

The Commuter

Vol. 25, No. 25

May 18, 1994

Local youth pioneers
education
reform
7

'Improv' tests wit of
Loft Theatre
actors
8

Hoedown showdown
attracts fiddlers
9 to Lebanon

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



Photos by Chris Treloggen

John Ellich (left) and Ken Wold of the Albany fire Department hose down the smoldering remains of a juniper bush at the entrance to the southeast campus parking lot. The fire raced through the dry bush late Thursday afternoon, threatening a car parked nearby. The probable cause was listed as an improperly discarded cigarette, although witnesses reported seeing two youths fleeing from the scene on bicycles as the fire was getting underway.



Ken Wold moves in with his hose to contain the fire from spreading through the juniper hedge. Wold has worked for the Albany fire Department for two years and has been fighting fire for four. Does he enjoy his work? "You bet," says Wold enthusiastically. "I love it."

Burning bush does little damage thanks to quick reactions

By Chris Treloggen
Of The Commuter

A smoldering cigarette may have been the cause of a fire in LBCC's southeast parking lot last week that consumed a large juniper bush and nearly reached a student's car parked beside the bush.

The Albany Fire Department responded with one fire truck and an ambulance to a call at 4:56 p.m. on Thursday from LBCC security employee John Kotyo. It turned out the ambulance was not needed, as no one was injured.

Before the engine arrived, two bystanders shoved a threatened car away from the burning bush as the flames began to lick the asphalt where the car was parked. The owner of the car arrived shortly after the fire crew and drove the car away. It was not damaged. The fire burned a swath through the bushes about 15 feet across.

Although the fire department report listed the probable cause as an improperly discarded cigarette, witnesses reported suspicious activity in the area. LB students Ralph Sherman and Regina Fischer said they saw two young kids on bicycles hanging around the scene.

"Soon after the smoke started we saw one (kid) leave as it was smoking. The other kid stayed for a moment before he high-tailed it out of here," said Sherman.

Kotyo said that last summer a similar fire near the Work Enforcement Building was believed to have been set by kids.

Bond levy maintains narrow lead late into the evening

By Tony Lystra
Of The Commuter

As of midnight last night the bond levy that would give LBCC just under \$15 million was ahead by roughly 350 votes. But at press time, the vote was too close to call.

With all the votes tallied in Benton County and more than half in Linn County, the totals were 11,290 in favor and 10,942 against the measure.

A final unofficial tally from Benton County showed 7,079 voted for the measure; 4,949 voted against it. From the Linn County Court House, with roughly 60 percent of the precincts accounted for, the measure was losing by 5,993 to 4,211.

President Jon Carnahan, staked out at the Linn County Courthouse, said he could not call the election because of the narrow margin.

If the narrow lead doesn't hold, officials will be forced to make repairs (like reroofing the main campus) with money from the college's operating budget. That means students might face fewer classes, fewer programs and possibly higher tuition.

LB officials plan to use the funds as follows:

- \$3.9 million will be used to construct an 18,000-square-foot addition to Takena Hall, including new computer labs, restrooms, an elevator and relocating the Camas Room.
 - \$2.1 million will be used to construct the new East Linn Training Center in Lebanon.
 - \$2.1 million will be set aside to reroof the main campus buildings.
 - \$2 million will be used to add more computers and instructional technology equipment to the campus.
 - \$710,000 will finance two multi-media centers.
 - \$610,000 will pay for a campus-wide voice-mail system.
 - \$500,000 will be used to reasphalt parking lots.
 - \$400,000 will be spent to upgrade the campus mainframe computer.
 - \$235,000 will fund the construction of an elevator at the Benton Center.
 - \$225,000 will be used to improve campus accessibility to the disabled.
- Proposed improvements include: more automatic doors and brail signs.

Barbecue sauce: The sacred condiment of fast food

By Jim Schaefers
Of The Commuter

As a bachelor who is totally inept in the field of food preparation, I tend to take eating out a little more seriously than most. I'll admit that nationally-franchised fast food is garbage, but slobs like me find two things about garbage very appealing: it's cheap and available to the masses 'round the clock.

I am not a man of many manners, good, bad or otherwise, but I do know that fast food needs one thing to complement it: barbecue sauce.

To me, a burger without barbecue sauce is like a copy of the National Enquirer without a headline about Elvis. McDonald's, however, doesn't seem to share this sentiment. Their regular line-up of chow does not contain any burger-like items containing my favorite sauce.

I phoned Seaman Restaurant corporation (they're the folks who run our McDonald's here on Ninth Street) and had supervisor Phil Strom explain their barbecue sauce methodology for me.

It seems the sauce they keep on hand is intended to complement their Chicken McNugget meals. The packets of sauce are rationed according to the multiple of McNuggets you order—two for a six-piece dinner, three for a nine-piece, four for a 20. If you want barbecue sauce for your burger or fries, it's a dime a pop.

Commentary

Strom pointed out that McDonald's has provided the public with barbecue sauce-bearing board before. Of course. Silly me. Who could ever forget McRib, the sandwich that looked like a tiny, bleeding washboard in a bun? I asked Mr. Strom if he personally used barbecue sauce. "Nope." Why not? "It just doesn't suit my taste buds," he said. Nothing personal, Phil, but you just made my list of People Whom I Would Definitely Never Party With.

Arby's, Arctic Circle, Carls Jr.'s and Burger King will put barbecue sauce on any of their menu items if a customer requests it. Here's a shameful shocker: our own Burgerville USA, pride of the Pacific Northwest, charges two bits for a two-ounce cup of sauce. It's little things like this that make me feel like we're all riding a greased slide straight to Hell.

You know how the adventurous archaeologist Indiana Jones traveled the world looking for important artifacts from ancient civilizations? That's the same kind of dedication that compels me to find the establishments that continue to practice the art of barbecue.

Were barbecue a discipline of philosophy, then the guys at Sweet Lew's Barbecue in Corvallis would stand beside Socrates, Plato and Aristotle as its greatest teachers.

When you pull up a stool at Sweet Lew's, you have to wonder just how some people can torture themselves by being vegetarians.

Sure, cows and chickens have just as much right to

live on this planet as we do, but our cave-dwelling ancestors discovered that barbecue sauce and an open fire sort of overrides those rights on the grounds of tastiness. To prepare for a luau, Hawaiians dig a bomb shelter-sized pit and toss a pig in it. When's the last time you saw someone move a ton of earth to cook a vegetable?

During high school, I used to mooch food at my friend Jim Zinn's house. Tom, his old man, goes about the process of the Great American barbecue communion. No kidding. Some of my fondest memories are of summer days in the Zinn's backyard, where I'd sit with a plate weighted by a steak the size of a car door and a baked potato big enough to chock the wheel of a UPS van on Lombard Street. I'm glad that there are people like Tom Zinn and the staff of Sweet Lew's—people who insure that the art of barbecue is passed from generation to generation like another American tradition, congenital heart disease.

I am reminded of a stand-up comedian who refuted the entire American health movement. "Our parents ate steak for breakfast," he said. "They drank, they smoked and fooled around, and they won their wars. Today, we eat fruits and nuts and tofu, and we can't beat countries larger than a soccer field."

"Tomorrow, I want everyone to pick up a box of Twinkies, a pint of bourbon and a pack of Camels. God knows it's not much, but it's a start."



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

Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty or Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them. Readers are encouraged to use The Commuter Opinion Page to express their views on campus or community matters. 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



Quayle not ready for presidency

By Richard Cohen
Washington Post

WASHINGTON—Not long after I had written something critical about Dan Quayle, one of those “senior White House officials,” whose existence you may well doubt, took me aside and told me I was wrong about the man. He was a capital fellow, I was told, much smarter than he appeared, hard-working and—this I remember particularly well—a wonderful father.

