

THE COMMUTER

Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2001

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 32 No. 15

UofO death raises public concern over rare disease

by Leon Tovey
of The Commuter

The recent death of a 19-year-old University of Oregon student from a rare bacterial infection has created a stir on campuses across the state. But according to health service officials from Oregon State University and Linn and Benton counties, the threat to students from meningococemia is scarcely higher than that to the general public.

According to Dr. Laura Jasmine, Medical Director of Health Services at OSU, the incident rate of meningococcal diseases among college students is 1.7 per 100,000 people. The incident rate among the rest of the population is 1.3 per 100,000.

The main reason for the difference, according to Dr. Jasmine, is the fact that students living in campus housing are in closer quarters with potential carriers of

the disease than people who maintain their own residences.

The recent diagnoses of a 21-year-old Corvallis resident last week shows that the general public is just as susceptible.

Jared Kruger was admitted to Good Samaritan Hospital on Wednesday, complaining of a headache, body aches, and other flu-like symptoms. Doctors quickly diagnosed Kruger with meningococcal disease.

Meningococemia is a microscopic organism that lives harmlessly in the nose and throats of as much as 15 percent of the population. The bacterium becomes life-threatening when it invades the bloodstream, causing a collapse of the circulatory system. This can lead to shock, organ failure and skin damage. About 12 percent of the people infected in this way die.

(Turn to "Disease" on Pg. 2)



Instant Celebrity

Elementary school children mob student actors outside Tadena Hall following Tuesday's production of 'The Little Mermaid.' Hundreds of children line up to get into the show (right). Thousands more are expected for performances on Tuesdays and Thursdays over the next two weeks.



Photos by James Bauerle

Local Iraqis feel pain of U.S. bombing

by Lori Weedmark
of The Commuter

Last week's bombing of long-range radar and control facilities outside Bagdad not only stunned the world, it reminded U.S. citizens that their military remains active in Iraq—10 years after the liberation of Kuwait in the Persian Gulf War.

The Gulf War officially ended on Feb. 28, 1991, but ever since then U.S. and British forces have continued to bomb Iraq while patrolling the "no-fly zone." And U.N. sanctions continue to squeeze the Iraqi economy.

The sanctions were put in place against Iraq "to promote peace and security," but the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) has argued that the sanctions "should be designed and implemented in a way as to avoid a negative impact on children."

But this has not happened in Iraq.

Sanctions have not liberated Iraq from Saddam Hussein, and they have not enabled the U.N. to monitor sites to see if weapons of mass destruction have been destroyed, which is a pre-condition to lifting sanctions. The sanctions include a ban on commercial flights to and from Iraq, a ban on trade and an oil embargo. The oil embargo was eased somewhat in 1994 to allow Iraq to sell a limited amount of oil to buy food and medicine.

But this has not been enough for Iraq's 22 million people, according to the World Food Organization and UNICEF, which estimate more than one million Iraqi

(Turn to "Iraq" on Pg. 4)

Mother of hate-crime victim speaks out against intolerance

by Adam Pierce
of The Commuter

"AIDS cures fags."

She stands, sidewise to the audience, her full attention on the screen above, which shows those words being waved on a picket sign.

It is said that hell hath no fury as a woman scorned. Well, this is what happens when hell messes with a mother.

On Monday Oct. 8, 1998, Judy Shepard and her husband received a phone call in Saudi Arabia telling them that their eldest son Matthew was in a coma after being badly beaten because he was gay.

"When I would think of Matt the image that would come to mind was Matt alone, on the prairie, tied to a fence for 18 hours."

—Judy Shepard

They rushed across the world to his bedside, where four days later he died. His beating and death led to an unprecedented public outcry that focused the nation's attentions on the growing epidemic of hate crimes in the United States.

One such focusing of attention: The 2001 Oregon Hate Crimes Conference

took place last week at the Eugene Hilton. Judy Shepard was the keynote speaker for the conference, which drew over 500 people. At her speech Feb. 11 were such distinguished guests as ex-governor of Oregon Barbara Roberts and Sen. Gordon Smith, who introduced her.

She began by reading from the victim

impact statement she wrote for the trial of her son's killer. She asked the audience to picture the courtroom and began to read about Matthew's personality, his interest in theatre and politics, the anticipation he held for his future, and how good of a friend he was. She read about how she felt during the 25-hour trip from Saudi Arabia to the Wyoming hospital where he was staying, "When I would think of Matt the image that would come to mind was Matt alone, on the prairie, tied to a fence for 18 hours."

By the time she finished her introduction (Turn to "Shepard" on Pg. 4)

IN THIS ISSUE

Fore!

Golf City offers die-hard duffers a taste of Oregon rain ball

Page 6

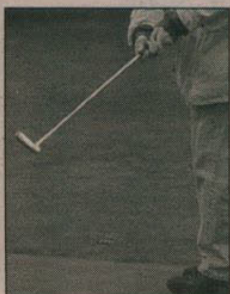
Check This Out

Grab some treats and hear a few words about the play area built by volunteers at the FRC's dedication 5 p.m. Thursday.

Late Season Slide

Lady Runners hit slump but still have shot at playoffs

Page 11



CAMPUS NEWS

OFF BEAT

Not Berry smart

Harold Berry didn't know that the sole function of the Columbus, Ohio, branch of the National City Bank is to handle loan applications. So when he went in to rob the place, he was quite surprised to hear the assistant manager tell him: "Sir, we don't have any cash here." He fled and was arrested a short time later for attempted robbery. Bank employee Tom Louters said, "He obviously didn't do his research."

Remote patrol

Two 20-year-old men broke into a home in Tallahassee, Fla., and stole two television sets, but were spotted loading them into their sport utility vehicle by a neighbor who called police. The burglars drove off, but came back minutes later because they realized they had forgotten to steal the remote controls. They got there just as police arrived, and were arrested.

Oh, Billy!

Queenie Hollon has filed a noise complaint with Prattville, Ala., officials because the ruckus coming from her neighbor's yard is keeping her awake nights. More than a dozen goats living on the property next door have been spending their evenings loudly and persistently making love.

Cruel & unusual

In an effort to make escaped prisoners easier to spot, Sheriff Joseph Gerace has ordered prisoners in New York's Chautauqua County Jail to wear black-and-white, zebra-striped coveralls and pink underwear. One con shrugged off the new look. "What are you going to do?" he said. "It's a jail."

Honey, I'm...

Officials in Texarkana, Ark., ruled that a house did not measure up to the city's building codes, and so sent a wrecking crew out to demolish it. The crew mistakenly knocked down the house across the street instead. Attorneys have become involved in the matter.

Too much sake

An extremely drunk guest at a wedding in Tokyo (a friend of the bride's father) planted a great big wet kiss on the shocked bride, who struggled to escape his advances. Then the drunk turned to the groom and punched him in the face. He was arrested, and later fined \$30,500.

—From the TMS News Service

LB's Bober named Corvallis' First Citizen

by Barry Douglas
of The Commuter

Pete Bober, director of Community Partnerships and Work Initiatives at LBCC, was honored earlier this month as Corvallis' First Citizen by the Corvallis Chamber of Commerce.

Bober, who has been involved in various charities and volunteer efforts his entire life, said his community activism was encouraged by his parents, who were volunteers themselves, "and by the atmosphere of the 1960s—to get involved."

Bober has served his community in various capacities over the years, including volunteering as precinct person for Benton County Democrats, as a member of the Corvallis Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and as chairperson of the Benton County Fair Board.

Joanne Trow, who has served with Bober on the Corvallis Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, lauded Bober's volunteer spirit.

"Pete is very committed to his community. He really does his homework, and asks hard questions in a way that doesn't make others feel threatened," said Trow. "His presence and his sense of humor make it possible to get a lot accomplished. Any volunteer group would be very lucky to have Pete's help."

Sylvia Moore, president of the Corvallis Zonta Club, an international organization promoting the interests of women and children, relies on Bober's participation.

"Pete is one of those people who, when he takes on a project, you can be absolutely sure he'll get the job done," said Moore. "Pete has served on a wide variety of Zonta's committees, and has been instrumental in securing six LBCC scholarships and six OSU scholarships for women in our community."

Bober, however, is humble about his accomplishments. "I think the idea of 'First Citizen' is a little outdated. It's not realistic to think that a single person get things done single-handedly," said Bober. "A successful volunteer effort takes a lot of people working together."

As director of Community Partnerships and Work Initiatives at LBCC, Bober said the most satisfying aspect of his job is the opportunity to bring together members of the community to work for a common good.

"Were able to get a lot of people back to work in the community. And, that's just good for everybody," said Bober.



Pete Bober



Photo by Christopher Spence

In the Running

Vice presidential candidate Erin Bartelds addresses the crowd at Tuesday's ASG Candidate's Forum in the Commons, while presidential candidate John Henderson waits his turn. Other candidates who've filed next week's election are Roxanne Allen, an education major running for vice president; Diana Barnhart, a legal secretary major, running for public relations secretary; Katherine Jackson, a photography major running for Business Health Rep; and Patrick Berry, undecided major, and Daniel Wittekind, engineering major, running for representative at-large. The election is Feb. 27-28.

Disease: Infection is rare but potentially life-threatening

From Page One

The bacteria usually invades the blood in concert with other illnesses—respiratory problems, the flu—that weaken resistance. The relatively poor diet of many college students, as well as excessive alcohol consumption and smoking are also key factors, Jasmine says, as they weaken the immune system and irritate the nose and throat. Nevertheless, cases of infection are rare.

"In the time I've been here—since 1990—there have only been five cases reported (at OSU)," Jasmine says. "And all of those were successfully treated. It's

still a nasty organism, but to put things in perspective for students, death from alcohol poisoning is far more common."

Since 1995 there has been only one case of the disease reported at the university.

Statewide numbers seem to reflect that trend. According to Debbie Wallace, a Linn County Health Services worker, there were 68 cases of the disease reported in Oregon during the year 2000—down from 76 in 1999.

Numbers in Linn and Benton counties also seem to be dropping. In 2000, there were four cases reported in Linn

county. Benton county has seen just 10 cases, including Kruger's case and the cases at OSU, in the past decade.

The most dangerous aspect of the disease in this part of Oregon is the prevalence of serogroup B—one of the nine serogroups of the disease that has no vaccine, Wallace says.

Both Dieringer and Kruger were hit with that strain of the disease, as was a four-month-old child in Seaside. The disease proved fatal in the case of Dieringer and the child, however according to the Benton County Health Department, Kruger is responding to treatment.

THE 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, Associated Students of LBCC or the Yakuza. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them.

Address correspondence to The Commuter, 6500 S.W. Pacific Blvd., Albany, Ore. 97321; Telephone (541) 917-4451, 917-4452 or 917-4453; Fax (541) 917-4454; E-mail commuter@ml.lbcc.cc.or.us. The newsroom is located in Room 222 of the Forum.

The Commuter Staff:

Editor-in-Chief, Leon Tovey; **Managing Editor**, Lori Weedmark; **Contributing Editors**, Michelle Mayo, Ben Hughes; **A&E Editor**, Chad Richins; **Opinion Editor**, Angus McBrian; **Editorial Assistant**, Gelina Inches; **Photo Editor**, Christopher Spence; **Photo Assistants**, James Bauerle, Lisa Jimenez; **Sports Editors**, Christina Laramore, Jason Amberg. **Advertising Manager**, John La'Gere; **Advertising Assistant**, Derek Wakefield; **Pagination Coordinator**, Angus McBrian; **Graphics Editor**, Joe Ellingson. **Production**: Allen Garner, Stephani Gordon, Mary Jova; **Writers**: Crystal Davis, Barry Douglas, Amy Eastburn, Crystal Huff, Sean Leveque, Adam Pierce, Taiga Sudakin, Michael Taylor, Ky Weatherford, Kurt Madar, Stacia Sage, Beth Lyall, Eric Normandin, Justin Pittenger, David Miller. **Advisor**, Rich Bergeman.

