

# The Commuter

A Weekly Student Publication

Wednesday, June 5, 1996

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

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## One Last Fling

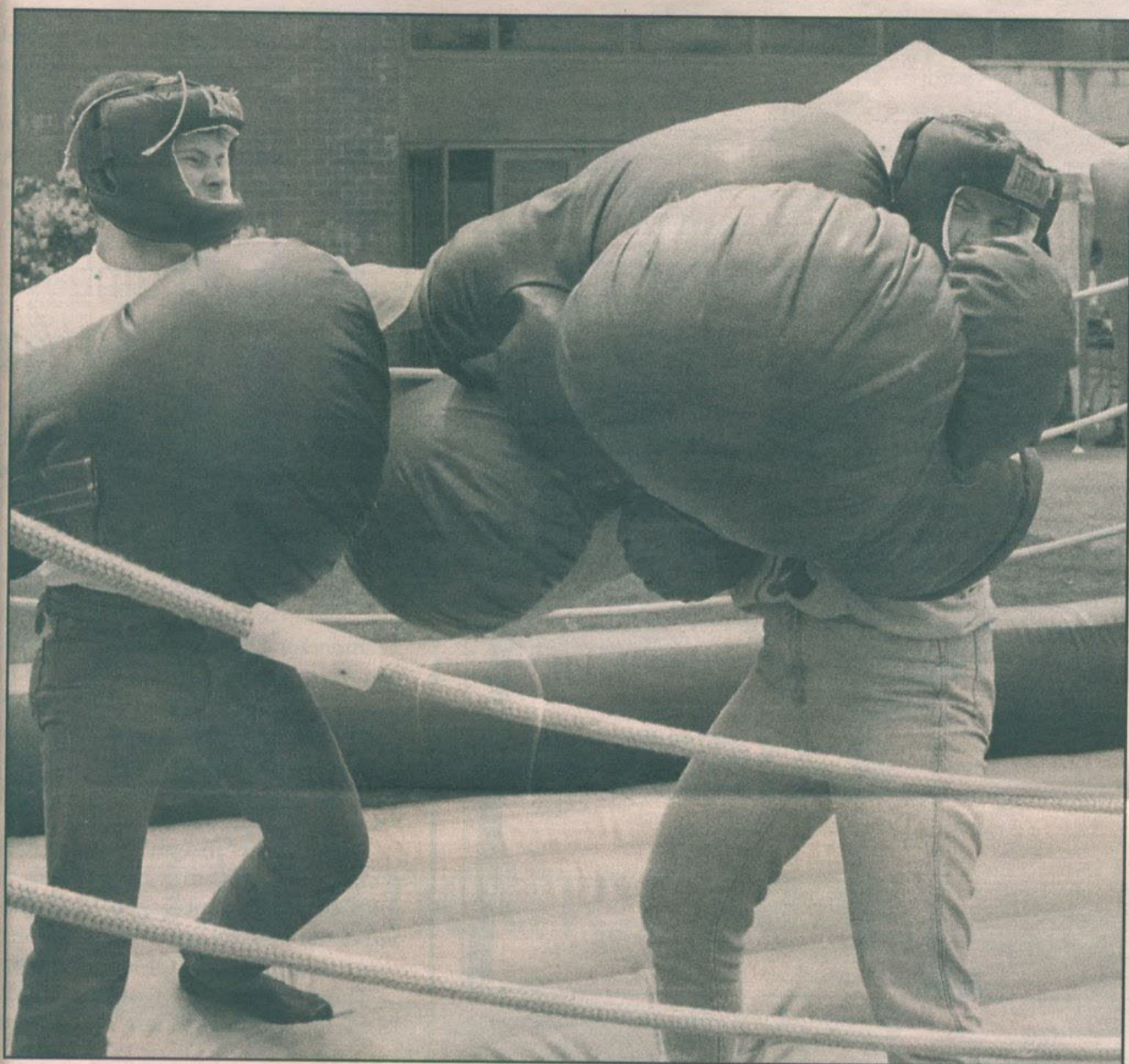


Photo by Jessica Sprenger

Dave Decker, a first-year general studies major, lands a powerful left jab on the well-protected chin of second-year computer science student Cheryl Vance. The two students were among many who took part in the Big Bout Boxing event at last week's annual Spring Fling. See pages 2 and 3 for more pictures.

## We're outa' here!

### Grads bid farewell in June 13 commencement exercises

Commencement exercises for graduates of LBCC will be held Thursday June 13 at 7 p.m. in the Activity Center.

Ceremonies begin with the Willamette Valley Pipe Band playing the processional, followed by LBCC President Jon Carnahan giving the welcome and introducing Richard Wendland, who will deliver the Board of Education's comments, and Angela Rivera, LBCC Student Association representative and past ASLBCC president, who will deliver the student address.

Special awards and degrees will be presented by Carnahan; Scott Anselm, Faculty Association president; and May Garland, past Faculty Association president.

The Willamette Valley Pipe Band will then lead the recessional, and the Associated Students of LBCC will host a reception following the ceremony in the courtyard.

Video tapes of the commencement ceremony will be available for \$10 from the Media Center after June 19.

## See ya next year!

### Fall registration already underway; tuition payment deferred till August

Registration for fall term began Monday for continuing fully-admitted students. Rather than closing until late August as they have in the past, registration will remain open throughout the summer for these students.

Fall term tuition payments or arrangements for payment for those registered must be made by August 23. After that date, they will be due on the day of registration.

New fully-admitted student orientation and registration will begin in September by appointment. Open registration starts September 19. For more information, call 917-4812.

## what students think

# Students look back on the good, the bad and the boring

Josh Burk

The Commuter

As the 1995-1996 school year comes to a close, so do the weekly editions of The Commuter. In this last "What Students Think," I thought it would be appropriate to ask students how the 95-96 year treated them. Ritchy Arnold, a first year student, said "This year went by really really fast. It's my first year in college, and it was a lot easier than I expected. I hope that next year will be as easy."

Amy Carter said "This year went by a lot faster than last year. I was involved in quite a few different activities throughout the year, and that made it go by really fast. I enjoyed all my classes, well most of them, and I was anxious to graduate."

Terrance Henry, a business student, expects next

*"There was a lot more homework and studying to be done, but now I'm prepared. Next year should be a breeze."*

—Terrance Henry

year to be even better. "This year was my first year in college, and it took me awhile to adapt. There was a lot more homework and studying to be done, but now I'm prepared. Next year should be a breeze."

Aaron Himly, an automotive student, said "I really had a tough time of it at first. I was working too much, and I had too many credits. Once I got through the first term, I knew that I was going to be all right. Second term I took fewer classes and didn't work as much.

Once I did that, I really started enjoying myself. I began to meet more people and do more things besides work and study. On the whole I guess that I had a pretty good year."

Not all students adapted as well to college life.

"I didn't really like college. I suppose that it was because I don't really like school in general. I barely graduated from high school, and I only passed a handful of my classes at LB. Maybe next year I'll try a little harder," said first year science major Sam Carrier.

"I'm not going to Linn-Benton next year," said Allen Harris. "I didn't like it at all. It wasn't so much the work or the teachers, but the school and students were the worst part. Nobody ever did anything around here. There were no activities worth going to, no parties or

(Turn to 'LB' on Page 2)

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# New computer support degree to 'boot up' next year

From the LBCC News Service

When your desktop computer at work won't talk to the other computers and printers, who do you call?

If you work for the growing number of companies and organizations that have come to depend on computers, you'll need help from computer user support specialists.

To train people to sort out increasingly complex computer networks and software, LBCC has created a new two-year Associate of Applied Science degree in Computer User Support technology. The program is administered by the Business, Training and Health Occupations Division.

Students will be trained to provide technical help on hardware and software to computer users, handling a wide variety of tasks, from troubleshooting a hard-drive crash to showing the boss how to use a new spreadsheet program.

The entry level positions graduates will fill include end-user computer support specialists, help desk assistant, computer lab assistant, computer services repre-

*"A computer person needs a wide variety of skills these days to keep pace with the growing technological changes."*

—Dan Joy

sentative, network support assistant, software trainer and documentation specialist.

"People with this type of training are really in demand now," said Computer User Support program advisor Peggy Weems.

Dan Joy, information systems manager at CH2M Hill in Corvallis, explained that the complexity and rapid changes in computer technology demand a computer specialist. At Joy's company, highly paid environmental engineers can't spend their time learning what hardware and software are needed to network a new computer.

"A computer person needs a wide variety of skills these days to keep pace with the growing technologi-

cal changes," said Joy.

Students in the new program will use the computer facilities in the college's Forum Computer Lab and Business Management Department.

LBCC and Lane Community College, which also offers the new degree, developed the program with a \$70,300 grant from the Oregon Economic Development Division Regional Strategies Board, plus \$130,000 from both colleges and \$32,750 from the state's computer industry. The board software subcommittee, which includes regional software industry representative, put development of an associate's degree in Computer User Support as one of their highest priorities for economic development in the region.

The job market for graduates appears to be good. According to the Office of Community College Services new program application filed by Lane Community College, Eugene's Symantec Corp. now employs more than 400 people in computer user support positions. The report also estimated an average annual starting wage of \$19,000.

## LB not fun enough for some students

✓ From Page One

anything! I've heard that Lane is much more exciting, so I'm transferring there next fall."

Jason Arnold, a general studies student, also didn't fit in at LBCC. "I only went to LB for one term. I registered all three terms, but I dropped out of most of them and didn't go to the rest. I don't really like school, but my parents asked me if I would try it for a year. I don't see myself coming back next year. I did enjoy getting to live on my own though. That was definitely the high part of the year for me."

It seems that for a majority of the students interested in going to school that the 95-96 year at Linn-Benton Community College was a success. There are a lot of newly enrolled students eager to take the place of those graduating this year. Hopefully, for everyone that enjoyed this year, next year will be just as good. And for those who had a difficult time, maybe next year will have something better to offer you.

