

# Heartbreaker

Late-game heroics force double OT, but 'Runners come up one-point short

by Shawna Phillips  
of The Commuter

LBCC was denied a shot at the NWAACC championship tournament by the thinnest of margins last Thursday when they fell to Lane in a thrilling double-overtime loss in Eugene.

The Roadrunners' Marc Cordle almost brought his team back from an eight-point deficit in the second overtime with two three-pointers in the final seconds, but Lane managed to escape with an 87-86 victory.

Cordle's heroics began when his first three-pointer brought LB within two with 33 seconds to go. The Titans then hit two free-throws, but Cordle hit a second three with six seconds on the clock, bringing the 'Runners within one.

LB's last chance came when Lane missed both free-throws following a quick foul. The ball was then put into the hot hands of Cordle, who scored 26 on the night. His last-second shot seemed to be on the money, but it rimmed out at the buzzer.

"These guys wanted it and competed hard for it. Our defense was very strong tonight," said Coach Randy Falk.

(Turn to "Tough" on Pg. 5)

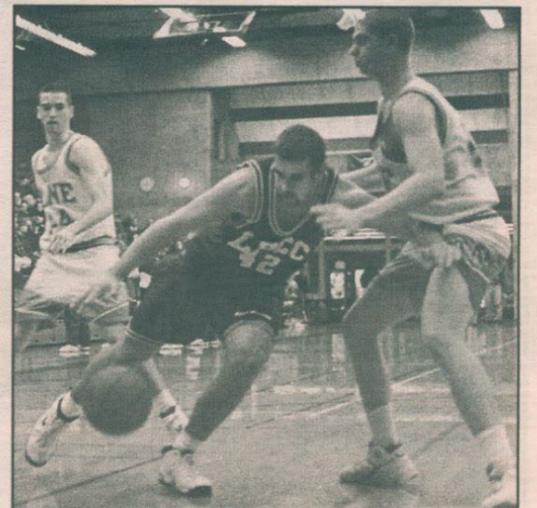


Photo by Shawna Phillips

Brian Csergei drives past Lane to score two of his 18 points in Thursday's playoff loss.

## Current VP wins election for president by 10-vote margin

by Eric Rinkin  
of The Commuter

Derek Clark, current Associated Student Government vice president, was elected president last week, beating Keisha Merchant by 10 votes, 72 to 62.

Rebecca Bruner, current team coordinator of the Student Programming Board, was elected vice president with 125 votes; Shauna Kiefiuk, business and health representative; Josh Stanley, at-large representative; and Christy Helfrich, public relations secretary. Other candidates received write-in votes, but not enough to place them in office.

The positions not filled include science and industry and liberal arts and human performance representatives. These vacant positions will be filled by

an interview process that will be set up next term. Interested students can contact the Student Life and Leadership in College Center Room 213.

Clark intends to oversee the development of the new student center, which will be built this summer, from the students' perspective. He said he also plans to work in conjunction with the Student Programming Board to promote student involvement on campus and to encourage student involvement and participation in a statewide community college student association.

Clark said he would like to present more open student government meetings. According to Clark, ASG can do a better job of being an information clearing house for students.

## ASG wins battle over direct fees

by Pete Petryszak  
of The Commuter

In the face of opposition from LBCC's delegation and budget restraints, the Community Colleges of Oregon Student Association and Commissions (CCOSAC) has put on hold plans to hire a full-time legislative coordinator.

The Board of Directors also rejected a plan to fund CCOSAC by charging direct fees to community college students every time they register for courses.

The decision on the legislative director came after CCOSAC's Board of Directors heard from David M. Fiskum of the lobbying firm Conkling, Fiskum and McCormick, Inc. at a two-day meeting held on the LBCC campus on Feb. 20 and 21. Fiskum told the board, made up of the student body presidents of its member colleges, that if they hired his firm to represent them they would be one of 25 clients, most of whom paid approxi-

(Turn to "CCOSAC" on Pg. 2)

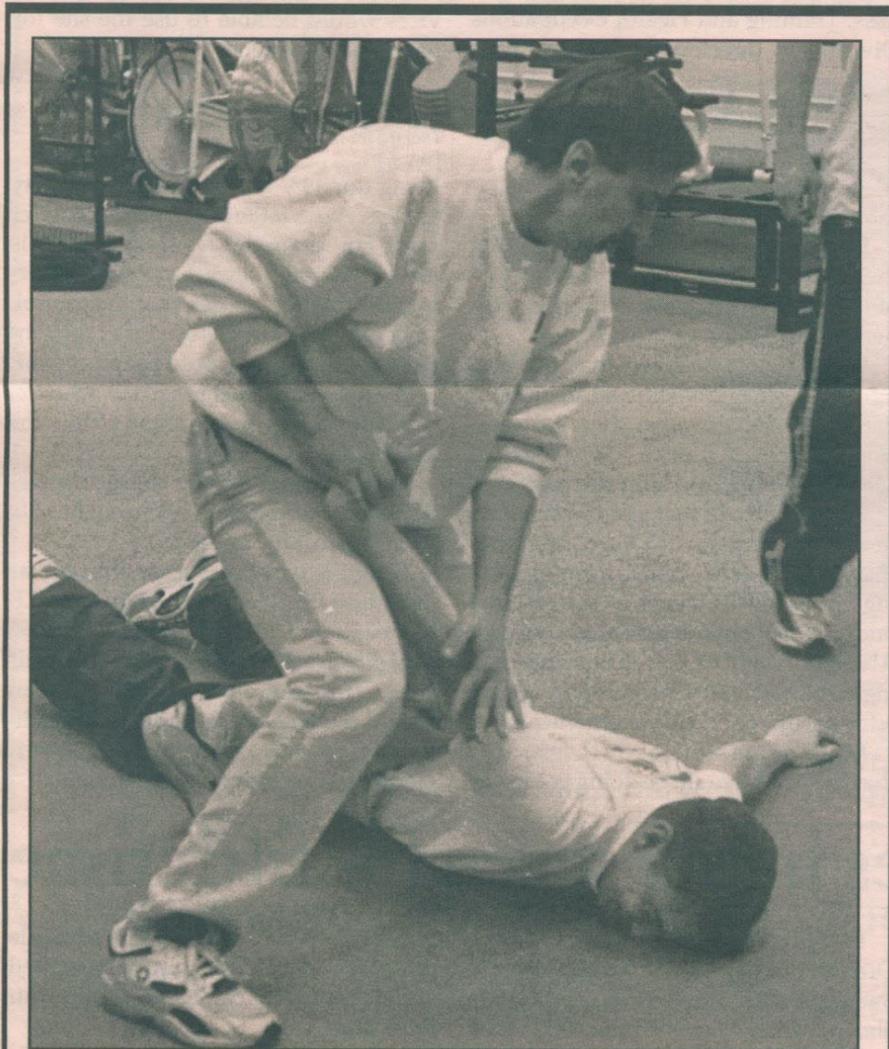


Photo by Julie Smyth

### What Do You Mean, Your Homework's Late?

Karate instructor Dave Gray isn't really giving his student a hard time—he's just demonstrating a tactic in his freestyle karate class.

## Widening of Highway 34 near I-5 and Lebanon set to begin this fall

by Erica Larsen  
of The Commuter

Commuters from Lebanon can expect traffic delays next fall when the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) begins work on widening a seven-mile stretch of Highway 34 between I-5 and Lebanon.

ODOT spokesperson Mark Shippen told the Albany Democrat-Herald that the contract should be awarded

by late May or early June, with construction set to begin on the road in late summer or early fall. The expected date of completion is late 1999, but it may have to be changed to the summer of 2000 because of the late start.