That Quayle champion is one of the legion of former Bush administration aides the former vice president crabs about in his new book.

“Standing Firm” is Quayle’s second coming—and it is just as troubling as the first. Not only does he lash out at the press and a good many of his fellow Republicans, but he revives some of the controversies that stained his initial introduction to a national audience.

The book is a plea for vindication and while it succeeds on a certain level—Quayle was both unmercifully and sometimes unfairly hammered—it ultimately fails because Quayle, at bottom, is an excuse-monger.

He is never solely responsible for anything that went wrong.

Quayle’s vindication imperative even leads him to revisit the debacle that, fairly or not, defined him: His reasons for joining the National Guard during the Vietnam War instead of enlisting in the regular Army. Trouble is, the second time around the story still does not scan.

Worse, he compares himself with another prominent member of his generation, Bill Clinton, who he says “was evasive” (true enough), was thinking all along of his political career (could be) and “sought every way to get out of serving” (sure looks that way).

Maybe compared only to the anti-war Clinton was Quayle a regular John Wayne.

In one of the great oxymoronic passages in American political literature, Quayle asserts that he was both for and against the Vietnam War—for it in principle, but against the way it was “being conducted.”

As for joining the Guard, he concedes that “Yes, I knew... that by joining the Guard I was less likely to go to Vietnam.” He then adds, though, that he was “fully aware that my unit could be called up and sent overseas.”

Hogwash. Only about one percent of active duty forces in Vietnam were taken from the National Guard.

The news in Quayle’s book is not the many scores he settles nor, even, the fact that this tome is hardly one of those literary blueprints that announce how serious or deep an individual politician may be. It is

that its publication (and a 36-city book tour) is accompanied by the unmistakable rumbling of a budding presidential candidacy.

Quayle is thinking of going for “it.” The White House in ’96.

He thinks he’s ready.

He’s not.

The reason is the case he makes for himself. In effect, he says he’s better than you might think. He’s smarter. He’s more industrious and his record is not barren of accomplishments. Should you feel otherwise, it’s because this or that campaign or White House aide, this or that journalist, exacerbated what was nothing more than a minor goof. After a while, the serial explanations become tiring.

Quayle asserts that after serving in both the House and the Senate, he was prepared for the vice presidency. If so, why couldn’t he control his own fate, captain his own ship, as Kipling might have put it?

As for his successes, Quayle converts them to triumphs. His role in getting the United States to help put down the military coup against Philippine president Corazon Aquino was, by his own account, critical.

Maybe that was the case. But this historical footnote gets a nearly Churchillian telling from Quayle—and he is not content to let the facts speak for themselves. “I think everyone who was in the Situation Room that night would agree that I have rarely done more concentrated or effective work,” he writes.

The man wears an invisible and unbecoming “Gee, I’m Great!” button.

Quayle is not a fool and he has been unfairly caricatured, but he shows signs of being uneducable.

Not only does he dwell on matters that would best be forgotten, but for someone who has been lacerated by cheap shots, he does not hesitate to offer some of his own. Quayle’s suggestion that one reason Buchanan mounted his 1992 presidential was to enhance his “lecture fees and other celebrity income” is way below the belt. Buchanan is not greedy. He’s a fanatic.

Ever since I was advised by that senior White House official that Quayle was better than he first appeared, I have been on the lookout for signs of true leadership. I have yet to see them. If that admirer is right, Dan Quayle could have done better with this book.

Its most confounding message, in fact, is a caption under a photo of Quayle waving goodbye after his ticket lost in 1992.

“How you exit is important—especially if you’re thinking of coming back.” Maybe.

But “Standing Firm” suggests thinking of getting back is about all the thinking Quayle has done.

Shutting the door would be worst immigration reform

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

This is what immigrants who still have sugarplum dreams of America can look forward to:

A \$130 fee charged anyone seeking asylum in the United States.

A new work card to get a job, another card for health care, and a strict screening process to determine who gets them—although approval for one won’t necessarily mean approval for the other.

And an end to automatic citizenship for children of illegal immigrants born in this country.

Sentiment is growing that immigrants are no longer welcome here, as these and other measures under consideration in Washington and the states attest.

Certainly a large influx of legal and illegal immigrants is forcing states such as Texas, California and Florida to shoulder a tremendous burden.

There is no reason to believe that today’s immigrants have less to offer than those who came through Ellis Island long ago, and no evidence they pose more of a burden.

They must deal with problems of housing, welfare and education for new arrivals that no state should be expected to address on its own.

But it wouldn’t be necessary to bar the gates if the federal government assumed its fair share of costs and programs.

Federal aid to relocate new arrivals around the country, rather than allowing them to concentrate in a handful of overburdened states, would ease the problem.

Money for swifter, more efficient processing of asylum and refugee applications would help. So would a doubling of the number of judges—now 36—who hear immigration cases.

Dislike of immigration always increases in hard times.

Many Americans see immigrants as an alien horde storming our borders, soaking up social services and taking away good jobs.

But immigration is less of a “threat” now than ever before.

The proportion of foreign-born residents in the United States today—8.7 million, or 8 percent—is little more than half what it was at the turn of the century. And the largest share of the cost of supporting newcomers goes for the education of their children—an investment in the nation’s future, as well as theirs.

With modest reforms of its immigration policy, the United States can continue to enrich itself, culturally and otherwise, by keeping its arms open.

There is no reason to believe that today’s immigrants have less to offer than those who came through Ellis Island long ago, and no evidence that they pose more of a burden.

We’d lose something important—to our economy and our spirit—if we updated the inscription on the base of Lady Liberty to read: “Do not give us your tired, your poor, and especially not your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.”

We can no longer afford to take you in, because we have enough problems of our own. Turn around, go back to wherever you came from, and tell anyone else headed this way the same thing: “The door is shut. The torch is cold. The dream is over.”

Spring Fun!

SPONSORED BY
STUDENT LEADERSHIP



CONCERT
IN THE
COURTYARD



CARIBBEAN SUPER STARS

MAY
20 IN THE
LBCC
COURTYARD

DONATION:
TWO CANS
OF FOOD

MUSIC
7 TO 9 PM

FOOD
6 TO 8 PM
CHINA DELIGHT
SWEET LEW'S BBQ

If you require
accomodations for
disability in order to attend this event,
please contact Student Programs
at 967-8831, room CC-213
at least 48 hours prior to the event

•Thursday•
5-19
Fun Run/Walk
at the track
noon-1pm.

•Friday•
5-20
T-Shirt, Shorts, and
sweatshirt - blowout
at bargain \$\$\$\$\$\$\$
11-1pm in courtyard!

Friday 5/20
All campus picnic 11:30-1pm.
Burgers, garden burgers, cookies,
vegies, and soda for only \$2!
All in the Court Yard.

• Friday •
All Campus Picnic, courtyard, 11:30-1pm.
Mini Golf (\$1 per game), courtyard, 11am-1pm.
Velcro Wall (\$1 per jump or 3 jumps for \$2) 11:30-1pm

Sponsored by
Student Leadership

•Wednesday•
5-18
Relaxation in T-
217
noon-1pm.

★ ★ ★ Plus ★ ★ ★
Concert in the Court Yard featuring the
Caribbean Super Stars Steel Drum Band.
Food at 6 to 8 by Sweet Lew's BBQ and China Delight.
Music and dancing from 7 to 9. Admission is the
donation of 2 cans of food for local charity.
Families are encouraged to attend and dancing is welcome.

•Friday•
5-26
Sand Volleyball
at the sand courts
2:30-6pm.

Campus News

College officials decided three years ago not to join Macintosh's discount plan, but that doesn't mean students can't find deals

Apple offers educational discounts to students who buy direct from the company

By Ray Haycock
Of The Commuter

For many college students, computers have become standard educational issue. Poised atop the desks and dining room tables of student living quarters, they represent money that might have gone for vacations, new cars or more dinners out.