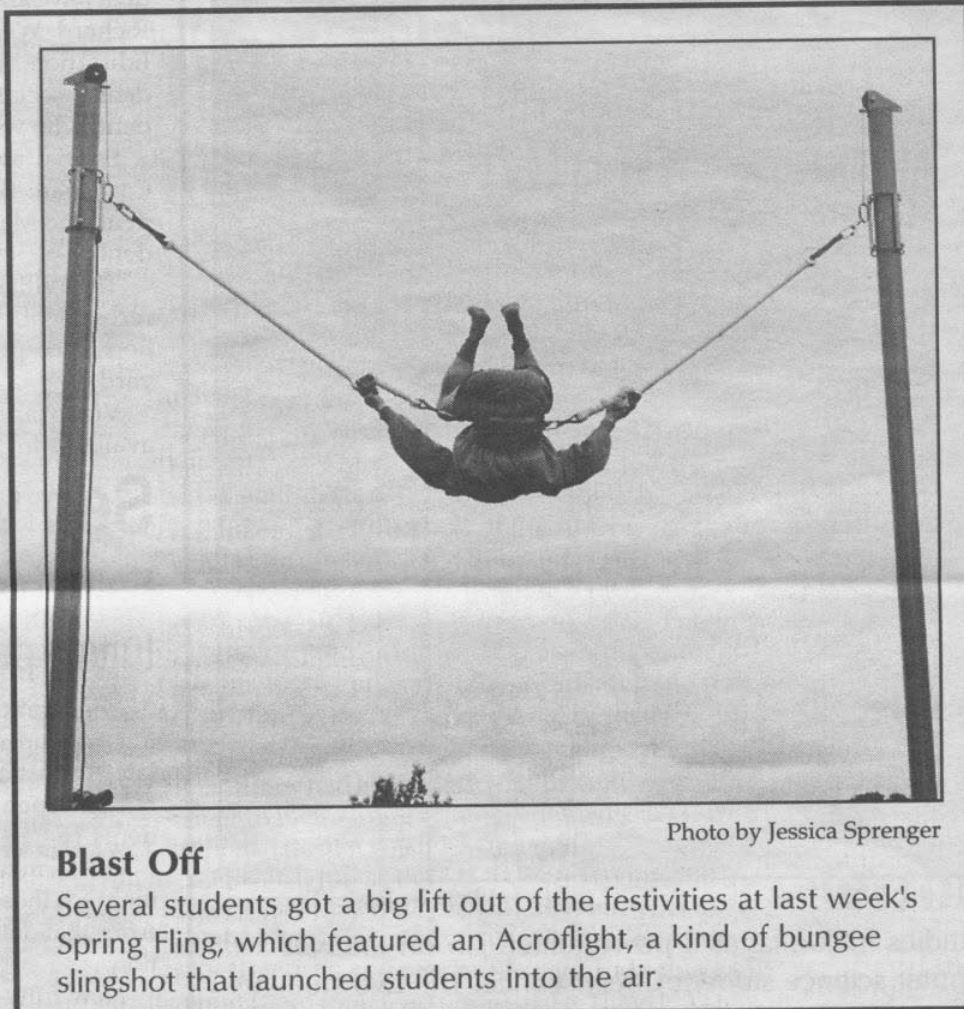


Photo by Jessica Sprenger

### Blast Off

Several students got a big lift out of the festivities at last week's Spring Fling, which featured an Acroflight, a kind of bungee slingshot that launched students into the air.

## 'Electric Library' up and running in LBCC library

From the LBCC News Service

The LBCC Library has begun a month-long free trial of the "Electric Library," an on-line World Wide Web service offering full text copies from over 800 magazines, 150 newspapers, two newswires, numerous reference books, hundreds of maps, thousands of photographs and TV and radio transcripts.

The "Electric Library" is the creation of Infonautics, a three-and-a-half-year-old company in Wayne, Penn. The company, which launched the venture in February, also markets "Homework Helper," an on-line general reference for children, and the "Electronic Printing Press," software that helps people establish custom on-line information services.

The "Electric Library" provides information that is "really current," said librarian Jorry Rolfe. "It can potentially be used by all LB Internet users. It's easy to use and great for analyzing and applying information."

Infonautics charges \$1,995 per station per year for an institutional license. The college's current free trial is limited to one "simultaneous user." In other words, only one person at a time can browse the database through the LBCC Internet network.

The trial ends in mid-June, after which the library will decide whether to continue the service.

To try the system, ask the library staff how to log onto station No. 2. After using the service, library staff requests that you let them know what you think.

*"It can potentially be used by all LB Internet users. It's easy to use and great for analyzing and applying information."*

—Jorry Rolfe

## Concert, Chamber choirs perform finale

From the LBCC News Service

The Concert and Chamber choirs, directed by Hal Eastburn, will perform "Season Finale" Thursday at 8 p.m. in the Takena Theater.

Tickets are \$3 at the door.

Highlights include a complete concert version of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat" by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber. The biblical story of Joseph, son of Jacob, is told in a delightful way with every memorable part of the story punctuated with musical treat. Each of the 18 numbers is set in a different musical style.

The musical "Joseph" was originally written as a 20-minute cantata for schools. After the success of "Jesus Christ Superstar" by the same collaborators was rewritten into a full-length musical.

The performance features soloists from the Concert Choir and a small combo headed by Diane Watkins on piano and Matt Alexander on drums.

In addition to "Joseph," LB's award-winning Chamber Choir performs a complete repertoire of a capella choral music, spanning four centuries and a large selection of multi-cultural and ethnic music unique to a capella choir. Included are pieces from Spain, England, Africa and elsewhere. Also featured are original compositions by Eastburn.

## WW II vet shares experiences in class

A World War II fighter pilot, Charles Ferree, who liberated several concentration camps, will speak today in Michael Weiss's history classes. Ferree will share his experiences in the air and in the camps. The sessions in Takena 217 and 2 p.m. are open to the public.

Ferree spends much time on the Internet talking about the Holocaust.

## 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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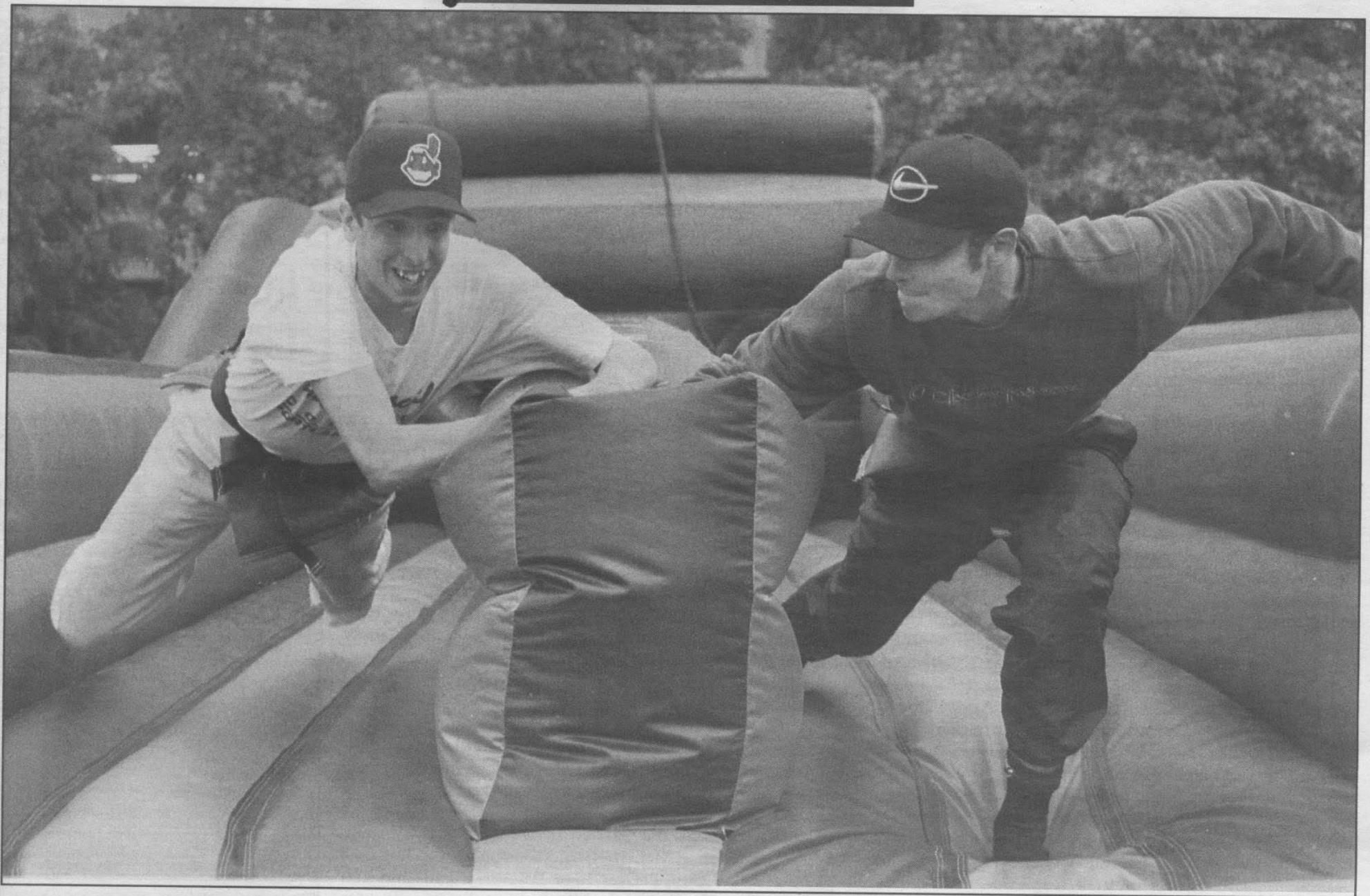
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## CAMPUS NEWS



# Spring Fling marks end of another year



Wednesday and Thursday last week marked LBCC's annual Spring Fling, hosted by the Student Programming Board. Activities included a dunk tank, Big Bout Boxing, miniature golf, Acroflight and a live band, which helped ease the burden many students feel as the end of the term approaches. Turnout was lower this year than in previous years due to cool, rainy weather and overcast skies. At top, Trevor Gleason and Scott Daniels try out the Bungee Run, while at right Darin Dolson sinks Bookstore clerk Mo Abelman in the dunk tank.

Photographs by Jessica Sprenger



## ON THE ROAD

# Scenic lake resort area offers year-round playground

Wallowa Lake mirrors surrounding mountains where thousands flock every summer making it one of Oregon's most popular spots

by Mary Hake  
of The Commuter

With a sudden intake of breath, the first-time visitor emerges from the hills guarding what was once called "Oregon's best-kept secret," pristine Wallowa Lake. The brilliant blue water sparkles on a sunny day reflecting the surrounding green trees and towering mountains.

Fed by the glaciers of the snow-capped Wallowa Mountains, this four-mile-long, 300-foot-deep mountain lake sits in the midst of a popular recreation area in Northeast Oregon at the end of Highway 82, about 400 miles from Albany.

Tourists of all types, from the wealthy resort-bound to seasoned backpackers, appreciate the scenic panorama and the variety of activities. In addition to year-round fishing, Wallowa Lake offers boating, water skiing, swimming and other water activities, with rental equipment and a gift shop available in the lakeside marina. A free boat-launch ramp and the sandy lakefront area add to its attraction.

Chosen by National Geographic as one of six outstanding parks in the Farwest, which includes Alaska and Hawaii, Wallowa Lake State Park boasts 211 camping sites—121 full hook-up and 90 tent, with three group areas. Established in 1946, this 166-acre recreation area is the largest state park campground in Eastern Oregon. Open from April 15 to October 29, it has drinking water, showers and wheelchair-accessible restrooms. Call the Oregon Parks Division at 800-452-5687 for reservations to secure a space. Campsites for 1996 remain, but they are filling up quickly.

In 1995, the park attracted well over 600,000 people. Day-use for picnicking and play adds to the summer crowds. Inquisitive deer mingle with human visitors around the lake, bravely approaching for mutual close inspection. Children love walking through the parking lot and campground counting the license plates from different states and countries.

The state park amphitheater hosts informative talks and slide shows by local forest rangers, and each Sunday morning during the summer, a nondenominational service is held in the outdoor chapel.

Besides Wallowa Lake State Park, other accommodations nearby welcome road-weary travelers seeking natural beauty, fresh air, relaxation and fun: Rustic and resort cabins, RV parks, a bed & breakfast inn, the Eagle Cap Chalets with conference facilities, and the historic Wallowa Lake Lodge, along with the United Methodist Church Camp and Retreat Center which can be rented privately. These fill quickly during peak times.

Among tall evergreens on the mountainside above the gently cascading Wallowa River Falls stands the Boy Scout Camp. This rural wonderland serves as a fine introduction to nature for urban scouts and a natural playground for all.

Additional activities in the Wallowa Lake community include go-carts, an arcade, mini golf, bike rentals, horseback riding and, of course, hiking. Trails take off in many directions, with paths for a leisurely walk or a strenuous packing trip.