The widened, four-lane Highway 34 will begin west of Seven Mile Lane and end at the railroad tracks near Third Street in Lebanon. The project involves realigning the road to smooth out curves, adding turn lanes

and straightening curves at Goltra Road, Tangent Drive and Agan Road. The road from Denny School to the railroad tracks will have three lanes.

Cost estimates for the project have risen from \$9.4 million in 1996 to \$15.9 million. Shippen told the Democrat-Herald that in addition to the construction costs, a couple million dollars have to be spent on purchasing property and rights-of-way for the project.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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LBCC international student drills with OSU ROTC

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#### Check This Out

Bring your lunch and share your writing today from 12-1 p.m. at the Valley Writers Open Mike in IA Room 223.

#### ✓ To the Races

Roadrunner track team opens its season Saturday

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## Fire department eyes campus lot for emergency training facility

by Molly Schulze  
of The Commuter

Rarely does a childhood pass without some mention of the proverbial fireman rescuing the kitten from the tree. LBCC students may, in future years, run into their kitten-rescuing idols on campus, if Kevin Kreitman has his way.

The Albany Fire Department is planning to build two new fire stations, and the department needs an emergency services training site on the east side of Albany. Unable to find one within the city of Albany, Kreitman, assistant director of fire operations, decided to try LBCC as a possible site. The land under consideration is located on the west side of the campus, adjacent to the baseball field and the track.

Kreitman said he first considered a site at LBCC two or three months ago, in part because Chemeketa Community College also has a training site on their campus for local firemen. He has since contacted John Berg, dean of the Business, Training and Health Occupations Division to develop the project. Berg

brought the idea before the Board of Education at the January meeting.

The plans for the five-acre area "are still in the preliminary stages," Kreitman said. The project will not be completed for a few years, he said, adding that many hurdles have yet to be crossed, including lease conditions and an understanding between the college and fire department on the exact use of the land.

"Once the fire department identifies the way it would look and we come to some agreement on the nature of the partnership and sharing of responsibilities, then probably the next response would be to go for a permit," Berg told the Albany Democrat-Herald. He went on to say that the college and fire department would next need to hold a public hearing so that "people in the community would understand what we're really talking about doing."

The training site would also benefit students, said Kreitman. Classes relating to fire fighting and emergency services would be able to use the site for hands-on experience.

## CCOSAC drops direct fee proposal

✓ From Page 1

mately \$2,000 a month.

In the end, the Board concluded that there wasn't enough money for that type of lobbying effort, especially when students could lobby for themselves.

"I've always believed that the best lobbyists (for student issues) are the students themselves rather than a professional lobbyist," LBCC ASG President Matt Alexander said after the meeting.

Alexander said that a perception had developed among CCOSAC members that to expand the organization's lobbying effectiveness meant to increase the budget for lobbying activities. Instead, Alexander said CCOSAC has begun looking at the possibility of coordinating their efforts with other college organizations.

Much of the work at the Legislature that CCOSAC would be doing is already

being done by the Oregon Community College Association (OCCA), Alexander said. For example, he said, OCCA is already doing bill tracking and gathering information on issues at the capitol, so having CCOSAC engaged in some of the same activities would be redundant.

Alexander characterized the rejection of the direct fees proposal as a victory for LB students.

"Linn-Benton led the charge against direct fees, and for a while was the sole voice against it," he said.

Over the past three years, the regular dues that CCOSAC has charged to LB have doubled, rising from \$850 for 1996 to \$1,250 for 1997 and to \$1,700 for this year. The proposed direct fees plan would have charged students an additional fee on top of their current \$36-per-credit bill for tuition and fees.

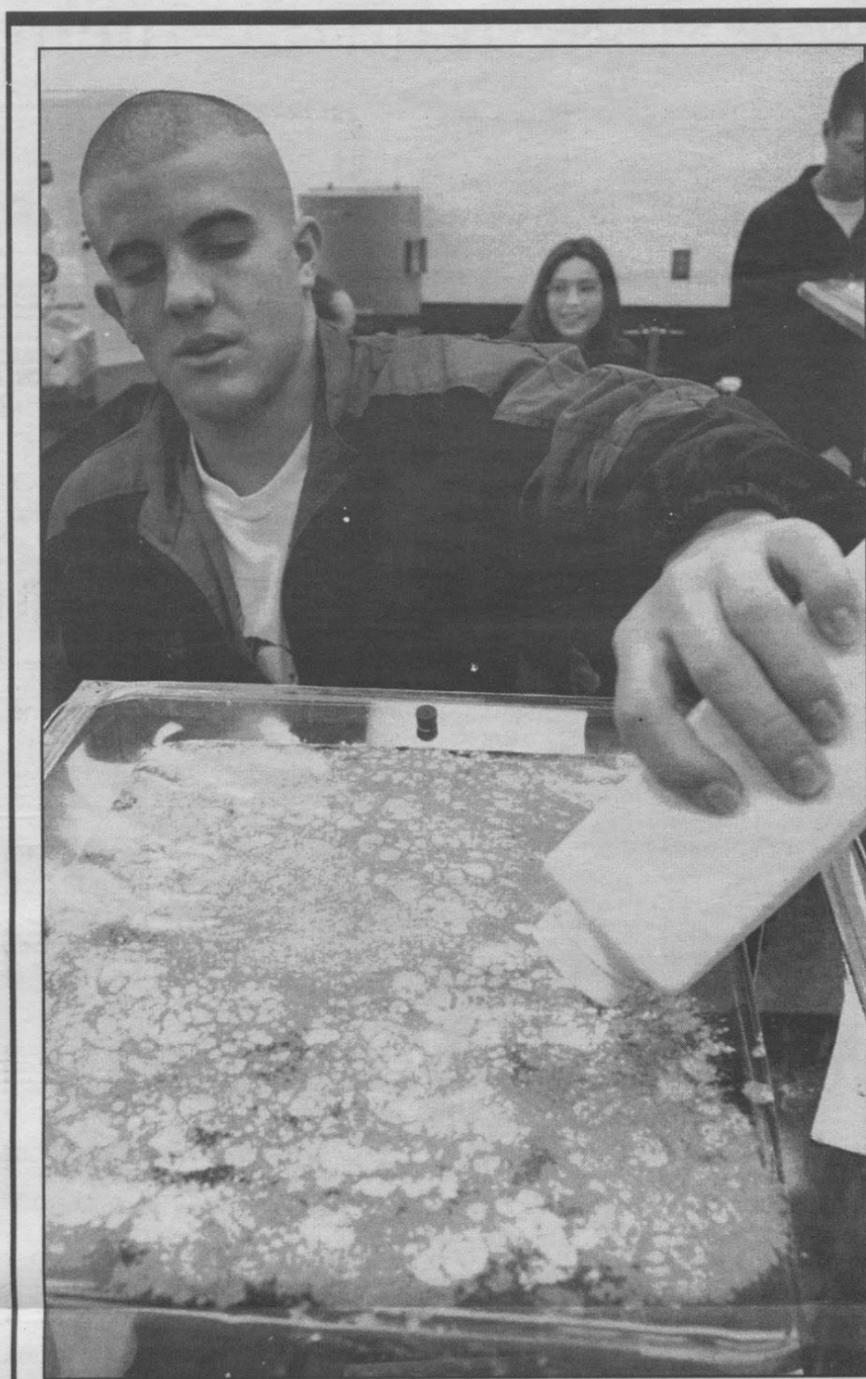


Photo by Jake Taylor

### Cooking Up an Experiment

Hamilton Barnes performs an experiment to measure the diameter of a carbon atom during his chemistry lab last week. Students all over campus are finishing up lab work in preparation for finals, which begin in two weeks. In the meantime, they are also looking ahead to spring term, with registration for next term's classes beginning Monday. Continuing full-time students can pick up registration appointment cards this week.

