

# THE COMMUTER

A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

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Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

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## State gives LB more funds to pay for more students

by Leon Tovey  
of The Commuter

After months of delays the Legislative Emergency Board has finally approved a request from the state's community colleges for more state funding to help offset the cost of increased enrollment over the past two years.

The original request came last April, when the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD) requested an emergency allo-

cation of \$16.4 million to offset enrollment costs. The emergency Board deferred action on the request and asked for information on actual emergency costs associated with enrollment.

In June the CCWD presented a reduced request for \$4.5 million and the Emergency Board granted the community colleges \$1.94 million in emergency funding. In the latest meeting on Nov. 17, the Emergency Board agreed to allocate the remaining \$2.56 million of the

\$4.5 million request.

LB will receive \$183,505 of that \$2.56 million. President Jon Carnahan said he will use the money to pay down the budget deficit incurred by higher than expected enrollment increases.

Enrollment at LB was up by 5 percent this fall—a situation that resulted in 381 full classes and 489 students on waiting lists by the second week of the term. And according to Carnahan, LB was not the only school with this problem.

"Fourteen of Oregon's community colleges had waiting lists similar to ours," he said. "We've reached capacity and if things don't change soon, community colleges will no longer be open door colleges."

According to Carnahan, the current budget crisis goes back to the beginning of the last legislative session, when lawmakers failed to allocate adequate funds for growth to community colleges.

(Turn to "E-Board" on Pg. 2)



Photo by James Bauerle

Graffiti artists have been tagging this wall near the corner of Front and Washington in Corvallis for the past two years thanks to the generosity of Corvallis business owner Scott Mater.

## Corvallis graffiti wall gives local 'taggers' public canvas to express themselves legally

by Ben Hughes  
of the Commuter

Two years ago Corvallis resident and business owner Scott Mater was presented with a common problem that plagues building owners across the nation: graffiti.

After his building was "tagged," Mater came up with a solution that involves a compromise between the negative view that surrounds graffiti and artistic expression of those who "tag" buildings: an "art wall." Since then, Mater's solution has become popular in small and large cities all over America.

The art wall provided by Mater exists near the corner of Front and Washington on the east side wall of The Tin Roof, an art studio in a building he owns next to his own business, Mater Engineering.

Mater decided to start the project after being

"tagged." After he had checked out the idea of an art wall in Portland, he brought up the idea with one of his employees, Margaret Pucket, who is an artist in touch with the community. Pucket then brought up the idea with the Corvallis Police Department and local high schools. When no objections were raised, the project was a go.

"We really set it up as an alternative for the kids who like to practice their art, but get tired of looking over their shoulder all the time," Mater said recently.

The graffiti on Mater's art wall contains some beautiful pieces of art, from cartoon-like murals and the unique intertwining of 3-D letters and numbers, to the detailed shading of figurines. The wall offers the eyes a gift.

(Turn to "Graffiti" on Pg. 5)

## SL&L to add art, lockers and recycle bins to campus

by Lori Weedmark  
of The Commuter

Student leaders collected a lot of useful—and unusual—suggestions earlier this term when they traded free pizza slices for ideas on how to spend this year's \$4,500 class gift.

After reviewing proposals that ranged from adding more lockers and recycling bins to staging mud-wrestling events, Student Life & Leadership put together a shopping list of projects to finance with the money, which comes from student fees.

Leah Slaughter, SL&L Liberal Arts Representative, said the turnout at the "Suggestion by the Slice" event was high and yielded a large number of suggestions. Students were told that the criteria for spending the funds was that project had to benefit everyone in some way and had to last at least five years.

One of the suggestions that SL&L is adopting is to buy more recycling bins for the campus, placing them near trash cans to encourage recycling by making it more convenient. Another suggestion was to use the money to purchase art or sculptures for display throughout the college.

"Art benefits everyone, as everyone can enjoy it," said Associated Student Government President Todd Gifford. "Recycle bins also benefit everyone in the long run."

Another suggestion SL&L will adopt is to provide students with more conveniently located lockers. Lockers can now only be found in the Commons, which is inconvenient for a lot of students, according to Gifford.

The extended learning centers will also benefit, with the Lebanon and Sweet Home centers getting new microwaves and the Benton Center getting a microwave and clocks. Paint will also be provided for the Benton Center for a mural on the building.

Some things that students suggested, such as a ping-pong table in place of one of the pool tables and better selections of drinks at student events, can be taken care of with other funding, according to Gifford.

Some students also suggested some things that can't be done, such as investing the money in stocks, putting

(Turn to "Funds" on Pg. 2)

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#### Gender Bending

Students face challenges in non-traditional careers

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#### Check This Out

Get in the holiday spirit—come to the Courtyard at noon today and help decorate the official LBCC Christmas tree.

#### New Heights

Runners finish second in their first playoff appearance

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# CAMPUS NEWS

## OFF BEAT

### Fatal crash is double trouble

Haitian-born doctor Jean-Claude Dominique married the woman who helped put him through medical school in America, and, a few years later, and unbeknownst to her, also married his high-school sweetheart from back home. He lived part-time in a home on the waterfront of Long Island with 56-year-old wife No. 1 and their two children, and the rest of the time with wife No. 2 age 50, and their two kids, in New Jersey. Everything was going fine until he was hit by a car and killed. The two widows met for the first time at the emergency room. They were quite shocked.

### Burglar can't break headlock

Timothy Michel, a member of his Missouri college wrestling team, called his home to get the phone messages from his answering machine. Since he lives alone, he was very surprised when someone answered his call. After a somewhat agitated exchange during which he determined that the man — someone named Harvey — had broken into his home, Michel called three of his wrestling buddies who live nearby. They ran to the house and put Harvey in a headlock.

### Drive defensively

The New Delhi Driving School of Chicago, through which many immigrants from India got their licenses, has come under fire because, it has been alleged, instructors bribed state officials to pass students who failed to learn how to drive. State examiners testified that some "graduates" of the school didn't know how to start a car, and others didn't know the difference between "drive" and "reverse." During some tests, applicants were ordered to stop the car and get out because they constituted a danger to the highways. A retest was ordered, and, of 60 students who showed up, 23 failed.

—From the TMS News Service

## CORRECTION



In the Nov. 15 edition of The Commuter, the Page 1 photograph of the Albany Veteran's Day parade was reversed horizontally. The Commuter apologizes for the mistake.



### Soup's On

Sally Dart and Ken Burbach serve food at the Lebanon Soup Kitchen, where student volunteers from SL&L's Into the Streets Program lent a hand on Monday.

Photo by Chris Spence

## Credit checks, good economy lower student loan default rate

from The LBCC News Service

The default rate on Federal Stafford Student Loans at LB has been cut in half, declining from 12.8 percent in 1996 and 1997 to 6.2 percent in 1998, the most recent figure available.

Director of Financial Aid Lance Popoff attributed the drop to the implementation of student credit checks, which was begun for all student loan applicants in 1997, and to the good economy, which puts more graduates in jobs.

Popoff said the 6.2 percent default rate represents 28 students out of 473 students who received Stafford loans in 1998. Stafford loans are federally subsidized loans from local banks and carry a maximum interest rate of 8.25 percent.

The college doesn't deny a federally subsidized loan just because of a bad credit check, said Popoff. Students who have earned good grades may be given another chance. Those with no academic record are required to earn adequate grades for two terms before being considered for a loan. A bad credit check also does not prevent a student from qualifying for federal grants and

workstudy programs.

"The whole point is to get people the money they need to go to school," Popoff said.

