Wednesday, Oct. 28, 1998

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 30 No. 5

Officials say Women's Center will not reopen

by Sarah Crauder of The Commuter

The Women's Center in IA Room 225 stands empty now.

The informative pamphlets are gone. There are no signs on the door identifying what it once was.

The Women's Center used to be a place for women to pick up information and get referrals on issues that affect their lives. The staff arranged regular workshops and seminars on women's

issues. But perhaps most of all, it was a term by the administration, who cited supportive place for women to visit, to study, to have a quiet lunch, and just to talk and relax in a safe environment.

Last year, after the funding to the Women's Center was cut, 11 female volunteers pitched in to keep it open for the fall term on a part-time basis. They logged 141 documented visits over the the eight weeks they kept it open, but that amount of use wasn't enough to save it.

The center was closed at the end of the

difficulties with supervision as one of the reasons for its closure.

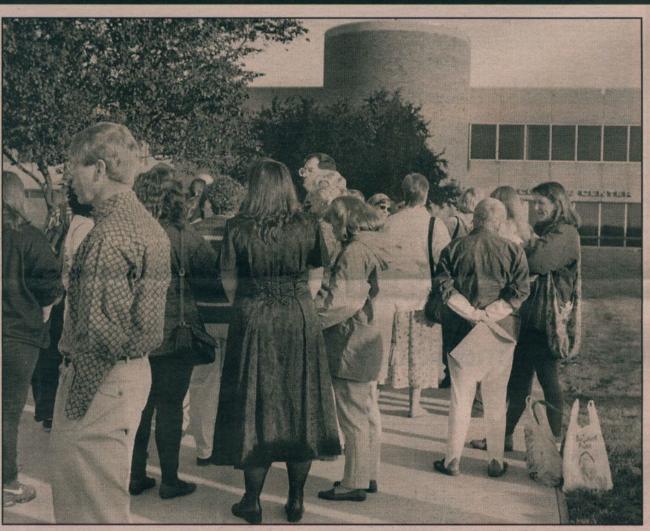
Diane Watson, dean of Student Services, said that another reason for its closure was that the services it offered were also offered by programs such as Turning Point Transitions, the Gender Equity Committee and the American Association of Women in Community

Turning Point Transitions, located in

the WEB Building, has support groups and workshops that cover some of the same subjects that the Women's Center's workshops did.

The Gender Equity committee has sponsored a career fair, a gay and lesbian support group and Take Your Daughter To Work Day. They have a number of programs to expose young girls to nontraditional careers, and to make teachers aware of gender biases in the classroom.

(Turn to "Women's" on Pg. 2)



Photos by Jeremy Parker

Get Ready to Deja Vu

Campus buildings were emptied last Thursday morning during a brief power outage that was traced to the college's main electrical switch, which is being examined by Steve Stoneking and Jonathan Lewis of E.C. Linnco Electric (below). Students and staff will be treated to a repeat performance today when two fire drills will be held, one at 1:45 p.m. and another at 7:15 p.m. The drills will take about 15 minutes each. Students and staff are to go to the evacuation assembly points surrounding the campus buildings when they hear the alarms, and are asked to avoid the courtyard.



by Justin Dalton of The Commuter

Measure 67: One toke over the line?

sy over Measure 67 is beside the point.

A victim of Hodgkin's Disease, the Sweet Home mom sees the purpose of Oregon's Medical Marijuana Initiative as pretty straight-forward.

Measure 67, Oregon's Medical Marijuana Act, simply states that people suffering from a debilitating disease, such as cancer, glaucoma and AIDS, will legally be allowed to purchase, grow and smoke small amounts of marijuana to relieve symptoms and side effects that may occur during treatment or thereafter. Marijuana could only be obtained by a doctor's prescription.

In practice, if the proposed measure passes, marijuana would be state regulated, according to the

recipient's needs. An identification card would be given to the caregiver, a member of the family or guardian, to For people like Darleen Giddings, all the contro- ensure that law enforcement acknowledges the person's rights and condition. Further, police couldn't seize any marijuana or paraphernalia if the holder was a certified user or caregiver.

> Should this measure be passed? This question has created a media wave surging through Oregon, a decision that has voters caught in the riptide. The measure sounds simple enough, but many opponents say it would have serious unintended consequences.

> Lebanon resident and physician assistant Ben Johnson, believes that "We'd be opening up Pandora's Box by legalizing a dangerous substance.'

> However he thinks that if an expert oncologist told a patient that marijuana was the only way to go, "I'd go (Turn to "Measure 67" on Pg. 2)

✓ Pumpkin Pickin'

A visit to the old pumpkin patch isn't like it used to be

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The ghouls will be out Friday when several campus offices hold Halloween Open House, including SL&L and the Library.

✓ Punk Rocks

Indie label in Corvallis strives to keep the music alive

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Workshops highlight Native Americans next week

by Malia Ramos of the Commuter

November is National Native American Heritage Month. This year, the LBCC Student Programming Board is participating in honoring Oregon's Native Americans. The Board has put together seven workshops that will be available starting on the third of November.

The workshops will range from a demonstration on fishing practices to discussing contemporary issues facing Native Americans today. Each of the workshops will feature speakers from different tribes throughout Oregon, along with experts on Native America from OSU and Eastern Oregon University.

The Chemawa Indian School of Performing Arts will be doing a traditional drum and dance presentation. Pat Courtney Gold, a Wasco Native, will be heading a Sally Bags workshop. Sally Bags were once used

in the Wasco Tribe to collect roots and store food. Gold has revived the dying art and has received national recognition for doing so.