## Livestock judging team places in top seven for fifth time

by Jeremy Parker  
of The Commuter

The LBCC Livestock Judging Team finished seventh out of 24 teams in the Southwest Exposition and Stock Show in Fort Worth, Texas, last month.

This is the fifth top-seven finish out of the seven national contests that the team has competed in this season. According to Rick Klampe, coach of the team, this has never been done by another LBCC livestock team.

A judging team consists of five sophomores. The contest starts in the morning with the placing of classes in which the

contestants judge four different animals of the same species of beef, sheep and swine according to physical makeup and market value.

Students examine the animals for muscle, correct structure, good posture, frame and condition; then they support their judging orally to a judge. When giving reasons, the student is judged on accuracy, content and presentation. The individual points are then added up to make the team's score.

The LBCC team took third in Beef, 10th in Sheep, seventh in Swine, seventh in Horses and fifth in Reasons.

Individuals placing were Chandra Orr, who took third Overall, sixth in Swine, Horses and Reasons, and 10th in Sheep; Mitch Magenhiemer, who took 10th in Swine, 11th in Reasons and 13th in Beef; Dan McNary took eighth place in Beef and 12th place in Reasons; and Ty Klewer, who took 11th in Beef.

According to Klampe, this contest completes the eligibility of the sophomores, leaving the next national contest in Houston on March 3 up to the freshmen. Klampe said, "This is the most prepared group of freshman ever."

Two of the freshman team, De Nae

Simms of Lakeview and Chris McBride of Redmond, said they are both excited and nervous and can't wait to show off their skills.

After the Houston contest, the freshman team will compete March 11 in the Great Western contest in Tulare, Calif. Along with Simms and Mc Bride, the freshman team consists of Sara Wilson of Canby, Darcy Francek of Redmond, Jeremy Kennedy of Vale, Katie Dunlap of Medford, Charlie Vandehey of Forest Grove, Matt Maacknair of Molalla, Darcy Graham of Canby, Justin Reed of La Pine and Trent Ricksger of Canby.

### commuter staff

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.

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**Photographers**: Carrie Baxter, Natalie Dalton, E.J. Harris, Jake Taylor.

## CAMPUS NEWS

## Ambassadors' goal is to promote student involvement

by Kate Casprowiak  
of The Commuter

LBCC Student Ambassadors, a new program this year, have been working to promote LBCC to the community and prospective students.

Recent events the ambassadors have been working on include tours of LBCC, speeches at of high schools, and creating a new LBCC promotional video. Currently, ambassadors are giving three tours a week to high school students.

According to Liz Wolcott, one of eight student ambassadors, they will have a "Meet the Ambassadors" table beginning on March 10, from 12 to 1 p.m., located on the upper level between the Forum and the Learning Resource Center.

They plan to have a table once a week, which will give students a chance to talk with the ambassadors about their program and activities, as well as to get to

know them.

Another important goal of the Student Ambassador Program is to "open the Student Life and Leadership doors," added Wolcott. She hopes that this will create more of a community atmosphere within the school so that students will want to get more involved, and hopefully this involvement will encourage better grades.

For Wolcott the experience of being an ambassador has been a positive one. "You can use the leadership skills your entire life," she said. "The experience in communication is also valuable."

According to Patty Wachs, coordinator of the Student Ambassador Program, the program is student-driven by self-motivated students who are interested in their school, enthusiastic and organized.

To learn more about the Student Ambassador Program, contact the Student Life and Leadership office in College Center Room 213.

*"You can use the leadership skills your entire life. The experience in communication is also valuable."*

—Liz Wolcott



Photo by Natalie Dalton

Student ambassadors Liz and Kate Wolcott and Sara Back are part of an eight-person team created this year to promote LBCC to the community.

## ROTC gives Tokyo native a shot at his military dream

by Mary Hake  
of The Commuter

Why would a 20-year-old Japanese student join a U.S. Air Force ROTC unit?

For Fumiaki Itagaki, a native of Tokyo, training to be an Air Force officer fulfills a long-time dream.

Because Japan does not have a large military like the United States, it has a limited number of officers. On the other hand, the U.S. military offers more opportunities.

The problem is that Itagaki is not a U.S. citizen.

Although he is allowed to participate in OSU's ROTC for two years, he cannot serve in the military after that. But Itagaki is not letting that spoil his ROTC experience.

In addition to ROTC classes, which he began fall term, he is also on the drill team and part of the color guard. Three days each week, he undergoes physical training, which he says is "very hard," and Thursday mornings

he practices marching. Itagaki is proud of his accomplishments in the program and of his uniform, which he keeps spotless.

One of 80 cadets at OSU, Itagaki said he is the only one not a U.S. citizen. As an international student he must pay his own tuition, but the ROTC provides his uniform and textbook.

Itagaki came to the U.S. in April 1996 and attended an English language school (ELS) in San Francisco for one year, near an uncle who moved from Japan 17 years



Photo by Mary Hake

*"I love LBCC. They (the instructors) give me an equal opportunity."*

—Fumiaki Itagaki

ago.

After completing his year of ELS studies, Itagaki hoped to enroll at OSU. When he could not qualify for the university, he was advised to go to LBCC. Originally he planned to stay here only until he could transfer to OSU, but has come to like the community college experience.

"I love LBCC," he said, adding that the instructors are very nice and helpful. He appreciates their understanding of his language difficulties and the extra time

for testing. "They give me an equal opportunity."

He intends to graduate with an associate of science degree before moving on to OSU where he will pursue a bachelor's degree in Management Information Systems and Business Administration. He's even looking ahead to a master's degree and hopes to remain in the U.S.

An only child, Itagaki said he usually goes home to visit his parents each winter and summer, but did not make it this winter. He said he especially misses his friends and Japanese food.

"My mother loves the U.S. and would like to move here," he said, but his father prefers Europe.

Itagaki, although raised in a large metropolis, wants to remain in the Corvallis area with its smaller population.

Even though he still struggles with the language, his American education has greatly improved his English.

## Campus smoking sites creates room for clean air

by Schellene Pils  
of The Commuter

Due to the implementation of proposed smoking areas around campus, smokers and nonsmokers alike will be able to breathe easier by the beginning of spring term.

Fourteen sites, complete with picnic tables, benches and ashtrays, have been selected for smoking areas around the LBCC campus. In fact, a sample area with two picnic tables and two benches has been set up in front of the Business Building, and it is already getting some use, said Patsy Chester, executive assistant to the president for Academic Affairs and Administration, adding that not every site will be that well furnished.

Frames for the tables and benches have been ordered, said Chester, and as soon as they get the dimensions from the frames, lumber will be ordered and the furniture finished. One of the concerns the smoking committees had was to make sure that the furniture would be attractive and long-lasting.

Chester said that although she has yet to order the ashtrays, she will be ordering them soon. She wants to

make sure that they won't tip over or walk away and that they will weather well.

There will even be picnic benches set aside for those who choose not to light up, said Kevin Lacey, custodial and grounds supervisor at LBCC. "My part is to get the furniture for those sites," he said. The proposed smoking areas will be at least 20 feet from doorways. Free-standing ashtrays will be removed from

the breezeways by spring term and placed in the new smoking areas, he said.