As a community college with open admissions, LB is committed to accepting all students regardless of past academic record. Nor does the college limit the amount a student can borrow per year. According to Popoff, LBCC graduates with loans to pay off carry an average debt of about \$4,800. Loans that go into default are referred to the state, which hires collection agencies to pursue payment.

The U.S. Department of Education recently reported that the national default rate on Stafford loans dropped from 8.8 percent in 1997 to 6.9 percent in 1998. The Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) reported a record low state-wide Stafford default rate of 6 percent for 1998. Oregon's student loan default rate peaked at 16 percent in 1990 while the national rate reached 22 percent in 1992. OSAC guarantees loans made by private lenders under the Federal Family Education Loan Program.

## E-Board: Colleges seek new fund formula

From Page One

Hoping to rectify the situation, the CCWD has developed a new spending model that it is planning to submit to the new State Legislature when it meets again in January.

Carnahan said that the chances of the new model being accepted are good—but that more will be known when Gov. John Kitzhaber announces his state budget proposal on Dec. 1. The governor did not support requests for an increase in community college budgets prior to the last legislative session.

Some fear that the state's predicted budget shortfall for the next biennium could be a problem for state funded programs (community colleges get 49 percent of their funding from the state), but Carnahan said he believes that the importance of community colleges will be recognized by the Legislature.

"There is a feeling that this time it's going to be community college's turn," he said. "We don't like to enhance our budget at the cost of someone else's, but we have to think about the future of community colleges in Oregon."

## Students to hear world leaders

by Allen Garner  
of The Commuter

Student Life & Leadership is giving students the opportunity to listen to world leaders deliver major addresses in Portland this year.

Mikhail Gorbachev, Robert Reich, Queen Noor and the Dalai Lama are part of the World Affairs Council of Oregon's 50th annual speaker series in Portland, which a limited number of LBCC students can attend for free through the SL&L's Trips and Tickets program.

The next speaker in the series is former Secretary of Labor Robert Reich, who will be speaking on Friday, Dec. 1. With only eight seats available for students, this trip has already filled up.

However, there is still room available for those wanting to catch the last two speakers in the series, Queen Noor and the Dalai Lama.

Queen Noor will be speaking on international development on Feb. 2, 2001. Noor was born to an Arab-American family, and is the queen of Jordan. She is an international advocate for ethnic and religious understanding, education, economic development and health care.

The Dalai Lama will speak on "Ethics for a New Millennium" on May 15. The Dalai Lama is the head of state for the Tibetan government-in-exile and is the spiritual leader of the Tibetan people. He won a Noble Peace Prize in 1989 for his efforts to obtain a just solution to the conflict between China and Tibet.

Tammi Paul-Bryant, the director of SL&L, said she hopes the series will help students "have a broader global picture."

Students who made the trip to see Mikhail Gorbachev called the speech by the former Soviet Premier "enlightening." Student Programming Board member Roger Shear said that he found it interesting that Gorbachev spoke highly of democracy and that he had good things to say about the environment.

Students wanting to attend Queen Noor's speech can sign up for the trip at the Student Life and Leadership Office on the first day of the winter term. The sign-up for the Dalai Lama trip will be held later in the term.

## Funds: SL&L nixes mud-wrestling day

From Page One

the money towards cheaper books and lower tuition costs, upgrading computers, and a mud wrestling day.

"We are trying to do what we can within the parameters of the criteria for spending the money," said Gifford. "If it doesn't benefit all students in some way, then we won't spend the money on it."

## THE COMMUTER STAFF

The Commuter is the weekly student-managed newspaper for Linn-Benton Community College, financed by student fees and advertising.

Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty or Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them.

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

The Commuter Staff:

**Editor-in-Chief**, Leon Tovey; **Managing Editor**, Lori Weedmark; **Contributing Editor**, Michelle Mayo; **A&E Editor**, Chad Richins; **Opinion Editor**, Angus McBrian; **Editorial Assistant**, Gelina Inches; **Photo Editor**, Christopher Spence; **Photo Assistants**, James Bauerle, Lisa Jimenez; **Sports Editors**, Christina Laramore, Jason Amberg.

**Advertising Manager**, John La'Gere; **Advertising Assistant**, Derek Wakefield; **Pagination Coordinator**, Angus McBrian; **Graphics Editor**, Joe Ellingson.

**Writers**: Mary Jova, Angel Freeman, Allen Garner, Ben Hughes, Lucas Mackay, Jennifer McLaren, David Miller, Nicole Scott, Kate Sundstrom, Lisa Paolo. **Advisor**, Rich Bergeman.

# CAMPUS NEWS

## Students explore gender roles in non-traditional careers

Students gather to hear panel discuss gender equity and attitudes in the workplace

by Michelle Mayo  
of The Commuter

Five students and faculty members discussed the changing roles facing men and women in the workplace on Nov. 22 at LB's Lunch and Learn seminar.

Sponsored by the Gender Equity Committee, "Non-Traditional Roles in the Workplace" was facilitated by Molly Staats, LB career and employment specialist.

"LB students and staff are pioneers in the workplace and opening new territory for those who follow," Staats said.

The testimonies from five students and faculty members in nontraditional career fields, such as electrical, nursing and metallurgy, were the seminars focus.

Holly Ploetz, the Apprentice Coordinator and Environmental Technology Trainer at LB started off the event telling how 25 years ago she went through a business program to become a legal secretary. Unhappy with the career, she moved on to becoming a park ranger. Later she heard about the one and two-year Environmental Technology program offered at LB, which teaches people how to treat waste water and use it productively.

Ploetz said "I found out the hard way that it is a male-dominated world; women don't understand the chain of command," she added "I just thought I would tell my boss something was wrong. That



Photo by Chris Spence

Last Monday, a panel of five students studying in fields ranging from metallurgy to nursing participated in a seminar in the Student Union Lounge focusing on the changing roles of gender in school and the workplace.

is not the way you do it. You tell your supervisor and move up."

Mark Hebbes from Canada started out his education in LB's Graphics Design Program until he saw that the market was small and went in to the Office Specialist Program a year ago. "It is different being in what is typically considered to be a women's environment, learning my Ps and Qs and what to say, it has been a change for me."

Lesa Kraft, in the two year Metallurgy Program at LB, said she started off her career doing odd jobs from bagging groceries to being a photographer. "I think why I enjoy the program is I don't have to do one set thing. I like the variety in

the job." Kraft added "It has been hard for me in a lot of ways because I have been out of my line of thinking so I have learned a lot working with men. Women worry about how men are going to treat you and my personal advice for women in a man's field is conduct yourself as a professional. They'll act professional back."

Bill Koch who described his past as a long and checkered one graduated high school in 1967, received a BA in Geology then a masters degree. Koch taught at OSU for eight years until the field entirely dried up. Kosh said "I worked at some rather interesting and annoying occupations. From cleaning chimneys to

*"I found out the hard way that it is a male-dominated world; women don't understand the chain of command. I just thought I would tell my boss something was wrong. That is not the way you do it."*

—Holly Ploetz

retail." For the last three years Kosh has worked as a nursing assistant mostly with the elderly. Kosh said "I seem to get along better with them because were closer in age then the youngsters or what they call young whippersnappers."

Kosh is currently enrolled in the nursing program at LB with goals of becoming an RN. He said at LB he hasn't had problems with his gender, but said he could say he has when it came to his age and experience that are different from most people.

"I am often regarded as some kind of weird uncle because most of the people in the class are young enough to be my children or even my grandchildren," Kosh said.

