

High tech train offers peek at life in fast lane

by Josh Burk and
The ODOT News Service

Combine the functions of a bus with the interior of an airplane and operate it on railroad tracks. That's the concept of the Danish-built, high-tech Flexliner passenger train that traveled through the Willamette Valley and the Portland area last week.

On its trip through the Valley, the Flexliner made Corvallis one of its stops. Locals, ranging from toddlers to seniors, lined 6th Street between Monroe and Madison last Thursday awaiting the train's arrival. Residents of the Corvallis and Albany areas were able to explore the interior and exterior of the train.

"I was very impressed with the train. It is something that could really take off around here," said Henry Williams of Corvallis.

Unlike conventional inter-city trains, the Flexliner is self-propelled and does not require a locomotive. Flexliners run in either direction. The train's technology enables multiple units with either diesel or electric capability to run as one continuous train. A unique front system allows individual units to join and separate within minutes while the train still travels at a slow speed.

The public was given the chance to see the train up close and personal at several locations last week, including Hillsboro, Wilsonville, Newberg, McMinnville and Independence.

"We chose these communities because some of them are considering inter-urban or commuter rail service to solve part of their traffic congestion problems," said Bob Krebs, manager of Oregon Department of Transportation's passenger-rail program. "Many of them have rail lines, which are used only once or twice a day for freight service, running parallel to congested highways."

The Flexliner is ideally suited to commuter service because it is relatively inexpensive to operate, can move quickly between stations and provides a comfortable ride, Krebs added.

The 141-passenger Flexliner also will operate in revenue service replacing the Cascadia train between Eugene and Portland for eight days. The Cascadia provides one daily round trip run between the two cities, in addition to normally scheduled runs by the Coast Starlight train and Thruway buses.

This week the Flexliner is operating on a trial schedule which began Saturday.

(Turn to 'Flexliner' on Page 2)



Photo by Roger Lebar

Flower Power

Last Friday's annual Mother's Day Plant Sale sold out of its stock of more than 100 hanging baskets, bedding plants and vegetable starts. The popular sale has been held for more than 10 years. It is a joint effort of the plant propagation class and the Horticulture Club to raise funds for students to attend workshops and conferences and to supplement horticulture department supplies, according to horticulture instructor Greg Paulson. He declined to say how much money was raised.

Disaster drill set for Thursday

by Sharon Gauthier
of The Commuter

When that outrageously loud bell goes off on Thursday, will you even know what it means?

That fire alarm bell will signal the start of an emergency evacuation drill, a practice that is required by law to be done once yearly.

At the alarm signal, all faculty and staff need to evacuate the buildings and meet at the evacuation assembly points. These assembly points are situated outside the buildings at various distances. There, everyone should await instructions from the Building Emergency Coordinators.

Students should ask or be in-

structed by the staff in their 3 p.m. class Thursday, where they should meet at the time of the alarm.

Students and staff in wheelchairs will need to follow a specialized route for evacuation in case of fire, chemical spill or earthquake. They should meet at the College Center fountain staircase. Trained personnel, in a true emergency, would assist their descent in a special chair designed to "walk" down the stairs. During the drill, people unable to negotiate the stairs should meet at the head of the fountain staircase, but no one will actually be evacuated down the stairs.

Contact Security Officer Vern Jackson at ext. 4444 for more information about this exercise.

In a real emergency, will you be saved by the bell?

Would you know what to do if it were a REAL emergency?

- How would you get home—if you left your keys inside and couldn't go back in because of fire?
- How would you know if all your classmates made it out?
- If they didn't get out, to whom would you report it? (A: to the Building Emergency Coordinator at the assembly point.)
- Are there gas jets, space heaters or flames of any type that need to be turned off?
- Do you know where someone in a wheelchair on the second floor should go? (Answer: College Center fountain staircase.)



✓ It's a Miracle

Thespians, singers take to the stage, as opera fans head north

Page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Check This Out

Pick up a little food for the soul this week. The Eloquent Umbrella, LB's literary arts journal, is on sale for \$2 in the Bookstore.

✓ Last Chance

Roadrunners need their bats and some luck as season winds down

Page 5



CAMPUS NEWS

Flexliner zips commuters past traffic jams, cuts travel cost

✓ From Page 1

day and will run through Sunday. The trial run will make two daily round trips between Eugene and Portland, stopping in Albany and Salem each way.

Tickets for the Flexliner are \$13 for a round trip between Salem and Portland and \$23 for a round trip between Eugene and Portland. Tickets are available through Amtrak at 1-800-872-7245.

Krebs said the schedule will provide various excursion options allowing people to travel to any of the four cities for shopping, lunch or dinner. "We're interested to see what the public's reaction will be to this advanced equipment."

Muriel Mitchell of Philomath, who turned out to see the train, complements the craftsmanship of the Flexliner. "The train's inside is immaculate. I commute a lot, and this might just be the way to go."

Krebs added that the visit allowed testing of the Flexliner's compatibility with Willamette Valley railroad infrastructure and checked its reliability to safely reduce running time in the Eugene to Portland corridor.

The Oregon tour is part of a two-year demonstration effort by Amtrak and the train's international manufacturer, Adtranz. Flexliners have been operating in Europe since 1990—often at speeds of up to 112 miles per hour.

In the future the Flexliner plans to provide a dependable transportation alternative between Eugene and Vancouver, B.C., along the Pacific Northwest High-Speed Rail Corridor. This will be one of five high-speed rail corridors in the U.S. The corridor is the only one with both international and bi-state ties. Total length of the rail is 464 miles.

Though operational flexibility is the train's most notable feature, the Flexliner also was designed with the customer in



Photo by Josh Burk

Onlookers get a close look at the Danish-made Flexliner.

mind. The interior features airy compartments with wide aisles and panoramic windows, large, reclining seats with in-seat audio systems, electronic display systems for train schedules and routes, a public cellular phone, outlets for laptop computers, ample storage space and access for people with disabilities.

"Amtrak is proud to participate in the Flexliner tour," said Thomas M. Downs, Amtrak president, chairman and chief executive officer. "This type of advanced technology embodies Amtrak's vision for 21st century American rail service. It is an example of our interest in working with equipment manufacturers to demonstrate new technologies in the American market."