Recognizing the demand for affordable computers, many university and college bookstores are cutting deals with computer manufacturers to sell cheaper machines to students.

But that hasn't been the case at the LBCC Bookstore.

After several LB instructors requested that the administration look into selling Macintosh computers on the company's educational discount plan, Vice President George Kurtz sought legal advice on the matter. A letter from the college's attorney, James Delapoe, in September 1990 stated "the school might enter into a conflict with state legislation that prohibits public officials from using positions or office to get financial gain."

Kurtz followed Delapoe's advice. He advised that LB not participate in the Macintosh educational discount program.

"Since the school does not pay taxes and the local businessmen do, we don't want to hurt their (local firms) business by being in competition with them. This helps further our relationship with the downtown businesses," Kurtz said.

Although LB cannot provide cheaper computers to students and faculty, students can still get educational discounts from Apple and IBM.

"Students can buy Apple Computer systems through various retail and wholesale outlets. Apple sells directly to the customer, through college or university book stores, Walmart, Sears and retail stores," according to Denise Nervik of The Computer Store in Corvallis.

Students and faculty can purchase an Apple Computer system through Apple's Collegiate Partnership Plan.

"The plan is worked on an individual basis where a sales associate will help customize a system. For example, if a student is taking graphics or art classes, the sales associate will assemble a package where the hardware and software is best suited for working with graphics," explained an Apple sales associate.

"By calling 1-800-800-APPL (1-800-800-2775) a student can order an Apple Computer system directly from the Apple Customer Service. Computers, monitors, hard drives, modems and other hardware are available for building a system. A wide selection of software is available to meet the students needs.

"The price of a system can vary between \$1,000 to \$4,000 depending upon the hardware and software configuration. Major credit cards, money orders and certified checks are accepted for payment. A student Loan Plan is also available through Apple for individuals that can not afford a lump sum payment," explained the Apple associate.

Students can also purchase computer software and systems through the OSU Bookstore. They offer IBM, Apple, Hewlett Packard and Dell computers. However, Dell computers is the only system that LBCC students can purchase with a discount.

Although IBM does not provide discounts to students through the company itself, discounts on IBM software are available.

"Microsoft Word with the educational discount is less than \$200 and this program regularly sells at \$499," said Janice Gerling of Albany Computer Systems. "All the student has to do is show their ID card at the time of purchase to receive the discount."

Council appoints new member

By Ray Haycock
Of The Commuter

Friday the 13 was a very lucky day for Maggie McClellan, who was accepted as the newest member of Student Council during last Friday's meeting.

Upon the suggestion of a friend, McClellan went out and got the necessary signatures from the student body, letters of recommendation and completed the application for the position.

Her application was reviewed and she was interviewed by current members of the student council, which voted unanimously to accept McClellan as a member.

She will team up with Patty Ann Brockman as a Student Services/Extended Learning representative for the 1994-95 school year.

"I am really excited to be on student council," said McClellan. "One of my

goals is be an advocate for Rubella testing. Rubella (measles) causes birth defects in early stages of development before most women know that they are pregnant. Another goal is to help students, and myself, know what the student government can do and how they can help resolve the students' problems."

McClellan, a native of Chicago, worked with teenagers in Klamath Falls for seven years before relocating to the Corvallis area to attend school.

"Teenagers are brimming with vitality and life," McClellan explained. "If I go into education, I would like to be a high school teacher, but I haven't decided yet."

McClellan is currently working on a Associate of Arts degree at LB and volunteers as a tutor in the Learning Resource Center. After graduating in the spring of 1995, she plans to attend Western Oregon State College.

College prepares to send delegation to Seaside Health Promotion workshops

Kristen Lidgren
Of The Commuter

LBCC will send 14 staff members and one student to the 18th annual Seaside Health Promotion Convention in Seaside June 26-July 1.

The convention has two purposes: to educate the individuals who are attending, so they can carry that knowledge into their own life; and to help the teams form a plan to promote health at their workplace.

Health Promotion Director Dave Bakely said the workshops "will emphasize the importance of health and the understanding that, unless you take care of yourself, no one else will." Bakely will give a presentation at the convention with LB instructor Arlene Crossman. Bakely will discuss ways to increase health awareness in the workplace. Crossman will discuss relaxation techniques.

The convention is "exciting because you get to learn about the individuals you go with in a different way," said Bakely who has attended the

convention for the past six years.

The team takes one student to the convention each year. That student must plan to return to LB the following year to contribute new ideas learned at the convention to the campus. This year's choice, Tricia Lafrance, was The Commuter's copy editor for part of this year. "Tricia will hopefully use her connections with The Commuter to increase health awareness with the students here on campus," Bakely said.

The convention was originally started by the State Department of Education in order to promote good health habits among students. It was mainly directed at K-12 grade teachers, but is now open to municipalities and two and four-year college teachers.

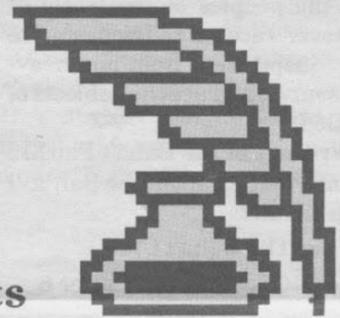
Past conventions have inspired the staff to give welcome-baskets containing healthy food to all new employees. Also, activities are held in which LB staff earn wellness dollars to spend on prizes such as T-shirts. Past teams have also organized speakers that come to the campus.

Editors

Staff Writers

Photographers

Graphic Artists



The Commuter is seeking several talented, committed students for its 1994-95 staff. Applications are now being accepted for the following positions:

Editors and Managers

Managing Editor
Sports Editor
Photo Editor

Advertising Manager
Production Manager
News and A&E Editors

These positions carry varying amounts of compensation in the form of position grants or commissions. Appointments are made by the editor. Students with some experience or coursework are preferred, but this is not a requirement--more important is interest and ability. On-the-job training is available.

Work Study Positions

Editorial Assistant
Advertising Assistant

Production Assistant
Photography Assistant

These positions are open to work-study eligible students and are paid an hourly wage. Although a background or interest in journalism is helpful, it is not required. Information on work-study is available at the Financial Aid Work Study Office in Takena Hall.

Computer Typesetter/Page Designer

This is a part-time position that pays \$6+/hr. for up to 12 hrs/wk on Mondays and Tuesdays. Involves work with desktop publishing programs to typeset, format and output pages for The Commuter. Experience with Macintosh and Pagemaker preferred.

Applications accepted through the end of term.

Applications available in The Commuter Office, CC210, or from advisor Rich Bergeman, F-108. For additional information call ext. 130, 373, 218.

News Briefs

Library Book Sale today

LB's annual library used book sale begins today in the library lobby and will continue through Friday, May 20. Hours will be 9 a.m.-8 p.m. on Wednesday, 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m. on Thursday and 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday. In addition to hundreds of used books on a wide range of subjects, this year's sale will feature used video tapes from the media department. All proceeds from the sale will be used to buy new materials for the library.

Poster sale today

Graphics students will be selling posters from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Takena Hall today and Thursday to raise funds for the club. The posters cost from \$1 to \$12 and feature old master paintings, rock 'n roll portraits, photographs and computer-generated art. Buyers can choose from more than 150 different images, which will be displayed in the Takena concourse.

Police to speak on campus

A representative from the Oregon State Police will be in the Commons Lobby on Thursday, May 26 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. to talk with students interested in a police program.

Altrusa scholarship offered

June 1, 1994 is the deadline for the 1994-95 Altrusa Scholarships. Eligible students must be entering the final year of a two-year degree program at LBCC (having completed at least 45 credits). Applications are available in the Career Center.