Henry Hamel a medical assisting student retired from the Navy three years ago. "The medical field has always intrigued me."

The discussion ended with questions from the panel. When Holly Ploetz was asked why she chose a non-traditional job she said "For the money. First you want to find a career that makes you happy and make money at it."

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Boutique assists women trying to get back on their feet

by Kate Sundstrom  
of The Commuter

At first glance, the Altrusa Career Closet appears to offer what other boutiques do: a chance to add to one's wardrobe.

But for many women who cross its threshold, it offers much more—an opportunity to change their lives.

The small shop, which sits quietly in a downstairs suite of the Jefferson Place Plaza in Corvallis, opened early last spring, and is helping women on public assistance obtain clothing needed to feel confident when interviewing for a job.

The idea for the Altrusa Career Closet was inspired by a national non-profit organization called Dress For Success.

Since its inception, members of Altrusa International help at least one or two people per week at the Career Closet. Clients must be referred from Adult and Family Services and be actively seeking employment. Referrals are from Linn and Benton counties and many are students in job training programs at LBCC.

Within the past few weeks, Marylou McLocklin, a member of Altrusa International, said she helped coordinate ensembles for a woman in her 30s who was from the Monroe area. She was preparing for an interview and McLocklin helped coordinate two outfits for her.

Judy Juntunen, member since spring, decided to join Altrusa International after she heard about the impact the Career Closet had made on one particular woman who had been referred there last spring.

The woman was hoping to find a professional-looking outfit in order to interview for a job in the Portland area. After being outfitted at the Career Closet and getting the job, the client wrote a letter of thanks to all involved in the Altrusa program. It was that kind of

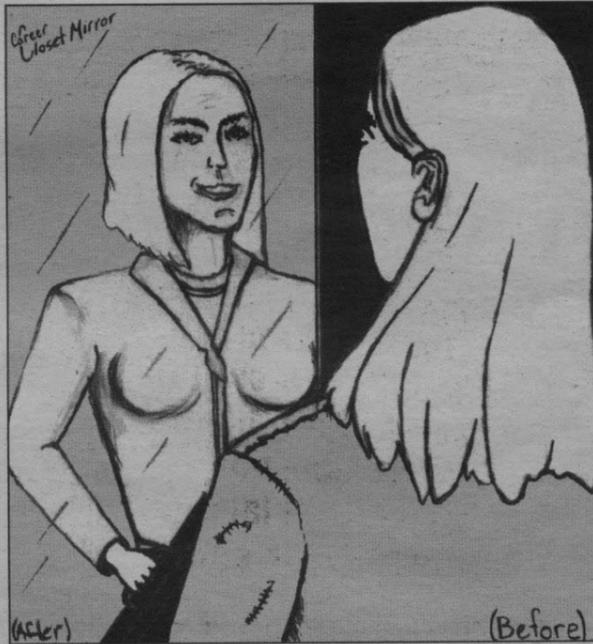


Illustration by Joe Ellingson

positive feedback that convinced Juntunen to join.

Lil Brown, caseworker for the AFS Corvallis branch and co-chair of the Career Closet, handles the bulk of referrals, which come from AFS, Benton county courts, the Benton County Health Department and social service agencies in Lebanon and Albany.

Brown has helped women ranging from 17 to 55 years of age who are "on the system and participate in the job training program or someone who has just gone out to work and has not yet received a paycheck.

"It is a really neat project," she said. "It is one of our favorites. We use volunteers and it is tax deductible." LBCC students who are enrolled in job training

programs may also be referred to the Altrusa Career Closet.

According to Dawn McNanny, director of LBCC's Life and Employment Development, the Jobs Now program is offered to people hoping to make a change in their lives.

"The students must be on public assistance or applying for it," McNanny says. Students can apply at the AFS office in Corvallis. "The program helps retrain public assistance recipients to get off welfare."

One program at LBCC, called Turning Point Transitions, refers women to the Altrusa Career Closet for a few reasons. When in the middle of a transition, a client may have moved out of their home because of a divorce, death or disability. Women who now find themselves in a bread-winning position and did not anticipate a change, may utilize this program.

LBCC Jobs Now instructor, Carol Erickson, makes connections for students who ask her how to utilize the Career Closet. She refers them to Lil Brown at AFS.

The Career Closet opened with the aid of a grant provided by the City of Corvallis. The closet has changed its location and now operates under funds provided by its members and donations.

Monetary gifts are encouraged and welcome. Cash donations can be mailed to: PO Box 2572, Corvallis, OR 97339.

Clothing donations are gladly accepted—however, they should be dry-cleaned or laundered. In need at this time are size 16 and above and outfits appropriate to young adults. Undergarments such as stockings, tights, bras should be new—as should shoes.

Efforts are being made to spread the word about the Career Closet. Lincoln county will be next and is on the agenda. "It is quite a drive, but will be worth it for the recipients," Brown said.

## Local counties post identities, addresses of sex offenders on the web

by Michelle Mayo  
of the Commuter

Marion, Yamhill and Benton Counties are now notifying their communities of predatory sex offenders by posting their bios on the Internet.

The Predatory Sex Offender Notification website was fought by 19 sex offenders and their families in a suit in September 1999. In the suit, the plaintiffs stated that the sites would be a violation of their civil rights and an invasion of their privacy. The offenders were fearful that the websites would cause vigilante justice. The judge ruled against them and by October 1999 the sites were up and running.

In Benton County, there are 12 predatory offenders online with their pictures, addresses, list of crimes and victim preferences. Not all sex offenders are listed—only those who are supervised by Benton county and are considered predatory. There is also a most wanted page that lists the names and photos of offenders who are trying to avoid supervision and who have arrest warrants issued to them.

According to the Oregon Sex Offender and Community Notification website, there are 9,000 sex offenders currently living in Oregon, and out of those there are over 80 predatory offenders that pose a high risk of being a repeat offender and are a danger to the public.

On May 17, 1996 President Clinton signed into law The Sex Offender Registration Act. Also known as Megan's Law,

the act was named for Megan Kanka, the seven-year-old New Jersey girl who was raped and killed in 1994 by a repeat offender who lived across the street from her home.

The law allows all 50 states to enact regulations requiring violent sex offenders to register with law enforcement agencies. Local officials are permitted to alert communities if a registered sex offender is living in the neighborhood and is a risk to public safety. It is up to state lawmakers to decide how to release the information and whether to put it online.

Megan's Law put sex offenders into a rating system in Oregon which is determined by state police, said Shelly Wacker, who runs the Oregon State Police Sex Offender Department. Prior to an offender's release, a score is given to determine whether they are a predatory risk by the Oregon State Police or Department of Correction. The higher the risk, the more information that law enforcement officials are authorized to re-

lease to the public.

According to the organization Parents for Megan's Law 52% of convicted sex offenders will re-offend. In 1996, Laura Ahearn, the organization's founder, successfully lobbied to change laws and policies that prevented parents from accessing information on known sex predators.

Ahearn brought many parent's concerns to the United States Supreme Court to make changes throughout all 50 states and federal legislation to make offenders register on the Internet cost free and free of barriers. New legislation would require all states to actively notify people in the community of the presence of a predator who poses a risk to their safety.

Ahearn said on her web site "I have a dream that many of you share, to prevent children from being sexually abused and bring justice to those children who have been sexually abused. Together we can fight for the rights of our children."

In Oregon, notifications have included television and radio announcements, community meetings, newspaper articles, door to door flyers and posting of the offenders residence. These notices include the offender's name, address, physical description, type of vehicle, conditions of parole or probation, description of primary targets and method of the offense, current photograph and the probation or parole officer's name or phone number.