Raymond Betler, president of Adtranz North America said, "The Adtranz Flexliner is the perfect solution to the increasingly complicated challenges of regional transportation."

Local experts offer wisdom on woods, owls

A Native American storyteller, a leading U.S. Forest Service Research Wildlife Biologist and a prize-winning poet will join forces this weekend for a presentation about how people view forests.

"Three Ways of Seeing: Deep Views of Home—Oregon's Forests and Wildlife" will include a performance this Friday at the Corvallis-Benton County Library, 645 N.W. Monroe, from 8 to 10 p.m. and a panel and workshops Saturday May 17 at the Benton Center, 630 N.W. 7th, Corvallis, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Esther Stutzman, a member of the Coos and Yonkalla Kalapuya tribes, will tell tribal creation stories and speak about living oral traditions and Oregon tribes and families. Stutzman is also an author, a First People's researcher and scholar and a preserver of ancient cultures of Oregon. The great-great-granddaughter of the last aboriginal leader of the Kommema, Kamafima, Chief Halo, she lives in Scott's Valley, Ore.

Eric Forsman, of Corvallis, has been an early specialist and world expert on the northern spotted owl and its forest habitat since 1968, a science advisor on federal owl plans and an expert on ancient forest ecology. He will bring a live spotted owl and speak about owl studies in the forest and the difficulties in predicting the future of natural ecosystems.

Eugene writer Peter Jensen, whose third book of poems was a finalist for the Oregon Book Award, will perform poems about owls, trees, loggers and Native Americans, read prose about forests and wildlife, and wear masks to show some of his forest carvings. Jensen also teaches English at Lane and Linn-Benton community colleges.

Saturday morning, they will review Friday evening's program and trade cultural ideas about forests from the point of view of science, tribal traditions and writing about nature.

Following the panel discussion, two workshops geared for writers and thinkers about nature will be offered twice so that participants can attend both. Forsman's is entitled "Forest Biology" and Stutzman's is "Tribal Stories and Natural Wisdom." Peter Jensen and his wife, Sandy, both college writing instructors, will facilitate the workshops.

Sponsored by the Valley Writers Series, both events are free, and sponsored in part by a grant from the Oregon Council for the Humanities.



Stutzman



Forsman



Jensen

news briefs

PTK cancels Quad Sale

The Phi Theta Kappa quad sale, scheduled for Saturday May 17 at LBCC, has been canceled, but donations of items will still be accepted by the organization to sell at Spring Days on May 21 and 22. Contact Jeff at (541) 924-0661 or Advisor Rosemary Bennett at (541) 917-4780 for more information. The regular honor society meetings are today and Thursday at noon in Industrial Arts Building C, Room 105.

Political forum planned

The Pacific Party and Committees of Correspondence are hosting a Citizen Awareness Forum on independent political parties Friday at 101 N.W. 23rd St. in Corvallis. Speaking at the event will be Blair Bobier of the Pacific Party of Oregon; Chuck Hunting of the Reform Party; Paul Smith of the Libertarian Party; and Trey Smith of the Socialist Party. The event is free and open to the public.

Bookstore News

Students who still want to buy a textbook for spring term classes must ask a staff person for help as shelves are now being restocked with summer term texts, which go on sale June 9.



Photo by Jason Andrus

Rally Stopper

The Roadrunner mascot helps student Chris Moony sign a letter urging the Legislature to increase funds for the Oregon Need Grant. About 80 students signed letters at Thursday's event in the courtyard.

commuter staff

The Commuter is the weekly student-managed newspaper for Linn-Benton Community College, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty or Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them. Readers are encouraged to use The Commuter Opinion Page to express their views on campus or community matters. Address correspondence to The Commuter, 6500 S.W. Pacific Blvd., Albany, OR 97321; telephone (541) 917-4451 or 917-4452; Fax (541) 917-4454; E-mail commut@gw.lbcc.cc.or.us. The newsroom is located in Room 210 of the College Center.

The Commuter Staff:

Editor, Josh Burk; Assistant Editor, Allison Ross; Photo Editor, Roger Lebar; Photo Assistant, John Bragg; Managing Editor, Pete Petryszak; Sports Editor, Shawna Phillips; Chief Copy Editor, Mary Hake; Advertising Manager, Kate Johnson; Advertising Assistant, Bella Rajesh; Digital Page Designer, Jake Schmid; Production Assistant, Jason Reynolds; Advisor, Rich Bergeman.

Reporters: James Otto, Sharon Gauthier, Schellene Pils, Dorothy Wilson, Betty Hodges.

Photographers: Amanda Miller, Jason Andrus.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Community Chorale performs Bach's 'Mass in B Minor'

Johann Sebastian Bach's "Mass in B Minor" will be performed by the Linn-Benton Community College Community Chorale Saturday May 17 at 8 p.m. and Sunday May 18 at 3 p.m. at the United Presbyterian Church, 330 5th Ave. S.W., Albany.

Tickets are \$6 at the door and at the LBCC Takena Theatre Box Office, 917-4531. There is no reserved seating.

The Community Chorale, directed by Hal Eastburn, LBCC vocal music instructor, will perform the mass accompanied by an eight-piece orchestra with Corvallis residents Michael Grossman and Penelope Wolf on violin, Abigail Stoughton on viola, Nancy Sowdon on cello and Mary Ann Guenther on organ; Salem resident Dianne Hawkins on flute; Jefferson resident Annalisa

Morton on oboe; and Eugene resident Ellen Campbell on horn.

Bach completed the B Minor Mass near the end of his life from pieces he had composed over the previous 25 years, from approximately 1724 to 1749, but he never heard the work performed in its entirety. He intended it as his bequest to the future. Today, according to director Eastburn, the mass is regarded by many as a single perfect summary of the sacred mass tradition—lofty in design, scope and expression, compelling and beautiful.

The Community Chorale soloists are:

•Salem resident Soprano Elizabeth Ebel, who recently released her first full-length CD, "Purest Heart," through her own company.