Spring Picnic & Concert

The Caribbean Super Stars, a steel drum band from California, will perform in the Courtyard on Friday, May 20 from 7-9 p.m. The dance and band are sponsored by the LBCC Student Programs. Donations of two cans of food will be greatly appreciated. Sweet Lew's Barbecue and China Delight will sell food from 6-8 p.m.

'Heidi Chronicles' continues

The last shows for the Heidi Chronicles, the spring play presented by LBCC's Performing Arts Department, is May 20 and 21 at 8 p.m., and May 22 at 3 p.m. in the Takena Theatre. Tickets are available through Sid Stevens Jewelers in Albany, Rice's Pharmacy in Corvallis, and at the LBCC Box Office in Takena Hall.

PTK Spring Induction

PTK members planning to attend the annual Spring Induction Ceremony on Friday, May 20, at 7 p.m. should leave their names and the numbers of guests attending in the PTK mailbox by Thursday at noon.



Ye are the fruits of one tree, and the leaves of one branch...

"There can be no doubt whatever that the peoples of the world of whatever race or religion, derive their inspiration from one heavenly source, and are the subjects of one God."

(Writings of the Bahá'í Faith)

For information about the Bahá'í Faith contact:

The Bahá'í Club

754-9469 or 758-8057 after 6

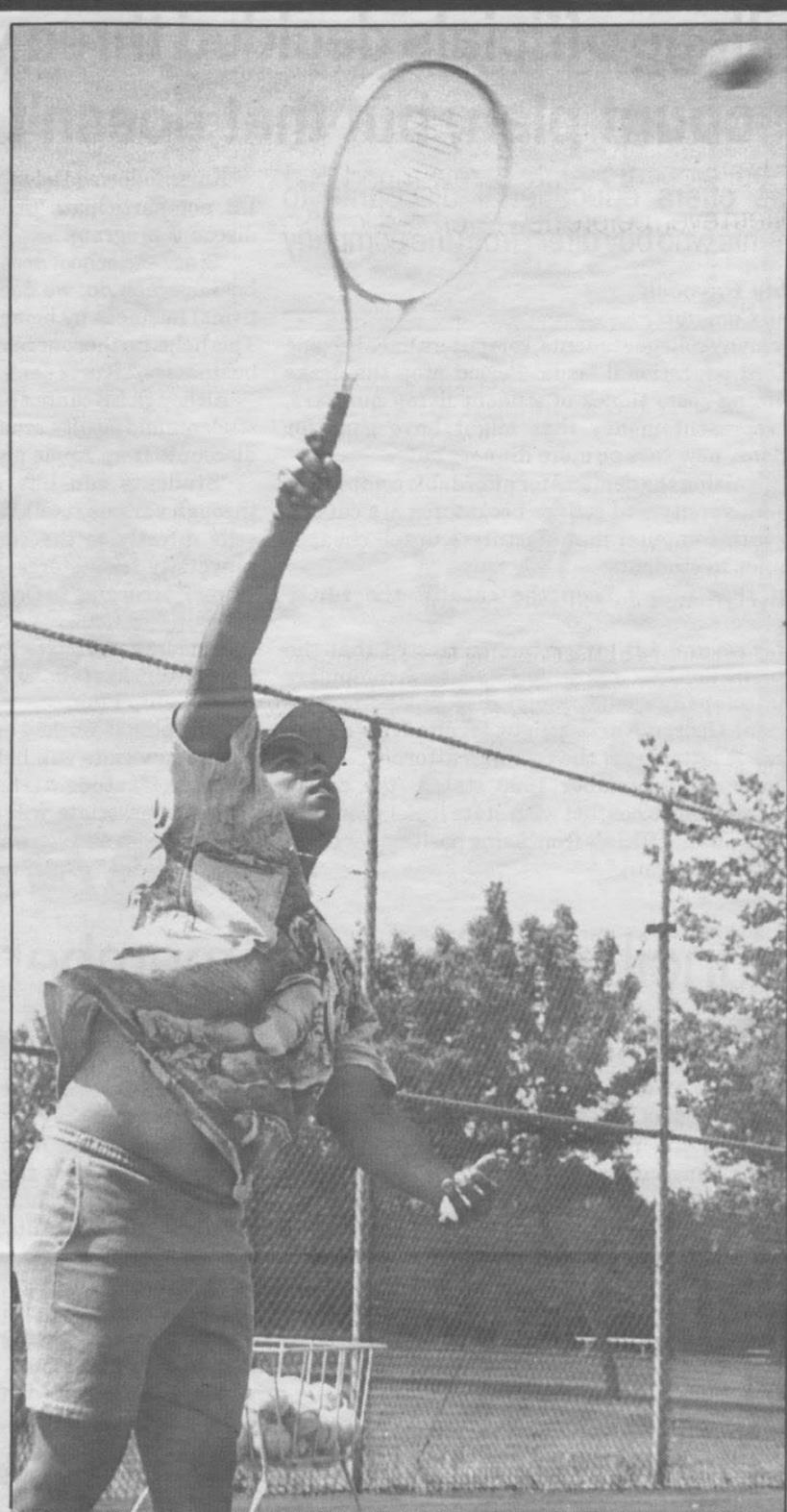


Photo by Chris Treloggen

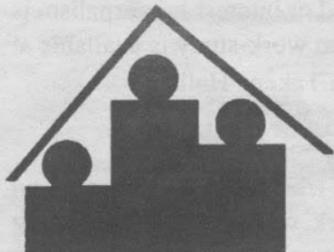
Stretching for the Serve

Omar Cepeda takes advantage of last week's sunny weather to work on his service game during an Intermediate Tennis class taught by Butch Kimpton. With the onset of wet and windy weather this week, Cepeda and his classmates may have trouble finding dry courts on which to play.

Attention:

All LBCC Students and Staff!
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- Saturday Hours (Lebanon only)
- Convenient Albany Branch Office
- And Much, Much, More!



Come into any of our offices & join the team that works with you!

Linn-Co Federal Credit Union

485 Second St. Lebanon

1200 Queen Ave. S.E. Albany

1240 10th Ave. Sweet Home

THE HEIDI CHRONICLES

BY WENDY WASSERSTEIN • DIRECTED BY JANE DONOVAN

Presented by the Linn-Benton Community College Performing Arts Department. *Few boomer plays are likely to be more nostalgic, and even fewer as witty...* THE NEW YORK POST

May 13, 14, 20 & 21 at 8 p.m. May 22 at 3 p.m. Takena Theatre, Linn-Benton Community College, 6500 SW Pacific Boulevard, Albany

Admission is \$6.00. Tickets go on sale April 29, 1994 at Sid Stevens Jewelers, Albany and Rice's Pharmacy, Corvallis and at the Takena Theatre Box Office one-half hour prior to performance time. All seating is reserved.

ROCK & ROLL
A-I-D-S
gays
Bibli boomer
YUPIES
Hippies
Ms.



NOT SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN. COARSE LANGUAGE USED. HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE.

Local News

Corvallis youth couldn't wait for education reform to kick in

Crescent Valley senior takes classes at LB as he pioneers state's revamped K-12 system even before new reforms take effect

By Marie Oliver
Of The Commuter

Carlos Harris is a trailblazer. An 18-year-old junior at Crescent Valley High School in Corvallis, he is the first high school student to take classes at LBCC as a direct result of HB 3565, the controversial Oregon Educational Act passed by the 1991 Legislature.

Harris is taking reading and writing classes three days a week this term in preparation for the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Basic program, which he plans to begin next fall.

"Everything I do will work toward that goal," he said.

He is an intern at the Corvallis Fire Department, where he gets hands-on experience—experience he will use to get a job when he completes his training. He has no formal classes at Crescent Valley, but spends scheduled study time there.

