

# The Commuter

A Weekly Student Publication



Wednesday, Nov. 18, 1998

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 30 No. 8

## Giving season hits with appeals for food, toys, cash

by Schellene Pils  
of The Commuter

People give thanks for many different reasons. For some it's a hot meal. For others it's a nice toy for their child. For the survivors of hurricane Mitch, it's life itself. There are bins all over campus just waiting to be filled with everything from pumpkin pies to bar soap and shampoo to toys.

In addition to all of the donations that being sought, the LBCC Foundation is having a Christmas tree raffle for two 6-foot, fully decorated Douglas fir trees.

So far the Student Life & Leadership office has collected about 25 boxes full of assorted goods to provide help for the holidays, according to Tammi Paul Bryant, who said her office has several different drives going on at the same time.

SL&L is sponsoring its own campaigns for donated toys and canned food for the holidays, and is serving as a drop-off spot for aid to the survivors of Hurricane Mitch in Central America.

Student ambassador Robert Walter Jr. has solicited three teddy bears from Wal-Mart and is getting more donations from students. He's contacted several local stores for additional donations and hopes to help provide many children with toys for Christmas. So far, he has collected mostly puzzles and stuffed animals, but he hopes to see more donations coming in before the drive is over on Dec. 11.

Kathy Withrow of the Human Resources Department also collects boxes of food to distribute to families in the area. In fact, last year, over 40 families received a box full of all of the trimmings for a Thanksgiving meal, as well as a gift certificate for a turkey or ham from a

local grocery store.

Unfortunately, unless more donations of food and cash are supplied soon, she won't be able to help as many families this year as they did last year.

In an e-mail to the campus Monday, Withrow said "We will be putting together the LBCC Thanksgiving Food boxes this weekend and we are in need of FOOD FOOD FOOD or cash if that is easier."

The Christmas trees will be displayed on the first floor of the College Center outside the Foundation Office beginning Dec. 2. The drawing will be held on Dec. 10.

Raffle tickets are currently for sale at the foundation office in CC-105. Prices are \$2 for one and \$3 for five. Proceeds go to the LBCC Foundation for student scholarships.

(Turn to "Donations" on Pg. 2)



Photos by Jeremy Parker

### Breaking Ground

A backhoe operator begins clearing the way for a bus stop shelter to be built in front of Takena Hall. Although several trees are being removed to make way for the new shelter, campus officials say additional trees will be planted in their place.

## Health van may not return in '99

by Heather Wahlberg  
of The Commuter

The Health Van that has been providing low cost services to students since fall term 1996 is in danger of being eliminated, according to Jackie Paulson, director of the Nursing Department.

In past years, the van has been funded almost entirely by the Linn County Health Department, while the school has been asked to fund only the services of the nurse practitioner, according to Pat Crozier of Health Department.

While funds have been provided for the practitioner's services this fall, there is no money budgeted to fund the services for the coming term, said Crozier.

The Health Department plans to ask for help from the Student Activities and Programs Committee, which is in charge of distributing student fees to co-curricular programs. The proposal will be presented on Dec. 4 in the hopes of getting money to fund the nurse for at least winter term, said Crozier.

About 15-20 students use the health van each week, sometimes more, she said, which isn't easy to do in four hours. "We're cramming a lot of people in in a short amount of time," said Crozier.

The van provides a wide variety of services, such as physical exams, immunizations and testing for AIDS. It parks outside the College Center each Wednesday from about 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Services are offered at little or no cost—those who can pay are charged on a sliding scale based on their household size and their gross monthly income.

When the van began visiting the campus two years ago, it was the first health service on campus since the late 1970s, when the first aid office was eliminated in budget cuts. The health van will be missed if it leaves, claimed Paulson.

## Novak's opens doors to hungry for Thanksgiving

by Justin Dalton  
of The Commuter

Greeting every customer that enters the restaurant as if they were his dearest friend, Joseph Novak, owner of Novak's Hungarian Paprikas in Albany, invites anyone who's alone this Thanksgiving to dine with him.

For free.

The restaurant, which has been featured in such culinary magazines as Bon Appetit, has been reserved every Thanksgiving since it opened for those who don't have family to celebrate with, or who can't afford a decent meal.

"We do it for our lord Jesus Christ, because he was so kind and gave all to us, so in turn we can give back," said Novak, who is also a member of LBCC's Board of Education.

Preparing the feast will be Novak's family and community volunteers. The dinner will include a traditional turkey with all the trimmings, and a generous slice of pumpkin cheesecake for dessert.

"It's a way to give back to the community," said Debbie, a cook at Novak's.

Originally from Hungary, Novak remembers when food didn't come so easily. "I grew up in hard circumstances, when sometimes there was only a slice of bread on the table. Then, when I came to the United States, I found some of the same situation here. Now I'm in a position to help."

Novak reminds people that on Thanksgiving "nobody pays here. Many people who come to eat on Thanksgiving try to pay, but I won't have one word of it."

Waitress Karen Hughes agreed. "Sometimes people try to donate money and he'll either hand it right back or give it to someone needy that could use it more than him," said Hughes.

Dinners are by reservation only because of seating restrictions. There will be two meal sittings, at 12:30 p.m. and at 1:30 p.m.

"We want everyone to feel like a part of our family," said Novak.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

#### ✓ The Ticket

Movie and CD reviews; features on plays and cabarets

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#### Check This Out

Writers, would-be writers and lovers of literature are invited to an open mike today at noon in the Boardrooms.

#### ✓ Hoop It Up

Coach Falk leads young, quick team into new season

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## CAMPUS NEWS

## Portland mom simplifies life and gets out of the fast lane

by Schellene Pils  
of The Commuter

The first thing you notice about Carolyn Berry is how animated she is. Her speaking style is dramatic and her face is very mobile.

But Berry, who describes herself as "an A personality," is no actress. In fact, four years ago, she was working at a law firm as a high-paid legal assistant with a five-day-a-week, three-hour commute from Portland to Salem and back, which, according to Berry, "is the dog-eat-dog of the dog-eat-dog world."

She was the classic overachiever, a divorced mother of two teenagers who was a "hot commodity in the Portland community" she said, and she "loved that." She had the best job, expensive clothes, the nicest car, in fact, to keep herself in shape she walked up and down the 33 flights of stairs everyday, getting to her office red-faced and out of breath. "If I wasn't up and going," she said, "I was asleep."

"Simpler living," she said, "is about being more real—being more alive."

But if that "sounds as though we have to give up the things we love," we really don't, she said. Rather, we reprioritize our lives, find the things that are more important and interesting to us and place them in the proper order.

For Berry, one of the things she needed to reprioritize was the fact that she "was a compulsive shopper. It was a bandaid for all of my emotional boo-boo's." When she realized that her closet could no longer fit all of her clothing she sorted through it until it was no longer an unmanageable problem. Giving away some of her clutter made her feel freer and more in control.

"We were all born on this planet as little virgin hard-drives," said Berry. We collect data, we create new boundaries and no one ever gets the same data entered into their hard drives due to their differing beliefs, values, opinions and judgments.

In 1994 she decided to make a change. A Native



Photo by Jeremy Parker

**An animated Carolyn Berry explains how to simplify your life and get out of the rat race.**

American man that she new named Patrick came to her office one day and asked her to help him create a home-based business program for residents on an Indian reservation, and she agreed, accepting an over 50 percent cut in pay.

Not long afterward she got a phone call from the Oprah Winfrey show, who was doing a show called "Downshifters and downshifting." They wanted to tape her for a segment on the show. After they saw her tape, they called Berry back and asked her to come to Chicago to be on the program.

Berry has since been featured on two other shows and has changed her life considerably. She volunteers,

plays in her daughters middle school orchestra, and also writes and gives speeches.

According to Berry, there are no set rules of what to do to have a simpler life, but she does have several suggestions that may help.

First, be yourself, don't try to become the image of what you think everyone else wants to see. You are not your car, your club membership or your job, so you shouldn't have to be identified by them.

Take time for yourself, even if it's only 15 minutes—take a walk, start a journal, write letters by hand on nice stationary.

"Learn to recognize how much is enough," she said, enough money, enough clothing, enough TV, enough food and so on.

Reduce the clutter and excess in your life, but do it gradually, decide what things are practical, and if they are useful. Do not discard things that you have an emotional attachment to or that give you a feeling of beauty.

Stay out of the earn-in-order-to-spend cycle. If you live more simply, you don't have to spend as much. In other words, if you live less expensively, your bills will decrease and you won't need to earn as much money.

Be thankful for what you have. If you are happy with what you have you won't always be trying to get more. Often, for some, she says, it's like "waking up and saying, I'm empty." But if you really appreciate what you have you will be less likely to want more.

Don't forget nature. Learn to enjoy the outside world, the moon, the seasons and just what's in your backyard.

Don't waste your energy on holding grudges. Learn to forgive, to choose freedom over resentment and let go of the past.

"Weave meaningful hobbies, generosity and volunteerism into your life," said Berry, volunteering and donating time to the community is a great way to improve your outlook on life.

## Hearing Thursday to air proposed changes in bylaws

The Associated Student Government is holding hearings this week on revisions to its bylaws that will restructure its elected representatives to be consistent with the college's recent reorganization.