IN FOCUS

Saké to Me!

Japanese rice wine gains avid following in the United States

by Ben Hughes and Jason Amberg
of The Commuter

Tired of hangovers? Are you allergic to sulfites commonly found in wine? Looking for something different than the usual wine and beer with dinner?

Chilled saké may be the answer to your problems.

Most of us have a stereotyped image of saké—warm, sweet and served in a porcelain cup from a jug. To most of us that image is very foreign.

But times are changing. With the intervention of science and technology, SakéOne Corporation, a saké producer in Forest Grove, has produced a premium-chilled saké that will erase the misconceptions that surround this distinctively flavorful wine.

Although saké is brewed in a brewery, it is not a beer. It is fermented like wine but made with grain rather than fruit, so technically it isn't wine either.

Thus, saké is generally called a rice wine, created in a middle ground between both processes.

SakéOne, one of only seven saké makers in North America and the first American-owned saké brewery in the world, is determined to bring saké to the front edge of western culture. If SakéOne has its way, saké will be the alcoholic beverage of the future.

Griffith Frost, the founder and CEO of Japan America Beverage Co. (now known as SakéOne), began his campaign to bring saké to the United States by importing saké from Momokawa, a respected saké brewery in Japan in 1992. In 1999 SakéOne began production of its

own saké under the Moonstone label. But the effort of educating Americans about saké has been more difficult than just providing a premium chilled saké by Americans.

Near the beginning of last year, Frost, with the help of his production crew, started infusing flavors into the saké under the Moonstone label. The infused sakés became known as, Asian pear, black raspberry, yuzu (citron) and hazelnut. These flavored sakés add to a traditional saké selection under the Momokawa label that includes diamond, silver, ruby and pearl, the only nigori genshu to be produced in America. SakéOne also plans on releasing a new peach flavor this year.

"A lot of people have wine allergies," Bill Moughan, director of sales and marketing, explained. "Generally it's the sulfites, but there are histamines in some wines too. Some people don't like tannins, which is kind of like an acid the way it affects the stomach."

Not to worry—saké doesn't have any of these, which should make saké more enjoyable to people who can't have wine.

Currently, the price for bottles of SakéOne saké range from \$7-25. The \$25 sakés are new daiginjo Y sakés named wind, rain, sky and snow. They are a new line of sakés by MTV chef and prominent restaurant owner Roy Yamaguchi. The new labels can only be found at Yamaguchi's restaurants and select retailers.

For more information on SakéOne or their sakés call 1-(503)-357-7056 or log on at www.sakeone.com.



Spit and chew; time to brew

by Jason Amberg
of The Commuter

Saké dates back to the third century, when it was called Kuchikami no saké, or "chewing-in-the-mouth saké."

Kuchikami was processed by chewing large amounts of either chestnuts, millet and rice, an activity in which most of the village participated. Once done chewing, they spat the remains into a vat, where the ingredients were broken down by the enzymes in the saliva. The vat was then left to ferment.

Saké was an important part of Japanese culture and Shinto religious festivals. Traditionally saké was drunk after the harvest in a Shinto ceremony. Wedding and New Year's festivals were also not complete without the traditional masu cup full of saké.

Production of saké has changed substantially since then. The discovery of yeast, which greatly increased the alcohol, was one of the major factors contributing to saké's success.

The second World War, which resulted in rice shortages for the Japanese, altered the traditional ways of producing saké. To supplement the shortage some saké



A mural by Dave Shelton adorns the wall of SakéOne.

producers started adding small amounts of pure alcohol and glucose to the rice mash, which increased the yield by as much as four times. Although some of the best saké critics say the best saké is made with just rice, koji rice, yeast and water, 95 percent of today's saké is made using alcohol/glucose method.

Saké-makers use technological advances to create new wave of rice wine

by Ben Hughes
of The Commuter

Today's flavorful sakés are due to the hi-tech advancements made in producing saké, along with keeping the old saké-making traditions.

To produce alcohol from a fruiting body (grapes, oats, etc.), one must have yeast and glucose (sugar). The yeast transforms the sugar into alcohol. The problem: rice contains no sugar.

To create alcohol, the starch (the main component of rice) from the rice must be broken down into sugar. This is done by sprinkling a specific mold spore on a batch of steamed rice. The rice is churned and kept in a warm room, which allows the spores to penetrate the rice and begin the conversion of starch to sugar. The final product is called koji rice, which is a giant player in the dual-fermentation process. To fully understand saké you must be familiar the course of actions taken to produce this elaborate wine.

To create flavorful saké one must use a strain of short grain rice. The rice is not used as a whole; it is usually milled (rolled like glass in sand) to about 65 percent of its original size. This allows the lipid, the more nutritional part of the rice, to be used.

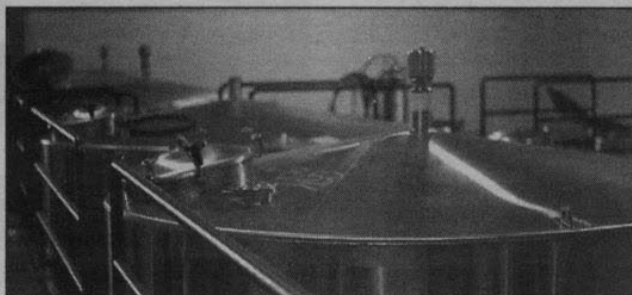


Photo by Jason Amberg

Stainless-steel storage tanks are used to age saké between pasteurization and filtration at SakéOne in Forest Grove.

The first application of the rice is called a moto batch or a starter batch. The moto batch requires steamed rice, yeast, koji rice and water. This part of the batch is usually no bigger than 10 percent of the total batch; 48 hours later it is poured into the destination tank (a larger tank usually settled in the same room). The moto batch is used to start the fermentation process.

Within the next week and a half the destination tank has three more stages, where koji, water, yeast and rice

are added. The group of ingredients is usually applied in stages because most brew masters want to slow the fermentation process so elements like acidity and temperature can be controlled.

After a month of fermenting, the saké needs to be pressed, which removes all the left over starch. This is done by running the saké through a series of screens in a press specially designed for filtering saké called a moromi press.

After being pressed, the saké is carbon-filtered through a micron filter similar to the ones used for wine. Sometimes different types of carbon and gelatin are used to aid the filtering process which removes harsh flavors and the natural yellow coloring of the batch.

The saké is then aged for around three to six months in airtight tanks. After the aging is done, filtered again, pasteurized and bottled.

Most brewery's procedures and recipes are quite extravagant and very from brewery to brewery. Temperatures in fermentation, fluctuation of acidity, additions of alcohol or glucose, variety of rice and yeast used, are some of the significant factors that change the quality of the rice wine we know as saké.

LOCAL NEWS

Iraq: OSU student sends money home

From Page One

citizens, including more than 500,000 children, have died as a direct result of these sanctions.

And for Iraqi citizens who live in the U.S. and elsewhere, sending money home is one of the only ways they can help their families who are still in Iraq.

Kais Ebrahim is one of those Iraqi citizens who does just that.

Born in Iraq, Ebrahim came to the U.S. to go to college. He earned his Ph.D. in post harvest physiology from Oregon State University in 1982. He has lived in the Corvallis area ever since, working for the OSU Horticulture Department.

He was here during the Gulf War, having no choice but to stay and watch on the news as long-range Tomahawk missiles hit targets throughout Baghdad. Since the war, Ebrahim took a second job, sending money home whenever he can to help support his family.

"My family has suffered along with many others," Ebrahim said. "Without my help, there's no way they could survive."

Ebrahim's mother has been sick with diabetes and a gall bladder stone. Both illnesses would have been taken care of before the war and sanctions, both are now untreatable due to lack of medicine and supplies.

"My mom cannot even have an operation for the gallstone, which normally takes only a couple of hours," Ebrahim said. "And this is only one example; there are many who have worse medical problems and cannot be treated."

According to UNICEF, hospitals in Iraq lack basic supplies such as sutures or blood for transfusions. Infant mortality rates have doubled since 1989. Children with leukemia go untreated due to lack of shots that would normally be available if not for sanctions. Ninety percent of the pregnant women in Iraq are anemic because of malnutrition.

Those in Iraq who still hold jobs—such as professors and doctors—get paid very little now, according to the book "Iraq Under Siege." The average wage dropped from the U.S. equivalent of \$450 per month to \$4 per month. Hyperinflation and the devaluation of local currency, as well as high unemployment, has made even the best-paid Iraqi citizens struggle for daily necessities. Thousands of Iraqi children have dropped out of school to make money to help support their families, according to UNICEF.

And it's not just medical or monetary help the people need.

According to Ebrahim, professors and medical personnel routinely request that journals with new research findings and teachings be sent to them because they have had no access to texts since 1990.

In 1999, the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) visited Iraq to witness the effects of sanctions on education in Iraq, and reported finding no desks, no chairs, no heat and no sanitation in most schools. Supplies are few and far between, with most students writing in notebooks made from cardboard scraps.

The AFSC's conclusion: Iraq's ability to provide the once quality education to its people has been seriously jeopardized by sanctions.

"Sometimes I feel guilty if I spend money on myself, because it may cause a big hole for someone else who is needy in Iraq," said Ebrahim. "I get letters all the time asking for help."

Farm Home helps youth in crisis

Facility outside Corvallis focuses on children ages 6-18 with mental health concerns

by Mary Jova
of The Commuter

The Children's Farm Home, located in Corvallis on Highway 20, is surrounded by 280 acres of lush farmland and wetlands and is currently home to 120 children.

Historically, the home was an orphanage managed by the Women's Christian Temperance Movement, which regarded alcohol as a threat to families during the early years of the 20th century. In the 1960s it stopped functioning as an orphanage and became a residential treatment facility for youth in crisis.

Today, the facility serves children between the ages of 6-18 years old who have a mental health diagnosis, such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, post traumatic stress disorder, mood or thought disorders and anxiety disorders.

Referrals come from families privately or through a managed care organization such as Mental Health Division Services to Children and Families or school districts. The children reside in a residential unit home on campus that has 24-hour supervision, in a foster care home or in the transition home located in Corvallis. It is made clear to the family when the child enrolls that the goal of the program is for their child or youth to return home.

During the summer months the Corvallis School District provides a hands-on outdoors experience. The residents participate in garden projects and learn about hydroponic systems and how it is used in gardening. There is a green house on campus that is used to grow seeds. The residents maintain the garden and eat the produce they grow. The CFH also has an equestrian program on campus that allows residents to learn how to care for the horses.

A program called the Community Integrated Serves Children of Oregon (CISCO) program is one of many after-care programs that helps children complete their treatment and transition back into the community. CISCO is a pilot project that offers an in-home aide who provides coaching to parents in a setting that has a realistic schedule or routine to help the child succeed. Therapy support is also provided. If the child does not succeed in their transition home, the family has the option to utilize the CFH again for services and to refer the child back as a resident.

Campus Director Steve Shuttpeiz has worked for the Farm Home for over 30 years and has weathered all the changes that CFH has experienced.