The workshops are free, and there is no size restriction for the classes. However, the Sally Bag workshop, which costs \$15.00 for community members and faculty, is full and has a waiting list. Interested individuals should contact the Student Programming Board for more information at CC213.

•Nov. 3: Contemporary Issues and Culture, 11 am-1 pm in the Alsea / Calapooia Room. The workshop will be led by Robert Kentta of the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians.

•Nov. 4: Sacred Landscapes: Native American Views of Oregon, 12-1:30 pm, Alsea / Calapooia Room. A slide presentation by Kurt Peters, OSU professor of Native American and Comparative Ethnic Studies •Nov. 5: Traditional Fishing Practice and Technology, 9 am-3 pm, Takena Hall. A demonstration and discussion by Henry Palmer of the Warm Springs Reservation

•Nov. 10: Traditional Drum and Dance Group, 11:30 am-12:30 pm in the Commons. Performances by Chemawa Indian School Performing Arts, coordinated by Don Moccasin.

•Nov. 17: Cultural Appreciation Workshop, 11 am-1 pm, Alsea/Calapooia Room. Workshop lead by Jackie Grant, director of the Native American Program at Eastern Oregon University.

•Nov. 19: Oregon Indian Tribes, 11 am-1 pm, Alsea/ Calapooia Room. A presentation by Morrie Jimenez, executive director of the Oregon Indian Coalition on Post Secondary Education.

•Nov. 24: Sally Bag Workshop, 9 am-4 pm, Alsea/ Calapooia Room.



Photo by A.J. Wright

Pipe Dream?

A new well is being drilled on the North campus to replace current wells that are silting up. The well is used for watering campus lawns and plantings.

Culinary arts' harvest festival set for Nov. 6

by Dawn Hegney of The Commuter

LBCC's annual Harvest Festival Buffet will be held on Friday, Nov. 6, at 6 p.m. in the Commons on the second floor of the College Center

Tickets for the all-you-can-eat buffet are \$16 per person; checks, Visa and MasterCard are accepted.

Last year's dinner sold out, so organizers urge interested persons to purchase tickets as soon as possible. Call Hospitality Services at 917-4385.

All food is prepared by the students in the Culinary Arts Department. Proceeds go to the co-curricular fund for seminars, visiting lectures, field trips, scholarships and other student events.

Women's Center: Safe haven for women still needed

✔ From Page 1

Plans are under development to create even more programs aimed at women, according to Watson.

However, Jane White, an English instructor who was instrumental in keeping the Women's Center open last year, said that the center is still needed. The main point of the Women's Center, she explained, was to have a safe, non-threatening place for women to come together. With its services dispersed throughout the campus, there is no sense of community and no way to express shared values and goals. Without the ability to come together, she said, there is no opportunity to exercise influence.

Despite the fact that construction is underway to expand and move several campus facilities, including Student Life & Leadership and the Fireside Lounge, White is frustrated that she hasn't been able to find even a classroom to set aside for a few hours a day as a women-only lounge.

White noted that most colleges have a women's center of some sort, but that women usually have to fight to keep them. She encourages women on this campus who feel strongly about the issue to express themselves to the dean or to student government. Interested women can also contact her for further information, she said.

Measure 67: Both sides debate medicinal value of marijuana

✔ From Page 1

for it," said Johnson.

Johnson is convinced that there are alternative drugs that can be as effective, one being Marinol.

Marinol is made from the natural occurring plant, Cannabis Sativa, and contains purified THC (Tetrahhydrocannabinol), the active chemical in marijuana that causes physiological effects.

The experimental drug has a list of side effects a mile long, ranging from hypertension, hallucinations, diarrhea, vomiting and even nightmares. Marinol is also considered a dependent drug that builds a tolerance demanding a consistently higher dosage.

Aside from the side effects, which virtually every pain killer and sedative have, both Marinol and marijuana have presented evidence in aiding suffering patients.

They've been used to increase appetite for AIDS patients, anorexia and control nausea induced by chemotherapy.

"As a patient you get fed up with treatments," said Darleen Giddings, a Sweet Home resident who's been fighting four long years to control a form of cancer called Hodgkin's disease. Currently, her cancer is in a dormant state, but the drugs she's taking for pain cause unbearable side effects.

"I can't handle the side effects; my body isn't the norm. If there is a probable harmful side effect, it will happen to me," she said.

Giddings is trying the fourth remedy prescribed, and has lost 100 lbs. because of the combination of pain killers and chemotherapy.

"If I keep losing weight, I won't have the strength to continue treatment."

Considering her condition, Gidding's oncologist supported experimenting with medical marijuana if it would alleviate pain and manage the severity of side effects.

"If it came down to it, I'd try it, and I think it would be okay to try Marinol," she said. She commented that she supports Measure 67. "If it helps people they should be allowed to choose."

"Personally I wouldn't bring it into my house because I have teenagers here and don't want to create bad examples."

Some supporters claim that since doctors can prescribe harmful, addicting drugs like morphine, marijuana should be no exception, but Johnson disagrees.

"The British provide methadone and heroin for treating pain," said Johnson. "The US already has a

drug problem and to put another drug out is bad business. It's a disservice to a patient by prescribing them a harmful narcotic."

A glaucoma patient himself, Johnson said, "I think there are better ways to treat glaucoma than rushing to marijuana. The medications I'm using have effectively controlled its progression."

"If there was compelling medical research, I'd support it," said Johnson.