The next hearing on the proposed changes is today at noon in the Fireside Room. The changes must eventually be voted on at large by the student body.

## Donations: Thanksgiving food needed by Friday

✓ From Page 1

Staff and students are asked to drop off their donations of nonperishable food donations or checks made out to IALBCCCE to Withrow or Mary Kay Hernandez in Human Resources before 4 p.m. this Friday. Departments are asked to drop off their donation boxes at Human Resources by 5 p.m.

The SL&L Christmas canned food drive is on until Dec. 4, and SL&L will also be collecting donations for the victims of Hurricane Mitch until further notice. You can contact the SL&L offices at 917-4457 for more information.

For more information on the Thanksgiving Food Drive, contact Withrow at 917-4426. For more information on the Christmas tree raffle call Jane Wade, foundation coordinator at 917-4209.

## Children's winter festival features a clown, storytelling, a magician and candy canes.

by Malia Ramos  
of The Commuter

Feliz Navidad.

Joyeux Noel.

Merry Christmas.

On Saturday Dec. 5, LBCC's Student Programming Board will say happy holidays at its 28th annual Children's Winter Festival to kids of the community.

Taking place on the second floor of the College Center, kids accompanied by an adult will have the opportunity to learn about Christmas around the world.

From 1 to 4 p.m. kids who are 12 and under can decorate cookies, make Hawaiian candy leis, hear Christmas stories told by Robert Rubenstein, who is a multicultural storyteller, watch a performance by Buster the Clown or join in a sing-a-long led by Jory Aronson. Steve Taylor, a magician, will be the grand finale for the festival. For a dollar, kids can

get their picture taken with either Santa Claus or Father Christmas. The event is free and kids will receive candy canes and a t-shirt. However, a two can food donation is being asked.

Last year approximately 500-700 kids and adults were involved in the event.

"I'm hoping to have that many again," said Malia Fifita, coordinator of the festival.

Due to the large number of participants, the Student Programming Board needs around sixty volunteers. The volunteers will be needed in the morning to help setup for the day and assist with the different activities. They will be treated to lunch and receive a free t-shirt.

The SPB still needs more volunteers for the upcoming festival. To help spread the holiday spirit,

there is a sign-up sheet outside the Student Life and Leadership Office located at CC213.

For additional information contact the Student Life and Leadership Office at 917-4457.



"Make Your World Better" t-shirts will be given away to kids who attend the Winter Festival.

## commuter staff

The Commuter is the weekly student-managed newspaper for Linn-Benton Community College, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty or Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them. Readers are encouraged to use The Commuter Opinion Page to express their views on campus or community matters.

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## CAMPUS NEWS

## Great American Smokeout offers incentives to quit

by Keirsten Morris  
of The Commuter

The Great American Smokeout on Thursday plans to put smokers in the hot seat by challenging them to put out their butts.

The 22nd annual smokeout, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, encourages smokers to quit for the day, with the hope of proving to them that if they can quit for one day, they can do it for good. The smokeout takes place on the third Thursday of each November, a day when millions of Americans will quit their cigarette habit.

"I think one of the main things we are looking for is awareness of the day," said Richard Gibbs, LBCC wellness coordinator. He hopes this event will provide opportunities for people who use tobacco products and who are at the ready-to-quit stage.

On-campus smokers can turn in their cigarettes for a Quit Kit and prizes in CC 213 between 9 a.m. and noon. On Friday, Dr. Bruce Thomson will give a talk on tobacco advertising from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in Forum 113, titled "Laughing the Pushers out of Town."

"This is the first time we've done it this way," said Gibbs. Rather than just provide resources for the staff,

Gibbs said he is now collaborating with on-campus organizations and offering a more multidimensional program. The idea is not only to encourage students and staff to quit smoking, but also to make them more aware of the effects of smoking on others.

According to the U.S. Surgeon General, "Smoking cessation represents the single most important step that smokers can take to enhance the length and quality of their lives."

The American Cancer Society reports that smoking is the single most preventable cause of death. Cigarette smoking can lead to many different cancers, including emphysema and peripheral vascular disease. Smokers run twice the risk of dying from heart attacks than non-smokers. Each day about 3,000 young people become daily smokers. About one-third of American adolescents smoke.

Nicotine, which occurs naturally in tobacco, is as physically and psychologically addictive as heroin and cocaine. When smoke is inhaled, nicotine is carried into the lungs and absorbed quickly into the bloodstream. Then it travels to the heart and the brain. Nicotine affects the heart, blood vessels, hormonal system, body metabolism and the brain.

Smokers up their dosage to comply with cravings, and eventually they reach a point where they have to maintain a constant nicotine level. Nicotine acts as a depressant by intervening with the flow of information between nerve cells. When trying to quit, smokers experience many different withdrawal symptoms, which could include depression, irritability, restlessness, tiredness and increased hunger.

The American Heart Association recommends that after making the decision to quit, the first step is to make a date and stick to it, along with taking the steps needed to maintaining a smoke-free lifestyle. The patch, nicotine gum and nasal sprays all provide less-harmful doses as means to help smokers quit.

To prepare for "quit day," the AHA recommends to mark the date on the calendar, stock up on sugarless gum, carrot sticks and hard candy, decide on the plan to use to stay smoke-free, whether nicotine supplements or therapy, practice saying, "No thank you, I don't smoke," and set up a support system of other non-smokers.

As Mark Twain said: "Quitting smoking is easy. I've done it a thousand times."

The toll-free cancer hotline is 1-800-ACS-2345.

## IN FOCUS

A Day  
for the  
Flag

Thousands of local citizens turned out for the 47th annual Albany Veteran's Day Parade Nov. 11, which drew about 150 entries.



Photos by Joey Blount

## CAMPUS NEWS

## Funds sought for stalled Gaylord House preservation

Sitting next to the Benton Center in Corvallis, the Gaylord house, built around 1858, is steeped in local history

by Schellene Pils  
of The Commuter

The tiny scrap of newspaper was almost lost amidst the flakes of paint, bits of wallpaper and lacy cobwebs clinging to the walls and ceiling of the little closet.

Water-stained and faded, the only type still legible reads "Feb. 16, 1868. Alsea elects new officers."

This small closet is hidden under the stairs of what was once the dream home of Charles Gaylord, a local entrepreneur and owner of the first sash and door factory in this region. The house, an 850-square-foot dwelling built in the Gothic Revival style, now sits next to the LBCC Benton Center in Washington Park and is currently being restored to near original shape.

The Historic Preservation Advisory Board will meet this month, with Larry Passmore and Linda Dodson, members of the now disbanded Friends of the Gaylord House (FGH), to discuss the possibility that the HPAB will be able to take over the costs of the project.

However, Associate City Planner David Dodson said that he's "not sure that they'll be able to take on the entire project." The meeting will be held at the Corvallis Public Library, Meeting Room A in the basement.

Since 1992, the State Historic Preservation Society has provided almost \$20,000 to the FGH toward the restoration of the roof and back porch, while any remaining funds have been gathered from various places.

"Originally the plan was that it would be an interpretive center about pioneer life and Oregon architecture," said Dodson. Remodeling began in 1993 but is now in limbo, according to Passmore, who restores, rents and maintains turn-of-the-century buildings in Corvallis.

Passmore also had a hand in the restoration, working on the cedar shingle roof, windows and much of the exterior restoration. "As far as I know, this is the only hand-split, hand-shaved shingle roof in Oregon," he said.

In 1852, Gaylord married his sweetheart, Nancy Robnett. Less than five years and a couple of children later, he purchased two lots in the middle of the newly built town of Marysville, which is now Corvallis, for \$125. The owner of the lots was Joseph C. Avery who settled in Marysville in 1851 and was the planner and founder of the town. About the same time, Gaylord, a skilled carpenter and joiner, began to build his sash and door business. The home was then used to showcase his talents and provide an advertisement for the types of scrollwork and window sashes he excelled in.

Records gathered by Mary Gallager, historical research specialist with the Benton County Historical Museum, and May Dasch, volunteer researcher, indicate that there were quite a few houses built in a similar



This 850-square-foot home next to the Benton Center was once a showplace for scroll work and window sashes built by its owner, Charles Gaylord. The Gaylord home (right) fell into disrepair and was occupied by vagrants when Friends of the Gaylord House moved the building in 1989 to the present location on Seventh Street. The citizens group raised funds to make some repairs, including replacing the roof and fixing the back porch. Restoration is now on hold, however, while the group seeks support from the Corvallis Historic Advisory Board.

Photos by Jeremy Parker



style as the Gaylord house by the 1870s, proving that Gaylord's work was popular.

In early 1861, Gaylord and his partner William W. Piper, an architect, helped provide much of the wood used on the first Marysville bridge. After the bridge was flooded in late 1861, Gaylord was appointed commissioner of a committee to rebuild the bridge. Gaylord and Piper drew up the plans for the second bridge.

By 1875, the year Gaylord died, he had become a major businessman in the Corvallis community. The tiny cottage had been expanded with two board and batten wings to fit his family of six children—four boys and a girl from his first wife Nancy and one daughter from his second wife, Henrietta Stewart.

The Gaylord family owned the house until 1889, when it was sold to Otis R. Additon, a Corvallis merchant. The house changed hands many times after that

and eventually fell into a state of disrepair. By the 1980s, its only occupants were transients.