According to Wellness Coordinator Richard Gibbs, the overall idea is to create a better environment for smokers. This includes making sure that proposed sites will be out of the weather, distributing brochures and putting up signs that will be made up for the proposed smoking areas.



## Women: A True Story

A film series hosted by Susan Sarandon

(Co-sponsored by LBCC Student Life & Leadership and the Gender Equity Committee)

March 4: "Body Politics"  
Fireside Room (CC-211)

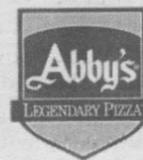
March 5: "The Power Game"  
Board Rooms A & B (CC-103)

March 6: "Postcards from the Future"  
Willamette Room (CC-219)

All programs will be held from 12-1:30 p.m.  
and will include a facilitated discussion following the video.  
Soup and rolls will be provided for all participants.

For more information contact the  
Student Life & Leadership Office, CC-213, ext. 4457.

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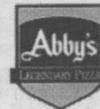
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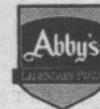
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## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## Topical issues create focus for Rose's 'Twelve Angry Men'

by James Eagan  
of The Commuter

Imagine yourself locked in a room with 11 other people, attempting to decide the fate of a suspected killer. Everyone thinks he is guilty, except for one person who decides to take a stand and vote for acquittal.

That is the story behind Reginald Rose's play, "Twelve Angry Men," which opens this Friday at the Majestic Theater in Corvallis.

Robert J. Olin directs what he calls a "wonderful ensemble team" in a play that, while written 40 years ago, remains current and topical.

"Twelve Angry Men" examines the difficulties involved in bringing together people from all aspects of society, from the poor urban kid to the high-paid advertising executive. There is even a juror from Eastern Europe who occasionally reminds her peers just how lucky they are to even have a trial.

The play brings to mind many trials from recent years. There are issues about race, socioeconomic woes and child abuse, as well as victims' rights and the rights of the accused.

"Look at the social and political state of the country today," said Olin. "Nothing's changed."

Olin said that the ultimate goal of the play is for people to give thought to the facts of a case in the news. "Maybe they will make a better decision. I want people to stop and think when they get home."

There is a social lesson in all this, and in the words of Juror 9, "it takes a great



Photo by James Eagan

"Twelve Angry Men" opens at the Majestic Friday.

deal of courage to stand alone, even if you believe in something very strongly." "Twelve Angry Men" allows the audience to be in the jury room. "On television," Olin explains, "we only get to speculate what the jury is saying or doing. This play shows you what they're doing."

"I'm pleased," said Olin. "There are a lot of newcomers to theater in this show. They were doubting themselves being able to pull off this heavy, 'emotional roller-coaster' drama. I think this is going to be one of the best shows of the year

in the Valley." Despite the title of the play, the cast includes both men and women. Those chosen to portray jurors include Barbara Hubbard, Jessica Hornaday, Paul Kwon, Harry C. Green, Robert Q. Knight, James Wickman, Tim LaPlante, Krystina Daily, Dean Kennedy, Gregg Peters, Mary H. Hendrix and Nick Bell. Alan C. "Ace" Edwards plays the guard, and Melissa Lenihan plays the judge.

Assisting Olin are Alan Nessel as assistant director and Jennifer Werntz, production assistant.

Performances of "Twelve Angry Men" will be March 6, 7, 12, 13 and 14 at 8 p.m. and March 8 and 15 at 2:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$7 for general admission, and \$5 for persons 65 and older or 18 and younger.

Tickets may be purchased at Rice's Pharmacy in Corvallis or reserved by calling the Corvallis Coin Shop at 754-8455.

## Ruppert's jazz CD to benefit students

From the LBCC News Service

Do you like sipping coffee at the window and watching the raindrops fall outside? You meditative souls may add more joy to your java by listening to "Jazz For a Rainy Day," a new CD just released by jazz pianist and LBCC music instructor Gary Ruppert.

Copies of Ruppert's first recording, issued through the LBCC Foundation, are now available at Boccherini's Coffee and Tea House and Guaraldi's Coffee and Tea House in Albany; Gracewinds Music in Corvallis; and the Takena Theatre Box Office. CDs are \$12 each or \$10 for three or more. Proceeds go to Performing Arts student scholarships and general Foundation benefits.

Of the eight pieces on the hour-long album, Ruppert included two of his own, "Amy's Theme," written for his daughter, and "One Plus," written for his wife, Karen. He also wrote his own arrangements for three standards—"Black Nile," "Here's That Rainy Day" and "Send in the Clowns." In three other pieces—"Amazing Graceful Jazz," "The West Side" and "Pictures at a Jazz Exhibition"—Ruppert created his own versions of traditional hymns, show tunes and classics.

"I wanted a broad feel of styles and moods and a mixture of songs that were well-recognized and not-so-recognized," Ruppert said of his selections. "I also feel that the listener should be carried on an adventure from somewhere to somewhere."

## Free instructional meditation program offers a way to inner peace and relaxation

by Keisha Merchant  
of The Commuter

"The Way To Inner Peace," a free informational program designed to bring seekers a meditation method that will bring well-being, relaxation, the enhancement of life, the development of awareness of the spirit and inner peace will be taught by authorized representatives of Sant Thakar Singh.

Know Thyself as Soul Foundation—Northwest (KTS-NW) offers the method under protection of Sant Thakar Singh, who took up the work of Sant Kirpal Singh, his associate and mentor, after Singh's death in 1974. KTS-NW is authorized to teach the meditation as a non-commercial part of its educational program. Sant Kirpal Singh founded the global Unity of Man conferences and served as President of the World Fellowship of Religions.

The Way To Inner Peace, Meditation, will be offered at LBCC on Friday, March 6 in College Center Room 219 from 6:30 to 10 p.m.; at the Corvallis Public Library Board Room, 645 N.W. Monroe Ave. on Sat. March 7 from 1:30 to 5 p.m.; and at

the Salem Public Library Plaza Conference Room, 585 Liberty St. S.E. on Sunday March 8 from 1:30 to 5 p.m.

The class includes meditation instruction on the inner light and sound to bring inner peace and can be learned by young and old, regardless of faith or religion.

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### commentary

## Grammer helps dispense Grammy's

by James Eagan  
of The Commuter

Last Wednesday night, the 40th Annual Grammy Awards were presented, hosted by Kelsey Grammer.

In contrast to the American Music Awards, the artists honored with a Grammy were chosen based on artistic merit.

No single artist dominated this year's ceremony, but several walked away with multiple awards.

The following are some of the numerous awards presented:

- Outstanding Rap Solo: Will Smith, "Men in Black." Smith dedicated his Grammy to the memories of Tupac Shakur and The Notorious B.I.G.

- Best Female Country Vocal Performance: Trisha Yearwood, "How Do I Live." Also nominated for the same song was LeAnn Rimes.

- Best R & B Album: Erykah Badu, "Baduizm."

- Song Of the Year: Shawn Colvin and John Leventhal, writers, "Sunny Came Home."

- Best Pop Duo or Group With Vocals: Jamiroquai, "Virtual Insanity."

- Best Male R & B Vocal Performance: R. Kelly, "I Believe I Can Fly." Special thanks were given to Bugs

Bunny and Michael Jordan for their participation in "Space Jam."

- Best Male Country Vocal Performance: Vince Gill, "Pretty Little Adrianna."

- Best Pop Collaboration With Vocals: John Lee Hooker and Van Morrison, "Don't Hold Back."

- Album Of the Year: Bob Dylan and Daniel Lanois, producers, "Time Out Of Mind."

- Best New Artist: Paula Cole

- Best Pop Album: James Taylor and Frank Filipetti, producers, "Hourglass"

- Record of The Year: Shawn Colvin and John Leventhal, producers, "Sunny Came Home."

Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds won a record third consecutive Producer Of the Year award. Puff Daddy received two awards, vindicating his poor showing at the American Music Awards.

This year's Grammy show was almost flawless. Scheduled performers Barbara Streisand and Luciano Pavarotti were not able to attend because of illness. One member of the Wu Tang Clan made an unexpected appearance, touting his group's merit in the music community. Overall, the show went off without a hitch, however.



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## SPORTS PAGE

## Fauth exceeds boundaries, earns honors

by Shawna Phillips  
of The Commuter

It took 15 years of playing basketball to land Brian Fauth a spot on the Western Oregon University basketball team, but it only took a few minutes to take all of that away.

Now a sophomore here at LBCC and a member of the basketball and baseball teams, Fauth recalled the incident that almost ended his athletic career.

One day in his sophomore year at South Albany High School, he collapsed because his heart started beating fast and then just stopped. He spent three weeks in a hospital, and a defibrillator was placed inside his chest to shock his heart back into normal rhythm if it should ever happen again.

Fortunately, he said, it has never happened again. "They think that it might've been just a freak accident," he said.

Although Fauth had been cleared to play at Western and had actually made the team, the team doctor decided the school shouldn't take the risk of playing him, and he was forced to leave the team.

Later on that spring, LBCC Baseball Coach Greg Hawk invited him to Linn-Benton to play baseball, and from there Fauth decided to continue his basketball career, despite the setback at Western.

Not only has he had no health problems, but he has excelled as a Roadrunner. This week he was just named to the NWAACC All-League first team after he helped lead the Runners to the playoffs.

Last year he was one of the starting pitchers on the baseball team, and in basketball he earned second-team honors and was named to the All-Freshman team by shooting 43 percent from behind the three-point arc, 83 percent from the free-throw line and averaging 14.9 points per game.

"The best thing about the last two seasons is just

being with all the guys," Fauth commented. "The team had really good chemistry; everybody got along with each other and hung out together off the court."

Losing the first game of the playoffs last week "still hurts," Fauth said, recalling the one-point loss still fresh in his mind. "I thought that my high school playoff loss was the worst thing that could ever happen, but that was the worst way to lose."



Brian Fauth

he was reunited with childhood friend A.D. Smith, who now plays for the University of Oregon.

Basketball has always been a family thing for Fauth because his dad handed his brother, sister and him a basketball almost as soon as they were able to walk. His older brother, who graduated from Western two years ago, was an All-American basketball player there, while his little sister, who graduates from high school this year, led South Albany to the playoffs this season.

Fauth's future after Linn-Benton is undecided.

"Right now I'm majoring in math, but that will probably end up changing," he said. "As far as schooling goes, I'm not sure where I will go after LB, but I've been talking with some schools, and hopefully I'll be going somewhere to play basketball."

Fauth may not know where he's going when he leaves LBCC, but he knows where he's going now that basketball season is over—to the baseball diamond.

"We have a great team with a great attitude, and now it's time to put it on the field."

## Tough 'D' not enough to advance LB to championships

From Page 1

Brian Csergei had 18 points and added 10 boards for a double-double. Brian Fauth scored 16 and dished out six assists. Nick Matsler had 14 points, seven rebounds, four blocked shots and three steals. Todd Welch also added seven rebounds.

It was a battle throughout the whole game since both teams seemed pretty evenly matched. Linn-Benton shot 62 percent from the field in the first half and had a one-point lead at the half, but Lane came out strong in the second and were up by as many as five before LB

came back. Csergei scored seven points, and Cordle hit two three-pointers in a 17-12 run to tie the game at 65 and send it into the first overtime.

Csergei scored six points in the first overtime and grabbed a critical offensive rebound and put it in with the clock running down to tie the game at 76.

"I'm very proud of these guys. They were an absolute pleasure to have around and they will be successful in whatever they do down the road," Falk said.

The Roadrunners finished thier season with an overall record of 15-12.

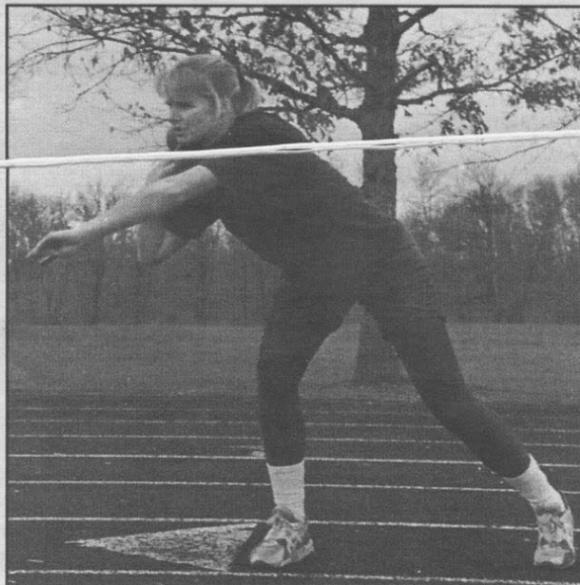


Photo by Trish Varney

Tiffany Sytsma practices the shot put in preparation for the Roadrunners' opening outdoor meet Saturday at Linfield College in McMinnville.

## Tracksters prepare to open outdoor season at Linfield Icebreaker

by Spencer Berndt  
of The Commuter

Spring will soon be here, and with the warmth it brings an array of new life.

The Roadrunners will open their season under the leadership of Coach Brad Carman this Saturday at the Linfield Icebreaker Invitational in McMinnville. There will be a total of 17 teams at the meet.

Carman is in his ninth season with LBCC, eighth as head coach. This season the team will compete in 10 outdoor meets and possibly, for individuals who qualify, an 11th at the NWAACC Championships in Spokane, Wash., May 21 and 22.

LBCC will not have the luxury of any home meets this year because of the national trend to hold bigger invitational meets and LBCC's facility problems. "The track is falling apart, and I can understand why other teams are reluctant to have meets here," Carman said.

The track was resurfaced two years ago, but poor assessment of what needed to be done to the track left LBCC with a subpar facility. There is nothing that can be done for the facility immediately, Carman said, so the team deals with the adversity with intense practices in preparation for competition.

According to Carman, there may be eight more people joining, but for now he has team of 12 athlete: Josh and Lucas Bjornstedt, decathlon and jumps; Jamie Borden, distance runner; Nathan Doney, jumps; Dan Grissom, sprints; Rene Growcock, distance runner; Jolene Neufeld, jumps; Matt Phillips, jumps; Troy Rorey, distance runner; Jennifer Schwab, jumps; Tiffany Sytsma, multi-event; and Darcy Zetter, distance runner.

Coach Carman is eager for the outdoor season to get underway because he believes the team can compete and win. It's a positive perspective from a man who has been involved with track and field for most his life, including a four-year member of Oregon State University track and field team.

## Four Roadrunners place in last indoor meet of the winter

The Roadrunners finished out their indoor season last Sunday at the Great Northwest Indoor Track and Field Meet at the Portland Expo Center.

For the men, Matt Phillips placed first in the pole vault with a season best 16-0 and Dan Grissom got first in his semi-final heat in the 50-meter dash. Grissom ran in the finals, but the official results are not yet available.

In the women's 600-meters Tiffany Sytsma placed second in her heat with a hand time of 1:48.8, while Darcy Zettler finished in 1:48.8.

Jolene Neufeld was the only other woman to place. She ended fifth in the long jump with a mark of 14-10. Jennifer Schwab had a mark of 4-10 in the long jump. Jamie Borden ran the 1500 in 5:38.1, while Renee Growcock ended the 3000 meter with a time of 12:01.79.