According to the Oregon Department of Education, when HB 3565 is fully implemented, high school sophomores will decide to study one of six areas of emphasis: Arts and Communication, Business and Management, Health Services, Human Resources, Industrial and Engineering Systems, and Natural Resource Systems.

Harris was getting good grades in the traditional high school program but he says he didn't get much meaning out of it. He says he has wanted to work in a health profession since middle school, but his course work didn't seem to be getting him there.

Harris' father, Larry Harris, a first and second grade teacher at Lincoln Elementary School in Corvallis, was instrumental in helping his son take advantage of the school reform bill.

At Harris' father's request, Crescent Valley

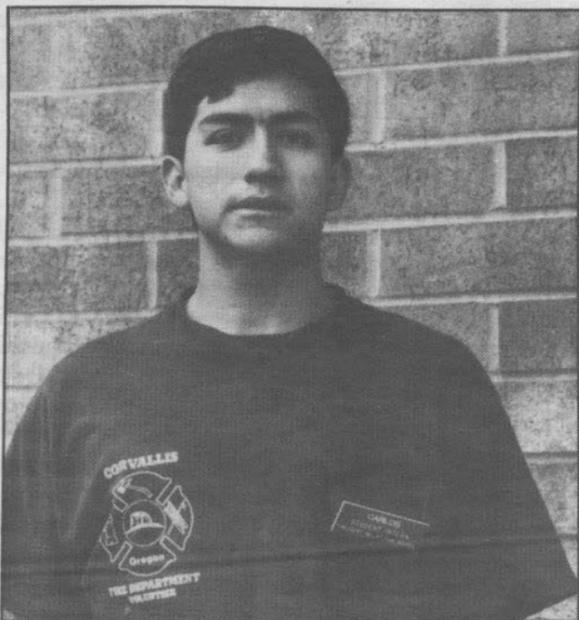


Photo by Micky Shannon-Monroe

Carlos Harris hopes to work in the health professions when he graduates high school. To prepare himself he is taking classes at LB and interning with the Corvallis Fire Department instead of taking traditional high school classes.

resource room teacher Marci Ridpath began looking for ways to get Carlos enrolled in EMT courses. Together with officials from the Oregon Department of Education and Crescent Valley Principal Dick Behn, they developed a program tailored to his goals.

HB 3565 has not yet been fully integrated into the school system. That means Crescent Valley students are still required to earn a minimum number of credits to graduate.

The problem, the young Harris said, was finding the best way to translate state goals into a specific program that would satisfy requirements at the local level. HB 3565 calls for a complete change in

the way learning is measured, so traditional course credits and grades won't be meaningful anymore.

"We had to open the doors," said Harris. "The principal was kind of hesitant at first." But once school officials understood the expectations of the state, they allowed Harris to proceed. He will receive a diploma even though he won't have the traditional number of high school credits required. Instead of credits, a portfolio will provide evidence of what he has learned.

What will HB 3565 mean for LB?

The reforms will affect community colleges by requiring younger students to take higher level courses. College officials are looking for ways to accommodate the new population of younger students.

Although on-campus enrollment may increase due to school-reform, Rich Horton, coordinator for the Cooperative Work Experience program, expects LB will offer new classes off campus at local high schools.

"We won't be doing things the way we've always done them," he said. "There will be some changes in the way courses are delivered."

Other options may be to offer classes through the Internet (a computer communications system), or allow students to use lab facilities on campus and conduct lecture classes elsewhere.

"We are a vehicle that meets the needs of a wide variety of people," said Horton. "Not everything we do is driven by educational reform activities or by HB 3565, but by our desire to do the best job we can. Regardless of whether HB 3565 is fully implemented, we'll make changes in the way we do things."

For Carlos, the willingness of the system to look at new ways of doing things has given him a head start on his career. He's already looking ahead with a pragmatism that belies his years.

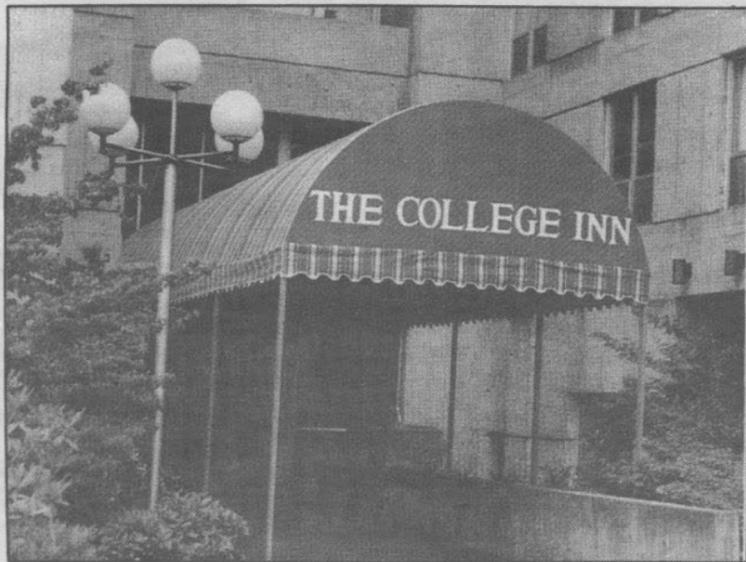
"When you get out of high school, you need money," he said.

He wants to get the knowledge and experience now so that, when he graduates, he'll be ready to step into a job.



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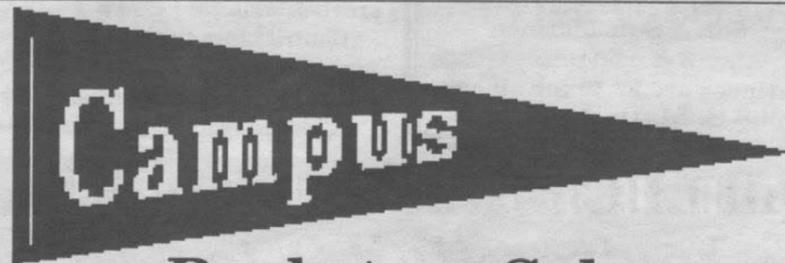


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LB troupe carries on tradition with 'improv night'

An evening of improvised comedy and satire will bring the curtain down on the 1993-94 theatre season for the LBCC Performing Arts Department.

Performances of "A Night at the Improv" are Friday and Saturday May 27-28 and June 3-4 at 8 p.m., and Sunday May 29 at 3 p.m. in the Loft Theatre, located on the second floor of Takena Hall.

Due to the show's cabaret-style format, the length of the shows may vary from 60 to 80 minutes. Also, the possibility of adult material may make the show not suitable for young audiences.

"Performance improv is as old as the history of theater, maybe older," said George Lauris, the show's director and LBCC Performing Arts Department instructor. "It's the ultimate form of story telling."

According to Lauris, improvisational theatre probably became an established art form during the Italian Renaissance with the development of "commedia dell'arte," which featured stock characters such as Punch and Judy, Harlequin, Columбина and Scapino in short, usually bawdy, vignettes about human nature.

In modern day America, this entertainment form has been continued with great success by Mike Nicholas and Elaine May, Mel Brooks, Jonathan Winters, Robin Williams, and by the premier improvisational company, Chicago's Second City.

Most of the original cast of Saturday Night Live came from this famed company.

Without benefit of playwright or script, the improv ac-

tors write their own plot and establish characters and relationships. They are required to create a beginning, a middle and an end and resolve the action in a very short timeline—all without the usual four to six weeks of rehearsal.

"It's a little like doing a high-wire act over the Willamette River without a safety net," said Lauris.

LBCC's improv troupe will present a few "rehearsed" pieces and some structured improvisational moments, but most of the evening's entertainment will require help from the audience, which will be asked to select performers from the company, suggest plots, characters and situations.

