-4 at 8 p.m., and Sunday May 29 at 3 p.m., in the Loft Theatre. Admission is \$4. Advance reservations for the 45-seat Loft Theatre may be made by calling the box office at ext. 504. Tickets are also available at the door a half hour before curtain time. Due to the show's cabaret-style format, the length of the shows may vary from 60-80 minutes. Also, the possibility of adult material may make the show not suitable for young audiences.

Jazz Memorium

The LBCC Community Big Band will present "Jazz Memorium" Monday, May 30 at 7 p.m. in the Takena Theatre at LBCC. The concert pays tribute to jazz artists and styles from the past in both the big band setting and in smaller combos. Admission is \$4 per person. Tickets will be available at the door.

Painted Envelopes Exhibited

Watercolors painted on hand-made envelopes by Alpine artist John G. McClash will be on exhibit June 1-26 at the Corvallis Art Center, 700 SW Madison. The images are of distant lands, changing seasons and pieces of dreams that have been painted on envelopes mailed to John Murdock, a Corvallis resident and former LBCC student.

By Tony Lystra
Of The Commuter

Warner Brothers attacks the big screen with 'Maverick' this summer and misses the mark.

The film is based on the 1957-1962 ABC TV-series of the same name which featured Brett Maverick (James Garner) as a suave gambler who scraps his way through the brutal southwest with card tricks and a quick wit.

Review

Garner appears in the feature-film as respectable lawman Marshal Zane Cooper. Accompanied by Jodie Foster as the flaming southern belle card shark, Annabelle Bransford, and Mel Gibson as Maverick, the three meander their way through the old west on their way to a high-stakes poker game in St. Louis—all the while ricocheting dagger sharp retorts off each other and sinking neck-deep in unfathomable predicaments.

But the jokes often peter out before they hit target and the dialogue is awkward. Drawn-out romance scenes between Gibson and Foster leave the viewer wanting to holler, "Come on! Get on with it!" And right-angle twists in the plot leave our heads spinning.

The film lacks the necessary rhythm that keeps audiences smiling through a picture. In a six-gun-quick bank robbery scene Danny Glover, who starred with Gibson in three "Lethal Weapon" films, is thrust face to face with Gibson's Maverick. Accompanied by a segment from the "Lethal Weapon" soundtrack, Glover's cameo is of National Lampoon caliber.

But following scenes lag and the film's quick pace is lost. Gibson, cornered by thugs, fumbles for an eternity before paying them off; a long panning shot of the burro-mounted gambler in the beginning of the film seemingly lasts forever; and an exchange between Foster and Gibson over his ruined lucky shirt knocks viewers out quicker than ether.

Gibson, Foster and Garner do give able performances. Their characters are likeable and full of personality. The three high-profile actors are seemingly betrayed by a script that, if well-written, could have worked. Were Gibson's production company, Icon, not behind the picture, I'd say he'd been shanghai'd into a potentially strong role which was vandalized by shoddy writers and quirky editing.



Bret Maverick (Mel Gibson) and Lawman Zane Cooper (James Garner) are quick to blast sore losers at a high stakes poker game, while Annabelle Bransford (Jodie Foster) sidesteps the flying bullets in Warner Brother's "Maverick."

Still, some scenes aren't a complete bust. Scenes filmed in Arizona and Portland, Oregon's Columbia River are gorgeous. And Director Richard Donner blasts several stage-coach-stopping action sequences into the flick which, mixed with Gibson's humor, are reminiscent of the Indiana Jones films.

In another scene, Gibson hooks up with a band of 'hostile' Indians led by his old buddy, Joseph (Graham Greene of "Dances with Wolves"). They escape back to the tribe's camp, nestled between granite towers and crystal creek shorelines, where the tribe is paid to tour a Russian Archduke (Paul Smith) through the "real west." They paint their faces, play loud drums and whoop and holler because the Archduke believes hostile natives make for a truly "western" environment. "Money's been tight this year," Greene shrugs through an absurdly bright painted face.