For a spectacular 360-degree view, ride the Wallowa Lake Tram up Mount Howard. Beginning at an elevation of 4,450 feet, the steepest four-passenger gondola in North America takes riders on a 15-minute trip up to the 8,200-foot level of the Eagle Cap Wilderness. From this vantage point, it is easy to understand why this locale bears the nicknames "Little Switzerland of America" and "Alps of Oregon." It even has its own Matterhorn, the wilderness's highest peak at 9,845 feet.

Food and drinks can be purchased at the Mountain Top Deli. Two miles of nature trails surround the summit, with well-marked overlooks providing views into four states. The tramway, open from Memorial Day to Labor Day since 1970, charges \$6 for children and \$12 for adults.

You can also trek in on foot, by horseback or with llamas. By July 4, most of the nearly 1,000 miles of Eagle Cap Wilderness trails are free of snow and remain open until late October. Anglers can ply the waters of over 37 miles of streams and any of the 53 mountain lakes, including Oregon's highest—Legore Lake at 8,800 feet. Many are stocked by air with trout every two to three years. Nature lovers, as well as hunters, thrill at the sight of mountain goats, bighorn sheep, bears, elk and deer, plus various smaller wildlife including golden mantled squirrels and many birds.

After an exhilarating day exploring in the 358,461 acres of wilderness, vacationers will be ready for a hot meal. Fine cuisine can be found in the Wallowa Lake Lodge Restaurant, along with dinner music and other entertainment. Vali's Alpine Deli and Restaurant, another favorite eatery, features a speciality dinner every night. Joe's Place serves gourmet pizza, and Russell's at the Lake pleases those looking for casual fare. The Matterhorn Swiss Village now includes an espresso bar,

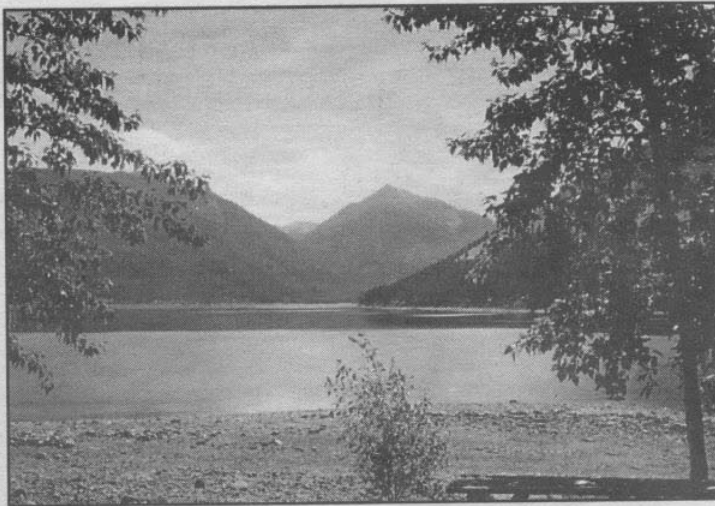


Photo by Verna Fischer

The view from the campground at Wallowa Lake State Park brings thousands of visitors to this Eastern Oregon scenic area every summer.

Italian sodas and pastries, in addition to their charming array of gifts and souvenirs, clothes and hiking gear.

Woody McDowell, an experienced trail guide whose family bought the Eagle Cap Wilderness Pack Station six years ago, said he used to come every year and ride the country. "Now I get to live here."

With 80 horses available and 10 wranglers employed during the summer season, he said, they serve riders from first-timers to the very experienced, with no problems. Fees range from \$15 for a one-hour ride to the deluxe vacation package at \$125 per person per day.

He also operates the "last-of-its-kind" fly-in/ride-in wilderness experience, McDowell said. Customers can hop on a plane in Baker City, LaGrande or Enterprise and land in a secluded spot 25 miles up the Minam River. Some go just for breakfast, he said, while others choose the cozy log-cabin duplexes, which are open from May to mid-September, for their vacation stay.

A licensed guide and outfitter, McDowell hesitated when asked about his famous clients. He said the first thing a celebrity requests when making arrangements is that no one knows they're there. They come to get away, and he honors their privacy by not divulging any names.

One-half of the Eagle Cap's summer trips are already booked. Reservations can be made at 800-452-5687.

McDowell commented on the area's rapid growth—both in tourists and new residents, adding that property values have tripled in the past three years. However, he said that this vast area has plenty of room for everybody—you can still go out into the wilderness and never run into other people.

Summer temperatures fluctuate from highs in the 90s to lows in the 40s, with sudden changes and frequent late-afternoon thunderstorms. Warm weather brings out the insects, so bring repellent along for protection.

One of Oregon's most beautiful lakes, Wallowa Lake was formed by a glacier thousands of years ago, and is recognized by geologists as one of the most perfectly formed glacial lakes in the world. Wildflowers are abundant throughout the area in-season, including some sub-alpine species. The forested slopes of the Wallowa Mountains contain tropical fossil corals, mollusks, algae and sponges similar to those found in the European Alps. Along with geological wonders, the wilderness region contains cultural and historic features, such as old mines, Indian sites and trappers' cabins.

The word Wallowa is Nez Perce for a tripod-mounted fish trap for trout and salmon, which the Indians used to catch fish in the lake. This was formerly their summer home which they called the "land of shining waters."

Old Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce was first buried at their traditional campsite near the junction of the Lostine and Wallowa Rivers. In 1923, Wallowa County reinterred his remains on a small knoll overlooking the lower end of Wallowa Lake. Driving from the nearby town of Joseph, named for the chief, you pass his small memorial park, marked with a bronze plaque on a stone monument.

The famous Alpenfest, held at Wallowa Lake since 1974, will be held September 20-22, 1996, with crafts, yodelers, dancing and an assortment of food. For more information, call 541-432-4704.

Although summertime may be the most crowded around Wallowa Lake, all seasons present outdoor opportunities and gorgeous sights to behold. Winter snows allow skiing and snowmobiling in this appealing year-round outdoor adventure-land and the frozen lake is a natural rink for iceskaters.

As first-time visitors leave this breathtaking vista, they vow to themselves that they'll return. Wallowa Lake is like a magnet pulling them back again and again.

## Places to go, things to do in Wallowa Lake country

### 1996 EVENTS

**Wallowa Valley Arts Festival**  
June 28-30  
Joseph Civic Center  
541-432-4605

**Fishtrap Workshop**  
July 7-14  
Wallowa Lake  
541-426-3623

**Chief Joseph Days**  
July 26-28  
Joseph Rodeo Arena  
541-432-1015

**Alpenfest**  
September 20-22  
Wallowa Lake  
541-432-4704

### WALLOWA LAKE RESORT AREA BUSINESSES

**Country Cottage Gift Shop**  
local crafts  
541-432-5950

**Eagle Cap Chalets**  
conference facilities, indoor pool  
541-432-4704

**Eagle Cap Wilderness Pack Station**  
trail rides, vacation packages  
541-432-4145, 800-681-6222

**Flying Arrow Resort**  
pool, riverside cabins  
541-432-2951

**Jack's**  
go-carts, arcade, mini-golf, RV park  
800-438-7831

**Joe's Place**  
arcade, gourmet pizza  
541-432-4940

**Matterhorn's Kaffehaus**  
espresso bar, gifts  
541-432-4071

**Matterhorn Swiss Village**  
cabins, import shop  
800-891-2551

**Park at the River**  
RV park, TV, showers  
541-432-8800

**Russell's at the Lake**  
casual dining  
541-432-0591

**Stein's Cabins**  
541-432-2391

**Tamarack Pines bed & breakfast**  
non-smoking  
541-432-2920

**Vali's Alpine Deli & Restaurant**  
reservations  
541-432-5691

**Wallowa Lake General Store**  
groceries  
541-432-9292

**Wallowa Lake Lodge**  
non-smoking, dining room  
541-432-9821

**Wallowa Lake Marina**  
waterbikes, boat rentals  
541-432-9115

**Wallowa Lake Tramway**  
541-432-5331

## ON THE ROAD

## Country Fair attracts people of all types to celebration of life

by Christina Bondurant  
of The Commuter

The first time I ventured to Oregon was to visit my father. The country was vast and colorful, nothing like the crowded craziness of San Francisco that I was used to. I fell in love with all the space, different trees and various other plants that grew all over. My father was anxious to show me the sights, so we went on various hiking excursions and spent some time in Portland.

The last adventure we went on before I had to return to my way-too-hecktic life in California was down past Eugene to the well-known Oregon Country Fair.

I had no idea what the fair was about or anything; I'd just heard it was a huge gathering of hippies, which sounded alright. I later discovered it was much more than that.

My dad, his wife, a friend and I were close to the out on Highway 126 past Veneta, and it felt like we were lost. None of us had been there before, so we were totally confused. We were in what seemed like the middle of nowhere, but it was beautiful and green, like the rest of Oregon.

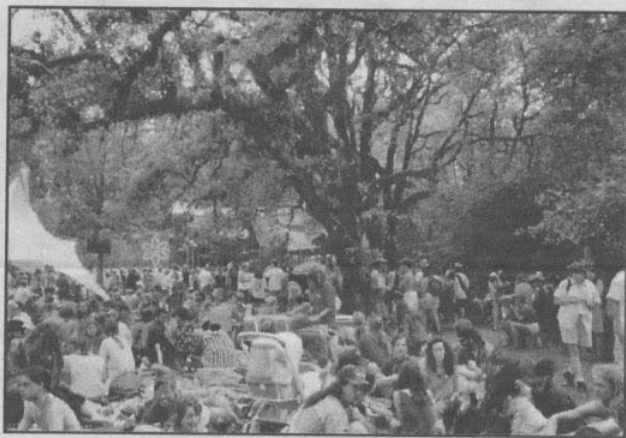
Suddenly we spotted a huge field in the distance crammed full of cars and knew we were almost there. We pulled in, parked, and began the short hike to where the fair actually took place. There were thousands of cars,

RV buses, trucks, and every other vehicle you can imagine covering the huge field.

We came to the entrance with about fifty other people around us. It was total chaos, and I loved it. We paid seven or eight bucks to get in and the party began.

Whoever said the Country Fair consists of just a bunch of hippies was full of it. The variety of people there was incredible, from young or old to hippie or punk.

The fair is like a labyrinth through the trees with various booths down every path. The smell of delicious



People all ages crowd around the mainstage at the Oregon Country Fair last year.

food and scented candles filled the air. Craftsmen displaying their goods like rugs, clothing, jewelry, pottery, other goodies filled the fair. Not only was their stuff cool, but also affordable!

The fair is not just a place to buy cool stuff either. There are various stages where you can chill out and watch bands play, magicians perform, storytellers share and daredevils be daring.

As we strolled down one of the paths, we could hear a group coming and drums beating.

A colorful parade came around the corner and we stood with our mouths agape staring at the bright costumes and listening to everyone sing the fair's Teddy bear theme song.

Various comical and colorful characters passed by through out the day, including dance teams and really cool people on stilts.

Not only did my friend and I enjoy the fair, but so did my dad and his wife; it's not just for us crazy young

*Not only did my friend and I enjoy the fair, but so did my dad and his wife; it's not just for us crazy young people.*

## Southern Oregon attractions offer more than Shakespeare

Wild and scenic Rogue River, historic Jacksonville, Britt Festival, House of Mystery combine to lure visitors off the interstate

by Josh Burk

The Commuter

Roaring rivers, breathtaking scenery, racing jet boats, meandering rafts, avid fishermen, ski slopes, ghost towns and thespians.