"Our goal is to get these kids home," said Shuttpeiz. "The CISCO program has proven to be a successful program in helping kids transition smoothly back into their



Photo by Mary Jova

The Children's Farm Home outside Corvallis has 120 residents living on the facility's 280 acres.

community. Parents love the program because they have access to an In-Home Skills Builder worker and Therapist."

The Corvallis School District works with CFH and provides 80 children an Alternative Education Program. The residents attend school on campus in a manufactured-home style building. Alternative Education Principal Sharon Thronagle has been working long enough to know that mental illness and those who are medicated are considered taboo in our society.

"Early adolescent children don't want to be different and take medication," Thronagle said. "The schools and community agencies working with these families are not trying to drug these clients. They are helping families diagnose their children accurately, to help them come to grips with the issues that they face and teach them how to manage their medication. The goal here is to help families."

Thronagle believes that technology will help teachers and students develop the skills necessary in gaining the self-confidence they need to make it.

On Thronagle's wall hangs a quote stating that a student and teacher cross paths once and something eternal is born. If anything the Children's Farm Home strives to create a place where something eternal is born.

Shepard: Mother devotes life to sharing the pain

From Page One

tion the audience was riveted. She looked up from the statement and said: "I know Matt would be very disappointed with me if I gave up. And ladies and gentlemen that is why I do this. That is why on a daily basis I share my pain with you."

That sharing of pain has taken many forms over the past year. Shepard has been in MTV spots urging children to think about what words such as "fag" really mean before they use them. She has talked at college campuses across the nation, hoping to share her message with those fortunate enough to not be victims of hate.

In May of 1999 she spoke to the Senate Judiciary committee in support of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act. "Not so much that we think it's going to end hate crimes," Shepard said, "but for the message of respect that it sends to the citizens of America." The bill failed, however, and now Shepard and her cause face a new Congress.

The pride in her voice is unmistakably that of a mother's. "He chose to live his life honestly," she said. "Not something many of us can do, gay or straight. It was a very brave thing to do. A very



Judy Shepard, whose son was killed in 1998, has been speaking out against hate crimes ever since.

courageous thing to do. A very Matthew thing to do."

Other than having the Hate Crimes Prevention Act passed, there are two other dreams Shepard has.

"I hope soon, really soon, that the media will stay for the entire gay pride parade and not just the first three rows. Yes, we all love everybody in the first three rows but it's important for Middle America to see the boring people at the

end of the parade."

Her second dream is that personally and professionally successful homosexuals will come out of the closet. She believes that is what it will take for America to see that there are "successful, honest, boring" homosexuals just like everybody else.

During the question-and-answer session someone asked about a Shepard's relationship with MTV, which recently had an 18-hour black out during which the names of hate crime victims scrolled. Preceding that there was a movie about Matthew Shepard. However, MTV is also known for playing music videos by Eminem, who has strong anti-homosexual and domestic abuse driven lyrics. "I sort of have a hate-love relationship with MTV," Shepard said.

One final question was asked by a person curious to know more about Matt. Shepard talked about how he often carried the problems of his friends on his shoulders, how he was sometimes angry about his position in life and how, like all children, he could at times be a brat. After pausing for a second she looked up "I really miss him, you know. I really miss him."

CAMPUS NEWS

Watchdog warns Americans to be skeptical of the media

by Barry Douglas
of The Commuter

Columnist and media critic Jeff Cohen warned an audience of more than 50 at Oregon State University last Tuesday that excessive concentration of media power is threatening American democracy.

The outspoken media watchdog encouraged the audience to remain "skeptical, but not cynical," and to always consider "who owns the news media, who sponsors the news media, and who are the sources and experts that dominate the news media?"

Cohen is the founder and executive director of Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR), a New York-based media watch group.

He has co-authored four books, and has been a regular commentator on Fox TV's News Watch, and has co-hosted CNN's Crossfire. He has appeared on ABC World News Tonight, C-Span, Nightline, and Larry King Live. His columns have appeared in such dailies as USA Today, The Washington Post, The Los Angeles Times, The Boston Globe and The Miami Herald.

The vast majority of American media outlets, according to Cohen, are owned or controlled by half a dozen corporations. He explained that the trend toward concentration of corporate power was first identified in 1986, when the "corporate news elite" numbered about 50.

Cohen said the effect of this incredible concentration of media power is to "narrow the spectrum of the debate," creating an atmosphere in which candidates Bush and Gore "argued who would spend more on the military, and very little else" during the last campaign. He said that Ralph Nader was not allowed to participate in the debates for fear of introducing real issues to the discussion.

"Too much power concentrated in too few hands is a threat to freedom and democracy," said Cohen.

Cohen said that consumer activists opposed to further media consolidation "couldn't even buy time on CNN for a 30-second ad criticizing the Telecommunications Bill because CNN refused to sell the time. And there was virtually no coverage of the group's opposition to the bill, either. [CNN] decided doing so would

be bad for profits, even if it might be good for democracy."

Cohen considers it his responsibility to debunk "the myth of liberal bias in the media," and remarked on a favorite bumper sticker: "The media: As liberal as the giant corporations that own them."

"Big media tycoons are not left-wingers, and they never were," said Cohen. In 16 of 18 presidential elections since 1932, the Republican ticket has won the endorsement of the majority of editors and publishers.

"If the news media is liberal, then Americans must be a bunch of Communists," said Cohen.

Cohen closed his speech by encouraging concerned citizens to seek objective information from alternative web-based news media, www.fair.org and www.commondreams.org, and from Portland radio station KBOO-FM, which broadcasts at 100.7 in the Corvallis/Albany area.

"Common Dreams is now my internet homepage. If you make it your primary news source for a month, you will experience a consciousness leap in terms of how you see the world," said Cohen.

Pass the Buck program empowers students to voice concerns

by Kurt Madar
of The Commuter

Ever wonder why the doors on the library are backward, or want the cafe to serve hot dogs?

If questions like these are driving you to distraction, Student Life and Leadership's Pass the Buck program may provide the answers.

Pass the Buck gives students an opportunity to voice complaints or compliments. And students do get answers. For example, the gripe about the backward library doors drew a response from the library staff explaining that the circulation desk had to be moved to the opposite side due to a redesign, affecting the placement of the doors.

Carol Wenzel, the Student Activities coordinator, considers it a successful system. "We have students here (Student Life and Leadership), whose job is to listen to complaints or compliments."

According to Wenzel, the most written about issue is smoking on campus. It is usually a smoker complaining about the need for more smoking sections or someone who doesn't smoke asking for further restrictions. There are other complaints, too.

Another buck passed said that LB should place plastic containers near garbage cans for recycling dead batteries.



Photo by James Bauerle

Students can read up on the current crop of complaints and compliments about campus issues at the Pass the Buck Bulletin Board, which is located south of the Student Union

Whether it was in response to this buck or for a different reason, the campus now has plastic buckets for depositing dead batteries in a few areas on campus where battery usage is high.

The comments or "bucks" are collected monthly from the 12 drop boxes on campus. Each month a new student ambassador is in charge of collecting the bucks and then passes them along in the

form of a memo to the school office that they were directed towards. Each office is then asked to reply within a two-week period. The bucks are then posted on the board directly south from the Student Union. Once a response comes into the SL&L office it is then posted underneath the buck that it is responding to.

Wenzel said that the staff at the Student Life and Leadership office doesn't

pass judgment on the complaints. They post everything unless it has profanity or is anonymous. The other reason a buck may not get posted is if it is a personal attack on an instructor or staff member. These complaints are passed on to the Vice President of Instruction. One student placed at least five complaints in the box this month alone, covering everything from the way that the campus is built causing it to trap cold air, to how unfair it is that students get paid \$2 for a \$75 text book during the book buy back. Unfortunately, those bucks won't get the attention that they deserve because they were slightly profane.

Last month a flood of complaints came in from several horticulture students about a drinking fountain on the second floor of the Science and Technology building. According to the bucks, the fountain had extremely poor water pressure and its spout was corroded and rusty.

"You practically have to suck on the mouthpiece to get a drink," complained one student. In a demonstration of how the system is supposed to work, the problem has apparently been solved and a compliment was turned in a few days ago that said "thanks for fixing the drinking fountain in the Science and Technology building."

Six equestrian students compete in Western, English style riding

by Gelina Inches
of The Commuter

On Feb. 10-11, the LBCC Equestrian Club had a competition in Monroe, Wash. at a private facility that was sponsored by the Equestrian clubs from Washington State and University of Washington.

The competition included Western and English styles of riding. Six LBCC students competed in the two-day event, with some competing in both Western and English style.

As a first-year Equestrian Club, LBCC has progressed throughout the year in the rankings.

Alyssia Polley placed seventh on Saturday and fifth on Sunday in English style and first on Saturday and third on Sunday in Western style.

Stacy Beaumont placed sixth place on Saturday and third on Sunday in Western style.

Rachel Brandtner placed fourth on Saturday and fifth on Sunday in Western style.

Rebecca Lee placed fifth on Saturday and third on Sunday in English style, and in Western style she placed sixth on Saturday and first on Sunday.

Jamie Wages placed seventh on Saturday and third on Sunday in Western riding.

Suzanne McKeon placed fourth on Saturday and fourth on Sunday in Western style.

In the most advanced riding event, Open Reigning, McKeon placed third on Saturday and did not place on Sunday. "She got a really bad horse that day, but that's the luck of the draw," said Co-Coach Jim Lucas.

The next competition the LBCC Equestrian Club will compete in will be at Billings, Mont., on March 23.

ASG plans to add recycling bins, flags in Tadena Hall, LRC vending machines

by Stacia Sage
of The Commuter

The Associated Student Government is planning to use its special project money this year to add recycling bins on campus and to fly international flags in Tadena Hall.

Each year, the student government reserves \$4,500 in student fee revenues to spend on projects that will improve the campus and benefit as many students as possible. At last Wednesday's ASG meeting, Vice President John Henderson said he is working with the Facilities Department to install new trash and recycling bins on campus. Currently, there are new bins located in the Library, the Commons, and the Courtyard Cafe. Henderson stated the new bins would provide more visibility to recycling

and save the school money in garbage removal fees.

Council members discussed the plan to place flags from 40 countries in Tadena Hall and noted that the idea has been referred to the Art Department for input.

New business addressed at the meeting was a proposal to put a science desk in the Learning Center similar to that of the math and writing desks currently there. It was pointed out that LBCC has no tutoring facilities for physics students and limited resources for chemistry students. Other improvements to the Learning Center discussed at the meeting included the addition of a candy and soft drink vending machine at the entrance of the building and the installation of a pay phone.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Play spotlights women's issues

by Mary Jova
of The Commuter

On Valentines Day a mixed audience of about 1,600 people attended OSU's second annual performance of the "Vagina Monologues," a movement to help end rape, childhood sexual abuse, battery and genital mutilation.

The play was held to help support and raise money for the Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence. CARDV provides shelter and support to survivors of domestic abuse and sexual assault in Benton and Linn Counties. The Monologues came to life when New York Playwright and its producer Eve Ensler interviewed over 200 women and developed a monologue that focused on women talking about their sex organs and issues about their sexuality. Ensler said the monologues are a movement of "creating a vision around the globe where women can live safely and freely."

The cast of about 30 women presented the monologues and each had something to say about her vagina. The women were dressed in black and no props were used. The material they discussed was honest and refreshing to hear.

One woman said she could go months or years without really looking at her vagina while another, an older woman, described her vagina as "down there" and you don't talk about "down there" and one woman talked about the first time she found her clitoris.