Warner Brothers will release, "Wyatt Earp," another big-budget western, this summer. If it doesn't hit harder than "Maverick," where I'm concerned, it'll be high noon.

WANTED!

Assistant Editors

The Commuter is seeking assistant editors for the 1994-95 year to work in copy editing and page design. The appointment carries a \$585 annual position grant and provides valuable experience for journalism majors.

Applications available in
The Commuter Office, CC210.

WANTED!

Sports Editor

The Commuter is seeking a sports editor for the 1994-95 year. The appointment carries a \$585 annual position grant and provides valuable training and job experience. Appointment is made by the editor-in-chief.

Applications available in
The Commuter Office, CC210.

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Directed by George Lauris

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Sports

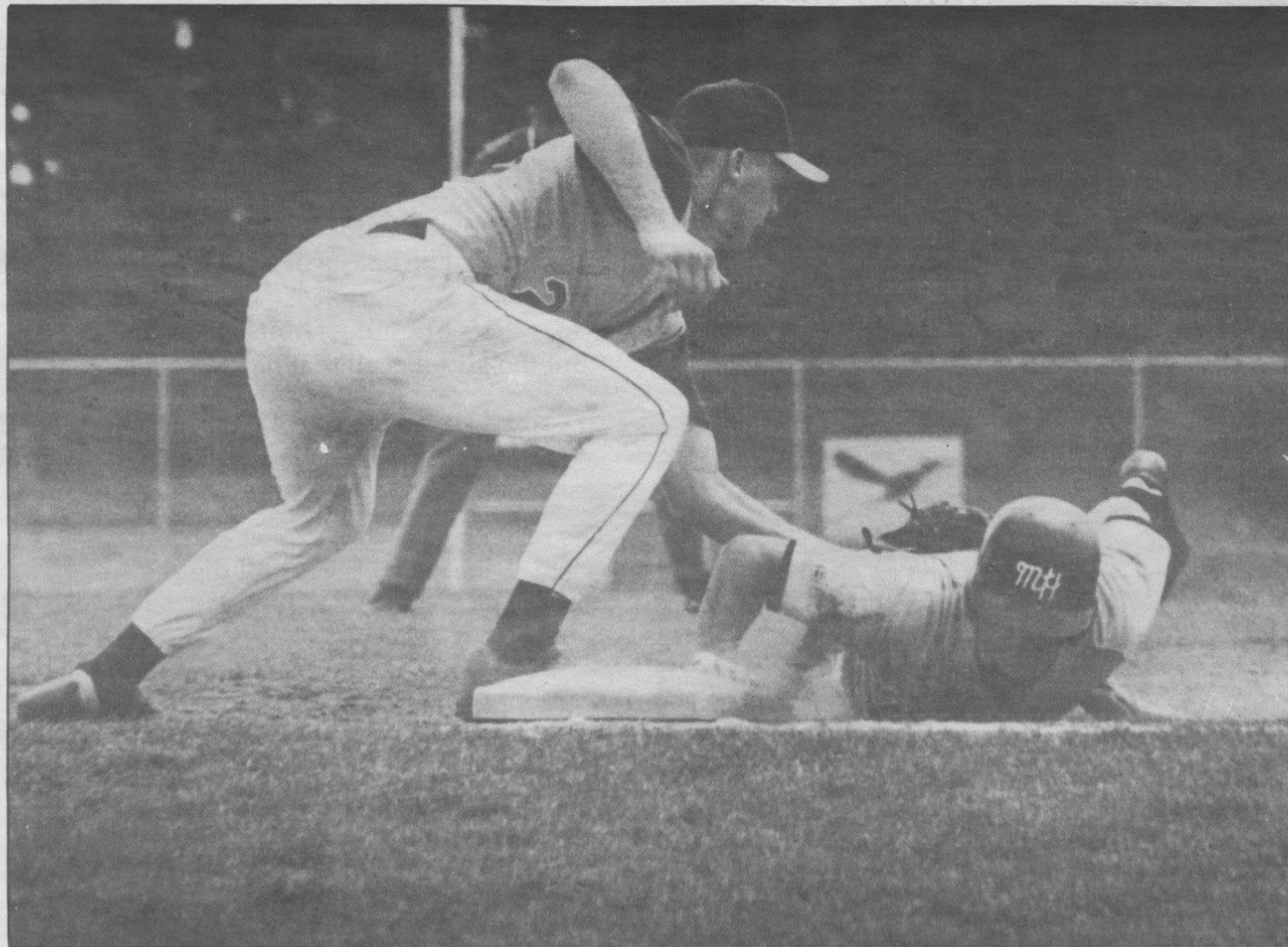


Photo by Linda Wallace

First baseman Doug McCauley puts the tag on a Mt. Hood runner who dives back to the bag, just beating the pick-off attempt. LB won both games of Thursday's doubleheader against the Saints.

Holy jumpin' up and down Martha!

One week after the prospect of a playoff berth was as crazy as the Nuggets beating the Sonics, the Roadrunners have made it to post season

By Zachary Spiegel
Of The Commuter

After turning in a perfect 5-0 record last week, the Roadrunner ball club will be returning to the playoffs for another shot at the NWAACC title.

Linn-Benton's winning ways started last Tuesday as they swept a double header from the Clackamas Cougars by scores of 6-3 and 8-1.

In the opener, LB got combined strong pitching performances from Chad Giles, Matt Ross and Jesse Martin. Giles, got the win, allowing just one run and one hit through five innings. He also rang up six strike-outs in earning his second win of the season.

John Downing went 3-for-4 with two doubles and three RBI's for LB. Brad Horing added two hits and Darin Piburn tripled for the Roadrunners.

In the second game, freshman right-hander Jason Bronson hurled a complete game four-hitter to propel LB to the direly needed sweep over the first place Cougars.

Carlos Williams had a two-run single for LB as they improved their record to 20-13 with the win. Piburn continued his hot hitting by knocking out a homerun for the Roadrunners.