These are just a few of the main attractions in southern Oregon's Rogue River Valley. It draws thousands of tourists yearly, welcoming them to its many hidden treasures.

In the heart of the valley is Ashland, known mostly for the famous Oregon Shakespearean Festival, held annually from February through October. The festival is a major part of life in Ashland, featuring an exuberant spirit visitors love.

But it's not the only attraction the Ashland area has to offer.

This inviting little town nestled between the oak-dotted foothills and the Rogue River National Forest boasts several theater and music companies that offer year-round performances, as well as dozens of intriguing shops, bookstores and restaurants. Southern Oregon State College houses an art museum and a fine collection of Shakespearean books.

Ashland is said to have more bed-and-breakfasts than any other U.S. city. Standard lodgings include a variety of motels and a full-service resort: the Highland Hills Inn.

On the slopes of 7,525-foot Mt Ashland, located south of town, is the Mt Ashland Inn, a hand-crafted structure with a touch of luxury. From its doors you can hike forested trails, ski cross-country or climb to peaks with downhill runs.

Adjacent to the Shakespearean Festival theater complex is Lithia Park, 100 acres of secluded groves and grassy fields, playgrounds, and ponds with gliding swans. In the band shell area, concerts, ballets and silent movies are presented on summer evenings.

Just north of Ashland in Medford, the commercial heart of the region, the Bear Creek greenway has parks

and paths that make it a popular place to picnic, jog, walk and bicycle. In Railroad Park, hundreds of train buffs gather on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, from April to November, to ride the miniature steam trains and see the railway equipment. A model railroad show is held annually at the armory in late November.

West of bustling Medford, in Jacksonville, visitors find themselves half-expecting to see a stagecoach rumble around the corner.

The little town, once the largest settlement in southern Oregon, is the epitome of an Old West Frontier town. Bypassed by the railroad, the gold-mining community was on its way to becoming a ghost town several years ago when it was labeled a National Historic Landmark.

Tourists took notice, and today the village is maintained as a bit of living history, complete with carriage rides, blacksmiths, wooden sidewalks and vintage homes turned into museums.

The outdoor Britt Festival is held on the edge of town at the former Peter Britt estate. Bring a blanket and a picnic to the summer-long series of jazz, bluegrass, country and classical music.

The real prize of the valley is the Rogue River itself. The roaring Rogue lies between the Cascade Mountains on the east and the Siskiyou on the west. Rafters come from all around the world to challenge its white water on the Rogue. A 40-mile section, federally designated as Wild and Scenic, is open only to non-motorized boats, and permits are required. They're so popular they are issued by lottery.

Commercial outfits offer rafting and kayaking trips that range from gentle floats to wild rides over the rapids. Eagles, ospreys and snowy egrets fly above the rugged canyon, and deer and occasionally bears are

people.

For families with little ones, the fair even offers day care and areas only for kids. The day care is set in a wooded area, and the children are watched by professionals who volunteer their time. Entertainment is offered by musicians and puppeteers for the children.

The year I attended the fair was especially cool, because it was the 25th anniversary. The fair started in 1969 as a benefit event for a local school. Called the Renaissance Pleasure Fair, it went over so well that it continued from that year forth.

The Country Fair takes place once a year at the height of summer, during the second weekend of July. It's a three-day event and people travel from all over to be a part of it. It was once a dream that has now become a tradition.

The fair is also deeply involved in political and environmental issues, which you can read about and take part in. Village Vision, a newspaper put out during the fair offers information on the latest issues.

This event is located off Route 126 a few miles beyond Elmira. About 25,000 people attend the fair each year, not including the craftsmen, cooks, artisans and various performers who travel from all over to take part. In addition, a large crew of workers keep the fair together. Organizers, security, traffic, garbage control and many others work hard to keep the fun alive.

The Oregon Country Fair is a celebration of life and a place for all kinds of people to come together.

Its unique structure, great food and entertainment, political involvement and feeling of family makes it a must to experience.

People walk away from the fair after the three-day party and wonder why they can't live like that all the time; I know I did.

If you've never been to the Oregon Country Fair, I strongly suggest you make it one of your priorities to go check it out.

For more information on the fair, write to Oregon Country Fair, P.O. Box 2972 Eugene, Ore 97402, or call (541) 343-4298.

seen among the trees. Another way to experience the Rogue—thrills without the spills—is by jet boat, roaring up the river from Gold Beach, on the coast or out of Grants Pass.

Hikers can walk the 40-mile trail that edges the river, stopping for meals and lodging at inns along the way, while fishers come for the hefty steelhead and salmon. Several fishing guide services are available. The region abounds with campgrounds and RV facilities.

With the river running through the heart of Grants Pass, recreation focuses on the water—from rafting to a Memorial Day Boating Festival that includes a 52-mile hydro boat race.

Grants Pass, which formed around a stagecoach stop in the 1860s, also has a collection of historic homes, museums, bed-and-breakfast inns, and antique shops.

Visitors like to picnic in Riverside Park and listen to free summer concerts.

Wildlife Images also welcomes visitors.

A donation of \$5 is suggested for a tour of the facility that cares for injured bears, cougar, owls, eagles and other wildlife in need of help. Hiking trails abound in the area. Big Pine Campground, in the Siskiyou National Forest, is unusual—

not only does it claim to have the world's largest ponderosa pine, the trail leading to the tall tree is barrier-free and accessible to wheelchairs.

Finally, no trip would be complete to southern Oregon without a trip to the House of Mystery and the Oregon Vortex.

The Vortex, in Gold Hill south of Grants Pass, is an unusual magnetic field that makes objects lean strangely and appear to be oddly sized. The guided tour through this natural phenomemon leaves visitors baffled and intrigued.

So if you're down south for the week stop on by and see it for yourself.

*No trip would be complete to southern Oregon without a trip to the House of Mystery and the Oregon Vortex. The Vortex, in Gold Hill south of Grants Pass, is an unusual magnetic field that makes objects lean strangely and appear to be oddly sized. The guided tour through this natural phenomemon leaves visitors baffled and intrigued.*

# Look What's Brewing

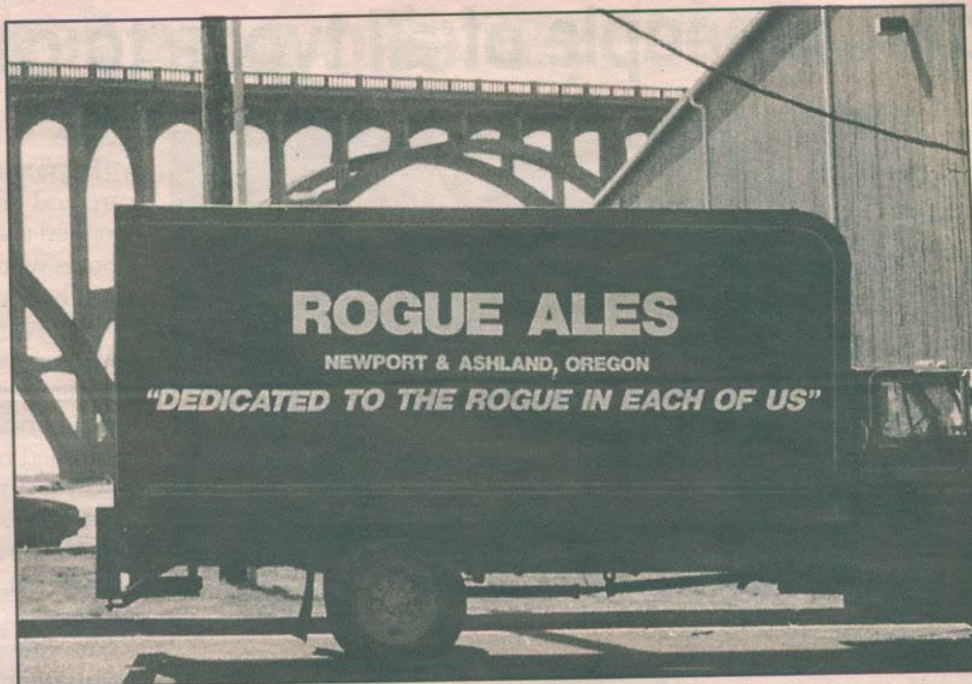


Photo by Pete Petryszak

## Homebrewing beer is popular age-old hobby

by Pete Petryszak  
of The Commuter

It wasn't long ago that most American beer drinkers thought all beer was supposed to be pale yellow, have little or no taste, and be force-carbonated with giant bubbles like soda.

I remember feeling like an outcast when I showed up at parties with a six-pack of Guinness.

Those Bud-guzzling partiers knew little about the wide variety of beer styles available around the world, and even less about how their beer was made. If they had, maybe more of them would have put down their keg cups and sampled the warm black nectar that can make even the most uptight Pittsburgh artist's dance a rake and speak with a brogue.

Brewing beer is one of the first chemical reactions humans learned to control. Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia (in the Middle East) kept records of their brewing, and beer was considered such an important part of life in Mesopotamia that the code of Hammurabi (the earliest record of a written set of laws) called for the death penalty for any tavern owner found to be watering down his beer.

The basic ingredients to beer are water, grains (usually barley), hops (an aromatic green flower) and yeast.

Beer is a mix of cooking and chemistry. Crushed grains are heated in water to extract their sugar. Hops are then added to flavor the mixture. To produce the alcohol, yeast is added to the sugary solution made with the grains and hops. This pre-alcoholic liquid is called "wort" (pronounced "wert").

Adding ("pitching") the yeast begins the process of fermentation; the breaking down of an organic substance (the sugar from the grain) by enzyme activity (the growth of the yeast). Yeast feed on the sugar and release alcohol and carbon dioxide as waste products.

There was a time in American history when almost every restaurant or tavern had its own brewery, providing diners and travelers with a unique flavor of brew at every stop.

Things began to change in the middle and late 19th century, as the industrial revolution introduced modern production methods to the brewing industry.

Homebrewing first saw a revival during Prohibition (1919-1933). Since all alcohol had been made illegal, thirsty beer lovers took to brewing clandestinely in their homes. Many of the homebrewers of the time knew little about the differences in yeast cultures, or of the enormous pressure which could build up inside a fermenting vessel. Consequently, much of the beer produced during this period was of inferior quality and the process was dangerous.

The art of homebrewing has experienced a comeback in the past decade after being officially legalized in 1979. It is now legal for a homebrewer to produce between 100-200 gallons of beer per legal-age member of the household per year (the legal limit varies from state to state).

Much of the recent growth in homebrewing can be credited to Charlie Papazian, author of "The Complete Joy of Home Brewing" (referred to as "the Bible" among homebrewers). This book explains the brewing process in much greater detail and has numerous recipes to experiment with.

Thankfully, a lot has changed since the dangerous days of prohibition homebrewing. A wide range of yeast cultures specially adapted to the beer environment have been developed, as has special equipment to relieve the pressure on the fermenter, eliminating the possibility that your special brew could become a bomb, spraying glass shards and half-finished beer across your kitchen or basement.

### Getting Started:

The equipment you will need to get started will cost between \$50 and \$100. After this initial investment, you

should only have to spend about \$20 for each 5-gallon batch you brew.

Will's (Shop&Go) Market in Corvallis or Hill St. Brews in Albany will be able to provide you with the equipment you need to start brewing and may provide special deals on "starter kits" which include the basic equipment and ingredients for your first batch.