When the Gaylord House was moved the first time, it was located on the northwest corner of Fourth and Jefferson in 1906. Due to an expanding city center it was moved to Third Street north of Tyler, and the original stone foundation was lost. When it was moved in 1989 to its present site at 600 NW Seventh Street in Corvallis, a foundation from an old farmhouse in Alsea was dug up and used to replace the original.

The second move was made very quickly when a local lawyer purchased the house and lot. The FGH was worried that the house would be destroyed and decided to move it. The house had been abandoned and was being used by vagabonds. Now the Gaylord cottage sits only nine blocks from its original site on Fourth and Jefferson.

## The Dining Room

by A.R. Gurney, the author of " Sylvia"  
and "Love Letters" • directed by George Lauris



The Dining room is a comedy - a mosaic of scenes focused on the all-American family dining room.

Performances are November 13, 14, 20, & 21, 1998 at 8 p.m., and November 22 at 3 p.m. in LBCC's Tadena Theatre.

Tickets are available at the Tadena Theatre Box Office, Tadena Hall 104A, LBCC, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany. The Box Office is open M-F, 12-3 p.m. or call (541) 917-4531 for 24-hour reservations. Tickets are also available at Rice's Pharmacy in Corvallis.

All seating is reserved.

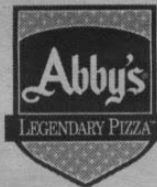


A Linn-Benton Community College Performing Arts Department Presentation

The November 21 performance will benefit the Performing Arts Foundation Scholarships

If you require accommodation for disability in order to attend, please contact Jayne Kief, 917-4536, at least 48 hours prior to the performance

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# The Ticket

## Arts & Entertainment

### Dancing

*Dancers at Scores cabaret appreciate chance to make living in professional, secure environment: Page 7*



### Bombing

*Reviewers find little to like in the latest movies from actor Brad Pitt and director John Carpenter. Page 6*



## 'The Dining Room' offers nine actors in 55 roles

Play spans 60 years in a dining room's life

by Sarah Crauder  
of The Commuter

In a play with 55 characters, you might wonder how a director manages to deal with such a large cast.

But George Lauris, the director of "The Dining Room," which opened last weekend and continues this weekend, has no such problems. He has only six actors portraying all 55 roles.

Each actor plays nine or 10 separate characters, each with his or her own personality.

"If they look, sound, move and act alike it wouldn't work," said Tina Empol, one of the actresses. Among her characters are a '70s teenager, a maid and an aunt who demonstrates to her nephew how to use a finger bowl. Some characters walk differently, some speak with different rhythms, some even write with different hands.

One of the pitfalls of having to play a number of characters is having to change costumes repeatedly and rapidly. Alicia Corey has to exit a scene as a maid and then re-enter moments later as a child in a completely different outfit. The actors spent only a week in costumes to practice their changes, which lead to some amusing moments during rehearsals, when some actors made their entrances only partially clothed.

Such rehearsal mishaps are behind them now as they approach their second weekend of perfor-



mances.

"The Dining Room," by playwright A. R. Gurney, is a collection of scenes involving a variety of upper-middle-class families from the 1930s to the 1990s, connected only by the room they take place in.

"As with real life, some of these moments are poignant, some are hilarious, and some are both," says Lauris. "The play portrays the dying lifestyle of well-to-do WASPdom and the now neglected room that was once the vital center of family life."

The cast includes Corvallis residents Melissa Edwards, Tina Empol, Sasha Maclaren and David Nicholas; Albany resident Alicia Corey and Derek Jones of Lebanon. Trent Suing of Albany is the production stage manager. Bruce Peterson designed the sets and lighting and Elaine Murphy the costumes.

"The Dining Room" will be performed on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 20 and 21 at 8 p.m., and there will be a matinee at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 22 in Tadena Theater on the LBCC campus.

Tickets for reserved seating are available at the Tadena Theater Box Office in Tadena Hall, Monday through Friday, noon to 3 p.m., or you can call the 24-hour reservation line, (541)917-4531. Tickets are also available at Rice's Pharmacy, 910 NW Kings Blvd., in Corvallis.

Proceeds from the Nov. 21 performance benefit Performing Arts Foundation scholarships.

### fast facts

**What:** "The Dining Room," directed by George Lauris

**When:** Friday and Saturday 8 p.m., Sunday 3 p.m.

**Where:** Tadena Theater, LBCC

**How Much:** \$7 for reserved seating. Call 917-4531

## Photographer displays work for Native American Heritage Month

by Kirstan Story  
of The Commuter

For Mary James, life is definitely full of surprises. One of her most enduring surprises is how history comes alive for her when she travels around the Southwest.

It's there she searches for ancient Native American dwellings, places that connect her to her heritage as part Cherokee Indian.

Photographs showing the results of her search are on display through Nov. 23 as part of Native American Heritage Month. They are located outside the Testing Center on the second floor of Tadena Hall.

Her photographs show Indian ruins in color and black and white, including such sights as Chaco Canyon and Bandelier in New Mexico, as well as more contemporary dwellings in Montana. One of the things that interests her most, she said, is how the early cultures marked the changing of the seasons through their architecture and petroglyphs.

Now a resident of Springfield, James grew up in Virginia where, as a kid, she discovered she loved photography and the outdoors. She said she used to do slide shows for her friends and greeting cards as gifts.

When James was 33, she moved from Virginia to Missoula, Mont., where she started backpacking, fly fishing, and mountain climbing. She would take her camera along and take shots of her adventures, but she wanted to do more.

She decided to go to the Rocky Mountain School of Photography in Montana to learn more about camera functions and shooting pictures. Although

she captured many scenes in Montana, she wanted to see more. "I asked people where I could go to see more of this beautiful country. Everyone I asked said Oregon."

In 1992, six years after moving to Montana, James came to Oregon where she enrolled in Lane Community College to study creative and landscape photography.

She also joined the Photo Zone, a gallery in Eugene made up of 18 photographers who go to different places every month to put on a show.

Being a hospice nurse provides James with flexibility in her schedule, allowing her to take many vacations to national parks all over the U.S. and come back with a collection of natural art.

This past summer, James went to Bandelier, n.m., near Santa Fe and photographed the Navajo Nation.

Healing Currents Magazine has published many of her photographs on the cover, and that was one way she built a reputation.

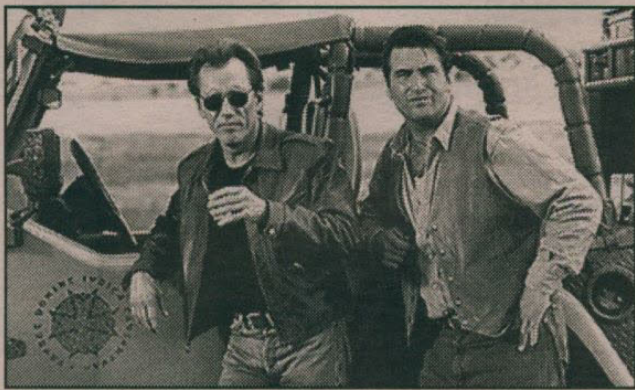
"I have a tremendous sense of connection to all the places I photograph. After seeing the beautiful places, I feel so alive," James said.

Photography takes up quite a bit of her time, but James added, "If you have a passion for something, you'll meet all the right people along the way."



Photo by Jeremy Parker

Photographs by Mary James are on display on the second floor of Tadena Hall.



James Woods and Daniel Baldwin in "Vampires."

## John Carpenter flops with latest vampire incarnation

by Brock Jacks  
of The Commuter

Vampires suck! Especially "John Carpenter's Vampires." When I arrived at the movie theater where I was to see this movie I was shocked at the amazingly long line to get in — to see "The Waterboy."

As we walked down the hall past all the would-be "Waterboy" viewers I grew increasingly more depressed to see exactly how few people had bought tickets to see "John Carpenter's Vampires."

In fact, I would estimate that there were fewer than 30 movie-goers present for this particular showing. As the movie began I was immediately interested in the opening scene. That scene dragged on for a little while and worked its way into the first fight scene. It was somewhere around this part of the movie that it all started sliding down hill.

While the cinematography is really good, it's just not necessary in a shock-a-minute horror flick. It seemed as though the movie was trying to make itself into a thoughtful drama—which it wasn't. The effects were decent but not extraordinary, much like the acting. The western slant was odd to watch, but it did give it some uniqueness.

Of course every movie has its good points, and to be fair so does this movie. I did enjoy the setting and desperado music. It might be an okay rental, but don't waste your money like I did.

Overall, I give "John Carpenter's Vampires" two rather bloody fangs down.

## Beck's 'Mutations' tasty but proves hard to digest

by Jacob TenPas  
of The Commuter

All right, so we've all been warned that the new Beck album, "Mutations" isn't the full blown follow-up to his Grammy winning, platinum selling, genre-bending aural party "Odelay." Although I doubt it will be the cash fountain that they hoped, one thing it is an extremely worthy child to some fairly daunting lineage.

Produced by studio wizard Nigel Godrich, who brought us one of the few worthwhile pop moments of the last year with Radiohead's "OK Computer," "Mutations" also has that trapped in another time feeling that comes from a careful amalgamation of strong song writing, progressive instrumentation, and ingenious production techniques that simply aren't found in most 90's pop.