•Soprano Evelyn Smith, who sings in the Lebanon Community Choir and is the choir director and co-organist at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church.

•Alto Meghan Daw, a native of the Northwest who sings in the Portland Opera Chorus and performs in the Portland area.

•Tenor Martin Tobias, a Lebanon resident, who is a member of the voice faculty at Oregon State University and who performed with the LBCC Choir last year in "Elijah" and "Messiah."

•Bass Peter Butler of Lebanon, who directs the Thorsmen Norwegian Male Chorus in Salem, the choir of Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Lebanon and is also the associate director of the Lebanon Community Chorus.



Photo by Amanda Miller

No Eyes!

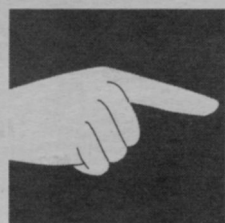
In the opening scene of "The Miracle Worker," Helen Keller, played by Margaret Chiappisi, reacts to the doll made by Aunt Ev (center), played by Tina Empol. Mrs. Keller, played by Doni Cyrus-Manning, explains that Helen wants her doll to have eyes. The play opens May 23 in the Takena Theatre.

New Tuition Payment Process

Effective Summer term 1997

Effective Summer term 1997, the college is offering students more flexibility in paying tuition and fees. Most students will have a longer period of time to make payment arrangements. The new process:

- Register for class(es).
- Pay in full or make payment arrangements by July 7. (For registrations AFTER July 7 payments due August 7.)
- Payment options include cash, check, credit card, agency, financial aid, employer payments and LBCC Payment Plan.
- LBCC Payment Plan allows a student to apply for credit once per academic year. The plan defers part of each term's total tuition and fee charges in excess of \$100. Payment Plan balances are due prior to registration for the next term. (Students should consult the schedule of classes for the due dates). A \$10 fee will be charged each term the plan is used.



NOTE: Students will no longer be disenrolled for non-payment of tuition and fees. In order for tuition and fee charges to be removed, the student must officially drop classes within the refund period published in the schedule of classes.

Questions? Ask at the Business Office Cashier Windows (CC130)

creative connections

Opera Guild to host preview of 'Beast'

The Linn-Benton Opera Guild will preview Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" on Tuesday May 27 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 303 of Benton Hall, Oregon State University. Music instructor Angela Carlson will tell the story of the opera and play recorded excerpts from the score. Admission is free to guild members and students of LBCC and OSU. Regular admission is \$2.50. The guild is also sponsoring two buses to the closing performance at the Portland Opera on Saturday June 7. The round trip tickets cost \$17. Reservations for the bus trip and the performance must be made in advance. Call the Portland Opera Box office at (503) 241-1802 to reserve tickets to the opera and call Betty Miner at (541) 757-8949 to reserve a seat on the bus.

Local Playhouse presents a play for dreamers

"The Rise and Rise of Daniel Rocket," a play about a child who thinks he can fly, opens May 23 at 8:15 p.m. at the Albany Civic Theater on First Street. The lead character, Daniel, is played by Chris Kane. Other performances are at 8:15 p.m. on May 24, 30, 31 and June 5, 6, 7. There is one matinee on June 1 at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$7 and \$5 for juniors and seniors. For tickets call Sid Stevens Jewelers at 967-8140.

Literature readings at LBCC

Two free public readings of the 1997 edition of "The Eloquent Umbrella," LBCC's creative arts journal, will be presented in May. The first reading, sponsored by the Willamette Literary Guild, will be held Saturday May 17 at 7 p.m. in the downstairs dance room of the Corvallis Arts Center, 700 S.W. Madison Ave. The second reading, sponsored by the Valley Writers Series, will be held on Wednesday May 28 from noon to 1 p.m. in the LBCC Board Rooms on the first floor of the College Center Building. For more information call (541)757-1734 or (541)753-3335.

the **Commuter**
A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

Applications Now Open

for the position of
Editor-in-Chief

for 1997-98

Individuals interested in journalism and communications careers are encouraged to apply. The appointment carries a full annual tuition grant and provides excellent practical experience and on-the-job training for writers, editors and other communications professionals. Students with coursework and/or experience in journalism are preferred. Applicants must be enrolled as students throughout the 1997-98 academic year. Appointment made by the LBCC Publications Committee.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 22

Applications available in:

The Commuter Office (CC-210)

or from advisor Rich Bergeman (F-108)

For additional information call ext. 4563 or 4451

LBCC 1997 Spring Days

Schedule of Events

Wednesday, May 21st

All Events at the Activity Center

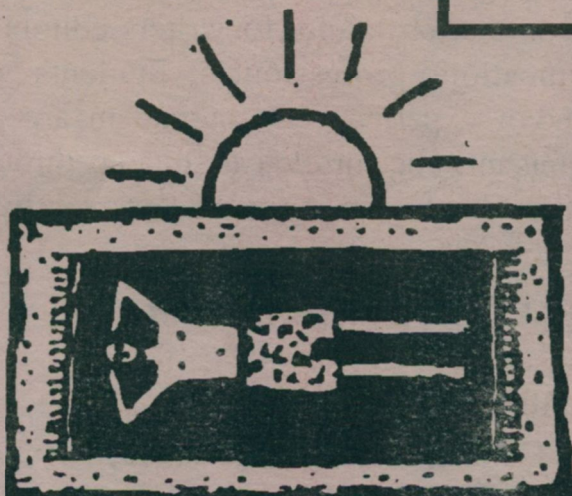
Music: J.T. & the Tourists <i>50's-90's rock/country/blues/reggae</i>	11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Spring Days BBQ \$2.00 per plate	11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Club Booths	11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Miniature Golf	11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



Thursday, May 22nd

All Events in the Courtyard

Karaoke	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Hacky Sack Contest	12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Three-legged Race	1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Water Balloon Toss	1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Club Booths	11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
2x2 Sand Volleyball Tourney	3:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.



For more information or to sign up for volleyball - contact Student Life & Leadership CC-213 or call ext. 4457

SPORTS PAGE

LB still clings to playoff hopes after losing two

by Shawna Phillips
of The Commuter

Whether the Linn-Benton baseball team makes it to the playoffs is really no longer in their hands.