The equipment you will need includes a 6-8 gallon stew pot; 2 5-6.5 gallon fermenting vessels; a large spoon for stirring the brew; a thermometer; a hydrometer (for measuring specific gravity); a large funnel; several grain bags (mesh bags made from cheesecloth for straining out grains and hops); rubber stoppers and vapor locks.

### Extract or All-Grain?

After you have the basic equipment, you need to find the right ingredients for the beer you wish to brew. Do you want to brew a dark beer or light beer? Select the appropriate grains or extract. Brewing with extracts (sugar cooked out of grains and condensed into a powder or syrup) is much easier and less time-consuming than all-grain brewing, so most homebrewers use that method. Brewing with extracts actually requires no grain at all, but I like to use a little bit to add extra flavor (try roasting some grain at 400 F for 15 minutes) and to slightly boost the amount of sugar in the wort.

### Varieties of Hops

Hops are sold in four ounce packages and rated according to the percentage of alpha acids. Higher content of alpha acids will provide more bitter flavor to the beer. If your hops are higher in alpha acids than the recipe calls for, you might want to cut back on the hops by a half-ounce or so, and vice versa if they are rated lower than what the recipe calls for.

### Ale or Lager?

Yeast varieties are divided into two categories, ales and lagers, depending on the temperatures at which they are active. Ale yeasts' temperature range is from 70 to 75 F, while lager yeasts are active between 55 and 65 F. Make sure you know whether your recipe calls for a lager or ale yeast.

Yeast activity will slow down, and the yeast will die off if kept out of their temperature range, but both ales and lagers should be kept at around 70 F for the first 1-3 days of the fermentation, until the most vigorous activity has subsided.

Yeast can be bought "dry" in packages that look like bread yeast or in double-sealed envelopes containing yeast nutrient and an inner pouch containing dormant yeast (liquid yeast).

Dry yeast can be used the day its bought. Stir the yeast powder into 2 cups of 70 F water and add it to the brew. You might want to consider using two packs to speed the fermentation along.

Liquid yeast needs to incubate for at least 24 hours before it can be used. Find the inner pouch and break it, then let the packet sit at 70-80 F. After about a day-and-a-half you'll see the package start to swell—it's now ready to be pitched.

A starter culture can greatly increase the amount of yeast initially pitched in the brew, insuring a strong initial fermentation. To make a yeast starter, boil one cup of malt extract and one-fourth ounce of hops in two pints of water for 20 minutes. Add the yeast when the mix has cooled to 70 F. Set a vapor lock and let it sit for 12-24 hours.

### Be Wise—Sanitize

Since the yeast produce alcohol on a microscopic level, it is important that they not face competition from other microbes in the wort. Growth of other micro-organisms in the beer could result in the creation of a foul bacteria concoction instead of a delicious home brew.

(Turn to 'Home' on Page 7)

## India Pale Ale

This is an example of the light-to amber-colored, hoppy ales that were drunk by British soldiers fighting in India during the late 1800s. It's hoppier than other light ales because hops are a natural preservative—thus the additional hops insured the beer wouldn't spoil while being shipped from London to India.

- 7 lb. light malt extract (syrup or powder)

- 1 lb. 2-row crystal malt grains (optional)

- 2 oz. Cascade hops (10% alpha acid) for first 45 minutes of boiling

- 2 oz. Cascade hops for final 30 minutes

- Ale yeast (dry or liquid will work—I'm using a pint-starter of Wyeast liquid yeast 1338).

- Add crushed grains (in a grain bag) to 5-6 gallons of cool water and heat. Add malt extract at about 100 F, stirring vigorously.

- Remove grains at 160 F and add first 2 oz. of hops. Make note of time when a boil is reached.

- Boil hops for 45 minutes, then add final 2 oz. of "flavoring" hops and boil an additional 30 minutes.

Boil about two gallons of water in a separate container when you add the "flavoring" hops. You'll need this for "sparging"—rinsing the hops to extract the most flavor from them you can—and for topping off the wort in the fermenter.

After the boil is finished, place your funnel into the fermenter with a grain bag inside the funnel. Carefully pour your wort into the funnel, lifting the grain bag to let the wort flow into the fermenter. Add boiled "sparge" water to top of the wort. Seal with a cork and let cool.

Cool the wort in your refrigerator or in an ice-water bath to approximately 70 F—wait until it's cool to the touch before you pitch your yeast. After the yeast is pitched, fill a vapor lock with vodka or iotaphore solution and seal the fermenter.

Watch the wort closely for the next 72 hours. The initial fermentation can be quite vigorous and you might have to replace the vapor lock with a hollow stopper with a piece of plastic hose attached. Put the other end of the hose in a bucket of bleach water to receive "blowoff" from the beer.

Let the fermenter sit at 70 F for 2-3 weeks.

Sanitize your secondary fermenter and a siphon. Rinse your second fermenter and fill the siphon with water. Cover the "out" end of the siphon with your thumb to prevent the water from leaking out. You'll need a pair of cups to catch the water from the siphon and to collect a sample of the beer.

Uncork the fermenters and place the siphon into the beer. Release your thumb and pour the water into one of your cups. Fill the second cup with beer and then put the "out" end of the siphon into the second fermenter as close to the bottom as you can. This will minimize contact with the air. Keep an eye on the "in" end of the siphon and be careful not to suck up any sludge from the bottom of the first fermenter. As you get near the bottom of the fermenter you might

(Turn to 'Pale' on Page 7)

## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

## Local country dance clubs attract more dedicated dancers

by Craig Hatch  
of The Commuter

The popularity of country and western dancing, which hit the national music scene with unexpected force a few years ago, appears to have leveled off.

Dance clubs, which sprang up throughout the country when dancing was becoming increasingly popular, have begun to feel the effects of the end of the dance craze.

Clubs like Celebrities Cowboy Corral in the T&R in Albany and the Neon Cactus in Salem, have begun to see more and more regulars and fewer and fewer new faces.

"People used to come for a week or two and then leave," said Neon Cactus dance instructor John Elliot. "Now people come and stay, but there are fewer of them."

Elliot, who also teaches a country western dance class at LBCC each term, said that artists like Garth Brooks and dances like the Achy Breaky spurred a big interest in country dancing a few years ago. More and more people were line dancing because it was the popular thing to do at the time.

Now, as country dancing becomes more accepted as a legitimate form of dancing, the people who come out to dance usually stay.

"We teach all ages," said Tom Graves, who is a dance instructor and DJ at Celebrities. "From kids all the way up to grandparents."

Graves, who has been dancing for five years and teaching for four, says that country dancing has become a lot more formalized in its quest for acceptance from other forms of dancing.

Organizations such as the United Country Western Dance Council (UCWDC), the National Teachers Association for Country Western Dance (NTA) and the Country Western Line-Dancing Association (CWLDA) have been trying to standardize all forms of Country Western dancing over the past few years, in an effort to foster consistency among the instructors and dancers across the nation.



Photo by Jessica Sprenger

Dancers gather every Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at Celebrities Cowboy Corral at the T&R in Albany to enjoy the music and dance.

*"All of the hard stuff always filters down eventually to the beginner levels. What was considered an intermediate or even an advanced dance 10 years ago is now almost to the beginner level."*

—John Elliot



*"It takes a lot of time to build these (country) dances. People just don't realize how long it could take. The most important thing is patience."*

—Tom Graves

"Everybody tries, to some degree, to standardize dances," said Elliot, who has been dancing since July 1988 and teaching since the end of 1989. "It's better for everyone."

Country dancing, which includes line-dancing and several different couples dances, has begun to incorporate more

and more steps and moves from other styles of dancing.

"People brought in jazz, ballet and folk moves throughout its (country dance) history," commented Elliot. "Now, musicians are incorporating rock sounds so the dances are incorporating rock moves."

This has led to dances becoming more advanced as dancers skills increase.

"All of the hard stuff always filters down eventually to the beginner levels," said Elliot. "What was considered an intermediate or even an advanced dance 10 years ago is now almost to the beginner level."

Despite the formalization of many of the moves, country dancing has not lost its down-home appeal.

"Country dancing is meant to be social," Graves said.

"The country crowd is generally much more friendly," added Elliot.

Line-dancing has actually picked up some, according to Elliot.

"It's usually the entrance point to dancing for a lot of people," said Elliot. "If they stick around, they move to couples dancing."

"It takes a lot of time to build these dances," Graves added. "People just don't realize how long it could take. The most important thing is patience."

Another sign of country dance's growing acceptance is the appearance of country dance home pages on the Internet. Lessons to be taught at Celebrities and the Neon Cactus can be found, as well as dance step sheets and other items of interest to dancers. Celebrities' home page can be found at <http://www.proaxis.com~timmers/dance.htm> and the Neon Cactus's page is at <http://www.proaxis.com/~hitex/>.

With the increasing acceptance of the style and the persistence of those who dance it, Country Western Dancing appears to have carved its place among other dances.

"I don't think it will fade," said Elliot. "It's here to stay."

## Home brewing

## From Page Six

The brewing area should be cleaned and wiped down with sanitizer, and all utensils should be kept in a sanitizing solution during the brewing process. Brew kettles should be cleaned with hot water and dish soap. Fermenting vessels and bottles should sit in sanitizer for at least 30 minutes. Rinse before use.

One of the best sanitizers for homebrewing is iodophore, a non-toxic derivative of iodine sold in many homebrew shops. A capful is enough to add to gallons of water. Bleach can also be used as a sanitizer, but be sure to rinse your utensils and fermenters thoroughly.

Another key to sanitization is to minimize the beer's contact with the air. Be sure to keep your fermenter sealed if it's rinsed out before the wort is ready, and don't remove the vapor lock from your fermenter until you're ready to transfer or bottle the beer.

There are tons of books written on the subject, and this is just the briefest outline of the procedure. For information on varieties of beer and homebrewing methods, check out "The Complete Joy of Home Brewing" by Charlie Papazian, visit Hill St. Brews in Albany or look into some homebrew sites on the Internet. Like a good lager, a homebrewer's skill improves with time and experience, and there's always something new to learn.

## Pale ale recipe

## From Page Six

want to tilt it to get as much beer out as you can without siphoning any sludge. When done put a vapor lock on the top of the secondary fermenter and let it sit for two to three weeks. Take a gravity sample and a taste test of the beer at this point.

After the secondary fermentation is done, it's time to bottle your beer. Boil about 1/3 cup of corn sugar in a quart of water and add it to the beer when it cools. You'll need some empty, sanitized bottles (22 oz. "bombers" work well), bottle caps and a capper (which can be bought for \$20 or rented for \$1 a day from Will's in Corvallis).

Siphon the beer into the bottles and cap them. The corn sugar you added will produce more carbonation in the beer.

After another week, put some bottles in the refrigerator and cool them. You'll want to pour your beer into a glass before you drink it because a layer of yeast will form on the bottom.

An easier (but more expensive) alternative to bottling is to use 5-gallon soda kegs, which can be bought from a soft-drink distributor, charged with CO-2 and tapped out like a regular beer keg. If you use this method you won't need to add corn sugar. CO-2 tanks can be pricey, so be sure your interest in homebrewing is strong enough to warrant this investment.

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# PE instructor helps students tone their bodies, minds and spirits

Melodie Mills  
of The Commuter

Dressed in multi-colored leggings, blond hair pulled back into a scrunchie, physical education instructor Elke Asleson calls out encouragement to students at the conclusion of her body toning class. As the students leave, one student walks up to Asleson, wraps her arms around her and says, "Thank you for helping me, Elke." Asleson's warm brown eyes soften as she reciprocates the hug. Another young man says, "You're the best swimming instructor I ever had."