Another woman described the horrific experience of being raped during the war in Bosnia, where up to 70,000 women were raped. The monologues described, through the voices on stage, the survivors' trauma and anguish.

Information on CARDV is available by calling 1-800-927-0197.

Winter no obstacle for hardcore golfers

Something for everyone offered at family-friendly Golf City's par 3 and putt-putt courses

by Chad Richins
of The Commuter

On a warm, sunny day at Golf City near Corvallis on Highway 20, you can see several groups of golfers making the rounds of the nine-hole par 3 course, or the adjacent miniature golf area.

Or, you can go on a typical Oregon winter day like the one we had last week, when the rain is coming down and the temperature is fluctuating around 30 degrees, and your group may have the course to yourself. Plus you get the added advantage of considering yourselves "hard core" golfers. At least the par 3 kind.

If you take advantage of Golf City's year-round schedule on a brisk winter day, remember to dress warmly and bring your gloves because frozen hands and slick club handles can be a dangerous combination.

Built in the '50s as a driving range, the course was converted to its current configuration in 1977. The current owner, Jim Hays, worked for the original owner of the par 3 course while attending Oregon State University. He later spent some time in Portland, and eventually returned to buy the course in 1996.

The course now offers league play from March to October, junior and senior rates before noon, and on Fridays in the summer they offer activities for kids.

The Pub at Golf City offers good food, burgers and most kinds of standard American fare, as well as a wide selection of domestic and import beers.

If you go, there is no need to bring along your heavy bag of clubs. The course will provide you with all of the clubs you need, offering both left and right handed clubs in the 7 and 9-iron variety, as well as simple putters. If you want to increase your fun and chipping capability, a wedge is a good club to bring with you. You also might want to bring a 5-iron for



photo by Chad Richins

Candice Watkins of Corvallis braves the elements on a drizzly day recently and rolls a putt toward the cup at Golf City's ninth green.

the longer holes if your 7-iron doesn't carry very far.

The course is well laid out, with few obstacles and no bunkers, a somewhat forgiving format for lesser talented players. After having played a few rounds, you can try shaving a few strokes off your game by learning a few short cuts, like lobbing a shot off the eighth tee

through the "Y" of a small tree that will allow you to drop right on to the green if hit right, or send you searching the brush for your ball if you miss.

Golf City is an enjoyable course for the family or friends, and offers a low-key, stress-free environment in which everyone can learn the game at their own pace.

Linfield is everywhere!

Completing your college education has never been simpler or more affordable!

The Linfield College Adult Degree Program is available to you on campuses throughout the region—which means you can earn your bachelor's degree or certificate close to home, in evenings and on weekends.

You've been waiting for the right opportunity to finish your education. With Linfield, the opportunity is now!

Increase your income possibilities. Realize your potential.

For a private college education at a public university cost, call Linfield today.



PERSONAL ATTENTION • CLASSROOM BASED INSTRUCTION
BACHELOR'S DEGREES & CERTIFICATES • EVENING & WEEKEND CLASSES

Contact us at (800) 452-4176 or visit our web site at www.linfield.edu/dce

- MARKETING
- ACCOUNTING
- MANAGEMENT
- ARTS & HUMANITIES
- BUSINESS INFO SYSTEMS
- INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
- COMPUTER INFO SYSTEMS
- HUMAN RESOURCE MNGMT
- SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Nine convenient locations throughout Oregon & SW Washington
ALBANY • ASTORIA • CENTRAL OREGON • COOS BAY • EUGENE • LONGVIEW • McMINNVILLE • PORTLAND • SALEM

MARYLHURST UNIVERSITY



HOW CAN YOUR WORK SOLVE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS? STUDY WITH PRACTICING SCIENTISTS WHILE YOU EARN A SCIENCE DEGREE.

- ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
- ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION
- NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Ranks in top tier **U.S. News & WORLD REPORT**

Scholarships, grants and loans available

MARYLHURST UNIVERSITY

Accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges
17600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY (HWY. 43)
MARYLHURST, OREGON - JUST 10 MINUTES SOUTH OF PORTLAND
503.699.6268 OR 800.634.9982, EXTENSION 6268

WWW.MARYLHURST.EDU

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Sodimites explore nether regions of local music scene

Corvallis band looks for return of 'real music' to an industry loaded with over-produced, over-hyped bands

by Crystal A. Huff
of The Commuter

"Support local music!" yells Sodimites drummer Randy Knight over the crowd of teenagers milling about outside the Interzone after last Sunday's show by The Sodimites and Tourist.

During the set, the band was crammed in the back corner of the coffeehouse as people of all ages filled the rest of the house and even stood on tables to see Corvallis' local music scene in action.

"I think the Sodimites are one of the top three bands in Corvallis," said Paul Russe, owner of Uncle Hungry's—a record, video and bookshop located next to Interzone. Russe is a supporter of the local music scene and has been known to have bands play in his shop, but due to lack of space, has recently decided to phase out the music. Uncle Hungry's now has poetry readings on Mondays at 8 p.m. and Russe helps bands like The Sodimites set up for their gigs at Interzone.

The Sodimites formed about two years ago when a group of friends decided to make their jam sessions more formal by giving themselves a name and playing for crowds.

The band's influences come from all over the musical globe, but many believe that the Sodimites sound like an eclectic Devo.

"They're really weird, intricate, goofy cartoon music," said Jonah of the Corvallis punk band The John F. Flanagans. "It's super-fun."

Everyone in the band agrees that there could be

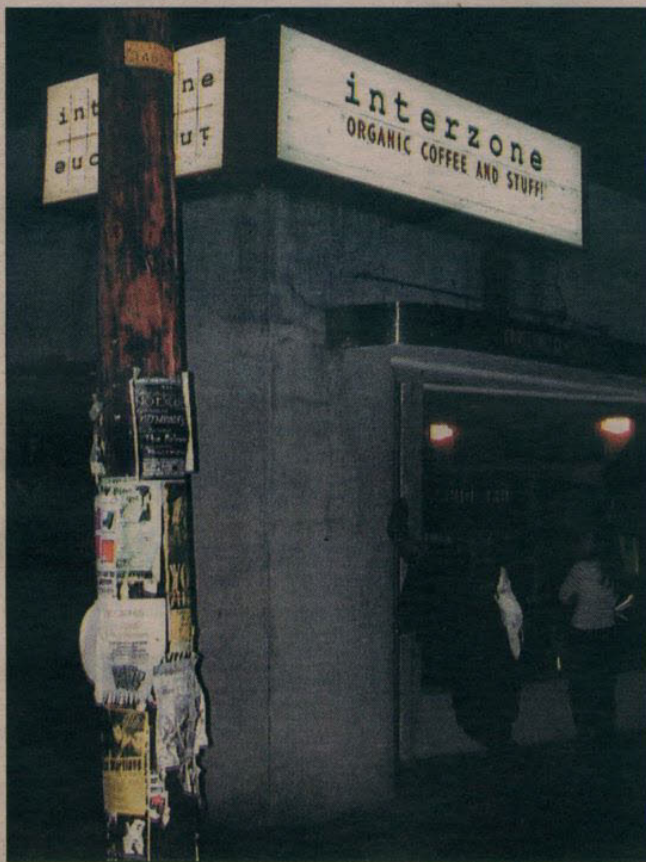


Photo by Chad Richins

Interzone has become a hot spot for local bands.

more local bands in Corvallis. "I would like to see more bands that are actual bands instead of products that are marketed," said bassist Jake Schmit. "The music that people are playing today is mostly just made by a machine and then somebody sings over it. It doesn't

"I would like to see more bands that are actual bands instead of products that are just marketed."

-Jake Schmit

have any soul."

However, Schmit also feels that The Sodimites are fortunate to "be in a town where there are a lot of young people looking for some new sounds." With fewer and fewer venues opening themselves up to young people, Interzone has been a good support for Corvallis bands—the coffee house (located on Monroe) has hosted The Sodimites twice now.

Currently, The Sodimites' chief struggle is finding a proper rehearsal space. "We need a place to practice, that is the main thing that is holding us back," Schmit said. "Right now we are doing the best we can playing at low volume in people's houses."

Though Schmit feels that the music industry was on the decline, keyboardist Eric Vestnys commented on the music scene with a more positive tone. "Music kicks ass today," he said. "Music is great, right now, everyday."

A car drives by and Vestnys watches it almost dreamily. "Even the cars driving down the street are making music—the tires going through the rain." He pauses. "But that doesn't have anything to do with The Sodimites."

What is relevant to The Sodimites is that they are going to be playing at Squirrels (Second and Monroe, Corvallis) along with Tourist and Arcweld at 9 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 24.

This show is 21+ only and has a \$3 cover charge. For more information call (541) 753-8057.

Annual Seafood and Wine Festival kicks off in Newport this weekend

Tualatin Estates Willamette Valley Pinot Blanc wins Best-of-Show at pre-festival judging

by Taiga Sudakin
of The Commuter

The 24th annual Newport Seafood and Wine Festival kicks off this weekend and is expected to draw 15,000 to 20,000 people to the Newport Marina Exhibit Hall.

The festival, the largest event of its kind in the Northwest, runs Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 23, 24 and 25, and features wine tasting and competitions, seafood and arts and crafts.

According to Colleen Cockrell, the coordinator of the festival at the Greater Newport Chamber of Commerce, more than 120 vendors, including close to 60 wineries, more than 30 food vendors and about 35 arts and crafts booths will fill the exhibit hall.

Tualatin Estates 1998 Willamette Valley Pinot Blanc won the Best-of-Show award in judging of the commercial wines that took place Sunday, Feb. 11. The commercial and amateur wine competitions are open only to wines from Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Amateur wines are displayed at the festival, but are not available for tasting and purchasing. Winners of the amateur wine competition will be announced after the festival.

Leading wineries of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and California will be offering 4-ounce glasses of wine, wine samples and bottles of wine for purchase.

Food vendors at the festival will feature both exotic seafood, such as calamari and eel, and Northwest favorites such as salmon, oysters and Dungeness crab. Samples will be available during the festival from the many food vendors. Other types of food will also be available.

Arts and crafts vendors will be offering items such as photography, paintings, framed exotic fish prints, handcrafted jewelry, woodcarvings and pottery.

The festival is a fund-raising event for the Greater Newport Chamber of Commerce and provides an opportunity for other non-profit community organizations to raise funds. The presenting sponsor is Safeway Stores.

Volunteer positions are still available and in exchange for two hours of volunteering at the festival, volunteers will receive free admission to all three days. Contact the Greater Newport Chamber of Commerce for more information at 1-800-COAST44.

The price of admission is \$6 on Friday, \$9 on Saturday and \$6 on Sunday.

No one under 21 years of age will be admitted to the festival. The site is smoke-free and handicapped accessible.

Parking is available for \$3. Free shuttle buses will run on a regular schedule from downtown Newport and major hotels.

Festival hours are 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

The Newport Marina Exhibit Hall is located at 2320 OSU Drive south of the bay bridge off Highway 101, in the parking lot of the Rogue Brewery.

Bookstore Super Deals, for the month of February!

Embassy legal ruled note pads.

50 sheet, 8 1/2" x 11 3/4"

Reg. price \$1.15 Blue only.

\$.69

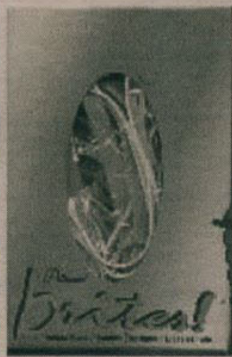


Alliance assorted brite rubber bands.