After two tough losses to league-leading Lane on Saturday, the Roadrunners dropped from second to fourth place. They now must win their remaining three games, but even that won't be enough in itself. They also have to hope for some timely losses from both Clackamas and Mt. Hood to at least force a league playoff game. "We've got our work cut out for us," Coach Greg Hawk said. "We picked the wrong time to lose four in a row."

LB could almost taste victory in the first game, but it slipped away in the later innings when they couldn't find that one crucial hit to spark the offense.

The Titans proved they are a ball club that can hit when they jumped right out of the box to score three runs in the

first inning off of LBCC's starter Brannon Cedergreen. Then they showed their power in the sixth and ninth innings by hitting the home runs that sealed the Roadrunners' doom in the 6-4 loss.

Behind the strong hitting of Neftali Aguiar, who was 3-for-3, Linn-Benton attempted two come backs. In the second inning Omar Cepeda and Domingo Amaya singled, and

Aguiar doubled both of them home.

Then in the sixth Barry Banville singled and drove in Robbie Hollister, who had doubled to open the inning. Then Aguiar singled and brought in Banville. Hollister and Cepeda also put in strong 2-for-4 efforts, and each scored one run.

Cedergreen struck out 10 and walked only one in nine innings, which are normal numbers for him, but his downfall was the fact that he gave up 14 hits—six for extra bases.

Lane's offense built up even more momentum in the second game of the doubleheader as the Titans did not let one LB pitcher go for more than two and two-thirds innings. The Titans got out to another quick lead, but the Roadrunners put together a little rally in the middle three innings with five extra base hits of their own.

In the third inning, Jamie Hollister was hit by a pitch and his brother, Robbie, doubled and drove him in. In the fourth Ben Ward doubled and was driven in by Aguiar.

Their biggest inning came in the fifth when Banville doubled in John McManus and Cepeda crushed a pitch over the wall for a two-run homer. Robbie Hollister finished 2-for-3 with two doubles. Cepeda was 2-for-4.

LBCC's last two regular season games will be played Thursday at Mt. Hood at 4 p.m. Both should be close as the two teams will be vying for the same thing—the last playoff spot.

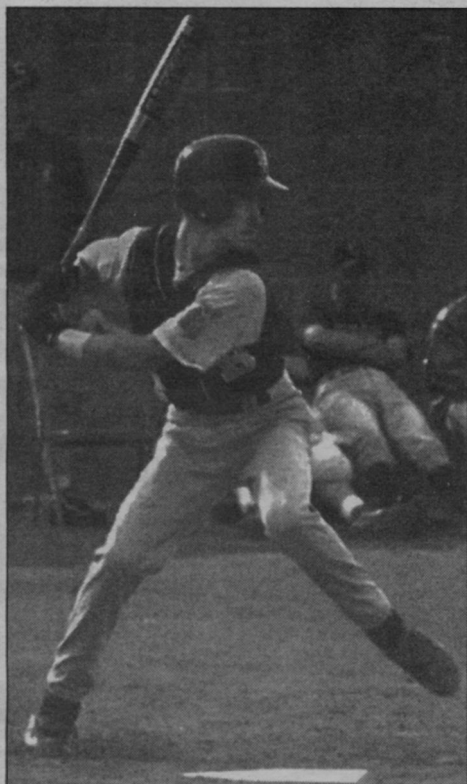


Photo by Shawna Phillips

Freshman catcher Chris Burton and the Roadrunners will need to bring their bats to the remaining three games if they still want to make it to the playoffs next week. Not only does LB have to win all three games, but they also have to depend on losses by both Mt. Hood and Clackamas.

hawk squawk box

"We're still battling for a playoff spot. When you're in the last week of the season and still battling for a playoff spot, I think you've still had a positive season."

—Greg Hawk



'Runners shatter records in championship meet

by Shawna Phillips
of The Commuter

The Southern Region Championship track meet at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham last weekend was the site for some record-breaking performances by the Linn-Benton tracksters.

Matt Phillips placed first in the pole vault with a mark of 16-2, which broke the meet record and the school record set by 1992 and 1996 Olympian and former Roadrunner Tim Bright. He also beat his previous season best by over a foot.

"He's worked very hard all year, and he definitely deserved what he got this week," Coach Brad Carman said, complimenting the vaulter.

The men's 4x100 relay, consisting of Kyle Sherrod, Rich Stauble, Dan Grissom and Josh Bjornstad, also placed first and broke the school record that was set just two and a half weeks earlier.

According to Carman, Sherrod and Stauble both ran their usual exceptional legs to put the Roadrunners in the lead. Then Dan Grissom took the baton and sprinted ahead of the pack, putting a four-meter gap between himself and a runner from Clark Community College. The Clark runner then missed the hand-off to begin the last leg of the relay, while Grissom's hand-off to Bjornstad was flawless. Bjornstad held off a late charge

from Mt. Hood and Lane to finish with the record-breaking time of 42.48.

In the high jump, both Stauble and T.J. Pinkston jumped 6-4 to put them in a tie for second place. Stauble also ran the 200 in 22.66 to put him in fifth place, and Sherrod ran the 100 in 11.17, also good enough for fifth. Sherrod also placed seventh in the 200. The men's 1600 relay team placed sixth, and Pinkston and Mark Strader came in sixth and seventh respectively in the 110 hurdles.

Phillips placed seventh in the javelin. And in the long jump, Ryan Grant placed eighth.

For the women, Melissa Gale placed third in the javelin, throwing it 128-8. Renee Growcock came in fifth in the 3,000 with a time of 11:26.8, and was also seventh in the 1,500.

Heather Decker placed fifth in two field events, throwing the hammer 108-4 and the shot put 38-11.

Darcy Zettler also came in fifth in the 800-meter, running it in 2:21.49.

Cambria Martin and Angie Case were the only others to place. Martin was seventh in the 3,000 and Case was eighth in the 400.