Asleson came to LBCC two years ago just to run on the track, but ended up with a part-time teaching job.

She was first brought on to teach a staff fitness class and quickly became a popular teacher. One man's back problems faded away, and his flexibility and strength increased. Another man sustained a whiplash injury after an accident, but his doctors concluded that the damage was minimal due to upper body free weight strength gained in her class. And many others, who were out of shape, began to exercise regularly. Bob Ross, biology instructor, said "She's helped me improve my attitude toward exercise and all of us have seen our waists go down."

"My philosophy is that the body, mind and spirit are tied together," said Asleson. "I feel if I support the physical, the mind and spirit become stronger."

Eventually, her special style of teaching led to more classes. This term, in addition to body toning and staff fitness, she also taught early bird fitness classes.

Darcy Johnson, a second-year student preparing for OSU's dietitian program who took water aerobics from Asleson, said "She really helped out the older people. Some of them had problems like arthritis."

Asleson sees herself as a facilitator who provides challenges to people. She feels if she can challenge them to 10 more sit-ups, then their accomplishments can be transferred to other areas of life.

"Life is full of sit-ups," she says.

Those who take her classes often comment on her extraordinary ability to help them go a little further. "She has shown me the changes in myself along the way, so I know that what I'm doing is worthwhile," said



Ross.

"I really enjoy taking people who haven't exercised on a regular basis and taking them to the point where they really miss it if they skip a day," she said.

Department Secretary Rosemary Lacey, an admitted former couch potato, has had success in her own weight management efforts, which she credits partially to Asleson's classes. "She's warm and encouraging and very toned, but she understands wherever your at in you're own fitness program," she said.

Asleson traces her motivational skills to the varied opportunities growing up in Calgary, Canada. Her family watched very little television but, instead, enjoyed camping, hiking, swimming and other activities. Her parents had extremely high expectations of her, and in part as a reaction to her own disciplined upbringing, she decided on a teaching style that allows students to be less than perfect, as long as they are "satisfied with what they can do." Her classes are about more than grades or "perfect aerobic moves."

Last term during an aerobics routine that required moving to the left and right, some class members were moving in opposite directions, nearly colliding with one another. Asleson requested with a laugh that everyone move in the same direction, not because she was counting off for coordination but so that no one would "hurt their neighbor." Her gentle humor helps those who may be self-conscious. "I always performed better if someone believed in me," she said.

Asleson keeps an eye on her students during hard routines, and when anyone begins to tire, she slows down the pace.

In one case Asleson helped a student with an eating disorder, encouraging her to keep "fuel in the tank," and has taken time outside of class to seek help and other support systems for the student. "I want people to feel better and not be too critical of their physical appearance. The main thing I want people to realize is the internal benefits," she said. Asleson uses Covert Bailey's list of 30 benefits from his book "Fit Or Fat."

One of the benefits he mentions is stress release. I

like to look at my class as a reprieve, a sanctuary, recharge, a little calm in the storm of life, where for little while people can leave problems," she said.

Another reason for Asleson's upbeat attitude is her faith and the fulfilled, busy life she leads. She says she's part of the statistical one-third who loves their job.

Asleson's family moved to Canada from Germany when she was two. At age 29, she moved to Colorado when she married her husband Jim. His job as director of the YMCA brought them to Albany. They have a 7-year-old son, Chris.

Asleson is preparing for the Leukemia Run in Alaska on June 22: One motivating factor for her

participation is that she feels so blessed to have a healthy son.

Her degree is actually in biology and education with a minor in physical education. She worked several years in Banff and Rebelstoke parks in a forester position. Teaching aerobics was just a hobby then.

When she moved to the states, however, she found that foresters here must have law enforcement training, so she turned to teaching grade school in North Carolina.

She hopes in the future to raise a happy, well-rounded son, and to complete her 19th marathon in the Portland Leukemia Run, and would like Boston to be her 20th. Her other experiences with such sporting events include the 1983 Hawaiian Triathlon where she swam 2.4 miles in the ocean, biked 112 miles and ran 22.6 miles. She may do another one in the future.

Although physical education was her minor, she feels she has met her calling now in life. She also hopes to learn and teach natural remedies to improve health and to heal minor illness. "I'm on a campaign against drugs and am appalled at their overuse," she said.

"For now, she says, I'd like to inspire people to rise to challenges and to set goals in life, but not just in fitness classes. My best trainer was an ex-Olympic swimmer who demanded excellence, but in a gentle positive way. I think a lot of Janice when I challenge people to do 20 more reps. When they leave my classes I hope that they learn perseverance and that rising to the challenges will help them in other areas in life."

*"She's warm and encouraging and very toned, but she understands wherever your at in you're own fitness program."*

—Rosemary Lacey

The **Commuter**  
A Weekly Student Publication

The Commuter needs creative students to fill positions on the 1996-97 staff

## Photo Editor

Students with an interest and skills in photography are sought for this position, which offers valuable experience for anyone planning to pursue a career in photography. Several past Commuter photo editors have gone on to work at professional newspapers in Oregon and elsewhere. Applicants must have knowledge of conventional lab work. Familiarity with desktop publishing helpful, as the photo editor will have the opportunity to learn how to print pictures digitally. The appointment carries a 75% grant.

## Sports Editor

A writer with an interest in athletics and outdoors is needed to fill the position of sports editor. Students with some journalism class experience preferred, but all interested applicants with a flair for writing are encouraged to apply. Schedule flexibility is a plus. The appointment carries a 50% tuition grant and provides valuable training and job experience.

## Assistant Editors

Students interested in arts, entertainment, copy editing and writing are encouraged to inquire about one of several assistant editor positions, including Managing Editor. Students with some journalism or writing experience preferred, but all interested applicants are encouraged to apply. Appointment to Managing Editor carries a 75% tuition grant, while other positions carry 35% tuition grants.

Applications are available in The Commuter Office (CC210) or from advisor Rich Bergeman (F-108)  
For additional information call ext. 4452, 4451 or 4563



**SPORTS PAGE**

**Eugene is home to rookies of professional baseball**

Short-Season Class A ball is a great opportunity to see the Atlanta Braves stars of tomorrow

by Jessica Sprenger  
The Commuter

The big boys of summer are back, but who will be the stars of tomorrow? From mid-June through early September, you can get a preview of the future of the Atlanta Braves by taking a drive down to Eugene to watch the Eugene Emeralds.

The Ems are part of the eight-team Northwest League (NWL), a Class A league that includes the Boise Hawks, Colorado Rockies, Southern Oregon Redjacks, Bellingham Giants, Everett Sox, Spokane Indians and Yakima Sun Dogs.

The teams that play in the NWL's short-season are populated mostly by players straight out of college or high school, with a few guys back from the major leagues.

Eugene's Civic Stadium, located at 11th and Willamette St., opened in 1938 and has been home to the Ems ever since. However, there was no team playing there from 1968-1974.

In the first season with the Braves organization, the Ems drew 134,000 fans, marking the 10th straight season when over 100,000 fans passed through the stadium turnstiles. The previous nine years Civic Stadium was the home of the Kansas City's Farmhands called the Athletics.

Some of today's major leaguers who played at Civic Stadium home during its early years are Eric Davis, Tom "Flash" Gordon, Kevin Appier and 1994 Rookie of the Year Bob Hamelin.

Other major leaguers who visited Civic Stadium while playing for other teams in the Northwest League are Jose Lugo, Terry Steinbach, Lance Johnson and Oregonian Scott Lerner.

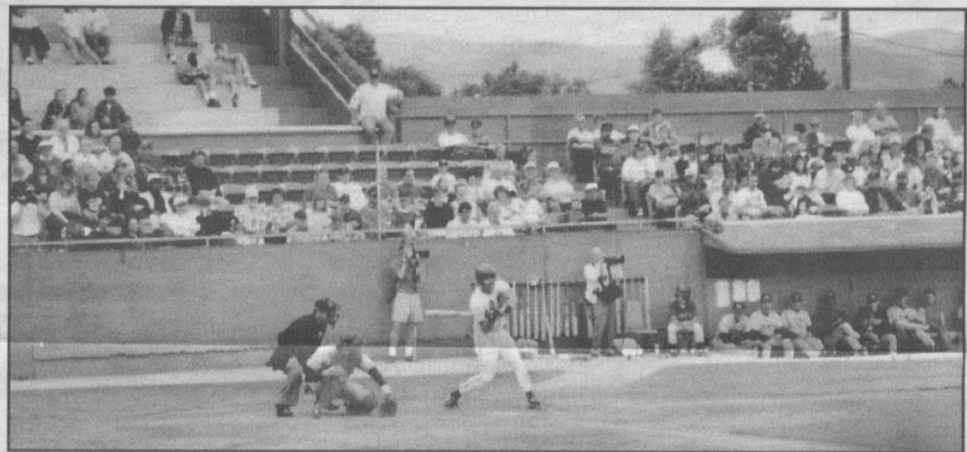
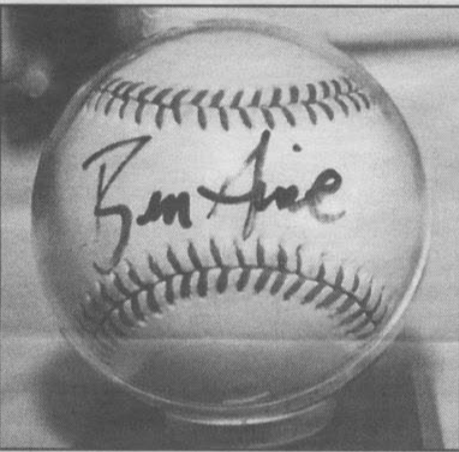
During Kansas City's reign in Eugene, the Ems won four NWL championships and now lead the league in all-time wins.

On those warm summer nights when you're missing local American Legion ball, why not go to Eugene. It doesn't cost that much more. You can sit in the bleachers for just \$6 or get a general admission ticket for \$4. Children and senior citizen prices are a dollar less.

It's an inexpensive way for the whole family to enjoy professional baseball without the cost of traveling to Seattle to see Ken Griffey Jr., Jay Buhner and Randy Johnson.

Plus, the kids will get to see men play the game the way it should be played—because they enjoy it not because of the money they're making.

These are guys who work a second job in the off-season, unless they are drafted picks with million dollar signing bonuses, like former Southern Oregon player Ben Grieve. Straight out of high school, Grieve was a first-round



Photos by Jessica Sprenger

**Eugene's Civic Stadium gives baseball fans a chance to see major league prospects, like Malcolm Cepeda (30), Shannon Coulter (5) and Shawn McNally (14), begin their climb to the big leagues. Every summer the Class A Eugene Emeralds play a June-August schedule bringing future stars to the area, most of whom are more than happy to sign autographs for young fans.**

pick for Oakland and inked a nice contract with a big signing bonus.

Another benefit of catching a minor league game is that while you wait around for the game to get underway, most of these young men will happily come out to sign autographs.

They may even give you a piece of the game if they happen to have it—players have been known to give eager kids a bat that's been broken during the game, or even their old batting gloves. These players treat fans with respect, unlike some of their elders in the game.

Another fun part of watching minor league baseball is seeing some of the second generation players come through, like Brian McRae, Ben and Tim Grieve, and Malcolm Cepeda.