Latex free, 6 different sizes.

Reg. price \$1.25

\$.49



Linn-Benton imprinted Binders, by Four Point Products. 1/2" and 1" sizes

1" - reg. price \$2.25 - Blue, Black, Cranberry.
1/2" - reg. price \$1.99 - Navy only.

1/2" - \$1.25
1" - \$1.28



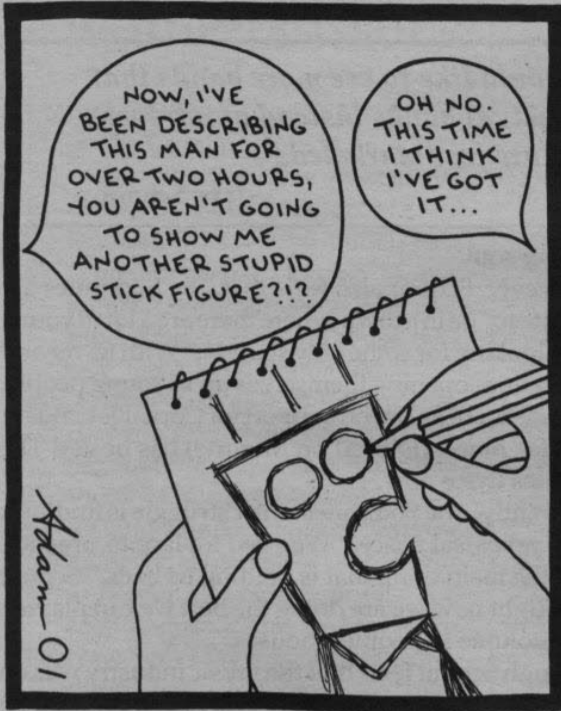
* Campus Dept. Buyers, buy your supplies via email, and we will deliver your purchase straight to your desk. E-mail all requests to S O R (special order request) on Groupwise.

This promotion is available to everyone; personal purchases are welcome.



FUNNY PAGE

WHY I'M NOT A POLICE SKETCH ARTIST...



THE ADVENTURES OF SKULY BY WILLIAM MORTON ©MCMXCIX SKULY'S HIGH-SCHOOL REUNION

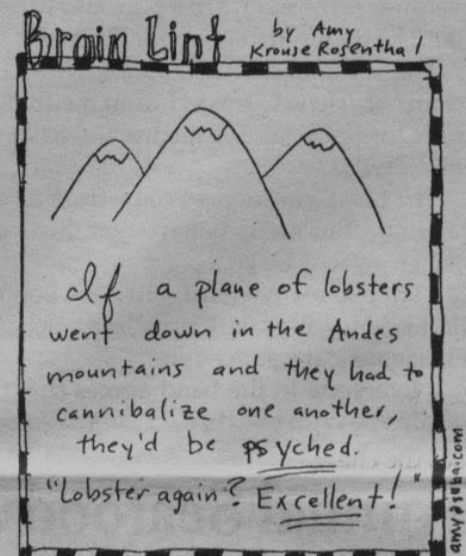


www.mortco.azit.com #59

CAPTAIN RIBMAN in For The People

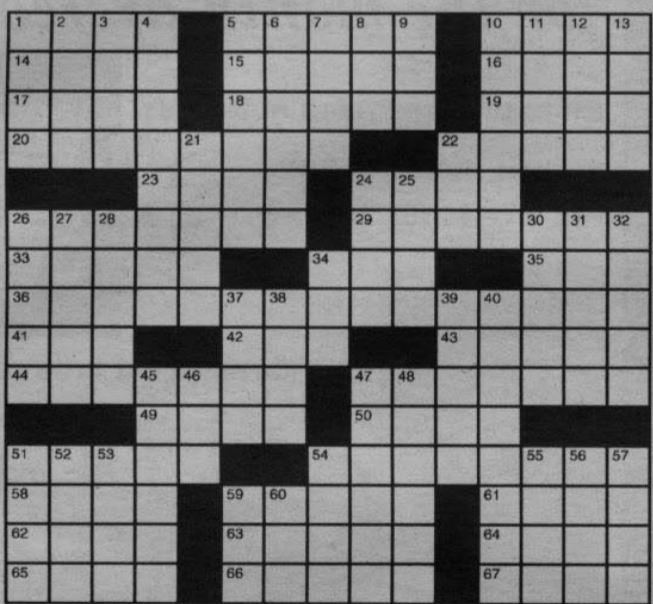


by Sprengelmeyer & Davis



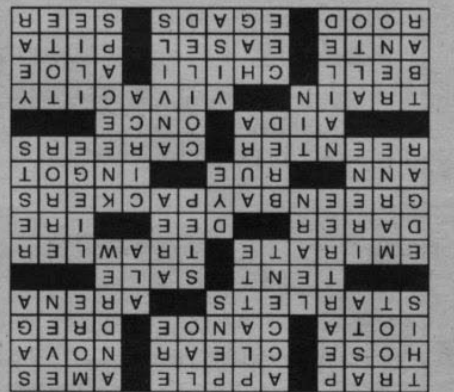
CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pitfall
 - 5 Pippin or Rome
 - 10 Home of Iowa State
 - 14 Fuel-line element
 - 15 Sharply defined
 - 16 Stellar blast
 - 17 Jot
 - 18 Rocky watercraft
 - 19 Residue
 - 20 Hollywood hopefuls
 - 22 Field of action
 - 23 Big top
 - 24 Mall happening
 - 26 UAE constituent
 - 29 Fishing boat
 - 33 Chicken caller
 - 34 Sandra or Ruby
 - 35 Fury
 - 36 Favre's flock?
 - 41 Arbor of Michigan?
 - 42 Regret
 - 43 Gold bar
 - 44 Come back in
 - 47 Vocations
 - 49 Verdi heroine
 - 50 Nursery rhyme opener
 - 51 Prepare for the bout
 - 54 Livelihood
 - 58 Ringer
 - 59 Spicy Mexican dish
 - 61 ___ vera
 - 62 Feed the kitty
 - 63 Atelier stand
 - 64 Pocket bread
 - 65 Crude cross
 - 66 Mild expletive
 - 67 Tarot interpreter
- DOWN**
- 1 "___ Gun for Hire"
 - 2 Underground development
 - 3 Movie dog
 - 4 Partridge perch
 - 5 Stress
 - 6 Nebraska river
 - 7 Writing tools
 - 8 Thai Buddhist
 - 9 Before, to a bard
 - 10 A Carnegie
 - 11 Additional
 - 12 All tied up
 - 13 Epic tale
 - 21 Master
 - 22 Chicken/king connector
 - 24 Part of a procedure
 - 25 Zone
 - 26 Ventriloquist Bergen
 - 27 Seine tributary
 - 28 Goddess of peace
 - 30 Feudal lord
 - 31 Blooper
 - 32 Takes ten
 - 34 Anil or wood
 - 37 Engendered
 - 38 Nimbus
 - 39 Approximately
 - 40 Patellas
 - 45 Caught red-handed
 - 46 Soft metal
 - 47 Like a snake ready to strike
 - 48 Blacksmiths' blocks
 - 51 Ski lift
 - 52 City on the Truckee
 - 53 Choir part
 - 54 Passport
 - 55 Nastase of the nets
 - 56 Carryall bag
 - 57 Calendar length
 - 59 Average grade
 - 60 Shrew



© 2001 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved. 2/21/01

Solutions



CLASSIFIEDS

SCHOLARSHIPS

Accounting Students: The NSA (National Society of Accounting) awards an average of 30 scholarships per year. Information and applications are available in the Learning Center (LRC 212) and on the internet at www.nsac.org. Applications, official transcripts and appraisal form must be received by **March 10, 2001**.

SOU Transfer Students: Southern Oregon University is accepting applications from transfer students for the Laurels Scholarship and Diversity Scholarship. Eligibility requirements, additional information and applications are available at the Learning Center (LRC 212). Applications must be received by **March 1, 2001**.

Phi Theta Kappa & Students w/ a 3.5+ GPA: Hobart and William Smith Colleges are accepting applications from transfer students to apply for admission and scholarships. Additional information is available in the Learning Center (LRC 212) and on the internet at www.hws.edu. Application for admission, supplemental scholarship application and official transcripts must be received by **April 1, 2001**. Earlier submission of materials is strongly encouraged.

Journalism Students: Each year, the Asian American Journalists Association-Portland Chapter offers a scholarship of up to \$2,000 to an outstanding student at the undergraduate or graduate level. Eligibility requirements, additional information and applications are available at the Learning Center (LRC 212). Applications must be received by **April 1, 2001**.

Horticulture Students: The Oregon Nurserymen's Foundation is accepting applications for 2001-02 scholarships. Applications are available in the Learning Center (LRC 212) and at www.nurseryguide.com/nfform.shtml. Applications, official transcripts and three letters of recommendation that support your interest and ability in horticulture must be received by **April 2, 2001**.

HELP WANTED

Youth Sports Leader #714 (Albany) Are you energetic, organized, dependable and knowledgeable of a variety of sports? Experience working with children 4-7 years is preferred. This part-time job needs you for the afternoons or evenings and Saturdays. If interested, please see Carla in Student Employment in Takena 101 for more information.

Support Staff (Albany & Corvallis) These part-time & full-time positions require some heavy lifting. You must have a love for seniors (Albany) and developmental disabled (Corvallis). See Student Employment (Takena 101) for more information.

Window Cleaner #618 (Corvallis) This position can be full-time or part-time. They will work with your schedule. Job pays \$7.50/hr. Must have clean Oregon drivers license. See Carla in Student Employment (Takena 101) for your referral before this job is filled.

IT Specialist (Corvallis) This part-time student job requires basic knowledge of hardware and software and the ability to do troubleshooting. Pays \$10/hour! See us in Student Employment in the Career Center for more information.

We have more jobs coming everyday, be sure to get signed up before they are gone. **Mark your calendar for our outstanding Career Fair on April 10th from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm - over 70 employers to talk with.**

CLASSIFIED AD POLICY

Deadline: Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads will appear only once per submission. If you wish a particular ad to appear in successive issues, you must resubmit it. Cost: Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free to students, staff and faculty. All others are charged at a rate of 10 cents per word, payable when the ad is accepted. Personals: Ads placed in the "Personals" category are limited to one ad per advertiser per week; no more than 50 words per ad.

MISC.

Mexico/Florida Spring Break
Airfare, hotel, parties daily
Leisure Tours Call Now!
1-800-584-7533

GET A LIFE

Guys with commitment, family and hygiene issues

Q I have this friend, let's call him Kynan. We've been best friends since day care. Two nights ago we up late at his house playing Nintendo. And I don't mean Nintendo 64, I mean 8 bit Nintendo. Yeah, like Kid Icarus and Metroid. Well, I was beating his ass. Not literally and that's important to the plot as you will see. Right about the time I procured my sixth and final energy tank and just after I finally found for us the spin attack (we'd been working for days on those last items for our arsenal against "Mother Brain"), he turned to me and made out with me. I was shocked! I didn't think he would have a chew in his mouth! I love kissing him but he's never had a chew in his mouth before! What do I do? How do I ask him nicely not to kiss me on the lips when he has a chew in his mouth?

—From "Butters"

He Says:

Well Butters, it is unclear how long you two have been together. If you have a long time relationship going and the chew is a new thing, he should understand if you ask him politely not pollute your mouth with tobacco. If this relationship is new and chew spit during kissing is definitely a NO, tell him strait up that the chew bugs you, you enjoy kissing him and if he plans on kissing you in the future, not to have chew in his mouth.