Case in point: the song "Tropicalia" starts out with some beautiful Brazilian Carnival style percussion before Beck chimes in one of his trademark lounge-singer meets glam-star vocal deliveries. The beat is so heavily syncopated and the instrumental groove so reminiscent of something Herbie Hancock would've dreamed-up in his fusion days that you just know that this song is going to take you somewhere interesting. And sure enough before you can remember the last time you heard a memorable riff, Beck has come up with just that; a keyboard line so funky it'll have you doing some completely geeky white-boy dance/shuffle as you attempt to walk down the street.

## Plot takes a holiday in 'Meet Joe Black'

by Heather Wahlberg  
of The Commuter

Female movie-goers who enjoy Brad Pitt on the big screen won't be disappointed by his new film "Meet Joe Black."

The rest of us who went to see a good movie, however, will.

In this remake of the 1930s film "Death Takes a Holiday," Pitt plays Death. After taking the body of an unfortunate young man chosen at random, Death pays a visit to media mogul Bill Parrish, played by Anthony Hopkins, who is scheduled to die. Parrish is told that he will play host and guide to Death on his vacation and in return will receive an extension on his life. As long as Death is entertained, Parrish lives.

When Parrish introduces Joe Black to his family, things start off fine, until Bill's youngest daughter, Susan Parrish, played by Claire Forlani, enters the scene. Looking like a young Robert Redford, Black steals her heart.

I wish that I could say that this movie stole my heart as well, but all it stole were three of the longest hours of my life. Unlike "Titanic" or "Dances With Wolves," this film doesn't keep you so entertained that you don't notice the time. This film contains numerous flaws that contribute to the desire to check your watch or take a nap.

For about the first half of the film, as Joe explores what it is like to be human, there are a few humorous scenes that keep the audience interested, such as when he discovers peanut butter and then requests it in place of a conventional dinner. Once Joe and Susan become intimate, though, the whole movie slowly drags downhill.

Rather than staying focused on the the idea of Death exploring life, the movie shifts to his exploration of Susan and love. This could have been interesting and actually enhanced the quality of the film if less time had been spent on it and the romance had remained more of a subplot.

The fact that pretty boy Brad Pitt was in the leading role didn't exactly help the film either. Except for a few good scenes, I just couldn't get past Brad Pitt to the character.

I can think of about five other good looking actors who could have pulled off the role so much better. If I had been the casting director, I would have tried to get Val Kilmer instead of Pitt. As it is, his pretty face and the talent of his co-stars will likely be the only thing that keeps this movie out of the box office grave.

"Meet Joe Black" is playing at the Albany Cinemas.



Brad Pitt, Claire Forlani and Anthony Hopkins star in "Meet Joe Black."



## Top national video rentals

Following are the top revenue generating videos rented nationally, through Nov. 8, according to Video Store Magazine.

1. Godzilla
2. Hope Floats
3. Deep Impact

4. Perfect Murder
5. Lost in Space
6. X-Files
7. City of Angels
8. Mercury Rising
9. Lion King 2
10. Primary Colors

While there are a couple of other tracks that have the same undeniably rhythmic spirit, it would be misleading to say that this is an album that makes you want to break your neck on the dance floor. What "Mutations" ends up being is a collection of amazing hooks connected by enough atmosphere that fans of country-rock inspired bands like Wilco and the Jayhawks will find common ground with those of extreme psychedelia and its modern offshoots Ween and Mercury Rev.

There is just no classifying a song like "Cancelled Check" no matter how hard you try to hammer it into one of the Top 40 approved stylistic molds our society currently uses to collectively love or hate all current bands. It starts out with some seriously sublime pedal steel guitar soloing over the top of acoustic guitar, piano, and a two-piece horn section, while Beck laments like a modern day Graham Parsons about his loser lover. Beginning with thoughtful lyrics such as "You're so helpless/ Your girlfriends think you're a saint/ I'll give you a quarter/ I'll keep my judgements to myself," "Cancelled Check" sounds like fairly standard fare until the end of the song when conventional song structure gives way to Eno-esque synthesizer abuse and all-out "music concret" mayhem.

On other songs such as "Bottle of Blues" Beck plays it almost straight as he sings with an incredibly continental air about unrequited love over a fairly normal variation of twelve-bar blues. It's actually when listening to songs like this that

you realize that comparisons between Beck and Bob Dylan aren't just so much more critic-generated hot-air. Here is a guy who sings songs that anyone can relate to while at the same time embellishing them with highly imagistic lyrics reminiscent of the abstract word pictures of William Carlos Williams.

While I'll make no claims that Beck has reached the stature of Robert Zimmerman, in many ways he does take his brand of contemporary folk to compositional levels never dreamed of by the previously mentioned songsmith. The perfect example is the hidden track that starts about a minute or so after the end of the last song "Static." Other bands like Smash Mouth have based their entire careers on appropriating 60's music, but as with all other things Beck has shamed the unoriginal by taking it one step further.

On this bonus cut, which I'll assume is entitled "Sun Dead World" Beck incorporates distinctly 60's sounding guitar and keyboard elements, but instead of being content with invoking nostalgia, he combines these elements with a very experimental 70's Kraut-rock song structure. Tape effects, heavy bass, feedback, and the fiercest drumming I've heard in recent pop music combine in a bizarre little ditty that sums up all that is great about Beck. Like the best Mexican food, he tantalizes you with his delicious flavor, but once you start consuming you realize how many contrasting ingredients are inside and how bad it's going to twist your innards.



# Dancing for a Living



*"This job is emotionally stressful as well as physically. I visit the chiropractor every week to get my back re-aligned. I would compare the physical body stress to football."*  
—Rebecca McKillip

## Financial rewards offset physical demands of the nightly grind

by Justin Dalton  
of The Commuter

Sitting at the end of the bar, D. nibbles away on her cinnamon roll. She smirks occasionally while licking the frosting off the corner of her lips.

In about 20 minutes the doors will open and pounding music will lure people into the dimly-lit club. In the mean time, D. will be on center stage, gracefully dancing and tantalizing customers with her unclothed physique.

D. is just one of many exotic dancers that work at Scores Sports Cabaret, located at 3453 Silverton Rd. NE Salem. Scores is the only 18 and over sports cabaret in Oregon that does not serve alcoholic beverages. This makes the crowd very diverse and makes a definite impact on first-time visitors.

"I love seeing that 'Wow' shock on people's faces when they walk through the door," said Dylan Salts, general manager.

Salts, along with other associates from a club organization in Washington, came down to Oregon in hopes of starting a cabaret in Oregon. After scoping out the area, acquiring lease information on the building, they went to work.

Upon realizing the lengthy process of getting a liquor license, the managers decided to pull their application and allow it to be an 18-and-over night club.

"In the beginning the community generated a lot of skepticism about the club being introduced to their neighborhood," said Salts. "Misconceptions led people to believe that the cabaret would bring drug-dependent people whom take their clothes off and promote prostitution."

"People need to understand that this is a clean, safe, drug-free environment, and that the people here enjoy working in this atmosphere and are very professional."

"I want respect from the community," states D. "This isn't a sleazy place. I've seen some raunchy places in California, but Scores is the cleanest, most professional club that I've ever been into."

At 19-years-old, D. has been an entertainer all her life. "My first major experience was in a theater production at the age of three; I've been involved in performing on stage ever since."

"I think what inspired me to be an exotic dancer is seeing them perform. The way they walk, dance and flaunt themselves on stage, you can't act that way on the street."

The amount of pay dancers collect a night, which averages about \$200-300, is what makes her and other dancer's future plans a little bit easier to grasp.

"There's a school in New York where I would like to learn Eurhythmics." Eurhythmics is a dance interweaving the inner flow of effervescent life and translates it by movement of the body, creating a message sent to the audience.

"There's already a lot of girls that are supporting themselves through college."

Dancer Rebecca McKillip is doing just that. The 20-year-old McKillip has worked at Scores for a year and three months and is paying her way through college at Chemeketa to be a pediatrician.

"I'm more sure of what I'm doing now than when I first started working here," said McKillip.

"After a year of throwing my money away, I

started investing in stocks and CDs, along with putting myself through college."

Telling her parents about her job was hard, McKillip said.

"I told them that I'm a person, able to make my own decisions. I invited my parents to come, and they watched me perform with my clothes on. My father, though, disowned me and I haven't talked to him since."

"My mom found out before I could tell her," D. said. "She was mainly concerned with the atmosphere and the security of the club, but I convinced her otherwise."

Regulations of the club are posted in numerous ads. "It's advertised as a gentleman's bar, so I would expect the crowd to act as such," said Salts.

Dancers are allowed to touch members of the crowd, but customers cannot under any circumstances touch the women dancers. That's what the bouncers are for, a patrolling security to carry out the law and do so in a polite, orderly fashion.

"Customers are very quickly reminded that rude behavior is not tolerated in here," said Salts.

"There's a part that comes with the job," says McKillip. "I actually punched one guy that touched me inappropriately. They know they aren't supposed to, but some do it anyway."

"There will always be the uncertainty of personal security around a large crowd—should I tell people my real name or my dancer name?" said D. "That's why we have good security and they do a good job making sure I'm safe."

Many people don't realize the physical and mental toll that a dancer endures when performing on stage.