Two years ago, when Eugene was playing Southern Oregon, Tim Grieve was playing for the Ems and Ben was with Southern Oregon. Tim, a college graduate, came into the game specifically to throw against his little brother, fresh out of high school. How often does

*It's an inexpensive way for the whole family to enjoy professional baseball without the cost of traveling to Seattle to catch Ken Griffey Jr., Jay Buhner and Randy Johnson.*

that get to happen?

The Ems open the season with a three-game home stand against Portland June 18. Their first road trip takes them to Spokane for a four-game stand, before returning to face Southern Oregon for three games. The Ems wrap up the opening month with three games at Portland.

The Ems will wrap up the regular season with a four-game stand with two games against Boise and two against Portland.

Just like any sports teams, there are promotions throughout the season. The first comes on opening night with sched-

ule magnets for the first 3,000 people. Other promotional nights throughout the season are ball, cushion, cap, bat, T-shirt, glove and poster nights.

Following the July 4 game will be the Valley River Center Fireworks Extravaganza.

On July 20, the Ems will wear the 1960 Emeralds and 1952 Portland Beavers uniforms in the "Turn Back the Clock" game.

For those who especially enjoy the seventh inning stretch and "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," you'll find those old favorites there, too.

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## LOCAL NEWS

## Fishermen go online to shop, plan and swap fishing stories

by Bill Jones  
of The Commuter

Not too long after the first caveman peered down into the water and noticed the first cave fish, he began wondering how in the devil he could catch the slippery little bugger. Simply wading in and scooping fish out with his hands, using spears and, eventually, hook and line, proved successful to varying degrees.

The problem with all of these methods, however, was that each yielded one or two fish at a time. Clearly there had to be a better way, a way to catch a whole mess of fish at once. Thus, the idea of the net was born.

Throughout the years fishermen have continued to use nets of one form or another to help them procure their quarry. Whether it's a small cotton hand net used by a sport fisherman to lift his catch out of the water or a mile-long drift net in the ocean, it's still a net.

And now there's a new net on the fishing scene—a net composed of fiber optic cables and electronic circuitry, a net which never gets wet and doesn't touch a single fish, yet it can help you catch fish anywhere on the planet. It's the Internet.

Increasingly, fishermen are discovering that the Internet is a useful resource for their hobby.

As with most hobbies, fishing involves a fair amount of buying. Whether it's a matter of replacing something vital or just adding the latest "gee whiz, neat-oh" Gore-tex, hummingbird, Eagle claw, XJP 2000 color C-lector depth finder and crappie whacker to your already impressive arsenal of fish attainment devices, fishermen like to shop. That's why the good folks at Cabelas, Bass Pro Shop, and Gander Mountain like to send us their catalogs.

With the Internet, fishermen can shop a much larger selection of stores from the comfort of their own homes, without filling the recycle bins or the landfill with outdated magazines. Naturally this also means that the smaller sporting goods stores can now reach a much larger pool of potential customers by going online to hawk their wares.

The Internet is not limited to shopping for fishing equipment, however. It can also make planning your next big fishing trip easier by putting you into direct contact with people who are knowledgeable about the area you're planning to visit.

For instance, planning a fishing trip to Moosejaw Lake near Nogginthump, Wis., a fisherman who had never been to Nogginthump might not know that the leading cause of death among tourists there is attack by killer mosquitoes the size of banty roosters. He also might not know that the resident population of behemoth hairy humpback pike he was hoping to catch have all started hitting only lures dipped in Veg-o-mite. To avoid a horrible trip, where the only bites accumulated require medical attention, the Internet fisherman can post a message asking for advice on one of the online bulletin boards dedicated to fishing. Then hopefully some one who knows about the mosquitoes and the Veg-o-mite will read the message and be able to offer advice on the current conditions.

There are at least two bulletin boards for fishermen



available on the Internet. One is Fishtalk 96. The URL for Fishtalk is <http://www.reel-time.com/bbs/bbs2/date.html#452>. Most of the messages on this board seem to deal with fishing in the eastern half of the country and don't seem to be kept current. Searching through piles of outdated material to find answers to a query can get to be a real pain.

Another bulletin board available on the net is Anglers online. Their URL is <http://www.inetmkt.com/fishpage/index.html>. This board is very diligent about deleting old messages, and the messages themselves seem to deal with a wider variety of geographical areas. From either of these sites fishermen can get into contact with enough other fishermen to provide them with an answer to whatever questions they may have.

Along with bulletin boards, there are many other web sites dedicated to fishing on the Internet. Among these are home pages for charter trips and resorts, fishing schools, links to other sites, tips on frog fishing and regional information for a variety of areas, including Iceland, Australia and Maine.

There are also sites which offer a little bit of everything. For instance, The McKenzie page, URL <http://zebu.uoregon.edu/cgi-bin2/McKenzie/Mckfrontend.pl>, contains links to other sites, levels, weather trends, and even instructions for a handful of fly patterns, such as Stimulator, Bead Head Casual Dress and Bead Head Pheasant Tail Nymph.

Before the first caveman could invent the first crude made net to catch fish, he had to communicate with others of his kind. Ideas had to be shared and so cavemen brains had to be stormed. This is still true today.

To be successful in our endeavors, whether the launching a rocket to the moon or catching a 5-pound brook trout on a size 32 dry fly, we must communicate with others of our kind. It is here that the Internet proves itself most useful.

Not only can fishermen tap into a seemingly enormous amount of information through the net, but they also talk directly with one another. This is perhaps the net's most useful quality.

## classifieds

## SCHOLARSHIPS

All scholarship applications are available in the Career Center in Takena Hall unless noted otherwise.

The Wallowa Band of the Nez Perce Descendants is offering two \$500 Scholarships in association with their Friendship Feast and Pow Wow. This annual scholarship is available to Native Americans pursuing a college education. Application deadline is July 10.

'96-97 Oregon Logging Conference Scholarships. Committee hopes to award 6 \$600 grants this year. Students need to be studying in one of the following areas: forest wood related, welding, cat skinning, diesel mechanics, choke-setting. Application deadline is June 5.

Altrusa International of Albany is offering 2 \$600 scholarships. Elig.: Students who are entering the final year of a 2 year degree program at LBCC. Must have completed 45 credits satisfactorily. Must be willing to participate with the club and its activities. Deadline is June 7.

'96-'97 Hispanic Dental Association Foundation. Eligibility: Entry level Hispanic U.S. students majoring in dental field. Application deadline: June 17, 1996. Applications will be available in the Career Center in Takena Hall.

## HELP WANTED

## COOK TRAINEE

Part-time to start, full-time during summer. Some experience preferred. Apply in person, Mazzi's Italian Food, 1597NW 9th St.

## ROOMS FOR RENT

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## OPINION PAGE

## commentary

## AMA responds to homeopathic medicine

by Nicole Russo  
of The Commuter

A revolution is happening in health care. Science and medicine now have in their possession the technology and understanding necessary to appreciate the value of "natural therapies."

This is a system of health-oriented medicine that stresses maintenance of health and the prevention of disease, in contrast with the traditional system that treats conditions after they've progressed, sometimes into a significant disease.

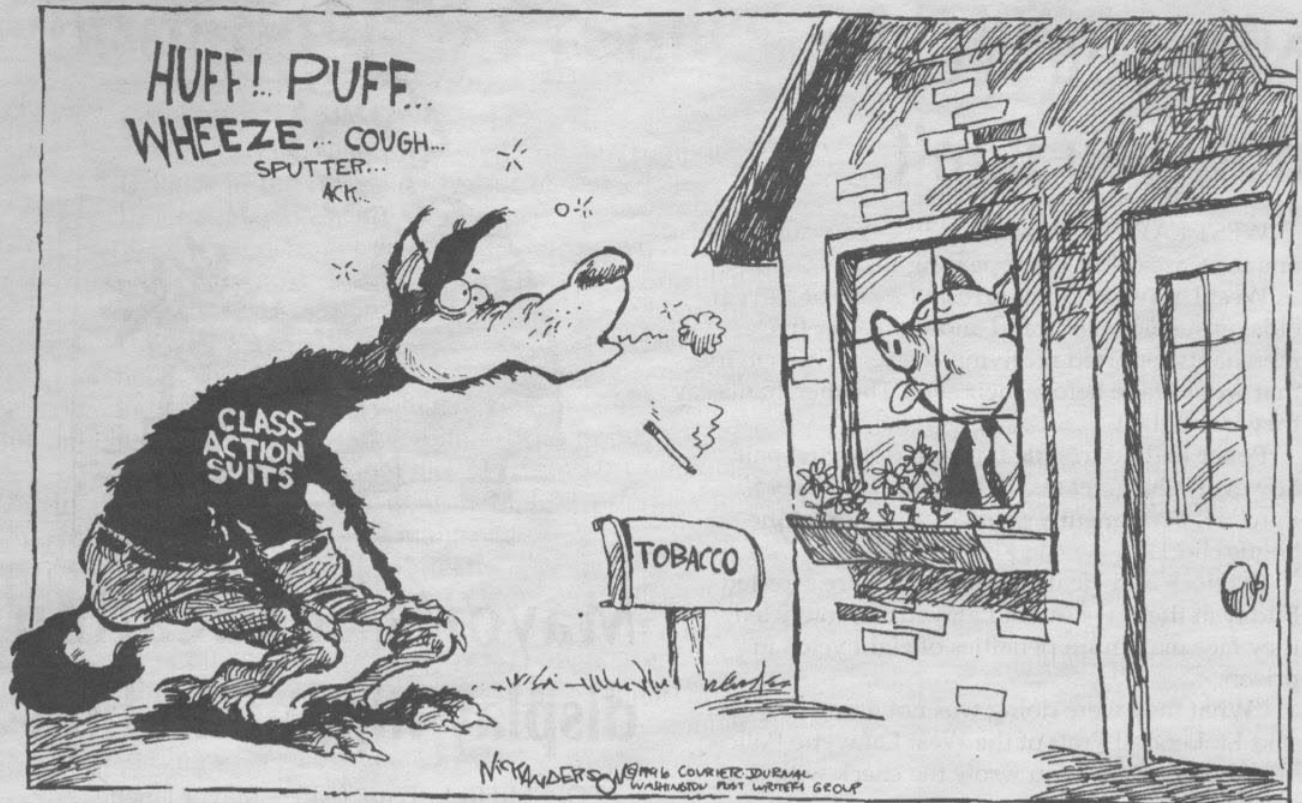
Fundamental to the practice of homeopathic/alternative medicine is the belief in the ability of the body to heal itself. Many people incorporate homeopathy into their daily lives because ultimately they want to lead a healthier life. After all, most of what homeopathy is all about is preventing the onset of a disease, so by exercising and avoiding toxic foods (coffee, meat, artificial dyes, etc.), one can reduce the chances of being vulnerable to disease.

The use of alternative methods of healing such as homeopathic medicine is so widespread in the United States that the American Medical Association (AMA) has reacted. The AMA's House of Delegates has adopted a four-point position paper urging its members to get up to speed on alternative medical practices, and to encourage the office of Alternative Medicine to continue evaluating them.

"I look at this as a wonderful thing," says Richard Sarnet, M.D., a Chicago-area AMA member and author of "Physician Heal Thyself" (Herbal Free Press, 1996). Sarnet says the alternative movement in this country is spreading from grass-roots populations to the mainstream and all the way up to the most senior levels of orthodox medicine. He goes on to say that doctors who don't know about alternative or homeopathic practices are noticing an exodus of patrons from their practices, and the industry is "afraid they're losing ground financially."