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Free for all Linn and Benton County children 12 years old and under. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the LBCC Student Programming Board

LBCC is an equal opportunity institution. If you need accommodation for disability in order to attend, please contact the Student Life and Leadership Office, (541)-917-4457, at least one week prior to the event.

Two canned food donations are appreciated

Photo with Santa or Father Claus \$1



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Marquee exhibits poetry from local writers

by Lisa Paolo  
of The Commuter

The Midway marquee in downtown Corvallis is calling out to local poets.

The marquee, located on the corner of Madison and Front, was once used at the Midway drive-in theater on Highway 20 north of Corvallis. It was moved approximately three years ago after the theater closed.

According to Hester Coucke of the Corvallis Art Center, Endex Engineering in Corvallis owns the sign and moved it to its new home. They wanted to find a way to make it an addition to the city's cultural scene, so they took it to Corvallis Art Center. Coucke, who happened to be working at the Art Center at the time, suggested putting poetry on the sign. The Corvallis Art Center has been coordinating the project ever since.

Two-and-a-half years later the sign is still displaying poetry but needs more poets, Coucke said. Organizers try to post a new poem every two months, but the poem now on the sign has been there for considerably longer, she added.

Coucke said the sign is important because it offers a new forum for poets. "It's hard to get your poetry to a place where everyone reads it," she added. "Poets need some way to find an outlet."

According to Coucke, the reason submissions have been slow is a lack of advertising to let people know about the marquee and how poets can submit work. The only advertising done is in *Artspirit*, a publication by Corvallis Arts Center and Linn-Benton Council for the Arts that is published every two months.

*Artspirit* is mailed to subscribers, and

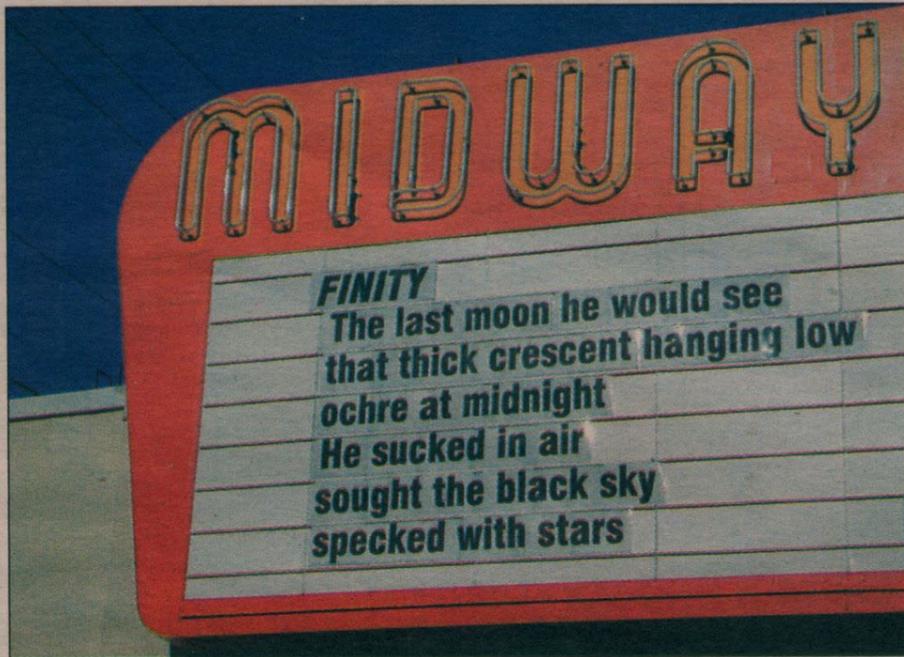


Photo by James Bauerle

The old Midway Drive-In marquee, which was moved to downtown Corvallis, is now used to display poetry by local writers.

distributed throughout Corvallis and Albany in public libraries, The New Morning Bakery, The Beanery, and The Corvallis Art Center.

The difficult part, according to Coucke, is that the poems must be limited to seven lines in length, including the title, because that is all that will fit on the sign. The poet's name will also be placed on the marquee if they wish to have it posted. Submissions can be taken to the Corvallis Art Center and are then given to a Corvallis poet named Mike Spring, who is the main coordinator of the project and makes the final decision

regarding what will be posted. Submissions are welcome and encouraged. "I would really like to see people get enthused about it again," Coucke said.

Corvallis Art Center is located at 700 SW Madison Ave. in Corvallis. Submissions should include name (or pseudonym, if applicable), address, phone, e-mail address, title, text of the poem, date of creation and name of publication, if previously published. Submissions will not be returned. Poets wishing to be notified must send a self addressed stamped envelope along with their submission.

## HOLIDAY EVENTS

### Holiday Treat Concert

The annual performance of the LBCC Concert and Chamber choirs will be held Thursday at 8 p.m. in Takena Theatre. Tickets are \$4 at the door.

### Community Chorale

The LBCC Community Chorale will present its annual holiday performances Sunday Dec. 3 at 3 p.m. at the United Presbyterian Church, 330 Fifth Ave. SW in Albany, and on Monday Dec. 4 at 8 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1165 Monroe Ave., Corvallis. The Chorale will perform Handel's "Messiah" and Bach's "Magnificat." tickets are \$7 at the door.

### Children's Winter Fest

Children in Linn and Benton counties are invited to SL&L's annual Children's Winter Festival this Saturday from 1-3:45 p.m. in the College Center. Children 12 and under accompanied by an adult are admitted free, although two canned food donations are appreciated.

### Pottery Sale

The instructors and students of the Benton Center's Ceramics Studio are holding their annual holiday pottery sale from 4-6 p.m. this Friday. Local instructors and students are selling a variety of stoneware, porcelain and raku pots, including functional pieces and sculpture. The sale will take place in the Ceramics Studio at 630 NW Seventh St. in Corvallis.

## 'Little Mermaid' emerges from under the sea to entertain kids at LB

by Gelina Inches  
of the Commuter

Thousands of children are expected to visit LB next to watch the Performing Art Department's annual children's production of Hans Christian Anderson's "The Little Mermaid" in Takena Theatre.

The play is a deep-under-the-sea adventure about a

mermaid who wants to explore the human world. Directed by theater instructor Jane Donovan, it runs Feb. 15 to March 8 with a series of Tuesday and Thursday morning performances for local elementary school children.

Donovan expects more than 6,000 people come to LB to see the production.

Public Matinee performances are scheduled for the Sundays of Feb. 25 and March 4 at 3 p.m.

The cast includes Bonnie Jean Jarvis, Rob Allen, Karissa McGanhean, Ellen Stark, Byron Watson, Devin A. Robertson, Amanda K. Tooker, Leslie Haubrick, Tasha Dodge, Erin Brassfield and Zac Knight. Crystal Huff is the production's Stage Manger.

## Graffiti: Tagging gaining mainstream acceptance as legitimate art form

### From Page One

Graffiti generally falls into two different categories: gang graffiti and tagging art. The majority of the work on Mater's wall is art.

"There have been some great pieces. Our favorite artist out there, code name Dense, is a graphic arts student at LBCC, a really nice fellow—does some fabulous pieces," Mater said. "And because of some of his work on the art wall he has been commissioned to do pieces on other walls around the area. We've actually had two people who have gone on to become professional graphic artists."