The last meet for the Roadrunners will be the NWAACC Championships next Thursday and Friday at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City.

jock in the box

Who:
Matt Phillips

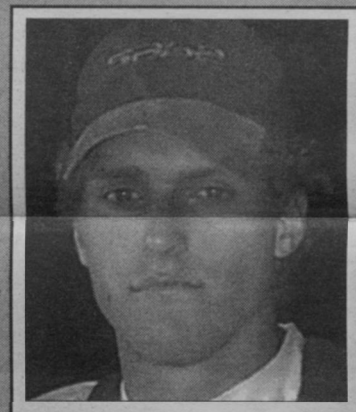
What: Freshman Jumper

Recent Highlights:
He broke LBCC's record in the pole vault set by Olympian Tim Bright and placed first in last week's meet, jumping 16-2.

Personal Records: 156-2 in the javelin and 16-2 in the pole vault.

Sports Hero: Scott Hennig

Worst Sports Moment:
"One time I vaulted over the mat in the pole vault and landed on my head."



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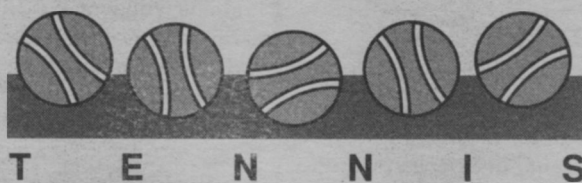


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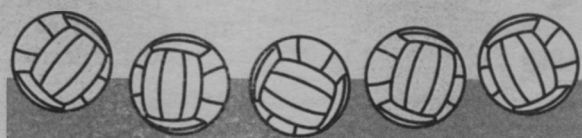


Tennis Tournament '97

Singles Tournament Thursday, May 15th at 3 pm

Tournament

will be held at the LBCC tennis courts.



Sand Volleyball Tournament '97

Thursday, May 22nd at 3 pm

This tournament will be at the LBCC Sand Courts.

Pick up entry forms for these tournaments in the Student Life and Leadership Office CC-213. For any questions about these tournaments please contact Naikia Benjamin in CC-213 or 917-4463.

CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Attention students and families: For Federal employment information, please call 1-900-378-6181 ext. 9600 for your referral. \$3.99/min. 18 years+. Touch tone phone required. Pro-call Co. 602-954-7420. REAL JOBS, REAL SOLUTIONS.

CRUISE SHIP EMPLOYMENT - Want to Travel the World AND earn a living? Get the #1 Source for anyone seeking work in the Cruise and Land-Tour industry. For information: Call 800-276-4948 ext. 606541. (We are a research and publishing company.)

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Mt. Hood Kiwanis Camp Program is an outdoor recreational facility which serves children, youth and adults with disabilities. They are now recruiting counselors for the 1997 summer camp. Participating counselors may earn six undergraduate or graduate practicum credit hours through Portland State University while gaining valuable personal and professional experience working with a wide range of individuals.

Agri-Tech Inc. of Oregon is advertising for approximately 20 Summer Seasonal positions. The jobs that are currently open are as follows: Tractor Operator, Loader Operator and Site Lead.

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2 Jobs available: Summer/Full time outdoor landscaping/land clearing. Will train. \$7hr./start. apply in person: Viewpoint Signs, 4920 S.W. 3rd St., Corvallis.

Need a manager trainee. Full-time or part-time, no experience necessary and will train. Company expanding. Manager earns \$3,000 base & commission. Call: 503-373-3697.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Financial Aid Office of LBCC is currently offering two scholarships. The first is the Dr. Robert Hyland Memorial Scholarship which is available to students in Science or Engineering Programs. This is a \$300 award. The second is the George and Edna McDowell Charitable Trust which is available to students in the Nursing Program or any of the Industrial Arts Programs. This is a \$500

award. Information and forms are available at the Financial Aid Office in Takena Hall.

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'92 GEO STORM - RED, A/T, BRA, HIGH Performance tires, Low mileage, very clean and well maintained, have all maintenance records. \$4,250 - OBO. Call for more details: (541) 752-2458.

Futon and Frame w/ New cover. 10 months old. Size: Full. \$ 175. Call Corey at 754-7906.

WANTED

Women Softball Players - Defending ASA State Champions looking for a few good hardcore ball players for Slo-pitch team. Play local league & statewide tournaments - excellent sponsorship, friendly, non-discriminating team. Contact Kristeen at (503) 769-7226.