There's no doubt that in today's medical world physicians not familiar with homeopathic practices are at a disadvantage because they won't know how western medicine will interact with the vast amount of herbs people are consuming today. Herbs mixed with certain chemicals can cause adverse reactions, so it's critical that doctors learn about this new trend in medicine.

Although the AMA's directive to members probably won't make an immediate difference to patients, the coming year will likely be a watershed for alternative medicine. Not only are 12 major insurers now reimbursing for alternative medical practices, but the AMA is currently developing a position paper on alternative medicine to give practitioners one central source from which to learn more about alternative medical practices and their economical ramifications.



PAUL TURNER

## Parade brings community together

Every year the city of Lebanon throws a parade—the Strawberry Fair Parade. Now, if I were a responsible journalist, I'd be digging up all sorts of interesting facts to wow the reader.

But, instead, I'll just ramble on about stuff I already know. Like, I know that this parade was, like, the eighty-something one they have held. I know the parade included the world's largest strawberry shortcake. There were well over 100 entries in the parade and I'd bet over 10,000 people showed up to view the event.

Oh, yeah, the parade is held every year on the first full weekend in June.

What makes the Strawberry Fair Parade so dear is that it is a real live small-town parade.

Now, I'm kinda biased. I've been running the downtown Lebanon theater for almost a decade, so I have a personal interest in this parade. You see, I choose to run that little single-screen theater because I love old movie houses and most movies.

I make less a year there than what a decent used car goes for, but I do it because I believe that small-town theaters will soon be pushed out of existence by large theater chains and movie companies that put profit above substance.

That will be a sad day when the last single screen theater is cleared away to make a parking lot for a multiplex.

But, the Strawberry Fair Parade is part of the good of running a small town theater. It is small town life rolling down Main Street, against the one-way signs, one float, horse, band member, majorette, classic car, Shriner, at a time. People applaud when the Boy Scouts shovel up after the horses. After all, these Scouts are displaying more self-esteem than anyone who would give them a bad time about shoveling up after a horse.

The vendors are always a hoot. Their carts are overflowing with plastic crap that has every kid yelling, "I want! I want!" One particularly bright entrepreneur stocked up on camp stools, hawking them for \$5 a pop to those too tired to stand and too forgetful to bring their own. His cart was emptying very quickly.

The clowns were cool. They stopped in front of the young kids to coax a smile from them before returning to selling those water balloon yo-yos which very few seemed willing to live without.

I too was capitalizing on the event—opening the doors to my theater offering the use of the rest rooms and the chance to pick up a bag of popcorn—strategically popped so the scent hits you like a wet cod in the face when you walk in the doors. It makes enough to pay the help to be in there when the snack bar is open.

As much as independent theaters are threatened by the big-time politics of the studios, small town parades are also threatened by politics.

In today's political climate, every event that draws people seems to draw someone who thinks their mes-

sage is more important than the event.

You've seen 'em. Someone will push a clipboard in your face asking for your signature to help save the cross-dressing unicorns inhabiting the old-growth trees in the rain forest who are seeking independence and control over their own bodies.

Or the guy with the picket scrawled in crayon on the back of a piece of a beer carton: "John 3:16," who stands there pontificating like we won't think his brain cells crash-landed a little short of the runway. And all you want to do is have a good time and try to forget the rest of the world is out there wanting a piece of you.

This year's Lebanon Strawberry Fair Parade was amazingly light on the heavy politics department. Lots of churches had floats that were creative and positive. When the DARE car and speed boat with its shiny paint and cool graphics went by, I didn't hear people asking where they had been confiscated. People did a great job keeping their strong opinions to themselves, which is appropriate at a small-town parade.

As much fun as the adults were having, the truth is parades are for kids. Kids like colors and sirens, thrown candy and pulled floats, dogs and horses, marching bands and Shriners in small cars. Kids don't give a damn about timber or moral issues. They don't have to. That's our job as grownups.

Parades also allow a community to come together and feel like kids, even if it is just for an afternoon. Then we go back to our responsibilities and worries—like trying to figure out where the money will come from to send the kids to the carnival.

Maybe one of the reasons I love the parade so much is that I have the best seat in the house. I get up on the roof of the theater and watch the show go on by. This year I videotaped portions of the parade for a school project. I allow only a few people on the roof, since it is a roof, not a deck, and roofing wears out.

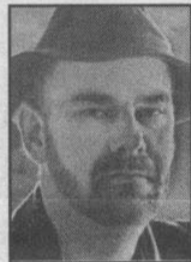
I allowed the photographer from the Democrat Herald up there (even though his paper is owned by a movie studio) to shoot the parade. He got some good shots.

A photo of me and my video dolly ran in the DH, as I enjoyed my roof-top perch. The caption said I own the theater, but even though the Kuhn Theater is my baby, it's technically owned by one of my oldest friend's company. I liked the photo because it showed me doing so many things I live: playing with a gadget I made in a theater I run while watching a small-town parade. Life is good.

You may think parades are hoaky and silly, and you'd be right. You see, that's the point. So much of our lives are wrapped up in the serious, we take precious little time to celebrate the people we once were: young and easily impressed by a marching band and a funny clown.

I hope that parades are not eclipsed by the digital entertainment tidal wave.

Parades are about as analog as it gets, and that could put them on the endangered species list—right there with small town, single screen theaters.



## EXPRESS YOURSELF

Readers are encouraged to use The Commuter's "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, and national issues. Submissions may be in the form of letters to the editor or, for topics that require deeper analysis, guest columns. Letters should be no more than 250 words, and will be edited for grammar and spelling. In order to confirm the authorship of letters, they must be signed, with phone number and address included (phone numbers and addresses will not be published). As general policy, The Commuter will not publish anonymous letters to the editor, although the editor reserves the right to make exceptions when conditions warrant. Readers who wish to submit guest columns should contact the editor in advance. All submissions can be dropped off at The Commuter office in Room 210 of the College Center.

## Now you see it, now you don't

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) — You can call this one the Case of the Disappearing Ink. West Lafayette police arrested a pair of 19-year-olds on suspicion of fraud and theft after five merchants reported receiving checks written in ink that would fade before their eyes. The merchants say they lost \$2,000.

Police had no trouble tracking down the pair, however. The giveaway: The name of Jeffrey J. Pycioch permanently printed at the top of the bogus checks. Pycioch and Heather M. Green were arrested Friday at the Days Inn of Lafayette. If convicted, they face maximum penalties of eight years in prison.

"What they were doing was not going to work," said Lt. Lendall Pratt of the West Lafayette Police. "It's the same as if you wrote the check with a regular pen."

However, the offense is more serious than a check deception charge that's normally imposed when a person bounces a check, Pratt said.

Dollar amounts were written on the checks in purple ink that soon would fade before the eyes of the incredulous merchants. The checks will be sent to the Indiana State Police Laboratory, where the ink can be raised, Detective Cindy Marion said.

One of the victims, owner David Kurtz of One Earth Gallery and Gifts said he had no way of knowing he was a victim of a check fraud scheme.

"Taking checks is like shooting craps. You deposit them and pray to God you never see them again," Kurtz said.

It's uncertain whether Kurtz and other merchants will recover their money. People convicted of writing bad checks typically are ordered to pay restitution; some do, some don't.

"Usually, you get a payment or two and then it just stops. You can spend all your time chasing it in court," Kurtz said.



## Beggar proves that poverty can pay

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Police said Saturday they have arrested a handicapped Chinese illegal immigrant who claims to have earned 1 million Taiwan dollars (\$36,000) as a beggar on Taiwan's streets.

He Deyang, arrested Friday begging from door-to-door on a busy street in Ilan, eastern Taiwan, told police he sneaked into Taiwan on a boat from Fujian province, south China, in November 1994 and sent most of his earnings home to his family.

Like thousands of other Chinese stowaways, he was detained for repatriation, police said.

NewsLite Illustrations by Jacob Schmid



## Mayor's education display nipped in bud

COPPERHILL, Tenn. (AP) — Mayor Janelle Kimsey says the marijuana she was growing on her back porch was for educational purposes.

Ten plants were confiscated Wednesday after a police officer noticed them during a routine patrol.

While the two-term mayor wasn't arrested, her case will be taken before the Polk County grand jury July 1. "We made a drug bust a couple of months ago and the citizens said they wanted to know what it (marijuana) looked like," Kimsey said Thursday of her rural, primarily elderly township.

Kimsey, 56, said after the drug bust she and some officers remembered that there used to be a marijuana plant growing at the Copperhill Police Department as an educational display, but it was stolen.

"One of the officers said to me, 'Your deck is out in the sun all day,'" she said. "Dumb me, I didn't know I couldn't do it. I know ignorance is no excuse, but in my case, it was ignorance."

Then, a few weeks ago, she was cleaning out a police department file cabinet for a surplus property sale. Inside, she found a cigarette wrapper with marijuana seeds in it. She decided to place them in a flower pot on her porch to see if they would grow.

"They were so old though, I was surprised they grew," she said. Three weeks later, they sprouted. Once they got a little bigger, she put them in individual clay pots. She planned to take them to the police department for a new, better-protected display once they got to a good size, she said.

"In my opinion, this is a political move," she said of the case against her. "I didn't know it was illegal to grow it for educational purposes."

Sheriff Bill Davis said police knew nothing about the mayor's plans. Deputies searched her house after serving her with a warrant and confiscating the plants, but no drugs or drug paraphernalia was found, he said.

Davis said Kimsey wasn't hiding the 2- to 4-inch high plants. They were in plain view on her porch.

CHAOS by Brian Shuster



"Well chief, there's no sign of the body, but I think we found a clue."

## Callers to senior support line get more than they bargained for

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Callers to what has been a hot line for senior citizens instead are a message promoting "hot babes."

The number is being used for phone sex service, surprising people who weren't aware of the change. Attorney General Betty Montgomery said Friday it has received about a dozen complaints on the switch.

The toll-free state line—(800) ELDER67, or 353-3767—was set up four years ago by former Attorney General Lee Fisher to provide information on senior citizen issues. The number appears in several state publications and brochures for Ohioans. MCI, the long-distance company that handled the line, said that last December, it received a letter from an Irina Nikolalyko, who said she was an employee of the attorney general.

Nikolalyko asked that the line be disconnected and MCI complied.

But there is no Irina Nikolalyko working at the attorney general's office, said Mark Weaver, attorney general.

Weaver said rights to the number were sold to another company, NTS, which apparently leased the line to a phone sex service called Eros sometime in February or March. People who call the number get a recorded message saying "hot babes wild, willing and ready to please" are at the end of the line. Callers who want to talk with a person must use a credit card and are charged \$1.99 to \$4.99 a minute, the message says, and callers must be 18 or over.

After receiving an initial complaint May 2, Montgomery's office assigned an investigator working with MCI to figure out what happened and how to fix it, Weaver said.

"The attorney general does not want people calling for senior citizen information to listen to a message about phone sex," he said.



## Mudslinger slops way into national magazine

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — Calley Finn is a free spirit when it comes to playing in the mud. And she has the pictures to show just how good she is getting covered from head to toe in dirt.

The ability to get dirty has the 6-year-old Tulsa girl in the running for Tide detergent's dirtiest in the country.

Calley and nine other children will have their dirty faces printed in the June 10 issue of "People" magazine and readers will be asked to decide if they are dirty enough to win the title. The winner will be announced in August and will win a family trip to Orlando, Fla.

Calley's family took a photo last year of her playing in a mud puddle she had made with a hose and a patch of ground where her family planned a new garden.

By the time she was through, she was black as her shoulders down.