Although the wall welcomes anyone, there are some informal rules, according to Mater. The artists must not stray off the designated wall onto other walls of the buildings. They must respect each other's work, which means not painting on someone else's work unless they first cover the work with a base paint to create a plain wall for their own creation. Artists also must not be too obscene. Pieces that receive more than one call from an offended party are usually painted out.

According to Mater, the wall has not only attracted artists from around the nation but has also been a huge part of a free wall movement stemming from Corvallis to Eugene.

"We have people coming down from Portland who specialize in doing large wall murals. They come down quite often and do some real nice pieces." He added that a some groups from San Diego, Calif. and

Vancouver, B.C., have also made it to Corvallis to do some "terrific work."

Mater is excited about the opportunity provided by art walls, but is concerned about other walls in Oregon.

"The problem is, most of the free walls are put out of the way—like the one in the Beaverton-Hillsboro area," he said. "They have a concrete wall stuck in the middle of nowhere. First of all it's not safe. Second of all no one sees it. They don't do these paintings to not have them seen."

But does graffiti in a semi-controlled atmosphere still attract the mischief with which it is often associated?

"They have been very respectful to the rest of the buildings," Mater replied. "The painters do a great job of cleaning up after themselves and even other people. The police have told us that there has been about a 12 percent drop in graffiti in the downtown area since we have opened up the wall."

This solution of an art wall comes after a quarter-century of heated debates over the application of graffiti. According to an article in the *Journal of Popular Culture* by Lynn Powers, graffiti as most of us know it was first observed in New York in 1971 when an article was published featuring a tagger named "Taki" who tagged property with the mark of "Taki 183." Soon after other taggers came out of the woodwork, like "Yank 135" and "Barbra 62."

"Competing for recognition, graffiti became larger

and more elaborate," Powers wrote. "By 1973, graffiti had progressed to whole car masterpieces, murals which spanned half or more of the subway car. The nickname of the graffitist, however, remained the central subject matter even in the large murals. The goal of these murals was the same as tagging."

According to Powers, in the 1980s graffiti took a hard shot from city officials and police who developed a way to wash the graffiti off the subway cars with an acid solution. The graffiti art in the galleries was also failing to fetch enough money to stock more pieces of subway art. This demonstrated how a successful art movement within a subculture can be subverted by a dominant culture, Powers said.

LBCC art faculty member Analee Fuentes also sees graffiti or "graf art" as a form of script or style of typography. Fuentes is helping coordinate a graffiti art activity on campus during spring term that will involve a 1950 Chevy in the Courtyard.

The activity will allow students to participate in decorating the vehicle. The project will also involve Steven Lopez, a graffiti artist from East Los Angeles that now resides in Eugene. Lopez's work is known across the West Coast.

The purpose of the activity is not much different than the art wall in Corvallis. Both projects or "art opportunities" allow people to express themselves through paint. Together both projects strive to educate people about an art that is often misunderstood.

# FUNNY PAGE

**DUE TO AN OVERWHELMING WORKLOAD, WILLIAM MORTON WAS UNABLE TO CREATE A SKULLY STRIP THIS WEEK. FILLING IN FOR HIM IS HIS BROTHER ANDREW.**

the adventures of **SKULY** by Andrew Morton (age 23)

my name is **skuly**

I liked the New "Star Wars" movie did you see it. it was good i liked it

I also like **Poceman** its really good

I like to drive **cars**

I like comics do you! I like being in each week. it is **FUN**

okay **BY**

**THE End**

www.mortco.azit.com #49

**DITHERED TWITS** by Stan Waling

**MAGIC ACTS**  
Talent Agency

Please take a number. Any number.

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now with 10% more-free!

**BRAIN LINT** by Amy K.R.

My brother, who grew up with three sisters, was i-wont-say-how-old when he finally realized that he did not have to wrap the towel around his chest when he came out of the shower.

Joe, now that you're 15, I think you should know...

What? tell me what?!

10% more-free!

**CAPTAIN RIBMAN** in Cash Is King

AT CAPTAIN RIBMAN'S EXPENSIVE LAIR, THE GRILL OF SOLITUDE...

**DANG!** MY SECRET HIDEOUT IS FALLING APART! THE INVISIBILITY CLOAK DOESN'T CLOAK, MY ANTI-LASER SHIELD IS OUT OF "ANTI" AND THE SUPER COMPUTER'S HARD-DRIVE IS **FRIED!**

by Sprengelmeyer & Davis

I NEED SOME **SERIOUS CASH** TO MAINTAIN THIS STINKING PLACE!

IF I KNOCKED-OFF JUST **ONE BANK**, I'D BE SET TO FIGHT CRIME FOR ANOTHER YEAR!

**CROSSWORD**

- ACROSS**
- Big pigs
  - Caught sight of
  - Prevent
  - vera
  - Brown shade
  - Tankard filler
  - Thailand, formerly
  - On one's feet
  - Courteous formality
  - Rho-tau separator
  - Actor Harrison
  - Noah's craft
  - Bowler's targets
  - Pakistan's neighbor
  - Where the victor comes out
  - End hunger
  - Goon
  - Put in stitches
  - of hand
  - Under
  - Mid-ocean
  - gin fizz
  - Relicent
  - Butcher's stock
  - Specialized vocabulary
  - Cad
  - Sch. group
  - Summertime quaff
  - Haughty
  - Intensifiers
  - Type of crane
  - Mayberry kid
  - for the money...
  - Northernmost state capital
  - Sudan's river
  - Pallid
  - Aim
  - Crack shots

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**Solutions**

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B	A	R	E	D	E	D	E	S	E	G	O	H

- 46 Montana's capital discovered by Tasman  
47 Petty officers  
49 President  
57 Custard tart  
58 Larger-than-life  
59 Provoke  
60 Visualizes  
62 Bask

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

Attention **HISPANIC TRANSFER STUDENTS**: Scholarship Management Services is now accepting applications for EMI/Selena Scholarships Program. Additional information and applications are available at the Learning Center. Applications must be postmarked by Dec. 1, 2000.

**All Students**: The ESA (Epsilon Sigma Alpha) Foundation International has scholarships available to ALL students. Additional information and applications are available in the Learning Center and on the internet at [www.esaint.com/esaf](http://www.esaint.com/esaf) - click on the scholarship application link. Applications and official transcripts must be received by Feb. 1, 2001

**Phi Theta Kappa & Students w/ a 3.5+ GPA**: Hobart and William Smith Colleges are accepting applications from transfer students to apply for admission and scholarships. Awards range from \$5,000 to \$15,000. Scholarships are renewable each year, and financial need is not a consideration for these awards. Additional information is available in the Learning Center (LRC 212) and on the internet at [www.hws.edu](http://www.hws.edu). Application for admission, supplemental scholarship application and official transcripts must be received by April 1, 2001. Earlier submission of materials is strongly encouraged.

**Female Students**: Soroptimist International of Albany is offering a \$600 scholarship to a woman continuing her education to re-enter the work force. After the local judging process is completed, the winning applications will then be sent to Region to compete for an additional \$1,250 scholarship. Eligibility requirements, additional information and

applications are available in the Learning Center (LRC 212) or by contacting Kathy Westberg at 541-926-7771. Applications must be received by Dec. 15, 2000. Completing the application as directed is highly important.

If you are willing to write a 550-word essay, these scholarships may be for you! The Mensa Educational and Research Foundation sponsors an annual essay contest. All entries are considered for 5 awards, ranging from \$200 to \$1,000. Entrants may also apply for additional awards depending on qualifications. Additional information and applications are available at the Learning Center (LRC 212). Application and essay must be received by Jan. 31, 2001.