Like other opponents of Measure 67, he believes that "there are hidden intentions" percolating through the measure that may be hiding something from the voters. Many opponents believe that Measure 67 is a subterfuge and really a first step toward legalizing marijuana.

A telephone poll conducted by CNN reported that 93 percent interviewed thought that if measure 67 passed, marijuana would later be legalized in the United States.

Giddings agrees that if the measure passes, it would be hard to keep a handle on regulating the drug. But in a larger sense it could help people just like her.

"I'd like to see it pass," said Giddings. "If that was the only hope for some, then it should be legal for them to do it."

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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IN FOCUS

The Pumpkin Patch





Five-year-old Sara Dahl of Springfield has her hands full as she tries to roll her favorite pumpkin out of the patch at Thistledown Farms. Visitors to Lone Pine Farm, at left, enjoy a hayride.

Hunting for your Halloween pumpkin is not like it used to be



Troy Admire, Emily Chester and Alina Ishizaki pet the goats at Lone Pine Farm near Junction City. Lone Pine offers visitors lots of entertainment to go with their pumpkins, including playground equipment, mazes and fiddlers (below).

The pumpkin patch of the 90s features an amusement-park atmosphere

It's that time of the year again.

Time to choose your costume, decorate your house and pick out and carve your pumpkin.

But instead of cruising over to Safeway to get your Halloween pumpkin, consider heading out to the closest pumpkin farm for a taste of the way it used to be done.

Out in Junction City, just 30 miles south of Corvallis, are two farms that try to make this time of the year fun for all ages.

Thistledown Farm on Riverview Road provides horse-pulled hay rides through the farm out to the pumpkin patch so you can choose your own pumpkin. Back at the farm children can play in the hay maze as their parents wash the mud off their prize Halloween squash.

Just a few miles down the road is Lone Pine Farm, where the owners have taken their Halloween tradition just a bit farther. Along with the hay rides and mazes, they have added a few more things to keep the kiddies occupied.

As the sun came out last Sunday children of all ages were either playing on the playground equipment, getting lost in hay and corn stock mazes, petting and feeding the goats, or watching the fiddle concert. The rain on Saturday turned the dirt to thick mud that stuck to your feet, but no one seemed to mind as they paid their \$2 to walk though muddy mazes.

And the adults aren't excluded from the fun—they have their own "expert" corn stock maze, which many seemed to get lost in among the tall corn.

After you walk though the mud to pick out the perfect jack-o-lantern to-be, you can head inside where there are many other items for sale—fresh fruit, apple cider, pies, ice cream and other seasonal items.

Alina Ishizaki, 8, has been coming to Long Pine Farm for four years, and loves petting the animals and walking in the mazes. But her favorite part about coming to Lone Pine is, "I get to pick out my own pumpkin right out of the patch."

Photos and Story by Jeremy Parker



CAMPUS NEWS

Free election fair lets voters talk to party representatives

from the LBCC News Service

An "Election Fair" seminar will be held at LBCC on Wednesday, Oct. 28, 12–2 p.m., in the Boardrooms on the first floor College Center.

The public is invited and admission is free.

Representatives from five political parties will field questions from students and the public on a variety of subjects during the two-hour seminar.

All political parties with offices in Oregon were invited to attend. Those accepting include the Democratic Party, Pacific Party, Socialist Party, Libertarian

Party and Reform Party.

LBCC political science instructor Doug Clark, one of the event organizers, said, "Thousands of Oregon voters will participate in November's off-year election and the Republican and Democratic parties will receive much of the media's election coverage. However, a number of minority parties also have ideas that need to be put on the agenda for consideration."

Clark listed some of the discussion topics that the candidates will be asked to address, including proportional representation, growing income inequality and a livable wage, taxation, land use planning, American arms manufacturing and marketing, human rights vs. most favorable nation trade status for China but not Cuba, money vs. morality, environmental issues, corporate responsibility/accountability, public education—funding, academic standards, purpose (citizenship vs. job training), minority rights—affirmative action, and mandatory voting.

For more information about the event, call Clark at 917-4557 or LBCC media specialist Larry Bulling at 917-4411.

Nine-acre wetland may become site of ecology lab

by Amber Mcnamara

of The Commuter

In 1996, a local farmer donated nine acres of land across Allen Lane from the baseball diamond to the LBCC Foundation for an ecology lab, but use of the land is still on hold.

Steve Lebsack, the biology instructor, said his department is still waiting for several issues to be resolved before students can begin using the land.

For example, he said, surveys must be done to determine the precise boundary, and once that is done, plans to re-fence the area will be put into action.

Part of the hold-up involves the role of Target Stores Inc. in restoring wetlands on the site. The donation was originally part of a land swap involving a local farmer and Target, which was building its huge warehouse shipping facility south of the

college at the time. According to Ed Watson, vice president of academic affairs, Target has hired a consulting firm from California to handle all the surveying and monitoring of the property.

Until then, students will use the area in the spring for plant diversity indexes, a process that involves a student making a grid in the area and then counting all the different plants within the grid.

The idea behind the index is that the greater the plant diversity, the healthier the land is.

The long-term options for using the land are to either keep it as a wetland or possibly restore it to what the valley looked like before agriculture took place.

However, Lebsack said that future plans for the land are not definite until the department is clear on its options.

Free concerts host flutist and pianist

from the LBCC News Service

A free concert, "Flutes of Many Colors," with flutist Diane Hawkins and pianist Gary Ruppert will be given Sunday, Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. at the First Christian Church, Fourth and Ferry St., in Albany.