"This job is emotionally stressful as well as physically," said McKillip. "I visit the chiropractor every week to get my back re-aligned. I would compare the physical body stress to football."

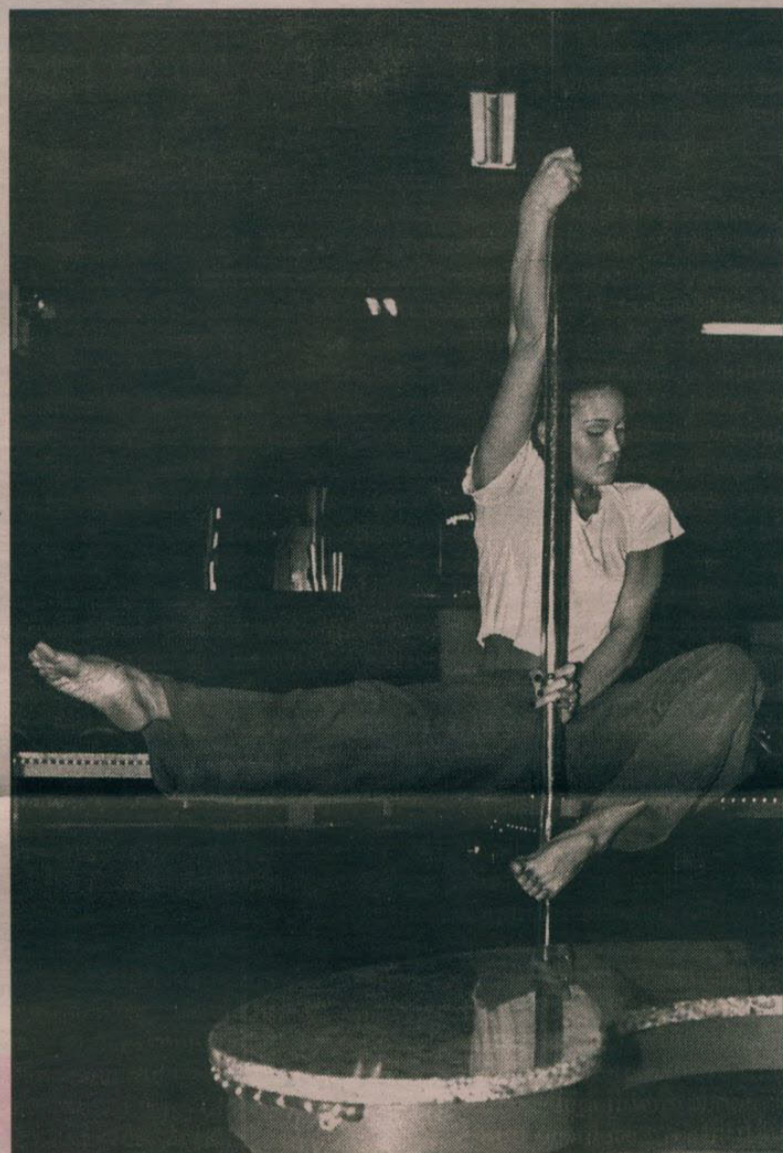
"These girls work very hard to entertain and please the crowd," said Terrance, entertainment coordinator and security advisor.

"Their preparation for their act is incredible in itself, because usually if you see them before they do their superman masking make-up job, you won't recognize them when they come out."

"Music is what prepares me for my act," said McKillip.

No one makes this more apparent than the DJ. He stands in a booth, surrounded by buttons and lights, swaying like a conductor of a symphony orchestra. In a sense the DJ sets the mood for the whole night.

"I have an important job to do too," said Dane Shepherd, from Clubworks Sound and Lighting. "I must make a lasting first impression on the crowd, hopefully a good one. In a sense I've got to reach the audience somehow. With teenagers it's estab-



Photos by Jeremy Parker

**Rebecca McKillip dances for Scores in Salem as a way to put herself through college, where she is studying to prepare herself for medical school in hopes of eventually becoming a pediatrics.**

lishing a communication to appreciate the women for who they are, not just what they're doing. I've got to try to loosen people up, break the hard shell so they can relax and have fun."

"This club is good for the girls; it keeps them in a secured environment, free from drugs," said Shepherd.

People expecting the usual smoke-hazed, trash-laden strip clubs, will be terribly disappointed. Entering the establishment is like stepping into another dimension altogether. Covering the ceiling is a mass network of black lights, amplifying the presence of neon and intricate designs on the walls and floor.

McKillip, dressed in high-heels and a sleek gown, towels down the chrome pole in the center of the stage. With the grace of a ballet dancer and the agility of a Olympic gymnast, she twirls around, six feet above the stage and keeping in perfect time with the music while performing amazing feats of visual splendor. They make it look easy, but the sweat and bruises tell another story.

After dancing through two songs, McKillip scans the edge of the stage where money is laid to tip her in the hope of seeing more on the next dance. The few members in the lounge don't feel so generous.

Frustrated, she steps off the stage. "Anybody else want to dance for free?"

**"People need to understand that this is a clean, safe, drug-free environment."**

—Dylan Salts



## Ask Annie

Free advice for the lovelorn, maladjusted and hopeless cases on our campus

### Dear Ask Annie:

I am a 22-year-old guy who just moved to Oregon from Oklahoma and I'm having a hard time fitting in. It seems like everyone out here has something pierced, dyed or tattoo'd. Back home we didn't have these things because we believe they're of the devil. You know, Satan. We're good people in Oklahoma. I am not quite sure what to make of all these odd "means of expression" as you folks here call them. Should I get something like a piercing to fit in better? I just want people to like me. No one here likes steer wrestling or whittling like I do. I don't want to be lonely forever. Can you please help me out?

Signed, Lonely from Oklahoma

### Dear Lonely:

You sound like a fine young man just starting to re-adjust in unfamiliar territory. It's always difficult to move somewhere new, especially when your peers seem to be interested in strange, unusual or even evil hobbies. My advice to you is to stick it out. Sooner or later you will meet people more well matched for your interests and values. It sounds like maybe a rodeo would be a good place to try and meet people.

## Dire Dateless Dilema

### Dear Ask Annie:

I'm 19-years-old, but have never been out on a date. There's nothing wrong with me as far as I can tell, and now that I'm out of high school and in college, I'm feeling even less connected to my peers. Am I way behind? What can I do to meet some people and start having a social life?

Signed, Lacking a Social Life

## F-Zero: Well worth the wait

by Ken Gagne

of the Washington Square News (New York U.)

(U-WIRE) NEW YORK, N.Y. — A common strategy when releasing a new system is to provide new versions of classic hits. With the Nintendo 64, Super Mario and Pilotwings were given immediate facelifts; but it isn't until now, two years later, that we revisit the first Super NES racing game in the form of F-Zero X.

It was well worth the wait.

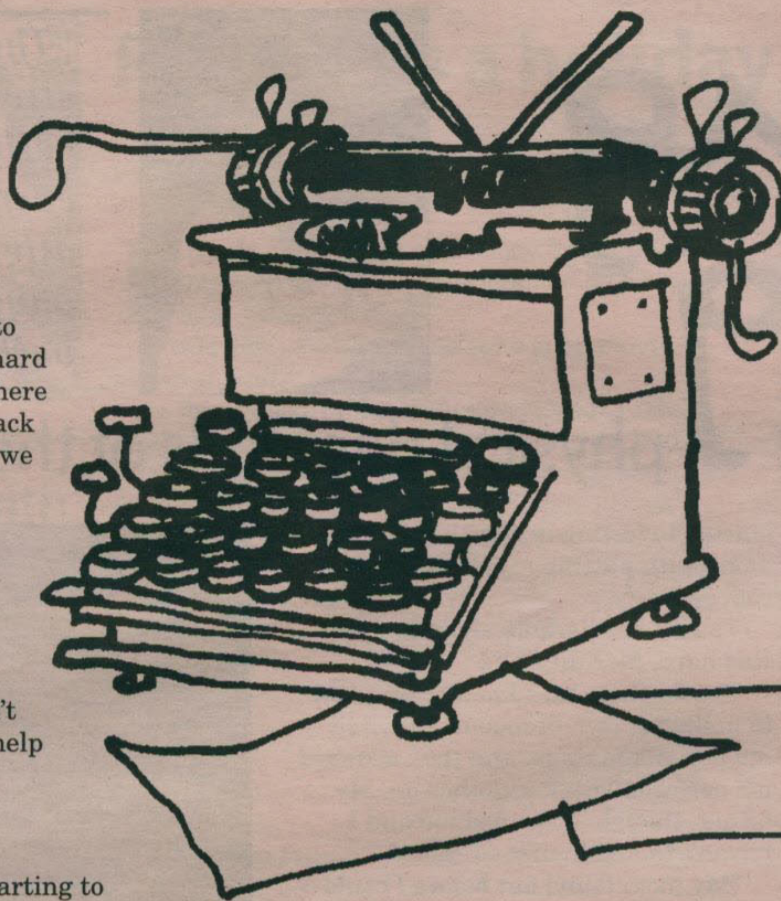
F-Zero is a futuristic racer with 30 vehicles speeding on 3D courses set high over the ground that dip, spin, curve, and loop. Whoever can survive and earn the most points, wins!