## classifieds

## HELP WANTED

Assistant printer job available in Corvallis. If you have a good work attitude and lots of initiative, this position offers experience working in a printing office. General layout and art skills are a benefit. See Job Placement in the Career Center in Tadena 101.

Administrative assistant position available in Philomath. Do you have a 2-year business/office tech degree or a lot of secretarial experience. See job placement in Tadena 101.

Automotive Machinist in Florence, Ore. Have you ever wanted to live on the coast and happen to be skilled in disassembling and rebuilding 4 and 6-cylinder engines? If you have excellent people skills and own small tools, here is your job! See student Employment (T-101).

Weekend Desk Clerk position in Albany. Bring your math skills for 4 hours of work and ability to study. See Carla in Job Placement.

## WANTED

Looking for serious but fun female keyboardist, drummer, and bass to play with R&B, hip-hop rap group with Christian influence. Call 754-7514 if seriously interested, leave message.

## FOR SALE

Used Speed Queen Dryer, Excellent condition! \$115. Call 541-929-3512.

HP 300 LX Palmtop PC, 2MB, Word, Excel, e-mail, and more! Make offer, it's valued at \$499.00. 541-926-7857.

HP48G calculator. Bought new, used for about a week. \$80. OBO. Please call 924-9382 and leave a message if no one answers

## FOR RENT

SAVE MONEY ON APPLICATION FEES! UMBRELLA

PROPERTIES offers discounts and you pay nothing to apply. Over 1200 apartments, houses or duplexes in Albany, Lebanon, Junction City, Eugene, and Springfield. Also see our ad in the Albany Democrat-Herald. For a FREE listing call 484-6595.

## MISCELLANEOUS

ATTENTION MUSICIANS: LBCC Musicians club for students and staff. Membership free. Come join the fun. Monday and Wednesday 5-7 p.m. For more details contact Jon at (541) 327-2853 or e-mail at alex@dnc.net

Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual group is meeting every Wednesday, this term, from 2-3 p.m. Re: Social activities, support and community building. Call 917-4660 for meeting place. Someone will call you back!

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The Oregon Fire Chiefs' Association has made available the Neil Hamilton Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to cover tuition and textbook expenses for those students enrolled in Fire Science courses. Requirements and applications available in Career Center. Deadline: March 6, 1998.

The OSU Folk Thrift Shop is offering a \$1,200 scholarship for the older-than-average woman student. Applicants must be over the age of 25 and from Benton County. Other requirements and applications available in Career Center. Deadline: March 31, 1998.

The Oreals Scholarship Fund Inc., is proud to promote education for students interested in a legal support staff career. Applications are available in the Career Center in Tadena Hall. Application Deadline: March 20, 1998.

The Oregon Institute of Technology is offering the Merit, Leadership and Diversity Scholarship. Eligibility requirements and applications are available in the Career Center in Tadena Hall. Deadline: March 15.

## commentary

## Mothers without experience or resources must consider adoption

by Schellene Pils  
of The Commuter

In the last six months or so I've been following something in the news that I consider a very upsetting trend.

What I'm referring to are young women, who, after getting pregnant, hide the pregnancy, deliver their children at home and then kill the baby.

I personally don't agree with abortion, but why go through an entire pregnancy only to kill the child after it's born. What kind of reflection is it on our society that when a woman gets pregnant and instead of utilizing some of the many other alternatives available to her, like adoption, decides out of fear or indifference to become a murderer.

I respect women who decide to give their babies up for adoption. As a pregnant mother of three, I understand how hard it would be to give away someone who has literally been a part of you for almost a year of your life. I couldn't, under any circumstances, do something like that, but I have known girls who got pregnant and, for whatever reason—youth, inexperience or because they just know they couldn't handle motherhood, gave their child to someone who would devote their life to that baby.

I suppose that I could blame society for lowering the value of life. Perhaps the fear of letting down your family or of what society will think of the mother or the child contributes to this deed.

But I don't think that society is to blame. I'm not sure who is. Maybe it doesn't matter. What does matter, in my opinion, is making these women see that not only do they have value, but the lives of the children they bear have value as well. Before they decide to take a baby's life, they should consider that there are couples out there who would give a right arm for a baby to love.

There's nothing wrong with a pregnant mother admitting to herself that no matter how much she would love a baby, she doesn't have the resources or the experience to raise a child to adulthood, and maybe, someday, that child will thank her for loving him or her enough to give the baby a life with people who can.

### EXPRESS YOURSELF

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their opinions. Commentaries and letters on campus, community, regional and national issues are welcome.

Letters should be limited to 250 words or less, and will be edited for length, grammar and spelling. In order to confirm the authenticity of letters, they must be signed, with phone number and address included. As general policy, The Commuter will not publish anonymous letters to the editor, although the editor reserves the right to make exceptions when conditions warrant.

### Let your voice be heard

Here is how to contact state and national representatives in Salem and Washington, D.C.

#### State Senators:

Cliff Trow, D-Corvallis..... 503-986-1700

Mae Yih, D-Albany.....503-986-1719

#### State Representatives:

Barbara Ross, D-Corvallis.....503-986-1435

Carolyn Oakley, R-Albany.....503-986-1436

Liz VanLeeuwen, R-Halsey...503-986-1437

#### Representatives:

Peter DeFazio, D-4th District

Washington Office: 202-225-6416

Fax Number: 202-225-0373

District Office: 541-465-6732

e-mail: pdefazio@hr.house.gov

Darlene Hooley, D-5th District

Washington Office: 202-225-5711

Fax Number: 202-225-2994

District Office: 503-588-9100



## commentary

## Sexual harassment standards for employees becoming unreasonable

by Benjamin Sell  
of The Commuter

Sexual harassment has become a large part of our everyday lives. From endless public service messages on TV to countless "prevention" meetings at work, it has become a prevalent topic. But there is a point where a line must be drawn before things get entirely too much out of hand, and with sexual harassment, I think we have reached, if not already passed, that point. The whole thing is just getting out of hand.

In a recent meeting at the store where I work (slave), my coworkers and I were instructed in the do's and don'ts of sexual harassment. We watched a video and signed a pledge saying we understand what sexual harassment is, and that we wouldn't do it or we would get spanked (um... I think that's what it said, oh wait, I just sexually harassed you).

Basically you could boil everything that was said down to one simple concept: anything you do that offends someone else in a sexual manner is sexual harassment. Now I was thinking they meant things like grabbing someone's butt or excessive come-ons and stuff like that, but boy was I wrong. Sure, it includes all those things, but we were also told about things like putting your hand on someone else's shoulder or telling jokes with sexual innuendoes.

OK, I can understand how those things could be construed as harassment. Little did I know there was more to come. Did you know that calling a group of female employees "girls" is sexual harassment? Even calling them ladies could be taken as harassment. According to the company I work for, the only thing you can call female employees is women, and then only in a certain way. Example: "Excuse me, women, but could I please get by?"—right way. "Excuse me WOMEN, but could I please get by?"—wrong way.

Another aspect of this "sensitivity training" we all received that struck me as absurd was the whole "third party" concept. This basically says that even if the two parties involved in an action are OK with it, if someone else observes it and is offended, then it is harassment. Say my girlfriend comes into the store where I work. I see her and give her a hug as a greeting, and one of my coworkers sees me do it. That employee could then go to my boss and complain, saying I harassed them because I hugged my girlfriend. I could be disciplined or even fired, just for a hug.