On Thursday, LB was back at its winning ways as they once again swept a twinbill, this time over Mount Hood.

Linn-Benton had to erase a two run deficit heading into the bottom of the eighth inning to earn the first game

win. Jeff Tuck picked up his eighth victory of the year and Piburn had another outstanding game going 3-for-3.

The nightcap was a washing as the Roadrunners pummeled the Saints with nine runs on ten hits. Brian Thompson picked up the victory, his third of the year. Piburn added two more hits and finished the day with four steals and three RBI's. Matt Rice and Carlos Williams each had two hits in the win.

This win, coupled with another Clackamas loss to Chemeketa, set up a one game playoff between LB and Clackamas.

The winner of this game would take the second seed in the division and go to the playoffs.

The Roadrunners opened up the game with three runs in the bottom of the first inning to take a lead they would not look back on. Both teams scored a run in the fifth inning and that would round out all of the scoring on that day. LB won the game 4-1 and boosted themselves into the playoffs.

"I felt like we played to our abilities today," remarked head coach Greg Hawk. "We got some clutch performances that will hopefully give us some momentum and carry us through the playoffs," added Hawk.

The pitching staff that has struggled all year, toughened up and got the job done when they really needed to. "Bronson won two big games for us, Brian Thompson threw really well and Tuck held on in that 6-5 game," commented Hawk.

The next step for the Roadrunners is an 8 p.m. game in Yakima, Wash., against the host team Yakima Valley. The tournament is double elimination.

"The players and I are extremely happy to be playing right now!" said Hawk.

Linn-Benton track team prepares itself for championships

By Zachary Spiegel
Of The Commuter

The track team is taking a relaxed approach to this weeks Championships at Lewis & Clark College. Head coach Brad Carman is also gearing himself up for the meet.

"Our sprinters and jumpers are doing just a little bit of running, but are doing just enough to get them ready for Thursday and Friday," commented Carman.

This relaxed style at the end of the year is in direct contrast with the harsh practices that went on during the long

stretch of the track season.

"We have backed off on the volume of exercise we have done," added Carman. "I want everyone to be at full strength on first day."