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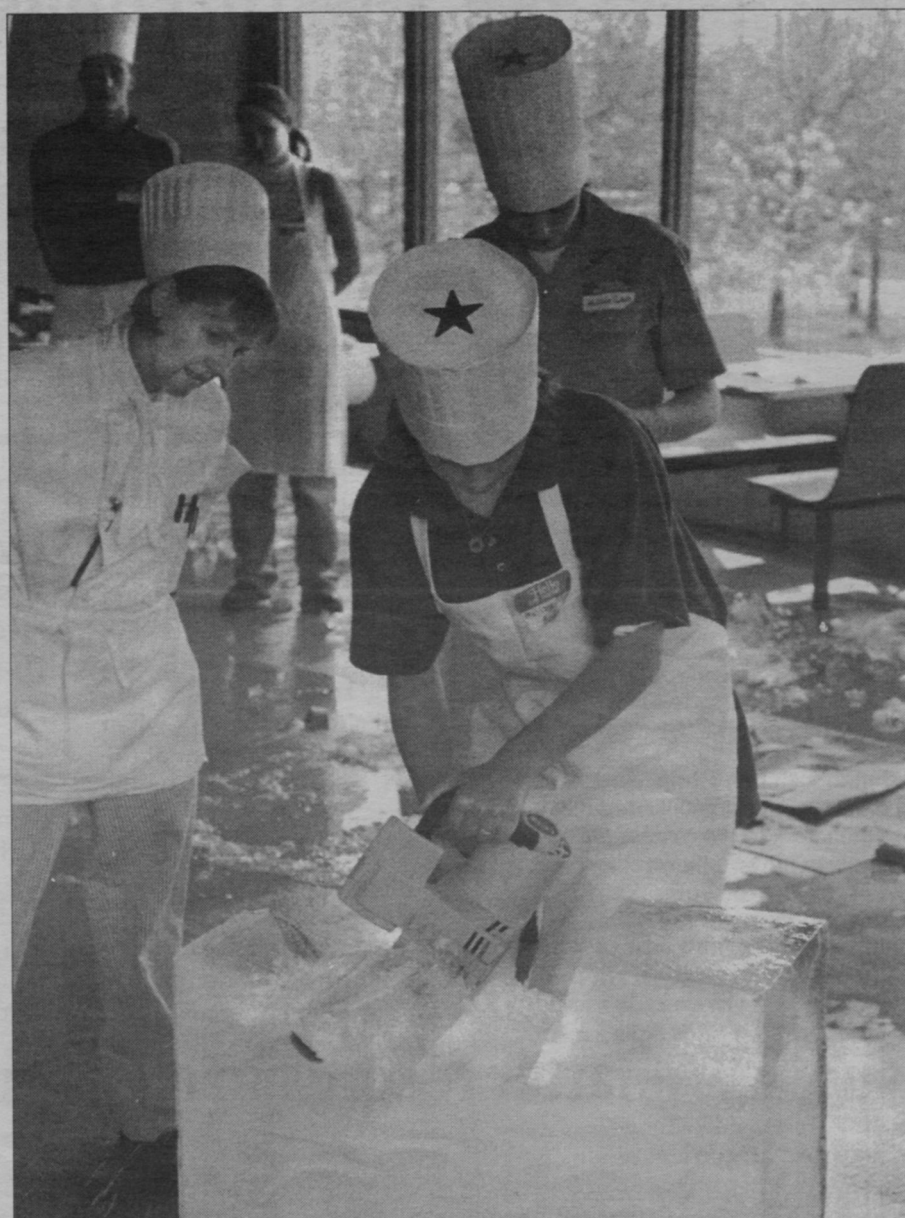
MISCELLANEOUS

FREE 1997 SUMMER BULLETIN! Oregon State University Summer Session. Open enrollment - no admission requirements. Many four-week courses offered. Call today for free bulletin - 1-800-375-9359 or 541-737-1470. Or check the latest on the Web: <http://osu.orst.edu/Dept./summer>.

Seeking good home or homes for two 6 mos old male chow pups. Sleepy is a black cinnamon, very affectionate, loves attention. Magellan is a white cinnamon, more independent nature. Please call 541-486-4020 if you can help.

Students who would be interested in volunteering in welcoming International Students next year, please call for information - Tammi Paul Bryant at 541-917-4457, Kathay Green at 541-917-4461 or Dee Curwen at 541-917-4700.

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.



Cold Cuts

Photo by Jason Andrus

Culinary Arts major Brenda Sterner watches a high school student create an ice sculpture during Friday's annual Culinary Arts Invitational.

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OPINION PAGE

commentary

Barbie: still a little girl's pal despite poor reputation

by Nicole Pankuch
The Lantern
Ohio State University

As I wandered around my basement looking for stuff, I stumbled across my Barbies.

Or, to be more accurate, my and my sisters' collection of the fashion vixen of more than 40 years. I saw the dusty shambles of our town house, the Corvette, the spa, the 1957 Chevy, and of course, a Barbie staple, the camper.

When I reminisced on those carefree days of playing Barbs for hours on end, I recalled how much fun it was, dressing her up at least 40 times, trying to decide on the perfect outfit for her dinner date with Ken.

Barbie had the coolest clothes my sisters and I could ever conceive of.

Who else could get away with a white plastic miniskirt, silver tank top and pink striped leggings, without being called a whore?

Barbie, and no one else.

She was gorgeous, she had style, she could go from a rocker to a doctor to a business woman just by changing her head with another one's.

As little girls, we adored Barbie because she stood for what a little girl idolizes: being a beautiful woman who can do lots of things (especially Western Barbie, who could wink).

And Barbie did it all. Or rather her Mattel makers molded her to excite the imaginations of little girls to dream about becoming accomplished, sophisticated women. Who could deny that fact?

Barbie represented many careers a girl could dream of one day becoming. But playing with Barbie was most fun because of her clothes.

With Golden Dream Barbie, you had a groovy gold ensemble, complete with clear, plastic shoes.

There was also the share of glamorous ball gown Barbies, such as Peaches 'n' Cream and Crystal. My sisters and I regularly fought over whose Barb could where their cool dresses.

But never in my little girl's mind when I was playing with Barbie did I ever think she was "bad."

By "bad" I mean that she was implanting on my brain unrealistic images of how a woman should look.

No, I'm sorry, but I will deny to the end that my Barbies did that.

If anything, Barbie might have made me more aware of some of the incredible risque outfits a woman really can't get away with. Maybe that's why I'm super-sensitive to "bar-wear" I see on those unsuspecting freshmen girls.

Anyhow, Barbie was nothing but fun for me. She came with cool clothes, she drove bitchin' cars, and she lived in the most incredible house.

So, when I have a little girl, and she's bored on a rainy Saturday afternoon, I'll whip out the Barbies and say "enjoy."



pete petryszak

One racist joke does not a racist make

There were three guys packed into the back seat. A fierce harmonica jam drowned out the radio as my brother's blue Subaru sped along Highway 89 through Vermont's Green Mountains.

Dusk was settling in as we cruised toward Burlington, where our high school hockey team was playing for the state championship. The music had subsided, and the third guy in the back asked to play one of the other's harps.

"Yeah," I said jokingly, turning around in the passenger seat. "He wants to show you white boys how to play the blues."

There wasn't any reaction from the guys in the back, so I turned back around. Then my brother smacked me upside the head and gave me one of his "you dumb ass" looks before turning his attention back toward the road.

For the next few painful seconds, before conversation started up again, I felt like an ignorant putz and deserved to. I was trying to make a joke out of the prejudices and stereotypes having to do with our different races. Sometimes good friends can joke like that. Among strangers or casual acquaintances, however, it often makes one look like an idiot, as it did for me when I was a foolish 10th grader back in 1989.