The same goes for any other type of harassment. If someone is telling me a "dirty" joke and someone overhears, it is harassment, even if we didn't know

they were there. If one of my coworkers was to call a group of female employees "ladies" and someone overheard, even if every one of the group members is OK with it, it is harassment. This, to me, is overkill. If I tell one of my friends at work a joke, it is meant for their ears only. If someone overhears this, it should be their fault for listening to my conversation. This whole concept is absurd in my opinion, unless I see a couple "making out" in the back room or something, little that I see or overhear that is not directed towards me is going to offend me.

The whole "third party" issue could be easily resolved if people were a little more open-minded and less selfish. If I tell a "dirty" joke around someone and they tell me they don't appreciate humor of that type, I would never tell a joke of that nature around them again, simple as that. Of course, if someone tells me that they are offended by that type of thing, and I persist in talking about it around them, then it becomes harassment. But only when that happens, not the first time.

Another part of the harassment issue that really upsets me is the whole stereotypical aspect of it. Everything I have seen on TV, in magazines and even on the video at work shows men harassing women. I know this is probably the way it goes 90 percent of the time, given the nature of men, but it isn't always the case. For example: there is one female manager at my store that constantly refers to my friend and I as "boys." This doesn't bother me because there is no reason it should. She is not trying to demean us or anything; she is just referring to us as a group. But, according to the almighty book-o-harassment, it could be construed as harassment if a male manager referred to a group of female employees in a similar manner.

I guess it is different for women, though, because I imagine they feel a lot more threatened by an over-friendly man than a guy would with a similar female manager, so I can understand why it is predominately females who are portrayed as being harassed. I just wish they would throw in a few examples of females harassing males because it does happen. (Anyone seen "Disclosure?")

In closing, I just want to reaffirm that this whole issue has been taken perhaps one step too far. If everyone would just lighten up, then we would see fewer problems. I'm not trying to say that serious harassment does not happen, because I know it does, and it can ruin careers. I just think that it has been taken to extremes. So, if any of the writers of those infamous "training videos" are reading this, lighten up a little, OK?

## OPINION PAGE

## Letters

## Marijuana commentary shows lack of research

To the Editor:

Still can't figure out if the commentary by Benjamin Sell is a satire, stand-up comedy routine or an attempt at true journalism. Oh, that's right . . . it's an opinion column. As my mother passed away from breast cancer 10 years ago and used marijuana to relieve her pain, I find Mr. Sell's column to be an insult to my intelligence.

I seriously doubt if Mr. Sell is a doctor or has even bothered to interview ANY doctors on the benefits of medicinal marijuana. No, he has bought into the lost war on drugs—just say no. If he had bothered to do the proper research, for example, reading the Journal of the American Medical Association, he would see government research on its benefits for those same diseases he has made trivial, such as AIDS, MS, cerebral palsy, glaucoma and cancer.

This "commentary" is a joke, and I challenge you to a debate, either in person or through your paper at any time on these issues. A serious, non-childlike debate, where you actually have to face the facts and not some whimsical dribble you are allowed to spout. I do have Dr. Dean Edell, former Secretary of State George Shultz, former Chief Medical Officer of the United States C. E. Koop, our own governor and the majority of the medical profession and citizens of California and Arizona on my side.

So, back to your DARE programs, Ben. (Remember, the largest contributor to the DARE program is American Brands Tobacco). The war on drugs is over—we lost, and I'd rather spend my \$20 billion a year that we currently spend in a lost effort in a better way.

As a society, we are only as good as the compassion we show weaker members of our country, including the sick who need pain relief. Go join the feds Ben. I'm sure ATF could use another agent as we now have 10 times more cocaine coming into our country as before we started "Just Say No."

I'm a firm believer in states' rights, and while you are at it reread, if you ever have, Adam Smith's "Wealth of Nations," written in 1776 as the basis for our economic system. Mr. Smith said that the individual, free of government involvement, will lead to the wealth of nations. I'll bet you'll fall into the camp of allowing the government to intervene in individuals' lives while still claiming to be party of Lincoln—that would be the Republicans. As an Independent, I find the argument humorous, as well as your column. Do some research. Then we'll talk.

L. Schuetz

## Column ignores medical evidence for marijuana

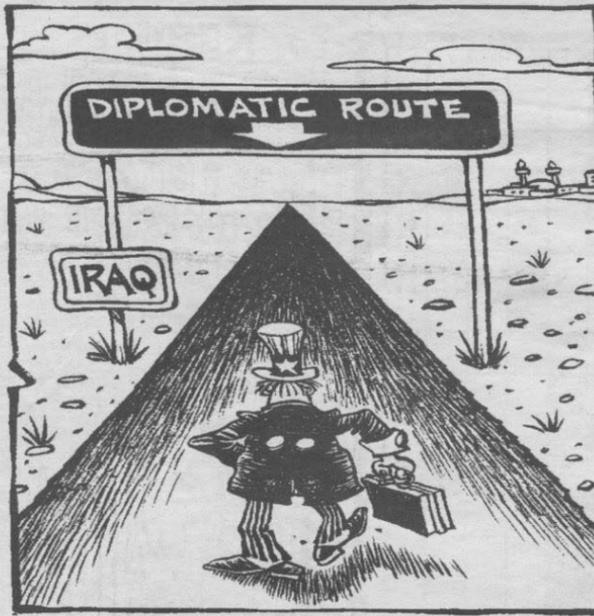
To the editor:

I'm writing in response to Benjamin Sell's article "Dangers of Grass Outweigh Medicinal Value." The evidence used to support his claim are false; both scientific and factual. First, he said there is no evidence to support the claim that marijuana helps treat glaucoma, arthritis, AIDS, and alleviates discomforts of chemotherapy. Well, there is evidence to support marijuana as medicine. Glaucoma is caused by too much pressure within our eyes, interfering with our visual ability. Marijuana lowers that pressure and actually restores vision.

Another point made in the article was that growing marijuana is inherently "evil" or "bad." His actual words are "Anyone who is given this particular prescription would, in essence, be given a license to cultivate an illegal drug." Please don't forget that all it takes to produce a marijuana plant is to place a seed in the soil and let nature take its course. Saying it's wrong for me to smoke pot if it cures my illness goes against natural law.

The article asks, "When are these potheads going to figure out that no one is buying it?" Well, California and Arizona both "bought it." Anybody who supports medicinal use of marijuana, as evident in this article, is labeled a pothead. Are you saying George Soros, a billionaire philanthropist with far more money than Ted Turner, is a pothead for financing the campaigns in Oregon, California and Arizona to legitimize the use of marijuana in the medical field? "Pothead" is not the word to describe Mr. Soros.

Paul Budlong



## commentary

## Medicinal marijuana already a reality

by Pete Petryszak  
of The Commuter

A common phenomenon of political campaigns is that those without facts to back up their point of view invariably resort to name-calling and scare tactics in an attempt to bully the voters into voting their way.

This trend is clearly evident here in Oregon as the medicinal marijuana campaign heats up. Rather than engage the sponsors of the measure in a rational debate over the pros and cons of medicinal marijuana and exploring the actual content of the law, opponents of the initiative have launched a smear campaign.

State Rep. John Minnis demonstrated an all-encompassing ignorance of the proposed medical marijuana law when he told the Democrat-Herald that under the law "anybody could grow it and claim they are using it for medicinal purposes." In fact, the law would create a board to oversee and monitor those growing and using medicinal marijuana, and anyone in possession of marijuana without a prescription would be in violation of the law.

Rep. Minnis did his constituents a disservice by commenting on the law without ever bothering to stop by the office of his fellow House member George Eighmme to review the text of the proposed law. It could have stopped a lot of misinformation from getting out.