**Horticulture Students**: The Oregon Nurserymen's Foundation is accepting applications for 2001-02 scholarships. 15 awards ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 will be given to students who are interested in horticulture. Applications are available in the Learning Center (LRC 212) and on the internet at [www.nurseryguide.com/onfform.shtml](http://www.nurseryguide.com/onfform.shtml). Applications, official transcripts and three letters of recommendation that support your interest and ability in horticulture must be received by April 2, 2001.

**WANTED**

**CWE Certification Typist #600** (Albany) Great CWE opportunity to get some office experience. This position is part-time, flexible and pays \$9/hour. You must be a LBCC student, in the office/business degree area and completed two terms. If interested, please contact Carla in Student Employment in Takena 101 for your referral on this great opportunity!

**Marketing Consultant #602** For radio station & **Marketing Director #598** for elderly home (both in Albany) Immediate full-time positions for the right people who are outgoing and self-motivated. See Student Employment (Takena 101) for more information!

**Electrician #597** (Corvallis) If you have knowledge of micro-processing based systems for semiconductor equipment and know how to read and produce electrical schematics, this full-time position is for you! You would be responsible to hard wire wet station components and produce electrical schematics when finished. See us in Student Employment (Takena 101) for your referral!

**Deployment Analyst** (Corvallis) If you are familiar with the latest Internet technology and want to develop and implement HTML templates and scripts creating a user interface of a new software model, come check this out! This full-time position wants a knowledge of HTML, XML, coding, UNIX and internet protocols and a degree for commensurate work experience. See Carla in Student Employment (T101) for more information!

**A Few Good Women**. "Choice" (Creating Her Own Individual Challenges and Experiences) is a program for girls, ages 11-17, targeted to develop high self-esteem, confidence & full potential. Women volunteers to meet once a week with a group of girls from various Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon & Sweet Home high schools. Good experience, looks great on resumes. Call Terese @ (541) 753-7888 for more info.

## SPORTS PAGE

## Roadrunners take 2nd in tournament

by Christina Laramore  
of The Commuter

The Roadrunners captured second place in the NWAACC Tournament Nov. 16-18 at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham, putting a strong finish on their best season in history.

The placing capped LB's first trip to the NWAACC Tournament in 20 years. The Runners entered the tournament third in the Southern region with an 8-4 league record, behind Chemeketa and tournament winner Mt. Hood.

"We had a good finish," said Coach Seth Elliott. "It gives us a look at the full past and how to get there."

LB went undefeated in games against the first three teams they faced before losing two of the five games against last year's tournament winner, Columbia Basin.

The Runners played Whatcom Community College, from Bellingham, Wash., in the first match of the tournament on Thursday, sweeping the Orcas 15-4, 15-4 and 15-11.

Behind Shannon Gerding's 14 kills and Dani Arlyn's 46 assists, the Runners went on to defeat Big Bend Friday 15-11, 15-3 and 15-13. Jamie Caster added 12 kills and three block assists, while Sarah Whistler chipped in 10 kills.

LB kept up the winning streak through the quarterfinals on Saturday against Clackamas Community College, who entered the tournament as the fourth seed in the Southern region. The entire match was close, but ended with LB defeating the Cougars 17-15, 15-13 and 15-9. Arlyn led the Runners throughout the match with 34 assists and 10 digs. Sheryl Baga tacked on 12 digs for the Runners while Gerding added another seven digs in the match.

With three wins behind them, the Runners moved onto the Semi-finals against Columbia Basin, where they lost their first two games of the tournament but held tight to win the match 15-6, 10-15, 15-12, 13-15 and 15-10.

Gerding led LBCC with 21 digs and 18 kills, Caster chipped in 17 kills and Sarah Towns added another 12 kills. Arlyn had a season high 50 assists and two aces.

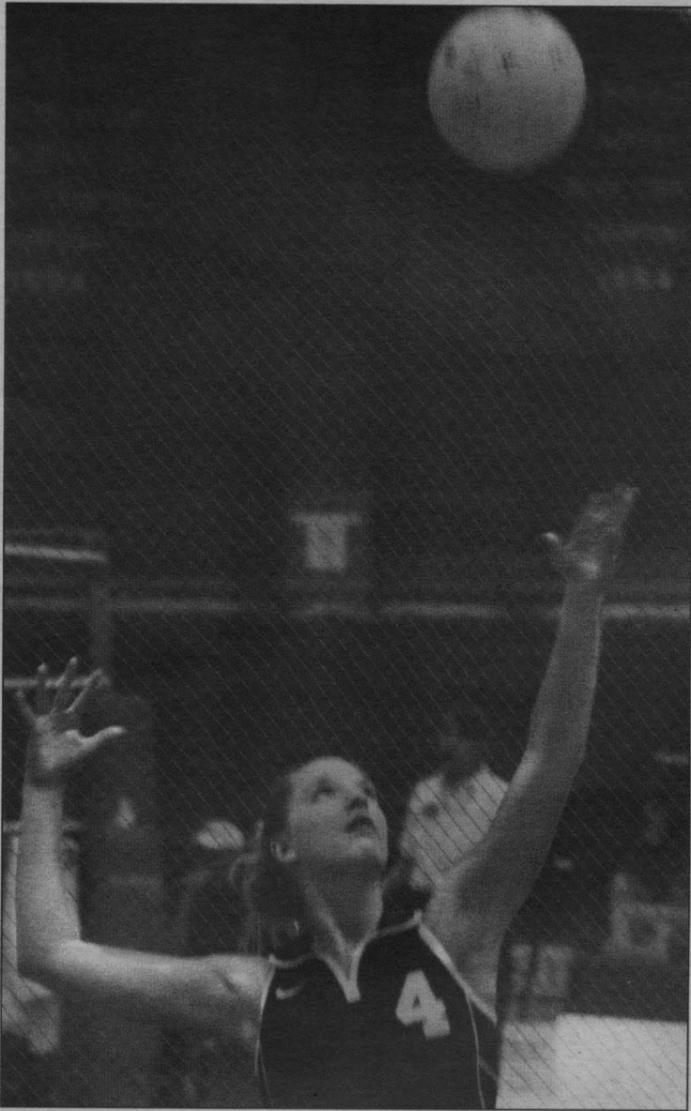
With the Semi-final win, LBCC moved on to the final match of the tournament against Mt. Hood. The Saints went undefeated in league play and also went undefeated in games and matches in the tournament. They beat the Runners 15-5, 15-3, 15-2.

"The Mt. Hood game wasn't as good as we hoped," said Elliott. "The game prior to that (Columbia Basin) went five games and was very intense. We used up all of our energy and were extremely tired."

The Runners were not as strong this match, with Baga leading the team with only nine kills while Gerding added only five kills to the tally. Gerding also had eight digs and Arlyn had only 14 assists.

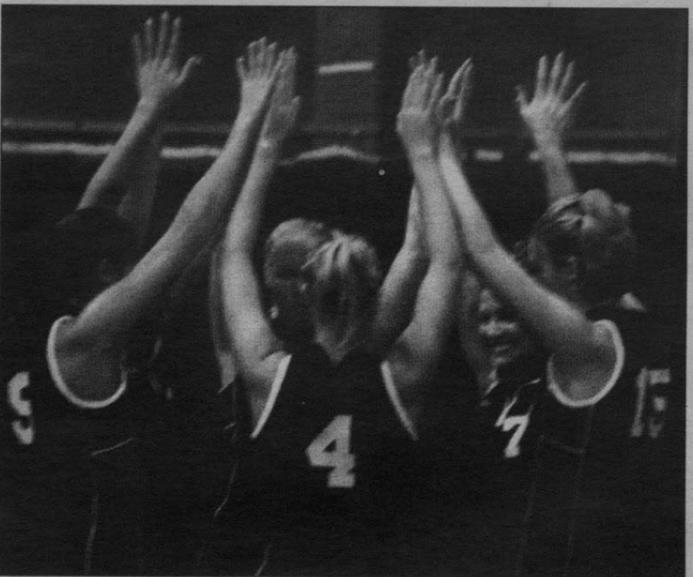
Three LB players were nominated to the NWAACC Tournament team—middle hitter Jamie Caster, outside hitter Shannon Gerding and Freshman setter Dani Arlyn.