The fun is trying to outwit or stump the performers by presenting them with challenging suggestions and then watching them try to invent their way through the plot, Lauris said.

"A Night at the Improv" features LBCC students Randy Brown and Elizabeth Calhoun of Albany; Chris Becker, Delaney Deaver, Wayne MacKinnon, Heather Richter, Ryan Sablan and Michelle Washburn of Corvallis; and John Barker of Tangent.

Admission is \$4. Advance reservations for the 45-seat theatre are recommended and may be made by calling the theatre box office at ext. 504. Tickets are also available at the door one half hour before curtain time.

In conjunction with the performance, the theater department has received a grant to hold an improvisational workshop with San Francisco actor Ernesto Ravetto on May 16 and 17. For more information call the box office.

Culinary Arts club presents annual French Banquet Thursday, Friday

By Robert Rose
Of The Commuter

The Culinary Arts Club's annual French Banquet turns 21 this year, and the students who lay out this lavish affair are hoping it will turn out to be the most delightful menu served in the previous 20 years.

The banquet takes place this Thursday and Friday at 6:30 p.m. in the Alsea-Calapooia Room, serving 250 over the two-days.

Tickets cost \$21 and are going fast, according to Scott Anselm, culinary arts instructor.

This year a contest held for the best menu was won by Culinary Arts student Barbara Glover. Her seven-course menu opens with pate de lapin aux noisettes (rabbit pate) as the hors d'oeuvre, followed by:

- creme of leek and potato soup;
- smoked salmon crepes;
- lemon-lime sorbet in frosted lemons;

• mountain-style chicken with fried potatoes and onions, peas and mushrooms, and glazed julienne carrots; and

• fresh greens with toasted walnut-bleu cheese vinaigrette.

For desert, guests will be served chocolate bourbon flan, an award-winning recipe that took first place in this year's Chocolate Fantasy event in Corvallis.

For information on ticket availability, call ext. 101.

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Adults\$4.00 Fri, Sat, Sun.
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Matinees are \$2.50 for all ages.
668 S. Main, Lebanon

'Open Mike' scheduled for today at noon

The annual Open Mike session presented by the Valley Writers Series is being held today (Wednesday May 18) from 12-1 p.m. in the Boardrooms, first floor of the College Center.

The session is free and open to the public.

Individuals are invited to read their poetry and short fiction at the session and to hear the works of other local creative writers.

Contributors to the LBCC creative arts journal, The Eloquent Umbrella, will read from their works.

A second reading from the 1994 edi-

tion of the literary journal, which has just been released, will be held Friday May 27 from 7-9 p.m. in the Corvallis Arts Center, 700 SW Madison Ave. Called "Opening the Eloquent Umbrella," the event is sponsored by the Willamette Literary Guild and LBCC.

The journal showcases the work of 84 writers, artists, photographers and graphic designers aged 10-85 who live in Linn and Benton counties. It is produced by the LBCC Literary Publications class taught by Linda Smith.

The publication is on sale for \$2 per copy, available at LB bookstore.

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OPENS MAY 20TH EVERYWHERE

Arts & Entertainment

Fiddlers converge on Lebanon for hoedown showdown

By Stephen Garrett
Of The Commuter

What do the phrases "Boil the Cabbages" and "Turkey in the Straw" have in common?

They happen to be names of old-time favorite fiddle tunes and among the many of odes performed last weekend at the annual Oregon State Fiddle Contest. Fiddlers from all over Oregon, converged on Lebanon for the event.

Sponsored by the Oregon Old Time Fiddlers Association, the contest was held at Lebanon Union High School, where the event has taken place for the last 11 years.

"Old-time fiddling is the style of fiddling growing out of folk music," said Lew Holt, President of the Oregon Old-Time Fiddlers Association, "it's less disciplined compared to the violin. Old-time fiddling is creative because a fiddler performing a song might interpret and play that song different than the next fiddler playing the same song. There is no right or wrong way."

The fiddlers, who compete in one of nine different divisions according to age, duel for trophies, prizes, and the 1994 Oregon State Old-time Fiddling Championship. "We haven't been able to award cash prizes for a number of years now," said Holt, "Just about all the proceeds go to the judges, the rental of the school, the programs and forms and all the little odds and ends of a show. These folks compete for the fun and the prestige of winning."

The judges panel consisted of Gary Lee Moore, Peter Martin, Mabel Vogt, Wayne Holmes, and Buck Milligan.

Judges based their votes on dance ability, rhythm, tone quality, and time. To keep the contest unbiased, judges were not allowed to see the contestants. Rather, they listened to performances from a backstage booth with a one-way radio.

Fiddlers had to perform a hoedown, a waltz, and a tune of their own choice—all within a four-minute time limit. Any variety of fiddle may be used. "A fiddle is a fiddle," said Holt, the only requirement is that it be a four-string fiddle tuned to the order of E-A-D-G. Fiddlers have the option of being accompanied by up to two instruments. Guitar, stand-up base, and piano are the most commonly used. "The added music exonerates the harmony of the fiddle with a separate pitch and beat," said Holt.

"The added music exonerates the harmony of the fiddle with a separate pitch and beat"

Here's a list of the 1994 Oregon State Fiddling Competition winners: Twin Fiddle (all ages)—Amy Thomas, Salem and Justin Bohher, Yoncahlla. Pee Wee (under nine)—Mary Julia Wilson, Beaverton. Junior Junior (ten-12)—Brendon Bohher, Yoncahlla. • Junior (13-17)—Hanneke Cassell, Port Orford. Young Adult (18-36)—Jeanine Orme, Beaverton. Adult (37-59)—Starr McMullen, Corvallis. Seniors (60-69)—Lew Staneiford, Independence. Senior



Photo by Linda Wallace

Don Hanna of Powell Butte fiddles away during Sunday's gospel jam session at Lebanon Union High School. Hanna took 2nd in the Senior Division during Saturday's contest, sponsored by the Oregon Old-Time Fiddler's Association. The event has taken place at the Lebanon High School for the past 11 years.

Seniors (70+)—Leonard Maahs, McMinnville. Championship Division (open to all regardless of age)—Kasey Willis, Pendleton.

A trophy, known as the Bill Yohey Memorial Award, is given each year to the most outstanding accompanist. Yohey founded the Oregon Old-Time Fiddlers Association in 1962. Penny Mead won this year's award.

On Sunday, the fiddlers hosted an old-time gospel and country fiddle concert, featuring the 1994 Oregon contest winners. "It gives people a chance

to listen to traditional folk religious tunes and for us to express our music in a gospel way," said Holt. Holt is currently on his second term as President and has been playing fiddles since 1976 when his grandfather presented one to him.

"I enjoy getting together with folks and playing music," said Holt, "I thought we had a quality contest and entertainment through the whole weekend. There was a great cooperative effort of so many workers to put on the contest."

Visual styling overcomes campy dialogue in 'The Crow'

By N.D. persons Jr.
Of The Commuter

I like this movie for all the wrong reasons. The plot is meager, the dialogue is corny, and as with most action movies, there is much Hollywood glitter.

But *The Crow*, directed by Alex Proyas and starring Brandon Lee, is a brilliant example of visual styling with unintentional irony.

The unplanned twist to the tale came when the star of the show, Brandon Lee, was shot dead with a 357 magnum while filming a scene from the movie. Obviously the gun was supposed to be loaded with blanks.

But it was not.

The live rounds ripped through his unsuspecting flesh. In *"The Crow"* Lee plays a spirit, back from the dead, to seek revenge on his murderers. Fresh from the grave, Lee plays a character who is frustrated and disoriented because he is struggling to recall the murder.

The bullet-sized circular scars that Lee bears in the movie, stand as a stigmatism or a reminder to the movie goer of his real life fate. *"The Crow"* is Brandon Lee's resurrection.