She Says:

Raise your hand if you think that is gross. If you have been friends since day care then you should know his habits and have no problem expressing your displeasure. Tell him you won't give him any smack unless he losses the chew.

Q Excuse my vagueness, but what does "space" mean in guy vernacular? My boyfriend of over three years recently told me he needs some, so fine, I give him space by going out with girlfriends and doing my own thing. Only then does he start asking me to do everything with him, including going out with him and his friends for their Tuesday night wings. What does he want?

—From Lost in Space

He Says:

When something is taken away, only then it is noticed. Both persons in a relationship have their own life, there's absolutely no reason to have to give that up for the other person. What should happen is a balance of time, if he wants to take you out on Tuesdays, go. But make sure you take him somewhere in return, and always set aside some time alone and time together. I promise if everything is taken in moderation, your time spent together will be a lot more enjoyable.

She Says:

Sounds like space means you need to stay home while he is out playing with the boys. Maybe what He Says is true and absence does make the heart grow fonder but still go out and play with the girls and enjoy that he wants to be with you.



He says
She says

Drop off questions in The Commuter Office, Room F-222, right by the Multicultural Center.

He Says:

Any guy who tells you he is going to cheat on you because of your physical image is a piece of crap, but he probably has a point—so go to the gym or something. Once you look hot, date his best friend.

She Says:

I'm guessing your relationship had problems other than the size of your pants. If somebody truly loves you, they will love all of you and would encourage a healthy lifestyle. His threats of being unfaithful are a hint that he would probably be unfaithful no matter if you were his ideal body type. You deserve better than that and his loss is your gain because there is somebody who will love you no matter what.

Q I've been dating a terrific guy for just about six months and our relationship is becoming serious. The only problem is he is reluctant to share much information about his family and he doesn't want to introduce me to them. I want to know more about who he is and where he comes from. How do I handle this?

—From The Outsider

He Says:

Tell him that knowing his past and family is important to you. Add, you don't expect him to do this right away, because it can be hard. You might be able to lure him into sharing views about his family by giving more information about yourself, family and childhood.

She Says:

I think he might be embarrassed of his family (most people are). If and when the relationship gets serious you will meet them, it is only a matter of time. Talk to him and make a deal with him to share one thing about himself each time you go out on a date maybe this will encourage more sharing.

Q My boyfriend of two years recently broke up with me because he thinks I am over weight and doesn't see my initiative to change this or get in to shape. He claims he is going to have a problem with this in the future and might not be as loyal as a result. I definitely have a problem with a guy who won't accept me the way I am. Is this how guys think?

—From Broken Hearted

Commons	Friday
Wednesday	Monday
Prime Rib Pork Enchiladas Spinach Lasagna Soups: Billy-bi & Beef Vegetable Spinach Salad	Chef's Choice BBQ Spare Ribs Moroccan Chicken Omelet Marinara Soups: Saffron Chicken & Vegetarian Vegetable
Thursday	Tuesday
Chicken Ballotine Sushi Pesto Penne w/ Roasted Vegetables Soups: Egg Flower & Black Bean Baja Shrimp Salad	Swiss Steak Snapper en Papillote Lentil Burgers w/ Fries Soups: Chicken Consomme & Roasted Garlic Tarragon Shrimp Salad

PREGNANT?

FREE pregnancy testing & help

corvallis pregnancy care center

- Individual attention
- Strictly confidential
- Information on options
- Information on abortion procedures & risks
- Community referrals
- No abortion referrals

24-hour confidential helpline:

757-9645

867 NW 23rd (behind Kinko's)
www.cpccOnline.org

Hair Body & Sole

Specializes in

- Hair Cutting
- Hair Coloring
- Texture Perms
- Facial & Body Waxing
- Manicures - Pedicures
- Sculptured Nails

Specials:

\$5 Off First Visit Hair Care
Sarah, Linda, Lisa, Julee

\$5 Off First Fill

\$30 Full Set

Free: Paraffin with Pedicure or Manicure with Sherie

WALK-INS WELCOME
Gift Certificate Available
Credit Cards Accepted!
Free Consultation
Abba • Biolage • OPI
American Crew • Amplify

757-1116

2611 NW 9th St. • Corvallis
Hour: M-F 9 to 8 • Sat 9 to 5

LBCC Student Health Service

No Cost or low cost • Oregon Health Plan

Every Wednesday
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Takena Hall

Services Include:

- IMMUNIZATIONS
- MINOR ILLNESS
- SPORTS & REQUIRED EXAMS
- STD EXAMS & TREATMENT
- REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE
- PREGNANCY TESTING
- HIV COUNSELING & TESTING

Call for an Appointment
LINN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
967-3888 1-800-304-7468
Drop-ins Welcome

SPORTS PAGE

BOX SCORES

Men's Games

LANE 70, LINN-BENTON 63

LCC (70): Kerlin 0-4 3-4 3, Axelsen 0-1 0-0 0, Peterson 7-14 4-5 19, Best 4-10 0-0 8, Morrow 3-4 5-9 11, Hoyt 0-2 0-0 0, Fitas 3-9 3-8 9, Lilebo 2-3 2-2 6, Brautigam 6-10 2-2 14. Totals 25-57 19-30 70.

LBCC (63): Robertson 0-2 0-0 0, Michaelis 1-4 2-2 5, Hutchins 0-1 0-0 0, Marshall 6-10 2-5 14, Campbell 0-4 2-2 2, Brusseau 5-11 8-10 18, Blevins 2-5 0-0 4, Coats 3-5 2-3 9, Rodgers 0-2 0-0 0, Grock 3-5 5-7 11. Totals 20-49 21-29 63.

Halftime—LCC 31, LBCC 27. 3-point goals—LCC 1-7 (Kerlin 0-1, Axelsen 0-1, Peterson 1-3, Best 0-2), LBCC 2-12 (Robertson 0-2, Michaelis 1-3, Hutchins 0-1, Campbell 0-3, Brusseau 0-1, Coats 1-2). Total Fouls—LCC 21, LBCC 21. Fouled Out—Fitas, Coats. Total Rebounds—LCC 36 (Peterson 7), LBCC 37 (Brusseau 12). Assists—LCC 16 (Kerlin 4), LBCC 14 (Brusseau 5). Turnovers—LCC 11, LBCC 20. Blocked shots—LCC 1 (Peterson), LBCC 4 (Brusseau 2, Grock 2). Steals—LCC 12 (Lilebo, Kerlin), LBCC 8 (Coats 4). Technicals—Fitas.

LINN-BENTON 100, CHEMEKETA 91

LBCC (100): Michaelis 4-6 2-2 11, Marshall 7-15 5-6 20, Campbell 4-8 0-0 11, Gilder 0-2 2-2 2, Brusseau 8-16 10-13 28, Blevine 3-3 0-0 7, Coats 2-3 1-2 6, Rodgers 0-1 0-1 0, Grock 6-8 3-5 15, Robertson, Hutchings. Totals 34-62 23-31 100.

CCC (91): Morgan 0-2 0-2 0, Ensign 2-4 4-4 8, Menefee 4-8 2-2 11, Boehme 0-2 3-4 3, Tyler 1-5 6-6 8, Sandoval 5-6 6-8 16, Mason 11-15 5-5 29, Morris 1-4 2-2 5, Uttecht 0-0 2-2 2, Tharp 3-5 3-4 9. Totals 27-51 33-39 91.

Halftime—LBCC 42, CCC 39. 3-point goals—LBCC 9-18 (Michaelis 1-3, Marshall 1-2, Campbell 3-6, Brusseau 2-5, Blevine 1-1, Coates 1-1), CCC 4-11 (Menefee 1-3, Boehme 0-1, Mason 2-4, Morris 1-3). Total fouls—LBCC 25, CCC 28. Fouled out—Coates, Grock, Mason. Total Rebounds—LBCC 28 (Marshall 11), CCC 34 (Mason 11). Assists—LBCC 18 (Coates 6), CCC 11 (Tyler 5). Turnovers—LBCC 19, CCC 25. Blocked shots—LBCC 4 (Michaelis, Gilder, Brusseau, Blevine), CCC 5 (Tharp 2). Steals—LBCC 10 (Marshall 3), CCC 12 (Sandoval 5). Technicals—None.

Women's Games

LANE 77, LINN-BENTON 72 OT

LCC (77): Jacobson 2-5 0-0 4, Roth 1-9 1-2 3, Isbell 5-9 4-5 14, Young 6-11 5-8 19, Tagney 10-21 9-15 30, Gilbert 1-4 0-2 3, Thomas 1-4 0-0 2, Robertson 1-4 0-0 2, Terry 0-0 0-0 0, Carlson 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 27-67 19-32 77.

LBCC (72): Wright 2-13 1-3 6, Rickert 3-14 2-2 8, Dexter 2-6 1-2 5, Ward 3-10 4-5 10, Torresdal 6-9 0-0 12, Pass 9-11 4-6 22, Strohm 3-9 3-4 9, Scott 0-0 0-0 0, Starker 0-5 0-1 0. Totals 28-77 15-23 72.

Halftime—LCC 30, LBCC 33. 3-point goals—LCC 4-17 (Young 2-2, Gilbert 1-3, Tagney 1-4, Isbell 0-1, Jacobson 0-2, Robertson 0-2, Roth 0-3), LBCC 1-13 (Wright 1-6, Rickert 0-5, Starker 0-1, Strohm 0-1). Total Fouls—LCC 23, LBCC 19. Fouled Out—None. Total Rebounds—LCC 55 (Tagney 19), LBCC 47 (Dexter 9). Assists—LCC 18 (Jacobson 5), LBCC 20 (Dexter 6). Turnovers—LCC 21, LBCC 23. Blocked shots—LCC 0, LB 4 (Dexter, Pass, Strohm, Starker). Steals—LCC 11 (Isbell 3), LB 11 (Wright 6).

CHEMEKETA 80, LINN-BENTON 77

LBCC (77): Wright 5-18 0-0 12, Rickert 4-12 2-4 12, Dexter 8-17 5-6 22, Pass 6-11 5-6 17, Torresdal 2-7 2-5 6, Ward 2-8 0-0 4, Scott 0-0 0-0 0, Strohm 1-3 2-2 4, Starker 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 28-77 16-23 77.

ChCC (80): McGrath 2-13 1-2 6, Lewis 7-11 5-8 19, Beeler 2-10 3-6 7, Garvin 5-7 0-0 10, Kicking Woman 3-12 8-11 14, Piper 0-1 0-0 0, Scudero 10-17 4-7 24, McIntosh 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 29-73 21-34 80.

Halftime—LBCC 33, ChCC 38. 3-point goals—LBCC 5-15 (Rickert 2-4, Wright 2-5, Dexter 1-5, Ward 0-1), ChCC 1-11 (McGrath 1-5, McIntosh 0-1, Kicking Woman 0-1, Lewis 0-2, Beeler 0-2). Total Fouls—LBCC 24, ChCC 20. Fouled Out—Wright, Rickert, McGrath. Total Rebounds—LBCC 53 (Pass 11), ChCC 56 (Scudero 17). Assists—LBCC 12 (Wright 4), ChCC 18 (McGrath 5). Turnovers—LBCC 20, ChCC 21. Blocked Shots—LBCC 1 (Dexter), ChCC 5 (Beeler 2, Kicking Woman, McIntosh, Scudero). Steals—LBCC 12 (Wright, Rickert 4), ChCC 12 (Lewis 5). Technicals—Scudero.