At first look, the graphics may seem bland: the cars are small and drab, and the almost nonexistent backgrounds have little to do with the courses. (example: there are no trees in Devil's Forest) But once the race starts, the processing power of the N64 kicks in at 60 frames per second. Curves rush forward at blinding speeds, and jumps materialize quicker than thought, all with the player and 29 other cars on-screen simultaneously. It's enough to make one jump for joy.

Control is simple: gas, brake, turbo. Additional steering buttons make for tight turns or power slides, but almost as important is the ability to attack opponents by crashing into them. Doing so ruins their chances of winning while improving the player's health and status.

There are so many ways to play F-Zero, it's hard to count. 18 courses are available initially, with six more later, and then a hidden X-Cup which features randomly-generated courses. Although the possibilities are endless, they do not capture the imaginative design of the preset courses.

When a racing game comes along that's this good, there are zero reasons to pass it up.



### Dear Lacking:

I think you'll find that college life is a lot more diverse and a lot less socially critical than high school. Have you considered joining a group or club? I also think that as you discover a major and spend more time with peers with the same major, you'll meet people that you can relate to. And remember, you're a special person no matter what. Others are the ones lacking.

## Holy Don King, Batman!

### Dear Ask Annie:

My girlfriend has a hideous hair-do. What do I tell her?

Signed, Living in Hair-Do Hell

### Dear Living:

The most important thing to remember is not to

insult her. In her own eyes she has great taste. It could also possibly be that her hair isn't a big priority, or she just doesn't know what to do with it. In any case, I suggest that the two of you go to a salon together and get haircuts, or even just some styling. The hairdresser will most likely point out some flattering styles for her, and maybe you too!

## Ask the Car Guys

### Dear Ask Annie:

My girlfriend made a big investment when she bought a new car, but I'm worried that she seems oblivious to basic car maintenance. I've been telling her to take the car to a mechanic to check the brakes and other things, but she gives me lame excuses like she hasn't got the time/money to get her car checked by a qualified mechanic instead of the "Jiffy Lube" guy. How can I convince her that preventative maintenance is essential if you want to keep your car running well?

Signed, Nagging Boyfriend

### Dear Nagging:

How nice to see that girlfriends aren't the only ones nagging! I think more info is needed in this case - Is the car new or used? Is something wrong with the brakes? If she bought the car used, it is imperative that she take the car to be thoroughly checked out. If the car is new, a thorough check-up probably isn't needed for some time. Dealerships usually give you a standard time in which you need to get tune-ups, usually they comply with the warranties. If you think that something is wrong with the brakes already, I suggest you outline the dangers of driving without brakes and the harm she could encounter. Maybe that would get her moving. If nothing is really wrong with the car, I wouldn't nag her too much. Your constant pressure could possibly make her even less reluctant to maintain her investment.

*If you have a question for Ask Annie, send it in care of The Commuter, 6500 SW Pacific Blvd. Albany, Ore. 97321, or drop it off in Room CC 210 (next to the cafeteria).*

## review

## Jollymon delivers musical Potpourri

by Jason Reynolds  
of The Commuter

Local band Jollymon's latest release *Stoned Nation Radio* can be described as a kind of Primus . . . no, that's not right. Okay, maybe Cypress Hill meets . . . no, again . . . I've heard this CD described as a 90s style acid rock with hip hop style scratching and pulsing electronica.

Well, I've listened to it myself many times, and I have decided that there really is no mainstream way to categorize this album. While one song may be a sort of mellow hip hop backed acid rock style, such as "Listen to the Sound," others, like "Mr. Clean," are more of a straight hard rock. Then, of course, "Budget Geto Bootie" is about as far from rock as one can get without going toward easy listening or

country.

Stoned Nation Radio is less of a single album and more of a resume displaying the wide variety of styles Jollymon has to offer, from hard-rock, to hip hop style acid rock, to just plain weird.

Oh well, who the hell cares? This CD rules! Put it on the player, groove to the beat, kick back in your favorite chair and roast a nice fat . . . turkey.

I was really impressed with this album and look to seeing more of Jollymon in the future. SNR offers up a good mix of hip hop, rock and mind-warping mellow tracks that is liable to blow your mind. Check it out. Who knows, you might like it. A few downloads are available at Jollymon's web sight, [www.jollymon.org](http://www.jollymon.org), as well as information on the band, previous releases, compilations and show dates.

## Storybook land takes over Expo Center

Christmas Storybook Land, a collection of animated and still scenes from Christmas and childhood stories, will open again Nov. 28 through Dec. 12, in the Linn County Fair and Expo Center, north end of the Cascade Livestock Bldg., 3700 Knox Butte Rd., Albany.

All are welcome and admission is free. Commercially canned food donations to FISH of Albany will be welcomed. Open hours are Monday through Friday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday,

10 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Dress warmly, bring a camera, and say hello to Santa Claus.

School tours may be arranged from Nov. 30 to Dec. 4 by calling Don Albright, 926-1608. Senior Citizens' Day is Monday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., call Helen Ayers, 928-3744.

Some of the sights visitors will see while walking through the tree-lined aisles will include the animated Bear Country, small train display and miniature Victorian houses.



**SPORTS PAGE**

# Roadrunners hope to build on last year's frustrating finish

by David Thayer  
of The Commuter

Heartbreakers are always the worst way to end a season. Defeating SWOCC to make it to the playoffs last year, the men's basketball team then lost by one point in overtime to Lane Community College.

But that was last season. Now it's time for the 1998-99 version of the LBCC men's basketball team.

Coach Randy Falk and assistant coaches Jeff Forty and Chris Carpenter are back for another season, hoping to guide the team back to the playoffs and improve on last year's record of 15-12.

"We are going to work more on the defensive end of the floor," Falk said of this year's team. "I think we are going to be more aggressive on half and full court defense."

The team has two returning players among its sophomores: Marc Cordle, a 6-2 wing from South Albany who was a starter last year; and Ryan Howell, a 6-6 post from Bandon High School. Two new sophomores on the team are wing Jon Fussell (6-4, Portland Christian High) and post Dustin Hamann (6-5, Rex Putnam High).

Falk also has some promising freshmen. "I see all sorts of talent in our incoming freshman. We have a good group that has come in," said Falk. "They are

learning the system now and getting up to speed with the rest of the group, and they will help significantly this year."

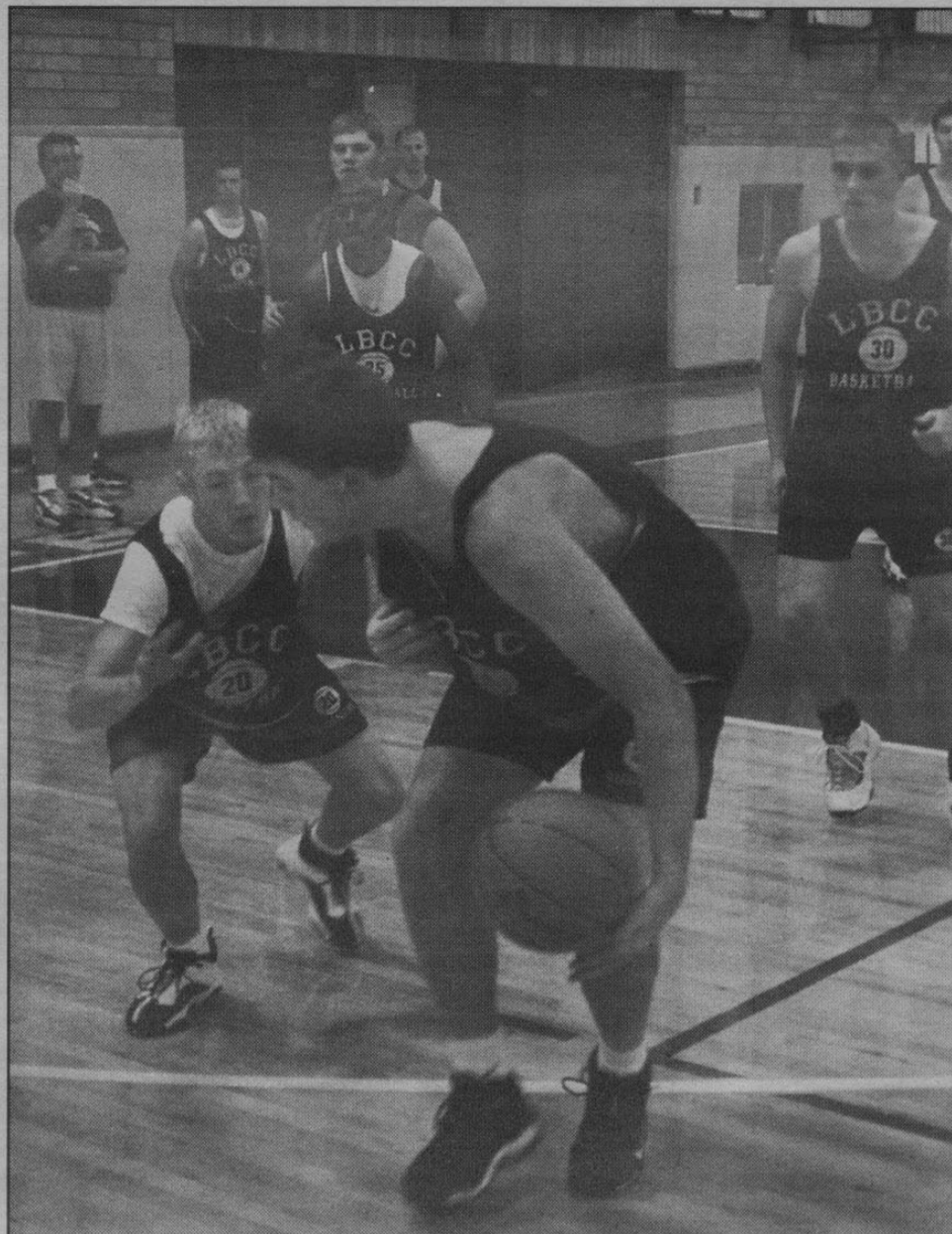
The in-coming freshman are point guards Hamilton Barnes (5-9, South Albany) and Josh Elison (5-10, Blackfoot High in Idaho); wings Brandon Marino (6-0, Forest Grove), Shawn Gilliam (6-3, Evergreen High in Washington), J.R. Brusseau (6-4, LaPine), and Brad Carnine (6-4, Post, Condon High School); and post players Andy Ross (6-4, West Albany) and Nicholas Desmond (6-9, Sweet Home).