A free brown bag lunch concert version of the program will be given Thursday, Oct. 29, at noon in the Takena Theatre

The concert will feature pieces from different countries and time periods performed on three different flutes—the traverso flute, the alto flute and the modern flute. A reception will follow the concert with a display of numerous types of flutes.

Hawkins, of Salem, is a UO graduate. She is an adjunct faculty member at LBCC and Western Baptist College. Ruppert is the director of the Arts and Communications Division at LBCC and music director at First Christian Church.

Students sought for scholarship

by Kirstan Story of The Commuter

Phi Theta Kappa and USA Today are offering sophomores a chance to compete for scholarships that could total as much as \$5,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C.

Two sophomore students will be chosen to compete nationally and have lunch with the college president, Jon Cornahan, and Gov. John Kitzhaber in the spring.

In 1994, Jack Josewski, a former logger who returned to LBCC to study journalism, was a national winner. Josewski was The Commuter editor in 1993-94 and went on to fill the same post at OSU's student paper, The Barometer.

Last year's student scholar was Mary Hake, The Commuter copy editor who received a \$1,000 transfer scholarship from Oregon Community College Association.

This year's winner will also receive a scholarship, but the amount and stipulations have not yet been determined, said Rosemary Bennett, Phi Theta Kappa advisor.

Students who plan to graduate before September 1999 with a 3.25 accumulative grade point average qualify. Applicants need not be PTK members.

For more information and applications, contact the PTK advisor, Rosemary Bennett in Takena 101. Applications should be returned to the counseling center no later than Nov. 15.



Photo by A.J. Wright

Big Boy Toys

Workers rip up the south side of the courtyard to make way for new stairs from the balcony over Takena Hall.



CHECK THIS OUT!!

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS
(Day of the Death)

This day is one of the most important traditions in the Hispanic world. Celebrated in many countries, the tradition is particularly important in Mexico. The history goes back to the Aztecs. When the Spaniards arrived, the tradition was altered to coincide with Christian celebrations of All Saint's Day.

According to the tradition, dead people are believed to visit on this day. To welcome & honor these visits, favorite meals are prepared & offered in altars that also contain things the people used to like when they were alive. In rural places, this day is celebrated traditionally, while in urban areas the tradition is kept by exhibiting altars in public places (schools/government offices/etc.) Altars don't need to be dedicated to dead people, they can also be offered to artists, politicians, and any other public figure still alive.

This gives the opportunity to make jokes & bring some sense of humor to the celebration! Indeed, the Dia de los Muertos is not necessarily a mourning day, but an enjoyable time of the year when traditional food is prepared & time is spent with friends/relatives that are alive. The Day of the Death is a time to remember our dear ones (dead or alive), make jokes about death, think about life/death, and celebrate!

Everyone is invited to eat bread one of the altars!

Altars will be set up Oct. 28, 29, and 30th
2 IN THE COMMONS
2 IN THE LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER
2 IN THE AHSS GALLERY AND 2 IN THE LIBRARY

Celebrate Native American Heritage Month We hope you'll join us in November for:

11/3— Discussions on Contemporary Issues
11/4— Sacred Landscapes slide show
11/5— Traditional Fishing Practices demonstration/discussion
11/10— Traditional Drum and Dance
11/17— Cultural Appreciation Workshop
11/19— Oregon Indian Tribes Presentation
11/24— Sally Bag Workshop

AND MORE!!!

All attendants will be able to enter a drawing & have a chance to win a prize!

(see display outside Student Life & Leadership office)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL STUDENT LIFE & LEADERSHIP OFFICE @ 917-4457

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Punk rocks at Mutant Pop in Corvallis

Indie labels offer inovated bands a chance to experiment with new music without being ripped off by corporate labels

by Keirsten Morris of The Commuter

With bands like Boris the Sprinkler, Dirt Bike Annie and Jon Cougar Concentration Camp, the Corvallis independent record label Mutant Pop seems aptly named.

T. Chandler operates the independent label, providing listeners with music ranging from "very sweet and sappy stuff, to hard-edged abrasive stuff."

Independent record labels, known in the music world as "indies," provide an outlet for music styles not widely accepted by the general public. Because they don't have to cater to the mass-market, indies often begin music trends by promoting innovation and diversity.

Chandler started selling records independently in January of 1995 and started Mutant Pop not long after. He specializes mainly in "pop-punk," which sports a catchy tune with a punk mentality. Chandler's favorite method of finding artists is to find a single that really rocks, proving to him that the band believes in themselves enough to "put their money where their mouths are" by releasing their own single.

And the bands benefit, too.

Gabe Acock, a former Mutant Pop recording artist, listens almost exclusively to music put out on indie labels. He believes that indie labels are a better choice for bands economically, since the profits made from sales are given directly to the band. Major labels are in the habit of advancing payments to a band, which leaves the band with a big debt if it fails to sell music. Studies show that 95 percent of artists are unable to recoup the advance.

Acock feels that the big difference between major and indie labels is the money involved. While every now and then a major label artist makes it big, "small label artists can make money right away. Because the band's investment is minimal, there's less overhead."

Indie labels don't commonly provide the owner with an abundance of wealth. Chandler says that while the Mutant Pop isn't his main source of income, it is "a leading source for consuming my income."

Mutant Pop gets its bands heard through many different channels. The mail order circulation currently has 850 subscribers, while selling through other mail order companies and wholesale to individual stores



Photo by Natalie Dalton

T. Chandler is owner and operator of Mutant Pop Records, an independant label in Corvallis that promotes the "pop-punk" sound.

also provide sales opportunities.