STANDINGS

Men	League	Overall
Clackamas	10-2	23-3
Lane	10-2	19-7
Umpqua	7-5	12-13
Chemeketa	7-5	15-10
Mt. Hood	7-5	13-13
Linn-Benton	3-9	4-21
SW Oregon	2-10	7-18
Portland	2-10	6-20
Women	League	Overall
Chemeketa	11-1	20-5
Umpqua	10-2	22-4
Clackamas	8-4	19-8
SW Oregon	7-5	12-14
Linn-Benton	5-7	16-10
Lane	4-8	14-13
Mt. Hood	2-10	6-20
Portland	1-11	6-20

Roadrunners take Chemeketa by storm

Brusseau's 28 points leads LB to upset of defending champs in 100-91 shootout

by Christina Laramore of The Commuter

LB did the unimaginable Saturday night. The Runners defeated the defending NWAACC champion, Chemeketa Community College—possibly knocking the Storm out of playoff contention.

The Runners led Chemeketa the entire game; at halftime LB had a 42-39 lead.

The Storm managed to tie the game a few times in the first half, but despite shooting 48.1 percent from the field, they were never able to overtake the Roadrunners.

LB shot 46.9 percent from the field and 64.3 percent from the line, but beat the Storm from three-point range. The Runners went 3-for-9 from behind the arc in the first half, while the Storm went 0-for-2.

The second half started out slowly but turned into a shootout with both teams hitting well over 50 percent from the field.

With 11 minutes left in the game, LB's Paul Grock started a rally for the Runners with a hook shot that put them up 51-49. The Storm were never in it after that.

Late in the second half, Chemeketa's Nate Tyler picked up three fouls in a four second time span which sent LB to the line, giving the Runners the opportunity to extend their lead to a 56-49 margin.

The Runners went on to defeat the Storm 100-91.

LB finished the game shooting 54.8 percent from the field while Chemeketa had 52.9 percent. The Runners were outdone at the line however. LB was 23-for-31 from the charity stripe while Chemeketa was 33-for-39.

JR Brusseau led the Runners with 28 points, four assists and three steals. Doug Marshall added 20 points and led the team with 11 rebounds.

Paul Grock fouled out in the second half after scoring 15 points, shooting 6-for-8 from the field. David Michaelis and Casey Campbell each added 11 points.

The Roadrunners' win on Saturday came on the heels of a 70-61 loss to the Lane Titans on Wednesday.

LB was on the Titans' tail the entire game, but could never managed to take the lead away from Lane.

The Runners trailed by only four points after both teams shot poorly in the first half. Lane couldn't match up at the line, though. The Titans were cold from the charity stripe, shooting 45.5 percent



Photo by Christopher Spence

Levi Hutchins (above) tries to move past a Lane defender during last Wednesday's home loss, while JR Brusseau (below) drives to the basket to score two of his 18 points. The Runners (3-9 in league play) are now in sixth place in the Southern Division.

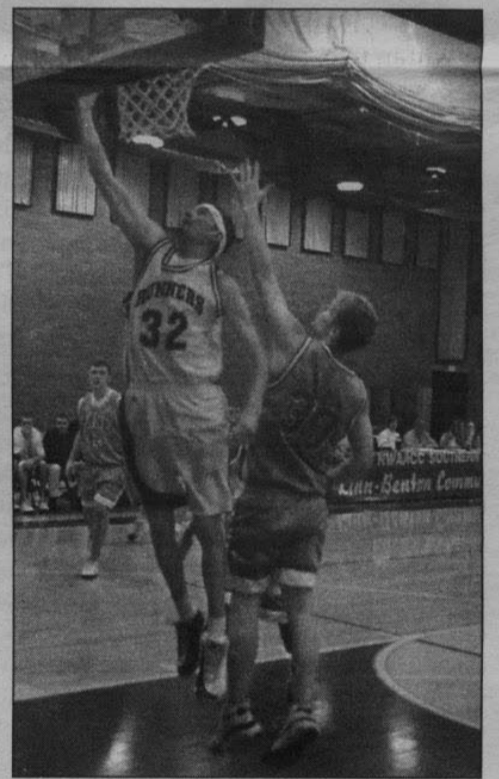
while, the Runners finished the half strong shooting 66.7 percent at the line.

The second half proved harder for LB, and they started making errors, accumulating 20 turnovers in the game to the Titans' 11. The Runners shot a little better from the field this half, hitting 41.7 percent, but they were no match for Lane's field goal shooting. The Titans finished the half shooting 46.2 percent from the field. LB was hot from the line, shooting 76.5 percent to Lane's 73.7 percent from the line.

In the end, it came down to shooting from the field, and the Runners couldn't hold their own in that area all game. They shot 40.6 percent from the field, while Lane shot 43.9 percent. They led from the line with 72.4 percent to Lane's 63.3 percent and out-rebounded the Titans 37-36. But these stats were not enough to make up for their turnovers, as Lane scored 22 points off turnovers while the Runners could only come up with eight.

LB was led by Brusseau with 18 points and 12 boards. He also led the team in assists with five and had two of LB's four blocked shots.

Marshall totaled 14 points against the Titan's and added six boards, while Grock added 11 points and had the other two blocked shots.



Andrew Coats, who ended the game with nine points, had four of LB's eight steals of the night.

The Runners will end their season this week when they travel to Roseburg tonight to take on the Umpqua Timbermen before traveling to Clackamas to take on the Cougars.

Mud flat races make a comeback on private land

by Justin Pittenger of The Commuter

The former Foster Mud Races could be making a comeback as the Santiam Mountain Mud Festival.

The U.S. Army Corps decided after last year's festival that because of new restrictions introduced by the Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts, it would no longer be able to allow the Santiam Four-Wheel Drive Association to put on the event, which drew hun-

dreds of four-wheel drive enthusiasts from all around the Northwest, and had even earned national recognition in recent years.

When the event, which was originally held on the Foster Lake bottom east of Sweet Home, was canceled, organizers decided to try to set the event on private property owned by Raymond Johnson.

Johnson said he feels sympathetic to the club's situation, and has given the club the ability to configure the event site

however it chooses. The property that Johnson has offered to the club is a much larger piece of land and will allow for deeper mud bogs and an improved drag strip.

In order to be able to hold the event on private land, Phil Gilbert, who represents the Santiam Four-Wheel Drive Association, had to apply for an outdoor assembly permit.

If the permits are approved, the event will be held on March 3.

SPORTS PAGE

LB's playoff hopes rest in hands of PCC and Lane in season's final week

by Jason Amberg
of The Commuter

The Lady Runners chances of making the playoffs this season narrowed drastically following their 80-77 heartbreaking loss to Chemeketa Saturday.

After Wednesday's disappointing overtime defeat at the hands of the Lane Titans, the Lady Roadrunners knew that they needed to beat the league leading Storm on Saturday in order to stay in the playoff hunt. The loss, coupled with Southwestern Oregon's upset of Clackamas on Saturday, put LB two games behind the Lakers with two games to go.

"It's not impossible," Coach AJ Dionne said. "But having to count on Portland—it's pretty close."

"We've played better on the road all year," noted Dionne of the Runners 8-4 away record.

Saturday the Lady Runners fought for 40 minutes in an intense effort to pull out the victory, but came up short in the end.

The first half was sloppy; filled with turnovers, missed shots, and poor transition defense by LB. Nevertheless, the Lady Runners were still in it as the teams traded missed shots for most of the half. After trailing early by as many as eight, the Storm fought its way back and into the lead. Near the end of the half, Chemeketa began to pull away before back-to-back baskets by Summer Wright and Christin Pass pulled the Runners to within five by the end of the period.

"At halftime we talked about how we had to get more rebounds, and do a better job of boxing out," Dionne explained. "We also needed to get aggressive on offense."

Both teams came into the second half shooting much better than in the first. The Runners closed the gap to within two, and despite several opportunities to take the lead they were unable to get there until grabbing the 49-47 lead briefly with 14 minutes remaining, before falling behind once more. LB regained the lead again with 1:40 left on the clock after a three-pointer by Kelley Dexter making the score 74-73.

The Roadrunners trailed 76-77 with 1:00 left in the game following a made free throw by Chemeketa's Brandi Kicking Woman. The Runners were unable to convert on their next possession as Christy Rickert took a shot and got blocked from behind by the Storm's Mary Scudero. Rickert tried to redeem herself by making a steal. As she approached the basket, Chemeketa's Nnena Lewis challenged the shot enough to cause Rickert to miss, but Rebecca Torresdal grabbed the rebound and drew the foul on the put back. Torresdal

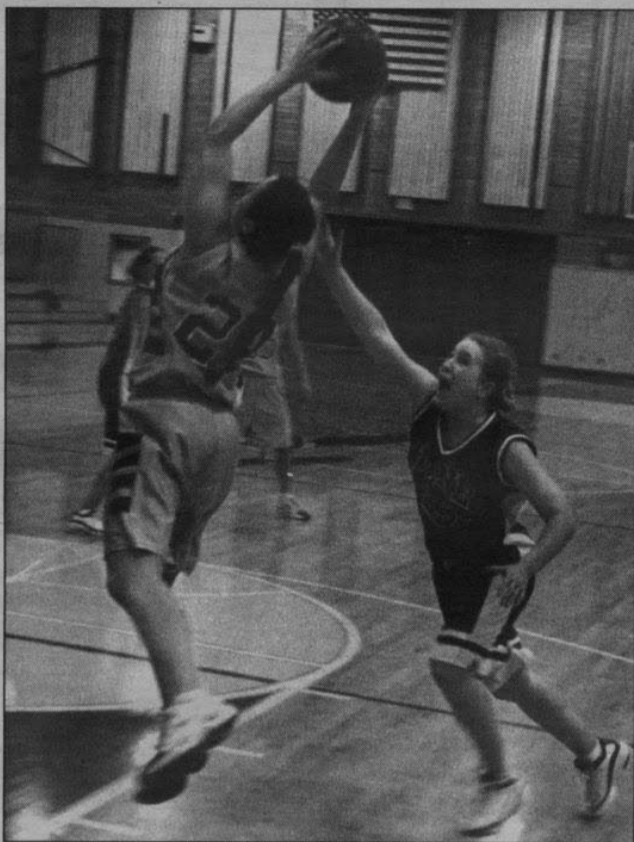


Photo by Christopher Spence

LB's Linzi Strohm grabs a rebound in last Wednesday's 77-72 overtime loss to Lane. Strohm scored nine points and had five rebounds in the game.

hit the first free throw but missed the second with 48 seconds remaining.

The Runners trailed 77-79 after a missed free throw by Scudero, but the rebound couldn't be corralled and bounced around until Lewis gathered it and Rickert was forced to foul. Lewis hit her first free throw before missing the second. This time Torresdal grabbed the rebound and got the outlet to Dexter who drove the length of the court for an off-balance three-point attempt that flew wide left.

Dexter led the Runners with 22 points and grabbed eight boards, Christin Pass notched a double-double scoring 17 points and grabbing 11 boards. Wright and Rickert added 12 points apiece.

The Runner will go on the road twice this week, traveling to Umpqua on Wednesday and Clackamas on Saturday.

Sophomores' farewell game disappointing

by David Miller
of The Commuter

Last Wednesday's home game against Lane was the last chance for sophomores Kelley Dexter and Summer Wright to showcase their talents for the home crowd.