It's even more ironic that a decade ago Lee's father, Bruce Lee, died before the finishing of his last action film *"The Game Of Death."* Hollywood finished the work without the presence of the leading actors. While Hollywood's refab of *"The Game Of Death"* was a mockery of Bruce Lee, *"The Crow"* shall stand as a young Brandon Lee's shining performance.

"The Crow" is an action movie adapted from a comic book. The quick cutting cinematography uses different camera angles to project the frame

by frame comic book style which creates an incredibly unique and fantastic world. From the sky, the camera's eye swoops down upon the alleys and streets. In sharp contrast the camera dives low, and from the gutter peers at boistrous shapes. The camera work provokes the imagination to run with the main character, Eric Draven, across building tops or to take flight through the injurious vision of the raven. With *The Crow*, cinematographer Dariusz Wolski has captured the allure of a comic book using highly descriptive, exaggerated images that are designed to compel the observer.

The movie centers around Eric Draven, a musician who is murdered along with his love on the eve of their wedding. Coincidentally, the murder takes place on Halloween's Eve. The crow or the raven is Draven's guide to the after life. A legend within the story tells of the crow allowing restless spirits to return to the living, in order to make right of the wrong that interferes with the soul's eternal rest. Led by the ominous black bird, Draven rises from the dead to put his murderers to death one year later on Halloween's Eve.

Draven is the ultimate fantasy hero. He is immortal—laughing crazily at the bullets of his enemies. He seems to be amazed himself as wounds heal as fast as they can be inflicted. He has super human strength and agility, as he makes his way through the night like D.C. Comics' *The Daredevil*—bounding across alleys from building tops. And he is the rocker, releasing his pain and frustrations to the night air in the form of music.

The pain that seeps from Draven's facial expressions, the aggression that

screams out through his amplifier and the violence that is Draven's revenge is Lee's epitaph.

The plot is only written in as a vehicle to create a lavish world of chaos and grungy, violent streets. Death is common place in this fantasy world, and the rain pours continuously to wash away the dirt, blood and grime. The skillful uses of light and darkness illuminates facial expressions and creates shadows that are knife-like, piercing space and embedding themselves in walls.

The technical skills of the film crew are to be praised in their creation of a world that challenges the sci-fi mystique of the wasted city streets in the *"Blade Runner"* and surpasses the gothic architecture of *"Bat Man."*

In *The Crow*, miniature models are used for the buildings, while special effects create the illusion of flight and Draven's inhuman acrobats. But what is usually distracting about obvious movie sets and "blue screen" effects, is superbly manipulated to create an original world in *The Crow*.

Linn-Benton Community College
Performing Arts Department Presents:

LOFT NIGHT
A NIGHT AT THE IMPROV

A NIGHT AT THE IMPROV

Improvisational comedy and satire
in the Loft Theater in Takena Hall

Directed by George Lauris-

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May 27, 28, June 3, 4, 1994 at 8 pm
and May 29, 1994 at 3 pm

Admission: \$4.00

Tickets go on sale May 16th
For telephone reservations call 967-6504
Tickets can be purchased at Takena Hall Rm. T-236,
11 am to 1 pm, Monday through Friday
or at the door 1/2 hour before performance

Soap Creek School Revisited

Photos by Micky Shannon-Monroe



Historic one-room schoolhouse opens its doors

Soap Creek Schoolhouse north of Corvallis, the last remaining one-room school in Benton County, held an open house Sunday to show off its collection of early school furnishings—such as the old lunch pails shown below—and to raise funds for the building's preservation. Among the visitors was Hugh Govier (top left), who attended Soap Creek School as a youngster. At left, local neighbors Chuck Phillips, Dick Green and Mimi Berst chat at the head of the room. The event featured a demonstration on how to make braided and hooked rugs by Birdie Campbell of Summit and an exhibit on the history of the Soap Creek Valley. Built in 1935, the school is now listed on the National Historical Register and is preserved as a historic site by the Soap Creek Schoolhouse Foundation.



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Sports

Roadrunner playoff hopes fading fast

The purple and gold must sweep the next two doubleheaders in order to have a remote shot at reaching the post-season playoffs

By Zachary Spiegel
Of The Commuter

As the season is finally coming to a close, the Roadrunner playoff hopes seem to be doing the same thing. LB got swept in last Saturday's twinbill by Chemeketa by scores of 7-4 and 4-1.

In the first game, Linn-Benton failed to make routine plays and finished the game with six errors. Four of those errors came in the pivotal eighth inning, all with two out.

Jeff Tuck, the Roadrunners' best pitcher and team leader, went into the bottom of the eighth having only given up three runs.

With the Chiefs staked to a 3-2 lead, the defense fell apart for LB and blew up in their face. After getting the first two outs in the inning, four errors followed by four runs put Chemeketa up 7-3. They would not look back as LB could muster no run in the top half of the ninth.

Chemeketa did not commit an error in the game and outit the Roadrunners 11-9.

Linn-Benton got a three-hit performance from Jose Cepeda who also drove in two runs. Darin Piburn added two hits of his own including a triple to lead the attack.

The second game went along a lot smoother as LB only committed one error but still lost the game 4-1.

"We have had an inability to execute on both the defensive and offensive ends all year," commented head coach Greg Hawk.

LB managed only one run on five hits in the game compared to four runs and nine hits from the Chiefs.

"In order to make playoffs this year, we are going to have to get some luck and great performances from our players," added Hawk.

Piburn had another strong game for LB adding two more hits, including another three bagger. Matt Rice, Carlos Williams and Doug McCauley added the rest of the Roadrunners hits.

Linn-Benton plays host to Mount Hood this Thursday in the last doubleheader of the year. The game is scheduled for 1 p.m. If that luck and timely hitting does not come around for LB, it could be the last two games of the year for them. It would be only the second time in coach Hawk's 10-year tenure at LBCC that the team would miss the playoffs.

LB tracksters fight through harsh weather

By Zachary Spiegel
Of The Commuter

Under stormy weather conditions and strong headwinds, the LB track team still managed to turn in several personal bests and high marks. This meet was to prepare themselves for the NWACC Championships next week. The Championships are scheduled for May 26-27 at Lewis & Clark. Mt. Hood is the host for the meet.

In the womens division, Shawna Rosa and Paula Leslie worked themselves into next week's meet by placing high marks in their respective events. Rosa placed second in the javelin with a throw of 116 feet, five inches.

"Shawna has thrown the javelin much farther (134+ feet), but was hurt by the slope of the field and the strong headwind," commented coach Brad Carman.

Rosa also placed in the discus which will allow her to compete in the Championships. Paula Leslie also qualified for next weeks meet by earning a sixth in the long jump with a leap of 16-1.

Scoring for the womens division broke down as follows: Clackamas-167, Lane-132, Clark-114, Mount Hood-85, Chemeketa-55, Blue Mountain-12 and LB and SWOCC rounded out the list with nine points a piece.

For the men, Gary Magee high jumped a personal best 6 feet 3 inches for a fourth place finish. Scott McKinley also took a fourth in the hammer with a toss of 148-9. Rusty Houk was fifth in the long jump with a 21-6 3/4 hurl.

Houk qualified for the 100m and the 200, Adam Bjornstedt made it in the javelin, Eric McDonald in the hammer, McKinley made it in the discus to complement his hammer and Dan Barley qualified in both the hammer and discus.

"Some of our athletes did not fare as well as they are capable of, but the conditions were less than admirable," stated Carman.

The mens division broke down as follows: Clackamas-198, Clark-182, Lane-125, Mt. Hood-44, Chemeketa-31, Blue Mountain-21, Swoccc-20, LB-19 and Umpqua had seven points.