"The retail environment for punk is terrible right now," Chandler said, "and the Japanese market has disintegrated with their economic crisis," which he said is affecting the label's international sales.

The lack of money is probably the most difficult thing to overcome for indie labels, but Chandler is sticking to his guns.

"Little guys need to find a niche and service it directly."

Chandler's niche is 86 percent male with an average age of 21. They generally live east of the Mississippi and order about twice a year. As with most punk fans, Mutant Pop customers favor vinyl over CDs and take pride in their record collections.

The old indie labels of the 50s and 60s have mostly folded or been bought out by the major recording

companies. Today, 5,000 large and small labels still operate in the U.S. They require a small group of people to operate, and made up for about 20 percent of American music in the mid-90s.

Some punk bands are tempted to "sell-out" to major labels with the lure of money and wide-spread popularity. Still, the majority of bands feel that it would be a contradiction of certain values, cheapening the unified stand by most punk bands against corporate bureaucracies.

An inspiration to his loyal listeners everywhere, Chandler sends a message to other indie labels to "do it because you love the music or not at all."

Though technically a business, Chandler sees Mutant Pop as more of a hobby. "If you look around, you figure out pretty fast that making (records) is easy; selling it is hard."

Local poets, OSU faculty read for food at Majestic Theater

Corvallis area poets and fiction writers will join the fight against hunger and poverty by reading from their work on Wednesday, Oct. 28, 7:30 p.m., in the Majestic Theater, 115 SW 2nd Street, Corvallis. Admission is free; however, donations of canned goods, other non-perishable food items or cash are welcome.

Reading from their work will be Chris Anderson, Robert Crum, Rich Daniels, Tracy Daugherty, Margarita Donnelly, Charles Goodrich, Ehud Havazelet, Gregg Kleiner, Robert Hill Long, Marjorie Sandor, Clem Starck, Ken Stoker, Anita Sullivan and Matt Yurdana. They will join more than 2,000 other authors nationwide as part of Share Our Strength's Writers Harvest, the nation's largest literary benefit to fight hunger and poverty.

This event is made possible in Corvallis with the support of local businesses, the Willamette Literary Guild, the Center for the Humanities, the Foreign Languages Department and the English Students Association of Oregon State University.

For more information, call Jennifer Cornell, 737-1666.

For further information about Share Our Strength's national program, call Sandra Friedman, (202) 393-2925. There will be food collection barrels at the Writing Center in Waldo Hall and the Women's Center at OSU.

Shakespearean actors offer free workshop at LBCC

To be, or not to be......

On Monday, Nov. 2 from noon to 1 p.m. two actors from Ashland's Oregon Shakespeare Festival will put on a free workshop and performance in

F-104. Kathleen Mulligan and David Studwell will perform excerpts from Shakespeare, classic and contemporary literature.

Actor Kathleen Mulligan, who has been traveling

around the country teaching and acting, played Beatrice in "Much Ado About Nothing" and Jean Louise in "To Kill a Mockingbird."

Spending the last twelve years acting in Chicago, actor David Studwell, makes his appearance acting along with Mulligan and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. He's played in classics like Hamlet and The Secret Carden

Folklore Society's solstice logo to be chosen by contest

by Keirsten Morris

of The Commuter

The Corvallis Folklore Society is holding an art contest to determine the logo for the 20th annual Oregon Folklife Festival this coming June.

The summer solstice weekend will be held in Central Park in Corvallis. Entrants should include the solstice theme in addition to 20th annual, the "heart of the valley," and/or the music, dance, community, family, food, arts and crafts.

The entry chosen by the festival board will get their

logo credited on t-shirts, programs, advertising and admission buttons. The winner will receive several prizes including: \$100, folklife CDs and t-shirts, gift certificates and admission to the festival.

The contest is open to all applicants and more than one entry may be submitted. The winner will be notified by Jan. 1, 1999.

Submit black and white entries by Dec. 11, 1998 to the Corvallis Folklore Society at 5055 NE Elliott Circle #134, Corvallis, Ore. 97330. For more information contact Mike at 758-3243 or mmeyer@proaxis.com.

Opera fans bus to 'Don Pasquale' November 3

From the LBCC News Service

The Linn-Benton Opera Guild will provide chartered bus service to the Nov. 14 Portland Opera production of "Don Pasquale" by Donizetti. Buses leave the Benton Center at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. with stops in Albany. Reservations for the \$19 round trip fare must be made in advance with Judy Krueger, 752-1681.

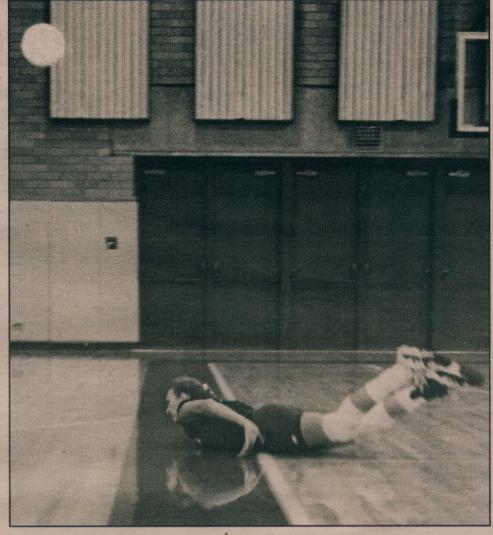
The Opera Guild also sponsors previews of Portland operas given by Oregon State University Music Department. The "Don Pasquale" preview will be on Tuesday, Nov 3, at 7:30 p.m. in Walker Recital Hall located in Benton Hall on the OSU campus. The preview is free to OSU and LBCC students and Guild members; \$2.50 for the public.