Though the Runners will be losing half of their team at the end of the season, Coach Elliott hope they can carry over what they accomplished this season into next season.



Photos by Chris Spence

**Freshman setter Dani Arlyn (above) tries for another ace during the semi-final match against Columbia Basin. The Roadrunners won the match, but fell to Mt. Hood in the championship match. Below, the starting lineup huddles before a game.**



## Volleyball team makes history with 2 all-stars

by Christina Laramore  
of The Commuter

The Roadrunners provided the NWAACC All-Star team with two of its 12 players this year—6-1 middle hitter Jamie Caster and 5-8 outside hitter Sheryl Baga.

According to the 2000 NWAACC volleyball yearbook, LB has not had a player on the all-star team in the last 10 years.

At the end of each volleyball season, the coaches from each team choose the top 12 players from each region to form an all-star team. With seven teams in each region, the 12 slots are filled by players based on outstanding performance, high stats and overall play.

Caster, a sophomore who was nominated to the first team, ended her last year at LB with 149 kills in 44 games, a 25 percent hitting efficiency and a .79 percent blocking average by collecting 25 solo blocks and 10 assist blocks in 44 games.

Baga, who was nominated to the second team, ended with 103 kills in 44 games and a 27 percent hitting efficiency.

Sophomore outside hitter Shannon Gerding and freshman setter Dani Arlyn both received Honorable Mentions. Gerding is the second alternate to the all-star team if someone were to get hurt or to turn down the invitation.

Gerding ended with 101 kills and 72 digs in 44 games, acquiring a 1.64 dig average.

Arlyn finished her freshman year second place in the NWAACC conference for assists, coming in just behind NWAACC MVP Amy Bell from Mt. Hood Community College, who finished the season with 414 assists in 37 games and an 11.2 percent assist average.

Arlyn finished with 484 assists and 34 kills in 44 games and an 11 percent assist average.

Gerding and Arlyn also made it onto the charts for serves. Gerding served 160 times with 18 aces, while Arlyn had 16 aces out of 160 serves.

The sophomore all-star tournament will be held Dec. 2 at Yakima Valley in Washington. Time of the games have yet to be announced.

## Women kick off hoop season with strong play in tourney

by Jason Amberg  
of The Commuter

While the rest of us spent the long holiday weekend stuffing ourselves full of turkey, the Women's Basketball team hit the road for a season-opening tournament in Redding, Calif., where they finished third in a strong field of eight teams.

The team started the Shasta Tournament on Friday by racing to a 45-30 halftime lead against Diablo Valley College. The Runners led by 28 points for much of the game before the second team came in off the bench and surrendered part of the lead to Diablo Valley, and ended the game at 84-74.

Freshman Christy Rickert set the tone with 10 assists and only three turnovers, while freshman Robyn Ward led six Roadrunners in double figures, scoring 13 points.

Rickert and sophomore Kelley Dexter had 12 points a piece, freshmen Dusty Damon and Rebecca Torresdal had 11 points each, and freshman Christin Pass scored 10 points.

The second game, played Saturday against host Shasta College, was a much closer affair. The Runners

found themselves down 31-36 at the half, but were able to hang close throughout the game. Ahead by one point with four minutes left, the Runners were unable to close the game out and lost 61-66.

"They made better decisions and we didn't," said Coach A.J. Dionne. "We had to foul and they made the free throws."

According to Dionne, Shasta may be the best team the Runners will play all year. "They were beatable," she said. "We had their team scared."

Dexter led the Runners with 16 points, including a pair of triples, and four assists. Freshmen Katie Jarrett, who was also dialing long distance with two three-pointers, tossed in 10 points from the bench, and Nicole Scott added four assists.

LB finished the tournament in strong fashion with a close game against Foothills Community College, winning in overtime.

Down 27-35 at halftime, the Roadrunners made things difficult for themselves by getting behind by 12 points before making a comeback and forcing the overtime. Damon scored 14 of her 23 points in the second half to

lead the comeback.

In overtime, redshirt sophomore McKenzie Fauth took over the game, scoring seven of the Runners nine points of the extra period and helping the Runners to the 80-74 victory.

"It was a nice team win, some of the players who hadn't played as many minutes before came in and really played well," said Dionne.

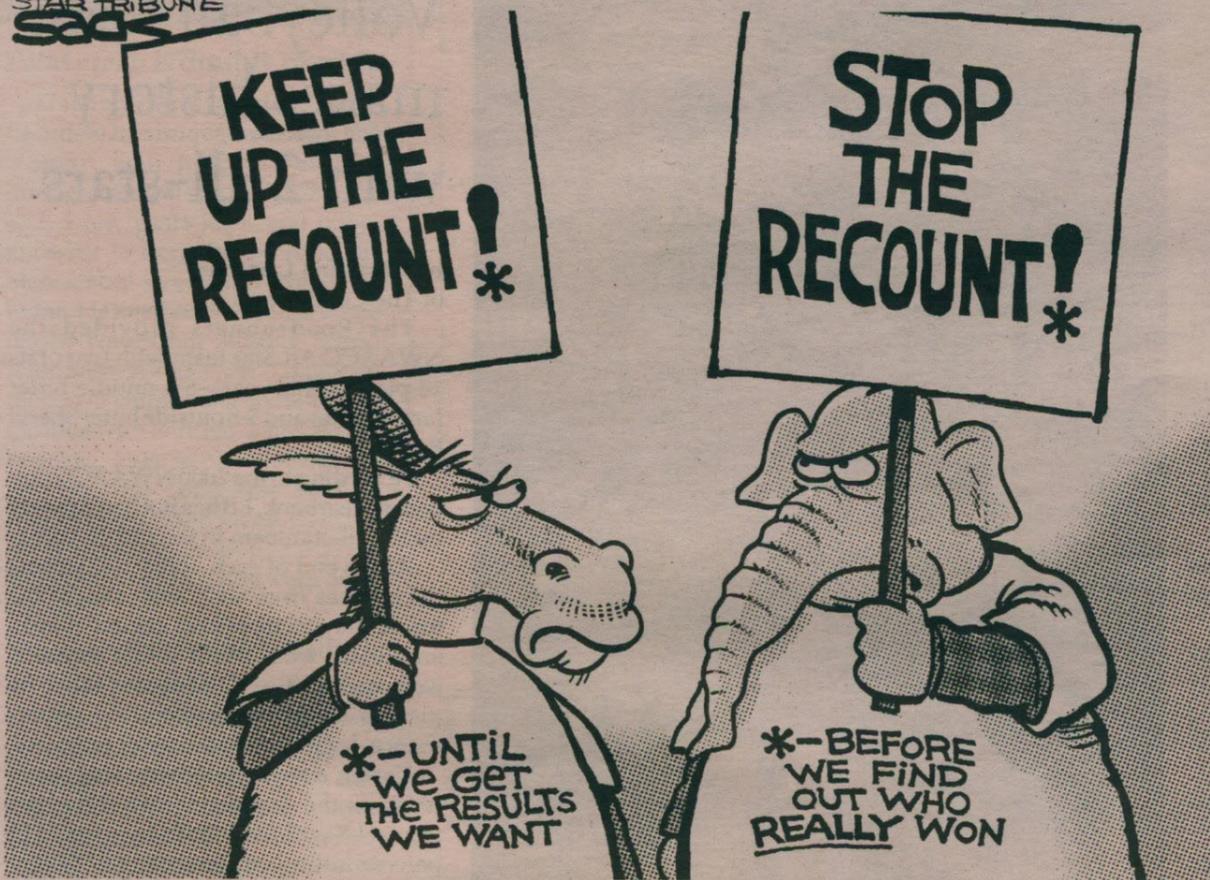
Fauth finished the game with 19 points. Torresdal added 10 points, while Rickert and Dexter added eight and six assists, respectively.