As the only two sophomores on the team, the two were honored before the game and were addressed before the crowd by coach AJ Dionne.

"Kelley, wherever you go I am sure you'll do great," Dionne announced to the girls and the crowd. "Summer, thank you for your dedication to me and this team."

After the pre-game ceremonies the teams tipped off and the game was rough and competitive all the way through overtime, ending in a 77-72 Roadrunner loss.

LB had trouble shooting in the paint and relied on short jump shots to stay in the game, shooting a low 37.5 percent from the field in the first half. Lane also had a rough first half from the field, but stepped above the Runners to shoot 38.5 percent.

The Runners had problems with their transition defense, giving up several fast break points off turnovers and in-bound passes. Later in the half the Runners improved their defense, forcing Lane to commit several costly turnovers of their own. The lead changed several times during the first half, but in the end it was LB who walked away the leader 33-30, led by Rebecca Torresdals' 10 points.

LB took control early in the second half, building a

10-point lead. Lane fought back though and tied the game after a 10-0 Titan run. The game continued to be physical, and both teams were at the foul line for most of the second half.

Much like the first half, the second half was marked by several lead changes. The Roadrunner defense kept them in the game, but the Runners continued to have trouble shooting from the field and making only 35.1 percent.

LB took a lead with just 25 seconds remaining, but Lane's Vanessa Tagney nailed a clutch jump shot to tie the game with just 17 seconds left. LB had a chance to win but the shot was off target and the game went to overtime.

Both teams came out aggressively, and the the lead changed five times in the extra period before Lane captured the lead win.

Christin Pass was the leading scorer with 22 points while Lane held Dexter and Wright to only a combined 11 points.

After the heartbreaking loss, Dionne said LB had to change their offensive strategy and put the ball in the hands of the outside shooters and basically take the inside players out because they were having trouble in the paint. Dionne was not happy with the transition defense, something that gave Lane the advantage.

"We're a small team, but probably the quickest," she added. "It's a Civil War whenever we play Lane."

But this time the South won.

Leading rebounder considers hoop life after Roadrunners

by Jason Amberg
of The Commuter

Kelley Dexter hasn't taken the shortest route to get to this point in her basketball career. Now she's hoping to find a quicker path to reach her destination.

Introduced to basketball at a young age by her grandfather, Dexter began playing organized ball in the third grade. Throughout her youth, Dexter regularly attended Oregon State basketball camps where she met AJ Dionne, who was then playing for the Beavers. Eventually she wound up at Corvallis High School, where she played all four years. Her freshman year



Kelley Dexter

was spent swinging between varsity and JV, before finding a home with the varsity squad for the next three seasons. As a senior, Dexter was selected to the Valley League's All-Defensive First Team. Despite this, Dexter was not recruited to play college ball.

Dexter, a Corvallis native, wanted to remain close to home and decided to begin her college education at Linn-Benton. Then, after a year away from the game that she loves, Dexter ran into Dionne in a local restaurant. When Dionne, who had recently begun her first year as the coach of the Lady Roadrunners, found out that Dexter was attending LB but not playing she was intrigued.

"I asked her what she was up to," recalled Dionne. "Then I told her she should come out and play with us tonight."

Dexter showed up and according to Dionne, "was a little rusty, but I knew she could still play."

She quickly knocked the rust off and before the season had started Dexter had battled her way into the starting lineup. Dexter put up respectable numbers in her first year, averaging 8.2 points per game, good for fourth on the team. She also led the team in rebounding with 6.8 boards per contest, all the while playing out of her position at post.

This season, Dexter has found a new home on the perimeter, shooting around 30 percent from behind the three-point arc. She is averaging 10.3 points per game and, despite spending most of her time playing on the wing, she still leads the Runners in rebounding at 6.6 boards per game.

Early in the preseason, Dexter helped the Lady Runners to a third place finish in the Wenatchee Valley Tourney and in the process earned herself a spot on the All-Tournament Team. At NWAAC's annual Crossover tournament she turned her game up another notch, helping the Runners to first place and averaging nearly 17 points and seven boards over three games to become the tournament MVP.

Dexter has saved her best games for the end of the season, though. As the Lady Runners have struggled in the push to catch SWOCC, Dexter has averaged 13 points and 10.5 rebounds in the last four games. In Saturday's last-second loss to Chemeketa, Dexter scored a season-high 22 points. But her best all-around game may have been earlier this month in a victory over Mt. Hood when she scored 12 points to go with 13 boards, seven steals, four assists and a blocked shot.

"Kelley will do whatever it takes to win," said Dionne. "She's a warrior, she's very feisty, and intense and she'll do all of the small things."

Dexter, an accounting major, doesn't know what the future holds. With Dionne's help, she hopes that her game will generate some interest from a bigger school, but she does have alternatives. If nothing comes her way this time around, she may stick around to work out with Dionne and try again next year.

It may not be the easy way, but it might just work.

OPINION

SOUTH FLORIDA
SUN-SENTINEL
TRIBUNE
MEDIA



GUEST COLUMN

Don't hate me just because I'm gay

by Jordon Eaton
for The Commuter

I'm gay.

There. Now that I have your attention, I encourage you to keep reading—you might learn something—but only if you want to.

First off, I would like to say that this letter is not directed at everyone in general; only those of you who would like to think that there's something very wrong with the way I live my life. And, being as I have noticed a swelling number of you who believe this, I thought it would be appropriate if I said something about it. It's now my turn to complain about you.

For your information, I didn't bring this upon myself. Who on earth would ever wish for people to detest and hate them unless they suffered from some obscure psychological illness? I have no feelings of pity or disgust towards you, my heterosexual counterpart. I didn't ask you to have hard feelings towards me; you developed them of your own free will. I didn't necessarily want to be gay, and there still are times that I'm uncomfortable with this aspect of my life, but only because I'm constantly bombarded by your messages that claim that I'm dysfunctional or ill.

There's nothing that can be done about the fact that I am gay, so please stop thinking that hating me, speaking down to me, or proclaiming your "truth" to be the only one will aid in your efforts to eliminate me from your clouded view of the world. As far as I'm concerned, I believe that I was born this way—and by that I mean that there is some sort of inherent yet elusive reason as to why I am indeed homosexual. There's really no data to prove either theory—choice or no—so it should be considered a moot point until a day when definitive scientific evidence proves otherwise.

My second point that I will make is that there is no specific gay "agenda." I have done a substantial amount of reading, research, and fact-finding on my own, and I've come to the startling conclusion that there is much evidence to substantiate a STRAIGHT agenda.

A large portion, if not a majority, of the general population has some misconceived notions as to what homosexuality is. Here's some common erroneous claims, which I'm sure we've all heard: homosexuals are promiscuous, God hates gay people and therefore they are going to hell—the Bible says so, gay people are merely confused, gay men really want to be women—and the list goes on and on. I think it to be prudent of me to briefly shoot down the aforementioned issues with a biting poignancy that I have no problem expressing, just as you seem to have no problem cutting me down apparently for your own personal enjoyment.

The desire to be female: A lot of people think that gay men walk around with their hips swaying from side to side, their wrists bent limply swishing about in the

breeze, and that they all wear women's clothing. This would suggest the desire to be female to a certain negligible degree, but only if it were true. The odds are that you've seen me walking about Takena hall on several occasions and passed me off as just another guy going to class like the rest of you. I don't stand out, I don't talk with a lisp, and I'm not effeminate with my mannerisms. The only clue that I can think of that would clue you into my sexuality is the fact that I bear a 'Safe Zone' sticker on my compact disc player, which I have no problem setting out on a desk for all the world to see. It's not a confrontational method of forcing you to acknowledge my sexuality; it's a beacon of sorts to let anyone who may need to talk know that I'm always willing to listen.

Promiscuity: I'm not about to go into detail about my sex life—mainly because I don't think that you want to hear about it, just as I wouldn't want to hear about your latest "score," or sexual conquest. But, I will say this—the reason we homosexuals seem to jump from person to person is because when a problem arises in a relationship, there really aren't any available resources to help us recognize that there is in fact a problem, assess what is wrong, and heal the wound, as it were.

Homosexual relationships differ immeasurably when contrasted with heterosexual relationships. There are different needs, different social issues, and completely different methods of expressing our love for one another. But I assure you, we all face the same problems you do: jealousy, greed, infidelity, verbal abuse, to name a few.

Unfortunately, though, the majority has told us that it is extremely inappropriate, if not downright disrespectful, for us to come to you for guidance when we need it because you don't want to be apart of our "deviancy" to any degree. (I apologize to those of you reading this who have lent helping hands and loving words to those of us who have had problems and needed guidance or support, but the truth is that quite a few people out there would rather spit in my face than look at me.)

Admit it, the mere idea of two men expressing their love for each other in a sexual nature disgusts you, doesn't it? It makes you want to writhe on the floor and wonder at length as to what's wrong with me, right? Why can't you see that it's not who you love, but that your love is expressed meaningfully that matters? I digress!

Now, I have much to say on the subject of God and Christianity, as well as the previously mentioned misconception that I'm confused, or in need of psychological guidance. However, it unfortunately won't all fit on this page today. Part two will run next week, and I certainly would hope that you intend to read it. You may learn something about yourself. See you then.

LETTERS

Reader questions media's ability to remain unbiased

To the Editor:

This is an article about questions.

Do we question what we read? Do we believe everything we see? How confident should we be in the mass media and television?

The reason I ask these questions is because it seems to me that there are a lot of half truths flying around out there and I do not know what to believe or if there is even such a thing as "unbiased truth" in the media.

In whose interest is this information being imparted? That is the question I pose, and should you or I care? I think we should, not only in the interest of "unbiased truth" (if it exists), but also in the hope that our opinions may not be a force-fed status quo.

An example is of course (you knew I was going to say it!), politics. You may not follow current events—most people in this country have taken up other hobbies—but those of you who are idealistic enough to still sit through the evening news without getting a sick feeling that something is missing (have you ever watched the BBC?) know what I mean. I realize most of us do not have time to listen to and keep up with the "news" but in my opinion we should pay attention to what we may lose very soon in this country. That is, publicly owned media. It has already happened with television more or less, and National Public Broadcasting is becoming more and more privately sponsored (and therefore biased in some respects) as time goes on.

Why is it biased?

Have you opened a magazine lately? From "Maxim" and "Cosmo" to "Newsweek" and "The New York Times" we are barraged by ads; everything from investment companies to the "perfect" diet aid. You may think that this has no effect on the articles in these magazines but these companies that run these ads are the same people that pay for the magazine to be printed. These companies have a very real concern in what is written in the editorials as well as the advice columns. This goes for television and radio as well.

This is why we need to question what we read and hear, and especially what we see. The media shapes our ideas on how we view others and ourselves. Do you want to be told how you should look and what you should think when the sole purpose of this "advice" is imparted to you because these advertisers, reporters and editors' main concern is to promote the good of the Fortune 500 hopefuls and to not offend these same sponsors? I do not.

I want to be able to open a magazine or turn on the radio and have access to information that is being presented because that information is important in its own right—not because it may influence me to buy something, or only give half of the truth because the whole truth may make me question our so-called democracy.

These questions are not ones that are addressed in our media for obvious reasons. If you have noticed this yourselves does it bother you?

If so, what are you going to do about it?

Tara Rogers

Silence
Consent.

Use The Commuter's
Opinion Page to tell
the world where to
get off. Write a letter
to the editor. Sign it, seal
it and drop it off at Forum Room
222. And watch
the feathers fly
next Wednesday.