SPORTS PAGE

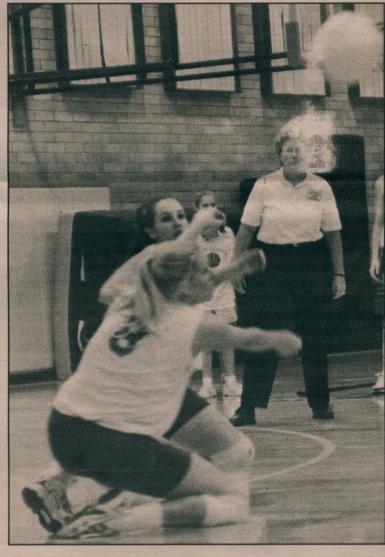
Defending the Home Court

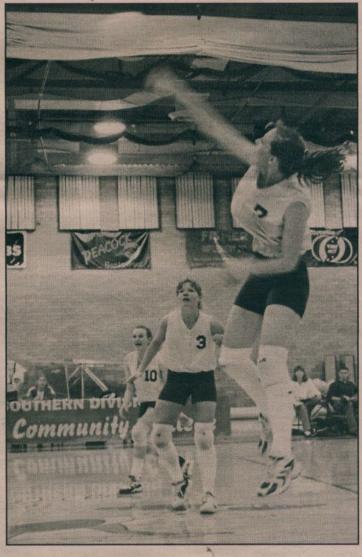
Roadrunners end three-game home stand with comeback win over UCC after dropping a pair



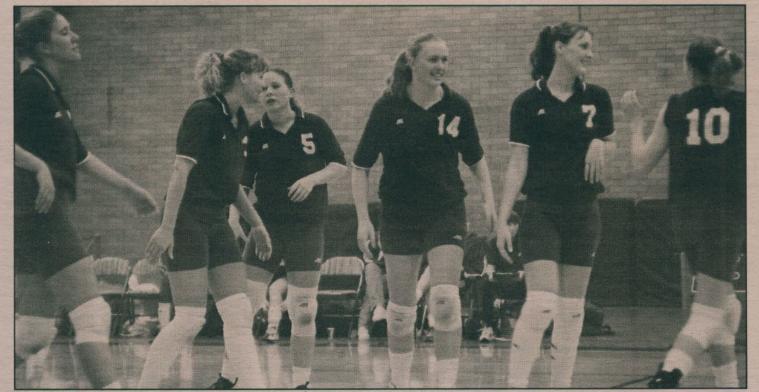


Chrisie Schwartzengraber (above left) pancakes the ball in an attempt to make a save, while Mandy Vannice gets ready to help her out. Elicia McFadden (above right) dives out of bounds after a ball in Saturday's game against Umpqua. Krysie Tack (right) passes the ball with back-up from Jessica Anderson Friday against SWOCC.





Photos by E.J. Harris



Andrea Tedrow (above) goes for an attack friday night against SWOCC. At left, players on the court get excited after a good rally against Umpqua. The 'Runners came back Saturday after losing the first two games to win in five.

SPORTS PAGE

Lady Roadrunners celebrate victory

Volleyball team comes together to make it work in final home game, two games left to play in the season

by David Thayer of The Commuter

The Lady Roadrunners came from behind to capture their second league win against the Timberwomen of Umpqua Community College on Saturday.

Umpqua looked strong at first, winning the first two games 15-2 and 15-10. But the Lady Roadrunners would not quit, and won the next three games 15-1, 15-13 and 15-7.

LB came out hard in the first game, going up 2-0. UCC came back to take 5-2 lead, then busted out with seven more points to make it 12-2 on their way to a 15-2 win. The second game proved to be more

"We came together as a team. No individual stepped up, it was a team effort."

-Elicia McFadden

exciting, with Umpqua jumping out to big leads and then LB making it close till the end. Umpqua won it 15-10.

The third game was the time for LB. The Roadrunners came out hard and did not quit. After taking 6-1 lead, they scored four more points to make it 10-1. That was enough to put away UCC, with LB winning 15-1. The fourth game was a lot closer. Both teams were going at each other, and after a 13-13 tie, LB finally pulled ahead to win 15-13.

In the tie-breaking game, it was all LB. The Roadrunners took an early 6-3 lead, and cruised to a 15-7 victory.

"We came together as a team. No individual stepped up, it was a team effort," said Elicia McFadden, who had 38 assists.

Coach Jayme Frazier praised the offense of Michele Dardis, who had 19 kills. She also cited the service games of Christie Schwartzengraber and Jen White, and the defensive play of Becky Dolan and Mandy Vannice.

"We switched our defense after the second game," Frazier said. "We had been working on rally kills during practices. Once we made it to the fifth game, I knew we would take it."

On Wednesday Oct. 21, Clackamas Community College visited LBCC, hoping to keep pace with league-leading Chemeketa. They did just that, winning all three games against LB. Final scores were 15-5, 15-6 and 15-0.

The biggest highlight for the Roadrunners had



Photo by E.J. Harris

Michele Dardis slams the ball over UCC defenders.

"We switched our defense after the second game. We had been working on rally kills during practices. Once we made it to the fifth game, I knew we would take it."

—Jayme Frazier

was taking a 3-0 lead, all on service aces.

Vannice and Dardis were tops in kills, with five a piece. Meanwhile, Renee Pridgett had three kills and four blocked shots. McFadden finished with 17 assists, and Schwartzengraber had six digs. Malia Ramos and Dolan each had two service aces.