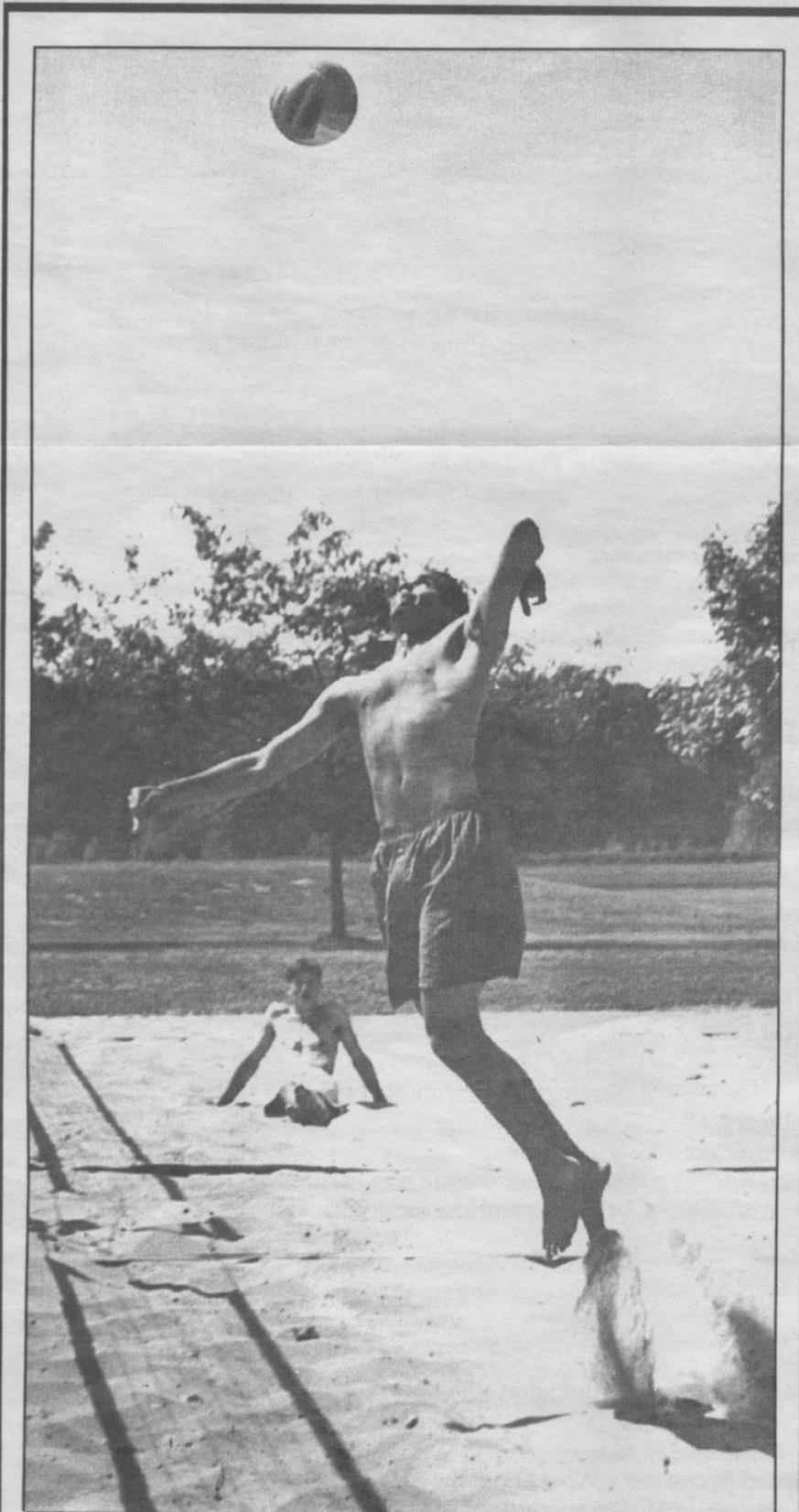


Photo by Chris Treloggen

Moving in for the Kill

Carlos Williams rockets skyward for a spike during a friendly game of sand volleyball on Wednesday last week. Ten players showed up to enjoy the sun, work on their tans and have some fun. A sand volleyball tournament is planned this Friday from 2:30-6 p.m. as part of Spring Days. Teams can register in Student Programs, CC-213.

Classifieds

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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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SCHOLARSHIPS

94-95 Scottish Rite Foundation Scholarship. Eligibility: sophomore, junior or senior standing in an Oregon college or university. GPA of 3.5 or higher. Applications in the Career Ctr. located in Takena Hall.

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. Applications in the Career Ctr. located in Takena Hall.

FOR SALE

1969 Karman Ghia, new engine, brakes, and stereo. \$1000 or best offer. Desparate. 451-2486.

Boa constrictors: 5ft female and 7ft male with large cage, \$100. Baby boas \$90. Albino Burmese pythons and many others. Contact Dawn at 758-0851.

Hobie Cat 16ft sailboat Comes with trailer, sail box and extras. Sails are tequila sunrise colors. All in good shape. \$1500. Call Suzie Clark 926-7286 evenings.

Red 1984 Toyota Celica ST, fuel injected, automatic, power steering, cruise, -am/fm cassette. Excellent running condition. \$3695. Call 926-8373, leave a message.

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Housemate, male or female. Spacious 3-bedroom duplex, country setting, garden plot, quiet. Mature woman and 7-year-old want to share with non-smoker/drinker. \$212.50 + share utilities and upkeep. Call 745-5307.

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Fridays 12-12:50pm T-217

Sleepy

Velvet

Tears



Ellie

Ellie cried a Velvet Tear Today.
Soft, Silent, and Smooth
Is this the last time she'll see me?
Is this the last time she'll see the sun
the blue skies,
the mountains,
or the squirrels?

finally
her body ceases its
torment

I've watched her slowly slip into Sleep...
and I've always pulled her back
to me.

She hardly eats anymore
Her fragile body is so thin.
The Velvet Tears she cries alone
are hidden in her deep, soft fur.
I'm afraid to brush her because
I fear she may disappear.
I know she's happy to see me, but
it's never enough
for her or me

But then Ellie's gone again
This time to her own hiding place

Don't go Ellie
Please.

I love the feel of her beside me.
She's so soft, and trusting,
and naive.

After a little water (sometimes a lot)
She's on her way
Walking away from me to somewhere

I want to hold you
I want you to Sleep beside me.

Does she know that she may die today?
How will I feel when she's gone?

I never know
if she remembers me.
...Or the pain that I went thru

These Velvet Tears are draining me.

I want you to run with me
Free!

All of my Velvet Tears are exhausted.
I can't look at her anymore without crying.
And when she nuzzles her
tiny body into my own, her fur
becomes saturated with Velvet Tears.

How I held her so close
Massaging her tender flesh
How I stroked her soft fur
Feeling the rapid beat of her heart
How I tried to soothe her with words
that were only answered

No more seizures to stop you in
your journey. Go on to that
Special Place

Velvet Tears.
Velvet Tears.

I don't know if dogs can really cry.
I do know that they have feelings too.

with her insistent panting

I watch you Sleeping
You look so sweet.

Only FOUR times,
Have I seen her thru the emergency
room
to vividly experience her pain.

How I held her body still
against mother nature's will

If you never wake again, I'll be
able to accept it - someday

And who can keep track of the
INNUMERABLE
number of times she's collapsed in
my arms, or theirs,
her body no longer under her own control.

Until her seizure finally stopped
and she came back to me.

in her own way

But I'll miss having you next
to me
- Sleeping next to my piano

But what about now?

What about the inevitable
one to come?

I'll play this song for you.

She just disappears.
I call to her and try to soothe
her pain - but I get no answer.

Will this one finally take her
away
from
me?

My elegant dog & My Velvet Tears.

Julianne Loftus