I'm glad I learned that lesson at 16 rather than at 40 or 50, and that I screwed up in front of just four other people. The embarrassment must be a thousand times worse if the slip of the lip comes in front of a TV news crew, an auditorium full of students or anywhere else a large number of people would hear it.

Should my stupid comment brand me a racist? While I'd agree that I said something I shouldn't have, my bad joke shouldn't be extrapolated to reflect a hatred for people of color or a belief that I was superior to them or a desire for racial separatism. It was just a dumb thing to say.

So, while I think ol' Fuzzy should have shut up after he said Tiger Woods was "doin' everything he needs to do to win" and just headed back to the bar for another screwdriver and a plate of buffalo wings, I have some sympathy for the guy. It's not easy to be a bone head.

Contentious relationships between the races in America simmer like lava beneath the crust of the "all men are created equal" phrase in the Declaration of Independence. Not many people like to talk about it, but occasionally comments overheard by the press from someone like Fuzzy or Marge Schott sparks some

lively discussions on "Crossfire." Unfortunately I don't think the issues surrounding race relations can be solved by Pat Buchanan and Geraldine Ferraro arguing over the future of Affirmative Action. I think the roots of the problem are deeper than any government policy.

Part of the problem is that a lot of white folks, who are not racists, have a hard time believing racial discrimination still exists in this country. After all, we have a Civil Rights Act, don't we?

Of course, laws don't change people's attitudes. A bank manager or restaurant owner who doesn't like a particular ethnic group can find ways to deny them service without having to actually hang up a sign that reads "No ..."

The media doesn't help the situation by pillorying public figures who make racist jokes. Putting these people on the spot just stirs up animosity between the races when what we need is a continuing dialogue so that white folks who joke about blacks eating fried chicken might get a chance to learn why black folks find it offensive.

What I really don't understand is why this drunken comment from a golfer who didn't even make the final round of the tournament was even shown. What news value did it have? Fuzzy's "fried chicken" debacle may reinforce the beliefs of some conspiracy theorists that "PC police" are using the media to expose anyone who violates their ban of language that isn't "inclusive" or "tolerant" enough.

Events in recent years, from the L.A. riots to reaction to the OJ trials, indicate that the gulf between the races is widening. Hatred and prejudice arise from ignorance, and I'd say it's high time for Americans of all races to get to know the other groups from whom our nation is formed.

People of all cultures represented in America should be able to appreciate the culture, heritage and values of the others. Historically, as cultures opened themselves up to people of other races or ethnic backgrounds, we found many beliefs that all human beings have in common.

As racial polarization continues, we lose the sense that we're all in the same stew. That attitude gives way to an "every man for himself" philosophy, with people uniting around racial or ethnic identities. If we don't start identifying the issues that draw us together and drive us away from each other, the America of the future threatens to tear itself apart.

Let your voice be heard

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

State Senators:

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

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

State Representatives:

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

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

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

Representatives:

Peter DeFazio, D-4th District

Washington Office: 202-225-6416

Fax Number: 202-225-0373

District Office: 541-465-6732

e-mail: pdefazio@hr.house.gov

Darlene Hooley, D-5th District

Washington Office: 202-225-5711

Fax Number: 202-225-2994

District Office: 503-588-9100

EXPRESS YOURSELF

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

Submissions may be in the form of letters to the editor or, for topics that require deeper analysis, guest columns. All letters received will be published, space permitting, unless they are considered by the editor to be potentially libelous or in poor taste. Guest columns should be approved in advance by the editor. Readers wishing to submit a guest column are asked to first discuss their idea with the editor.

LOONEY LANE

Cosmic brownies send UC Berserkley prof on wild trip that ends in hospital

by Norman Weiss
Daily Californian
University of California-Berkeley

BERKELEY, Calif.—A University of California-Berkeley visiting professor says he became violently ill and experienced a "warped sense of timing" after eating marijuana-spiked brownies dished up at a campus class fair.

Four individuals were hospitalized May 5 after eating the spiked brownies—the result of a prank pulled by a student exhibiting his work at the fair.

Stanley Scheer, who taught on the Berkeley campus throughout the 1960s, said he reacted "violently" to the brownies, experiencing symptoms such as paralysis, a warped sense of time and vomiting. Scheer said he did not see a warning sign posted next to the brownies until after he had ingested two or three of the baked goods.

Scheer, a visiting professor in the Environmental Science department, said he was passing through the area between Pat Brown's Grille and Mulford Hall when he saw the ecosystemology class fair, where students were showing off their final projects. He saw the fair as an opportunity to meet Professor Arnold Schultz, who was teaching the class.

It was during his conversation with Professor Schultz that Scheer said he started "nibbling" on the food that students had brought and were distributing at the fair, including melons and berries.

He said it was not until he consumed two or three brownies that he noticed a sign next to the tray that he said read, "These are strong; be careful."

"I just decided not to eat anymore," said Scheer.

The researcher left the fair at about 2 p.m. to go to his office in Morgan Hall. Minutes later, while speaking on the telephone, Scheer started feeling dizzy.

"There was not enough blood going to my head," Scheer said. "I put my head between my legs. I realized that I was going from a normal state of consciousness to an altered state of consciousness."

When he realized what was happening, he

asked colleagues near his office to call 911.

"At that time, I realized I was paralyzed, and I was stuck in that position," he added. "I could not get out of that position."

Scheer said the incident marked his first experience with marijuana.

Although he slipped in and out of consciousness, Scheer said he remembers the ambulance ride to the hospital, which he said seemed to take forever.

"My sense of time was warped because it seemed like hours to get there, when (in fact) it took only minutes," said Scheer. "I felt that I was either drugged or poisoned in some way, or I had eaten something that I was reacting to violently."

As soon as he got to the hospital, Scheer said that he began to throw up. He recalls chunks of the brownies coming out along with

his vomit. Hospital officials immediately started intravenous tubing to assist him.

According to Scheer, the hospital took a urine sample and found traces of marijuana in his system, although the test did not indicate any other substances that may have been in the brownies.

Scheer was released from the hospital at 10 p.m.—about eight hours after eating the illicit baked goods.