"Starting the season 2-1 and third in the tournament shows what this team can do this year," said Dionne. "This is the first trophy we've won since I got here. We've gone down in the past and lost two games and come home early. It was exciting; the girls had a great time. They really deserved it."

Damon's breakout game against Foothills propelled her to the All-Tournament Team. Dexter averaged 10.3 points per game, while Damon scored 10 points per game, and Rickert averaged 9.6 points in the tournament.

# OPINION

STAR TRIBUNE  
SACKS



## COMMENTARY

### Gore can't break out of backup role

by Chad Richins  
of The Commuter

Now that it looks like maybe George W. Bush is going to win the White House, I find myself thinking of how bad that must feel to Al Gore. You have to believe that he's feeling betrayed and sad, adrift on a sea of doubt about his own future.

I mean, think about it.

That would be like being a backup quarterback for eight years, riding the bench with a team that was winning game after game with the starter while you sit there holding your helmet, relegated to the role of defacto head cheerleader. The guy never breaks a leg, even though you don't really want him to, but you're ready to step in if he does. He goes through some tough games, but hangs tough, always pulling out the come-from-behind win. The political equivalent of John Elway. Maybe he didn't always win the Super Bowl, but he was trying, and he was trying for the coach. For us.

But as all things pass, there comes a day when it's time for the old man to go.

You're ready. You were born ready. Time to step up for the team. Time to use what you have learned to help the team compete and rise to fulfill their destiny. Leadership time, baby. You've put in the work, you've memorized the play book, you've paid your dues...

But wait. Hold on a minute. First you have to try out against a rookie, an upstart who wants the job you've been waiting for for years. But hey, you've got the experience. You've seen the Big Guy play. You've been in those locker rooms at half time and seen what it takes to lead. You have years of practical experience, even though you've only taken snaps in practice, and you know that you could get in there and do the job.

Then here comes this rookie saying, "Hey, my dad used to play on this team, remember him?" A lot of the players moan and groan. Yeah, we remember him.

And the coach, which is in this case the American



Chad Richins

voter, says, "Oh, yeah, hey that guy was all right. Won us the Desert Storm Cup that year. Never got signed to a new contract though. Hmmm... get out there and run a few drills, let's see what you can do."

And the perennial backup can't believe his ears. "Coach, are you even thinking about starting this guy just because of who his dad is? Because, I tell ya what, his record in college ain't so hot." (see Silverado S&L, environmental record in Texas, hard drug use)

Quarterback controversy. It's ugly. The fans hate it. It draws out for weeks. And then just when you're sick of it, they hand the reins to the new starter. Maybe he's a Peyton Manning, or maybe he's a Todd Marinovich. It's up to him to prove himself. If the coach is right, we go to the big game, stay on top of the league, and improve our record. If the coach, the American voter, is wrong, then we spend four years slipping into mediocrity and wondering "What if we had started the backup?"

Meanwhile, Al has a long walk back to the locker room. He'll look around, smell the grass and try to remember how it felt to be that close to his dream. Maybe he'll catch on somewhere else, with another program. Maybe he'll get to know the family a little better. Who knows? Maybe there'll be a comeback season for him in the future. He's not too old to be playing the game. Maybe he'll get away and find some perspective and bring back a new way of looking at things to the beltway.

And, if things stay the course, one day in January, after the required league drug test, of course, we'll have a new quarterback that looks a lot like one we used to have, back when times were, to say the least, different. Maybe another recession will come along and slant the field and all George's passes will fall short. Or maybe he can keep the ball rolling, march his troops down the field and distinguish himself as a true American leader.

Whatever the case, I think we should all remember that we are all on the same team. We're all trying to get to the goal line.

The only question is how best to get there.

And what price are we willing to pay for glory?

## EXPRESS YOURSELF

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. Both guest columns and letters to the letter are welcome. Letters should be limited to 250 words. If you wish to express yourself in a longer column format, please consult with the editor in advance.

All letters received will be published, space permitting, unless they are considered by the editor to be potentially libelous or in poor taste.

Drop letters off at the Commuter office, Forum 222 or email us at [commuter@ml.lbcc.cc.or.us](mailto:commuter@ml.lbcc.cc.or.us)

## EDITORIAL

### Quit fighting it Al; it's time to give it up

by Leon Tovey  
of The Commuter

Hey Al, George W. Bush is the winner.

No matter what you and your whining flunkies would have us believe, the election is over. Florida's election officials say so, George W. says so, and hey—we said so right here in the pages of this very paper three weeks ago. It's over.

George Bush has won it.

People all over the country are saying that they are sick of the election, and I think I know why. They voted for Bush and they don't want to be reminded of it. A good friend of mine recently summed it up when he said to me: "I almost hope Gore wins—because if Bush becomes the next president I'll have to spend the next four years defending him when he does stupid things."

Ain't that America?

You see Al, the reason you and other Democrats are having a hard time believing that Bush is the winner is that you think people voted for a Democrat when they voted for Bill Clinton. That's just not the case. When people voted for Clinton, they voted for the Almighty Dollar. That's the reason you lost, Al. It has nothing to do with your political views, and everything to do with the fact that the citizens of this country have no faith in your abilities to keep the economy running smoothly.

Bill Clinton was a Reagan Democrat. He had ideas about how to get the economy running again in 1992. He let Alan Greenspan take charge and never looked back. In 1996, things were running smoothly and people saw no reason to change boats mid-stream.

The simple fact of the matter is that George W. Bush, despite his lack of charm, intelligence, moral fiber and understanding of foreign policy, will bring to the White House people who will keep the economy running. Admit it Al, you probably would've appointed Adam Werbach Secretary of the Interior and Shawn Fanning as Secretary of the Treasury.

You see, a strong economy is very important to the people of this country right now, Al. We've all got mortgages and cellular phones and crippling credit card bills and SUVs to keep fueled. We have no time for bleeding-heart liberals. Particularly when they are as blatantly hypocritical as you are.

So, when faced with a choice of two equally useless major party candidates, we the people of the United States of America chose the one who we believe will keep us all working at cushy 9 to 5 advertising and software design jobs. So quit fighting it, Al. It's over.

Oh sure, there may have been a few irregularities at the polls in a state that G.W.'s brother happens to be governor of, but that is entirely beside the point.

We went where we hope the money is, and dammit, we're going to stick by that decision! And when the next recession hits, we'll tear him down just like we did his old man. Maybe we'll vote Hillary in when that happens, but unless you plan to run with her in 2004 Al, you'd better just kiss the White House goodbye.

Just give it up.

*Silence*

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

*Consent.*