In the Roadrunners' second home match of the week, Southwestern Oregon Community College defeated LBCC in straight sets on Friday night. The fourth place Lakers won 15-4, 15-12 and 15-12. Some of the Roadrunner highlights were mainly in the third game. After being down 10-2, LB made it close at 14-12, but SWOCC got the last point to win.

Dardis had 10 kills in the game, while Tedrow and Pridgett had four kills apiece. Schwartzengraber, Vannice, McFadden had three kills apiece McFadden also had 26 assists and three service aces. The team had nine aces overall. Jessica Anderson, Vannice, and Schwartzengraber finished with two apiece.

LB will finish its season on the road, against Lane on Oct. 28 and Mt. Hood on Nov. 11.

Hawk honored by his high school alma mater

by David Thayer of The Commuter

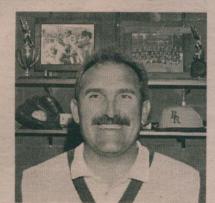
Greg Hawk, LBCC baseball coach and athletic director, was recognized this month for his athletic achievements by his high school alma mater.

Greg Hawk was named to the Centerville, Iowa, High School Hall of Fame on Oct. 2. The coach and his wife, Beth Wilson, traveled back to Iowa for the ceremony, which was held at half-time during the homecoming football game.

The award was given to Hawk in recognition of his achievements in basketball, football and in his favorite sport—baseball. He was voted as captain of the senior baseball team by his teammates. As a high school

catcher, Hawk was named first team all-state and collected four all-conference awards.

After high school, Hawk went on to play baseball at Northwest Missouri State in Maryville, Missouri. He earned a bachelor's degree while lettering for three years and



Greg Hawk

serving as president of the Bearcat Letterman's Club during his senior year. The baseball team earned 41 wins thanks to the play of Greg Hawk.

After graduation from NMSU, Hawk took a job teaching and coaching in Sweet Springs, Mo. He helped turn around the high school baseball team, then moved on to Eastern Washington University in Cheyney, Wash. to earn a master's degree in athletic administration.

In 1983, the year Coach Hawk arrived at LBCC, he taught physical education and health. While teaching, he coached women's basketball and baseball.

In his 15-year LBCC stay, Hawk has earned two NAACC southern region championships and two coach-of-the-year awards from 1983-1988 while coaching women's basketball. His peers nominated him six times for coach of the year in the NWAACC southern region where he also served as the NWAACC baseball commissioner. Under Hawk, LBCC has won five NWAACC southern region championships and two NWAACC championships. The NWAACC consists of community colleges in Oregon and Washington.

Coach Hawk is now preparing the LBCC baseball team for the 1999 season. Hawk believes that baseball, as do many other sports, instills fair play, competitiveness, positive social skills and academic achievement.

His own life demonstrates that sports do teach those values.

Roadrunners get ready for new season; Coach Hawk hopeful about new talent

by David Thayer of The Commuter

The New York Yankees defeat the San Diego Padres four games to none! Oops, wrong baseball topic. Autumn, the time of leaves turning brown, of hearing your teachers go blah-blah-blah, and baseball? Wait, isn't the baseball season supposed to be over in October?

Not according to Linn-Benton Community College.

The Roadrunners have started their fall season, preparing for the regular season start in February and March. LB is hoping to do better than last year's record of 24-13 overall and 14-11 in league play. So far, 53 ball players have tried out for and are playing in this fall season.

"I do see some talent so far," said Coach Greg Hawk.

But Hawk also sees a team that's rebuilding its pitching. "This is a team that has lost, what I thought, was a superior

pitching staff," Hawk said, adding that there are only 15 innings worth of pitching that is being returned in three pitchers. "We are looking for some good quality pitchers to surface."

One has so far, Nick Renault, a standout pitcher from Rex Putnam High School.

Some of the key players returning from last year's team are catcher Travis Kundert, pitcher and left fielder Travis Haima, shortstop Zach Milton, third baseman Shawn Lilley, center fielder Brandon Arakawa and pitcher Jimmy Bryant.

Milton has his own plans to improve this year. "I hope to get used to using a wooden bat, having a shorter swing, and better opportunity to show what we can do on defense."

The leaves may be falling, but the Runners are rising to meet the challenge of a new season.

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Students who plan on transfering to WOU, want to connect with an advisor or have any questions about the university are encouraged to attend. The transfer specialist will be accompanied by a transcript evaluator and faculty from various programs.

To learn more or make an appointment for either session, call (503) 838-8037.

WESTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY

Sex and safety combined in condom commercial contest

by Anthony Vitale

The Daily Campus (U. Connecticut)

(U-WIRE) STORRS, Conn. — Do you like sex? Do you need to make some money? Well, this may be just the offer you're looking for.

Lifestyle condoms and its manufacturer, Ansell Personal Products, has announced its fourth annual "Lifestyles Safer Sex and Condoms Video Contest." It calls for 30- to 45-second video spots involving creativity, humor and originality. In other words, you create what you would want to see.

"Instead of preaching to our audience about safer

sex," said Carol Carrozza, director of marketing for Ansell, "we're offering consumers the chance to deliver the message the way they think it should be delivered. Our goal is to have the winning commercials accepted by the major TV networks and more local affiliate stations."

In addition to possible commercial exposure, Ansell is awarding cash prizes to the top three videos. The grand prize for the contest is \$5,000, with second and third places receiving \$3,000 and \$2,000, respectively.