Scheer said Nathan Bear, the student who has admitted to making the brownies, should have acted more responsibly.

"I think the student exercised not very good judgment by not clearly labeling the contents of the brownies," he said.

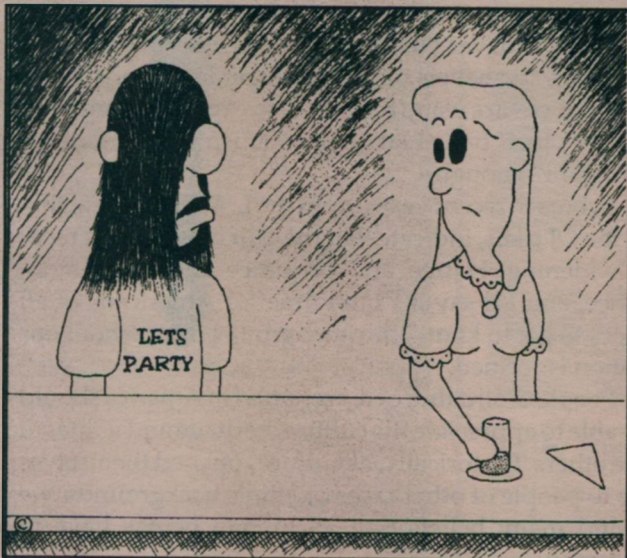
Students in the class declined to comment on the May 5th incident, although several said media coverage of the event should have focused on the projects displayed at the fair rather than on the four individuals who were rushed to area hospitals. Graduate student instructor



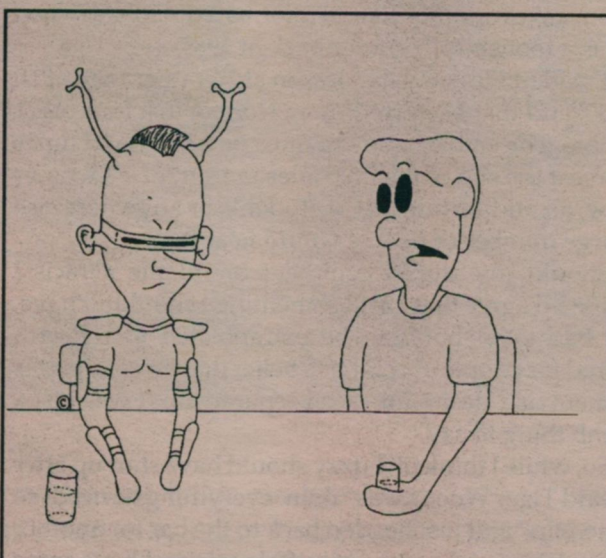
Cajun James and Professor Arnold Schultz both declined to comment.

UC police said they haven't decided whether they will take any action in connection with the incident and have no new reports of students who were adversely affected by the brownies.

Reality Bites



I heard you like guys with long hair.



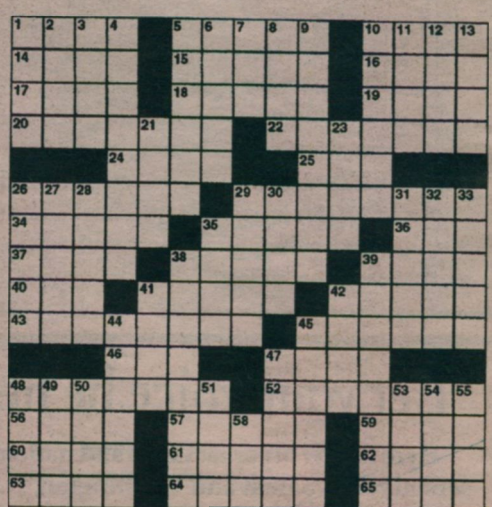
So, you come here often?



by Lance Dunn

Weekly Crossword

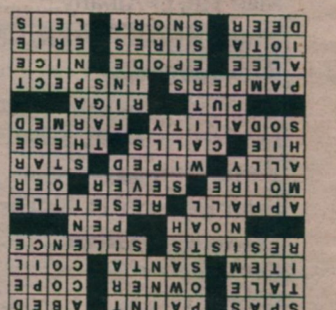
- ACROSS
- 1 Resorts
- 5 Enamel
- 10 Resting
- 14 Story
- 15 One who has title
- 16 Manage
- 17 Thing
- 18 Christmas caller
- 19 Spiral
- 20 Fights against
- 22 Quiet!
- 24 Ark builder
- 25 Coop
- 26 Horrify
- 29 Move to a new place
- 34 Watered silk
- 35 Cut
- 36 Atop, to poets
- 37 Partner, of a kind
- 38 Swabbed
- 39 Headliner
- 40 Hurry
- 41 Social visits
- 42 Articles in hand
- 43 Charitable society
- 45 Tilled the soil
- 46 Place
- 47 Latvian capital
- 48 Coddles
- 52 Examine carefully
- 56 Toward shelter
- 57 Lyric poem
- 59 Mediterranean resort
- 60 Tiny bit
- 61 Fathers
- 62 Great Lake
- 63 Forest creatures
- 64 Nasal sound
- 65 Garlands



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- DOWN
- 1 Bustle
- 2 Party nosh
- 3 Bar drinks
- 4 Religious school
- 5 Relating to mail service
- 6 Covered with water
- 7 Hotel

- 8 Seines
- 9 Walked about
- 10 Stress
- 11 Timely blessing
- 12 Long story
- 13 Strike out
- 21 Single
- 23 Sly look
- 26 Oriental nurses
- 27 Crippling disease
- 28 Heaped
- 29 Answer
- 30 Nights before holidays
- 31 Tribal emblem
- 32 Rent
- 33 Made a mistake
- 35 River deposit
- 38 Restaurant employee
- 39 Metallic fragments
- 41 Hint
- 42 Labels
- 44 Come into view
- 45 Best of class



- 47 Passenger
- 48 Footed the bill
- 49 Lily plant
- 50 Give out
- 51 Twirl
- 53 Old name of Ireland
- 54 202
- 55 Golf ball holders
- 58 Gold: Sp.