The field of athletes for LB heading into the meet has been dwindled down from years past and seems a bit scarce, but the people involved with the events right now all have great shots at placing very respectably in their events.

Rusty Houk will be competing in the 100m and 200m, Gary Magee will be in the high jump, Dan Barley in the hammer and Adam Bjornstedt will throw

the javelin.

For the women, Shawna Rosa seems to have a good chance at a medal in the javelin.

"Shawna has been throwing alright this week," remarked Carman. "She is capable of throwing it much better," he added. He hopes she will reach her high mark of about 135 feet.

Next year Carman and assistant coach Jayme Frazier are looking forward to a bigger turnout and better competitiveness throughout the year. With more bodies on the field, this should be a team to watch next year.

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Students needed! Earn \$2000+ monthly. Summer/holidays/fulltime. World travel. Caribbean, Hawaii, Europe, Mexico. Tour Guides, Gift Shop Sales, Deck Hands, Casino Workers, etc. No experience necessary. Call 602-680-4647, Ext. C147.

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Summer Work! 50 immediate openings, high starting pay, part-time and full-time positions. No experience necessary. Scholarships and internships available. Call 585-9344 for more information.

A representative from the Oregon State police Recruit Unit will be in the commons lobby area on Thursday, May 26 between 10:00am and 2:00pm. Trooper Kao Chin will be recruiting for Cadet and Trooper positions. Career opportunity, salary, and benefit information will be available. For more information see Angie Aschoff in Student Employment located in the Career Center, first floor of Takena Hall.

MISCELLANEOUS

16 Track Recording Studio and Promotional Photography. Large Rooms, Grand Piano and Hammond Organ. \$20 per hour, call Dennis at 754-7328.

Daycare in my home, Mon-Sat 8:00a.m. - 7:00p.m. \$1.50 for 1 child, \$2.25 for 2 or more. Call Kristy at 258-8533.

SCHOLARSHIPS

94-95 Linn County Medical Society Scholarship. Eligibility: Live in Linn County or attend high school in Linn County, currently enrolled or entering a nursing program. Deadline: June 15, 1994. Applications are available in the Career Ctr. located in Takena Hall.

FOR SALE

1969 Karman Ghia, new engine, brakes, and stereo. \$1000 or best offer. Please help me! 451-2486.

Need a great graduation gift? 1984 Toyota Celica ST 5-speed, fuel injected. Power steering, cruise control, AM/FM cassette, rear window defogger. Excellent running condition. \$3695.00 !! Call 926-8373, leave a message.

WANTED

Dirt bike wanted, 125cc-250cc. Prefer good condition, but will consider any. \$0-\$1,500. Call 926-1172.

PERSONALS

Happy 21st birthday Trista Bush!!!! Hope all of your wishes come true, from all of us.



we come from a place
 we do not understand
 we live in a place
 we do not understand
 we will go to a place
 we do not understand
 and this is all I know
 Gsh 94

Illustrations by Cynthia Hubble

Fireworks

The smoke bomb's smoke is all that he has
although he boasts of a show.

The sparkler's brightness hints at glamour
but the glitter is all that he knows.

The whistler intrudes with an obnoxious noise
but he quickly fizzles and dies.

The rocket, however, is quiet and shy
'till his beauty and power fill the sky.

Tammy B.



Death of a Family

I am filled with a sadness
I cannot describe,
at the pain that surrounds me
The hurt in their eyes.

How I wish that my heart
it was made out of steel,
to shield from the suffering
that I cannot heal.

But the heart that can love
must be open to pain,
just as sunshine is welcomed
when preceded by rain.

It just seems such a waste
that the parents' despair
should age little children,
who should not have a care.

I wish people would realize
that though problems persist
if you take away childhood
it will sorely be missed.

In these times it's too common
to abandon the ship,
when this is the time to soul search,
get a grip.

For the voyage through life
is not just today,
but the sum of these days
that do not fade away.

L.L. Wallace



W.B.

Illustration by Willie Brainard