Another tactic the anti-medicinal marijuana crowd (perhaps we should call them the pro-pain lobby) likes to use is the making of dire predictions about how doctors will begin writing pot prescriptions left and right for every conceivable ailment, from migraines to itchy feet, and how thousands of "sick" potheads will flock here to get their prescriptions filled (as if it were that hard to come by in other states). If there were any truth to this argument, I would like to know why we don't see evidence of that happening in Virginia.

You see, Virginia has had a medicinal marijuana law on the books since 1979. Virtually identical to California's Proposition 215, the Virginia law allows doctors to prescribe marijuana to patients and exempts those patients from prosecution for possession of marijuana.

If a medical marijuana law were to have the drastic consequences that people like Rep. Minnis and drug czar Barry McCaffrey are predicting, why do they have to rely solely on speculation to back up their claims? Why don't they point to statistics from Virginia as evidence? The answer is that Virginia's experience does not support their claims. In the 19 years since that law was enacted, the frequency of drug arrests and seizures in Virginia has not been demonstrably different than that of other states.

Another peculiar aspect of the medicinal marijuana debate is how much more acceptable it becomes when the marijuana is no longer being smoked but ingested orally in a nice, medical-looking gelatin capsule. Twenty-six states have passed laws recognizing the therapeutic value of the prescription drugs Marinol and Dronabinol, both of which contain tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the active ingredient in marijuana, for the treatment of glaucoma and the nausea associated with chemotherapy.

The only difference between a bong load and a Marinol capsule is that Marinol is marijuana that has been boiled in sesame oil to extract the THC. The oil is

then concentrated and sealed in a capsule, thus making medical marijuana more attractive to politicians, who don't know the first thing about the chemistry involved in the production of their medicine.

With THC pills available, it is reasonable to ask why patients who wish to use marijuana can't take the pills instead. The most common answer they give is that the pills contain a THC concentration that is nearly 100 times the concentration of THC in raw marijuana. Patients who have taken the pills have complained of dizziness, "out-of-body" feelings and nausea. Obviously, a medicine that is supposed to relieve nausea that brings on even more isn't worth taking.

However, smoked marijuana doesn't cause those side effects because it enters the bloodstream through the lungs rather than the stomach. A common problem many AIDS and cancer patients suffer from is an inability to process the medicine in their pills, because even the amount of stomach acid needed to digest the pills or capsules is enough to cause vomiting. Many patients use marijuana because it suppresses the stomach's ability to vomit (which, is why you shouldn't smoke pot after heavy drinking—it could lead to alcohol poisoning because you can't get it out of your stomach before it gets into your bloodstream).

A common mistake the pro-pain lobby makes is to assume that the only people who support medicinal marijuana are deadheads, doped up rastas and shifty-eyed potheads conniving to find a new, easier way to hook up while their dealers are in jail.

It's easy to dismiss a guy outside the Peacock gathering signatures for a petition as a "toke-hungry potmonger," but will they make the same characterization of Dr. Donald Abrams, a medical researcher from the University of California who has been fighting the Clinton administration for five years to do research into marijuana's effect on the weight loss associated with the AIDS virus?

Would that label fit House Speaker Newt Gingrich, who joined 73 of his colleagues in the House as a co-sponsor of a bill authorizing research into marijuana's medicinal uses in 1981? Would they label the state legislatures of Montana, New Mexico, Texas, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, West Virginia, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Virginia, Tennessee, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and Iowa as potheads for passing laws permitting the medical use of THC in pill form?

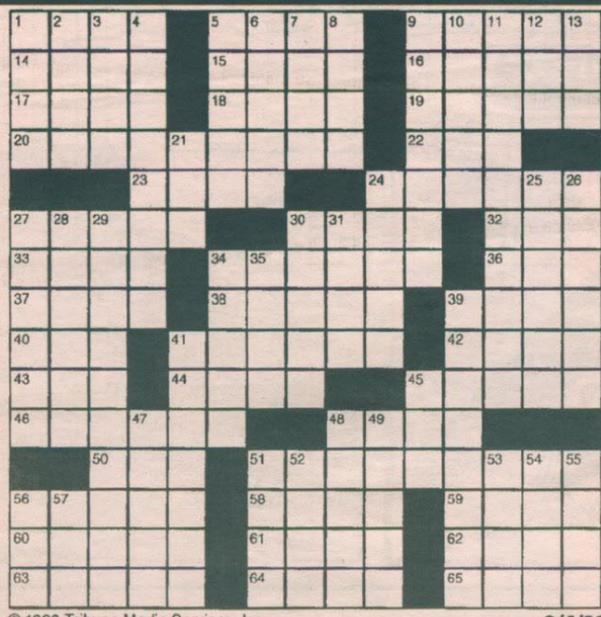
Oregon had a medicinal marijuana law on the books from 1979 to 1987. If the effects of medicinal marijuana would be that awful, why don't the opponents of the current initiative cite examples of abuses of the 1979 law to support their claim? Could it be that the evidence simply doesn't exist?

Obviously, medicinal marijuana has the potential to be abused, the same way Valium, percodan, codeine, hydrocodone, morphine, cough syrup and virtually any other medicine can be abused.

However, prohibition is not the answer to the problem of misuse of medicines. If the distribution and use of dangerous and potentially lethal substances like morphine, trichloroethylene and dynamite can be regulated and monitored to prevent them from falling into the wrong hands and being misused, certainly the same can be done for marijuana.

# LOONEY LANE

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  - Sign of healing



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3/4/98

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- Costa
- Social climber
- Fat farm
- Greek cross

## THE K CHRONICLES

THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, TAKE A LITTLE TIME OUT TO CONSIDER THE PLIGHT OF SOME OF THOSE LESS FORTUNATE THAN THE REST OF US...

HOOP STAR ROLF HAM...  
& THE HAT-CHET LADY...  
LITTLE JIMMY SWAINS...  
PEOPLE LIKE RHEITA RICHARDS...

THESE PEOPLE ARE COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE CHRISTMAS BABIES...

PEOPLE BORN DURING THE 3rd & 4th WEEK OF DECEMBER...  
Born Dec. 22nd  
Born Dec. 21st  
Born Dec. 19th  
Born Dec. 25th

CHRISTMAS BABIES MUST ENDURE A LIFETIME OF RECEIVING COMBINATION CHRISTMAS & BIRTHDAY PRESENTS...  
Happy Birthday & Merry Christmas Jimmy!!  
I only get one?  
A RECENT GOVT. SURVEY FOUND THAT C.B.s RECEIVE 33% FEWER PRESENTS OVER A LIFETIME THAN NORMAL PEOPLE DO...

IT'S JUST ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF CHILDREN WHO SUFFER AS A RESULT OF THE IRRESPONSIBILITY OF THEIR PARENTS...  
It's My Birthday. My Day!! Yet all I hear about is that JESUS fella!!  
WHY DIDNT MY PARENTS DO THE NASTY IN FEBRUARY!!? SOB

IDEALLY... KIDS WANT THEIR BIRTHDAYS TO FALL SOMEWHERE WITHIN THAT HOLIDAY WASTELAND BETWEEN JULY 4th & LABOR DAY...

FORTUNATELY, CHRISTMAS BABIES HAVE TAKEN IT UPON THEMSELVES TO GET TOGETHER AND PROVIDE THE SUPPORT NEEDED TO ALLEVIATE THE PAIN & SUFFERING THEY SHARE ANNUALLY...  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY JIMMY!!  
AND MERRY CHRISTMAS!!  
YAY!  
DON'T FORGET US!



Muffin



By Nora McVittie