Falk believes the team's strengths are "No. 1, chemistry, cause the guys get along with each other, No. 2, quicker on defense, and No. 3 more aggressive." The team's main weakness, he said is that "we are not as big as we were last year."

Coach Falk says there is nothing really tough about coaching this year from last year. He says "these guys are fun to be around and they are working hard. They are always working hard."

The two teams that Falk considers to be the best in the league this year are Lane and Chemeketa.

Linn-Benton opens the season at Edmonds Community College in Washington in a tournament from Nov. 27-29, and then they have their first home game against Willamette Junior Varsity at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday Dec. 2.



The men's basketball team practices in the Activities Center under the watchful eye of long-time coach Randy Falk. This year's team hopes to improve on last year's 15-12 record, which brought the Roadrunners within one-point of making the playoffs. Falk has a large crew of new players this year to go along with veterans Ryan Howell and Marc Cordle. Cordle was one of the team's lead scorers last year.



*"I see all sorts of talent in our incoming freshman. We have a good group that has come in."*

—Randy Falk

# 200 SPACE

The Commuter offers you an inexpensive way to reach a broad cross-section of the local community with your advertising message. The Commuter is the only publication on the LBCC campus offering information, news, and advertising space. Place your ad now.

## TURKEY TROT FUN RUN & WALK

November 24 12-1pm

This annual event will feature prizes such as holiday turkeys and pies as well as t-shirts. Participants can walk in teams of three or as individuals. The event is open to all, there is no sign up.

Questions?  
Contact Becky Moore in CC213 or e-mail her at moorer@bcc.cc.or.us

# Poisoning sends one student to jail and two to the ER

**Brown University student charged with poisoning his former roommate and her new partner in domestic violence case**

by Felice J. Freyer  
of Knight-Ridder Newspapers

PROVIDENCE - A Brown University graduate student has been charged with poisoning two fellow students by serving them a vegetable dish laced with a radioactive substance that he allegedly stole from a laboratory.

Cheng Gu, 24, of 130 Doyle Ave., was arrested on Friday by Providence police and charged with assault, larceny and poisoning.

The radioactive substance is iodine-125, an isotope used to treat and diagnose thyroid conditions and, in the Brown laboratories, to tag proteins in experiments.

Mark Nickel, Brown University spokesman, said that the students who ate the contaminated food were unharmed. "The amount of radioactive contamination is about equal to what you would get in a medical diagnostic procedure," he said. "There's no immediate health threat . . . The amounts involved are not health- or life-threatening by quite a long shot."

The alleged poisoning victims were identified in the police report as Yuanyuan Xiao and James A. O'Brien, who are roommates at 168 Elm Grove Ave. A man identifying himself as O'Brien answered the door at their home on Saturday morning, but declined to be interviewed, saying both he and Xiao would prefer to maintain their privacy.

Brown officials said that Xiao and Gu are graduate students in molecular pharmacology and are both from China. O'Brien is an undergraduate in a Brown program for students returning to college after a time in the work force, they said. Providence police described Gu as "a former boyfriend" of Xiao's, and referred the case to the domestic violence unit.

According to Nickel and the Providence police report, the alleged poisoning was discovered on Wednesday, when Xiao entered a laboratory to perform an experiment. In keeping with Brown University's radiation safety protocols, she was tested with a Geiger counter before starting the experiment, and was found to be radioactive.

The university's radiation safety officers went to her home to search for the source of the radiation, and with a Geiger counter, located a dish of cooked food that was radioactive in a refrigerator.

The pharmacology laboratory where Xiao worked was closed on Thursday and Friday, and everyone who worked there was tested, so that radiation officials could rule out any other possible source of contamination.

Xiao told police that she and O'Brien had both eaten the radioactive food. Police allege that Gu prepared the dish and delivered it to Xiao's home last Sunday.

The police report also says that Gu "has access to a laboratory where this type of radioactive material is stored."

*"Our first concern is for the safety and health of the students involved. We are relieved that no one has suffered health consequences."*

—Laura Freid

But Nickel, the Brown spokesman, said it remains unclear where the iodine-125 came from. Nickel said that although Gu was working in a lab, he was not working with iodine-125. Had he been participating in an experiment involving the substance, he would have undergone safety protocols that require a Geiger-counter test of each person before and after working with the substance.

"We are doing inventories of all the substances to determine whether in fact there are any quantities missing," Nickel said. "I haven't had any word of specific quantities missing from a specific lab. . . . As far as I've heard from the people at Brown who are checking into all this, all the safety protocols were followed. There is no question of a lapse in security."

Nickel said that the laboratories using radioactive materials are "very tightly regulated." They are licensed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, through the Rhode Island Department of Health.

Iodine-125 is shipped to Brown in solid crystals, Nickel said. When researchers use the substance in experiments, they dissolve the salts in liquid, for easier handling. Brown officials don't know what form the

substance was in when it was stolen or placed in the food.

The university notified the Department of Health of the incident last week. Marie Stoeckel, chief of the department's office of occupational and radiological health, said the Health Department is overseeing and monitoring the investigation from a distance. "They're conducting their own internal investigation and keeping us informed with regular phone calls," she said. "We've got quite a bit of confidence in (Brown's) radiation safety office and their procedures."

"Our sense," Stoeckel said, "is they were following all security measures that were appropriate."

How, then, did a radioactive substance get into a refrigerator in a private home? Nickel and Stoeckel declined to speculate, saying only that the investigation was continuing.

Stoeckel commented: "Internal security is a very challenging issue if someone is not acting in a moral, legal and ethical way."

She stressed that incident involved no threat to public health or safety.

As for the students who were allegedly poisoned, Stoeckel said: "My understanding from preliminary scans that were conducted is that there's negligible risk to the two individuals." Radiation poses the greatest hazard to rapidly dividing cells, such as those of a developing fetus or a cancerous tumor, Stoeckel said. (She said no one who was involved in this incident is pregnant.)

In the case of iodine-125, half the radiation fades away within about six months, according to Nickel. In time, radioactive iodine decays into a nonradioactive substance.

"Our first concern is for the safety and health of the students involved," said Laura Freid, Brown's executive vice president for public affairs and university relations. "We are relieved that no one has suffered health consequences." Freid said that the university was monitoring the students' health daily. Each of the three students has been assigned a graduate student adviser.

Gu faces five charges: felony assault against O'Brien, domestic felony assault against Xiao, larceny over \$500 "for theft of material from Brown," poisoning O'Brien and poisoning Xiao.

## classifieds

### HELP WANTED

Operations Assistant (Albany) Do you have basic computer skills, electrical theory knowledge, and looking for a PT job with excellent growth potential? Work for \$8.50/hr from 1-5 pm. See Student Employment in T 101.

Local Office Supply store looking for reliable, PT help in Office Supplies, Copy Center, and Business Machines. Good student jobs! See Student Employment (T101).

Bookkeeper Would you like to put your accounting skills to work? Maintain accounting records using Quickbooks in Corvallis office. Offers flexible schedule at \$7.50/hour. Student Employment (T101)

Secretary (Albany) Requires two years secretarial experience including computer skills (Windows 95), good filing skills, and transcription. Salary range \$8.55-\$10/hr. DOE See Student Employment (T101)

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## OPINION PAGE

## editorial

## Cartoon camels lure unsuspecting kids

You used to see him everywhere, on billboards as you drive through town, at gas stations when you fill up and at the local convenience store when you stop to grab a hotdog and a Slurpee.

He's Joe Camel, the "spokesman" for Camel cigarettes and he's stirred up a national debate over whether R.J. Reynolds, the company who developed his persona, made him to lure children and teens to the evils of smoking.

Of course, R.J. Reynolds disagrees.

They deny that the cartoon character is a lure for kids. I know that there are many adults out there who watch cartoons, although the majority will deny it. But I also know that kids watch cartoons too, and many of them know who Joe Camel is. Despite the fact that he does not show up on TV and that there are no Joe Camel action figures in department stores.

That's a pretty powerful thought.

Recent marketing techniques are very effective at getting people to part with their money. Why is it so hard to believe that Joe Camel isn't just another campaign to get people to start smoking, even though we are preached at daily on the effects of nicotine and what smoking will do to our bodies.

It's not my place to tell people what to do with their bodies, to smoke or not to smoke is none of my business.

However, let's be honest here, come on, trying to say that making Joe Camel a cartoon was not a calculated effect by R.J. Reynolds to make smoking attractive to minors is ludicrous. With all their marketing research they knew exactly what they were doing to find their target audience.

Now, after years of wrangling with the courts over whether big tobacco companies should pay people who have become ill from smoking, R.J. Reynolds is now back in court trying to prove that they aren't marketing to people under the age of 18.

I know that peer pressure is a part of why kids start smoking, I remember, that's why I started. But I also know that if I'd had a Joe Camel cartoon staring me in the face every time I bought cigarettes I'd have been smoking them instead of Marlboros.

—Schellene Pils

## letter

## Frustration, not apathy responsible for poor turnout

To the Editor:

"If you didn't vote then don't complain." (Commuter, Nov. 11) Okay, voting?! Throughout history voting was the tool to gain freedom, justice and prosperity. Now on the ballots we have twisted manipulated choices that lead to: "Ha, in your face—we fooled you anyway. We gotcha!"

Who wants to be a part of a political war of who's in charge? I think the people of today do value the right to vote, but hopefully I can safely say that we want no part in the government's childish games of who's boss. This is the message when folks don't vote: "Get real and clean house or get out."

The people are coming together silently but deadly. They are standing up against government by using their rights, to protest, "strike."

I hope that the people win. Like Martin Luther King, Jr. and the strikes he lead, I think that this will be the greatest strike of all time, when people come together to demand better choices.

Can the people all come together and overthrow the chaos and the misbehavior of the government and its chosen leaders? We'll see. We have already tasted the frustration of the people and their cry.

Keisha Merchant



## commentary

## Impotence, a fate worse than cancer

by David Thayer  
of The Commuter

As I wander through the corridors of Linn-Benton Community College, I can't help but notice people smoking. I ask myself "why are they doing this?" Don't they know that they can get heart disease, or emphysema, or even cancer.

Well, there is a new problem for smokers.

IMPOTENCE!

Yes, the dreaded word all men hate to hear. Actually, women don't like to hear it either.

I was recently watching "60 minutes" on CBS (yes, I do watch that show even though I am 19), and I was suprised at some of the stuff I was hearing.

The American Medical Association said teenagers who smoke an average of two packs of cigarettes a day are likely to be impotent by age 25-30. Sounds scary, doesn't it?

The program explained how smoking causes impotence. It doesn't take a sex ed person to know that to have an erection or an orgasm, you have to have blood flow to the penis or vagina. The toxins in cigarettes cause a plaque-like substance to form in arteries, hindering the blood flow, just like the way it blocks blood flow in and out of the heart.

If you are thinking of the sex wonder drug, Viagra, may be a solution—WRONG! That definitely won't help you. Doctors mainly say if you are a smoker and feel the effects of impotence, then there is only one thing to do—quit smoking.

After hearing all that information, I was struck by a commercial that the state of California has been running about impotence since June. The commercial shows a very sexy young lady coming down the stairs, smiling at the guys looking at her. Suddenly, one of the young men puts a cigarette in his mouth.

He then notices it is just hanging there limply. The other young men notice the same thing when they put the cigarettes in their mouths. The young lady becomes stunned and walk away.

Could this be true?

Well, the Center for Disease Control says it can. They say that "smokers are twice as likely to become impotent than non-smokers." Think you are safe in second-hand smoke? Wrong again. Second-hand smoke can affect you, even if it takes years to happen.

The tobacco industry is saying this is a load of bull. They are saying this is just an attack by anti-smokers to get people to sue and hate the tobacco industry.

Who do you believe?

I definitely believe in what the AMA is saying, because the tobacco industry, in my mind, is just trying to hide behind their lies and ignore those 400,000 people who die every year from smoking.

I know you may not believe this, but I do. I just don't want any of you smokers complaining about being impotent, because it's your fault.

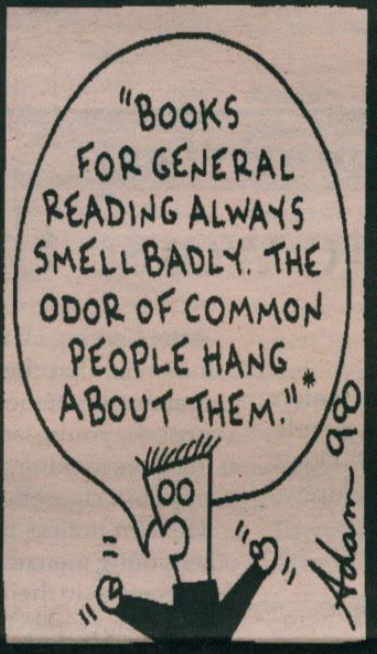
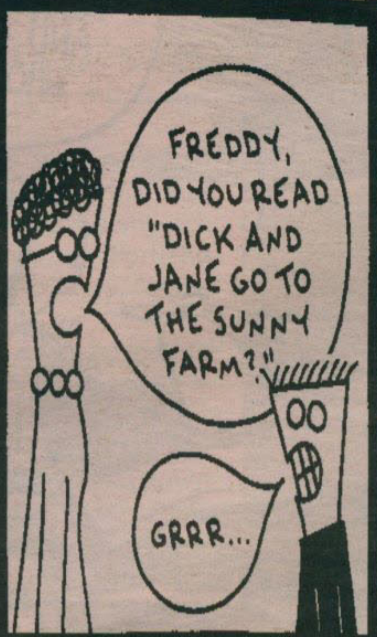
"Cigarette smoking causes sexual impotence" screams warning labels in Thailand. Just remember that sign.



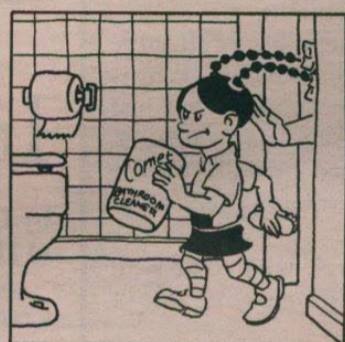
LOONEY LANE

Emily Bellamy 1998 by Adrian Wallace

Historical figures with really bad attitudes #536: YOUNG FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE...



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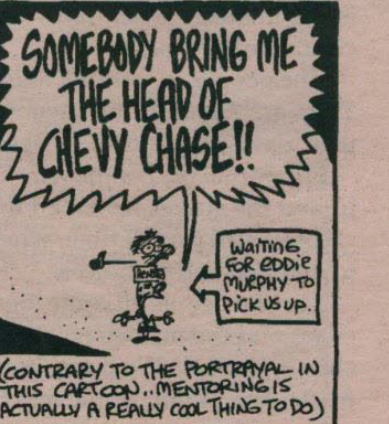
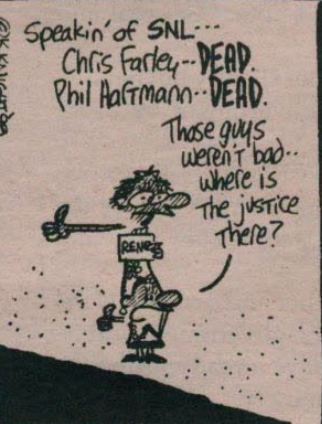
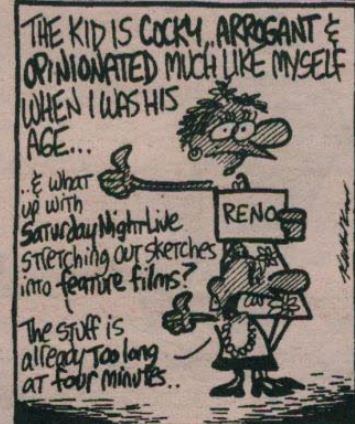


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  - Business deal
  - Louisiana backwater
  - Imitate
  - More rational
  - Bernhardt's rival
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  - In conflict
  - Fun trip in a wagon
  - Nautical passage
  - More ethereal
  - Firm and fresh
  - Ventilate
  - Soup dispenser
  - Moscow lang.
  - Harriet's hubby
  - Equal
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  - Solitaire starter
  - Family dog
  - Gridiron distance
  - Inc. in the U.K.
  - Consume
  - Vane dir.
  - English meal
  - Zodiac sign
  - Two performers
  - Harris and Wynn
  - Go wrong
  - Affirmative reply
- DOWN
- Possibly
  - Naval rank
  - Best sharpshooter
  - Curving courses
  - Mob melees
  - Fiscal
  - Human beings
  - Nimble
  - Zero
  - City on the Merrimack River
  - Revolved
  - Loan sharks, e.g.
  - Put at risk
  - Try to win over
  - Paulo, Brazil
  - Square
  - Unbelievable bargain
  - Horse morsel
  - Summertime drink
  - Water
  - Scratched deeply
  - Former Canadian P.M.
  - Alternative to pasta
  - Mooncalf
  - Chart
  - Under the best possible conditions
  - Political winner
  - Altar screen
  - Islands in the Atlantic
  - Island in the Baltic
  - Trevelyan novel, "The Sanction"
  - "Auld Lang"
  - At hand

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THE K CHRONICLES



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