Past winners have appeared on major networks such as MTV, Comedy Central (during the Howard Stern

sex," said Carol Carrozza, director of marketing for Ansell, "we're offering consumers the chance to deliver the message the way they think it should be Show) and on network affiliates in Boston and Seattle. The trick to receive the treat in this contest may be the unusual.

"Winning commercials range in style and tone from computer animation to live actors and slap-stick funny to compelling. And no one is too old or too unusual to participate; we've seen senior citizens, rabbits and hippos delivering the message," Carrozza said.

Winning videos will be announced by Feb. 15, 1999, with an entry deadline set at Dec. 31, 1988. You must be 18 or older to enter. For more information, Lifestyle is on the Internet at www.lifestyles.com.

If you prick them, do they not bleed? Do they not wilt? Do they not feel?

New book finds that plants are more aware of outside stimuli than most people think; feel pain, react to threats

by Jonathan Murray

The Diamondback (U. Maryland) (U-WIRE) COLLEGE PARK, Md. —

hy do many of us feel that it is more moral to consume plants than animals? Well it's simple, really. We all know that animals feel pain and plants do not. And we know this because animals all scream right? Well, what if I told you that it is also scientific

fact that plants also scream.

According to "The Secret
Life of Plants" by Peter
Tomkins, when animals or
insects threaten or harm a
plant, it puts off a distress
signal. This distress signal is
not audible to our hearing, but
is measurable nonetheless. It has
been found that this distress signal
causes surrounding plants to produce a
sour-tasting chemical in an effort to become
non-palatable to the predator.

In the August 1998 issue of The Journal of Biological Chemistry, French scientists concluded that aspirin applied to plants blocks "pain" receptors in the same way it blocks them in animals.

In fact, they also found the aspirin harmed surrounding plants because it also blocks the distress signal from pain emitted.

So how else are plants similar to humans? We bleed when cut in an effort to seal the wound and ward off infection. Plants often lose leaves when stressed, humans often lose hair. We both react to heat; plants wilt when it's hot out in order to reduce their surface to the sun and move toward the sun when they are shaded. We simply move. Never mind the numerous studies on plants

that show that plants given attention fare far better than those ignored. Sounds like our children. The ones given attention usually fare far better than others.

Plants can even migrate at an extremely slow pace. Whole forests move with the normal cyclic change of world temperature over thousands of years. However, with the human accelerated global

warming, whole forests are dying because they can't keep up with the temperature change (see "The Dying the Trees," by Charles E). Soitseems no matter what we consume, we cause pain. This is the circle of life. How is it we so arrogantly think of ourselves above the laws of nature?

The other day I heard someone say that we have removed ourselves from evolution. Are we exempt from gravity? Or the laws of aero-dynamics? No, and neither are we from any other.

After we have raped and destroyed our environment, do you think we will fare any better than an animal that destroys its food supply?

I'm not asking anyone to stop eating vegetables, I just want people to think the next time they protest cruelty to animals to realize plants are pumped full of hormones and treated just as bad as animals.

My advice is treat all food with respect, be responsible and support the free range and organic farmers.

Escapees from research labjust monkeying around

College Press Exchange

NEW ORLEANS, La. (CPX) - Life was even livelier than a barrel of monkeys when two dozen primates broke out of a Tulane University research center and ran for some nearby woods, chased by workers trying to recover them.

By Tuesday morning, all but three of the rhesus monkeys had been returned to the covered outdoor corral where they live at the Tulane University Regional Primate Center. Workers captured them by baiting cages with fruit. The three holdouts, apparently tired of playing in the woods without their friends, were actually trying to get back into the corral by the end of the day. All were safely inside the corral on Wednesday.

The monkeys escaped by loosening the corral gate just enough to create a space they could wiggle through. Sunday's escapade was the first time the animals had broken out in such a large group, a research center official said. Once out, the monkeys stuck together, for the most part remaining out of sight.

The center holds about 4,500 monkeys, which it uses to research infectious diseases.

The monkeys in the outdoor corral are used for breeding and are not disease carriers, center officials said. The primates also aren't dangerous unless cornered, they added.

Pumpkin prank prepares Cornell for fall mischief

by Adam Ellick

Campus Correspondent - Ithaca College

ITHACA, N.Y. (CPX) - Campus safety officers at Cornell University are stepping up their patrols of the university's clock tower in light of a homecoming prank that sent some pedestrians running for cover last year.

No one really knows how, but two students enrolled at other universities skewered a pumpkin on the needle of the clock's face, which dominates the campus' skyline. Unable to remove the large gourd, Cornell officials roped off the area because they were afraid the pumpkin would harm someone when it fell. Fortunately, it didn't.

School officials say they're not sure what to expect this year, but are hoping students don't get any more bright ideas of a similar nature.

FLY RIGHT OVER TO CC-213 FOR TREATS, TRICKS, FUN & FROLIC STUDENT LIFE & LEADERSHIP OPEN HOUSE!! VISIT OUR HAUNTED HOUSE TOO!



Portland Opera Presents Don Pasquale

Win FREE TICKETS!
Cut this ad out! Fill in your name

Place in Opera Box in Student Life & Leadership Office, CC-213 Drawing held Friday, November 13th at 12:30 in Commons lobby YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN LBCC STUDENTS W/ VALID ID ONLY

Name:

The Opera takes place Saturday, November 14 at 7:30 sharp!! At the Civic Auditorium in Portland

REFLECTIONS

The Unnatural

by Schellene Pils of The Commuter

It was Indian summer, a lovely warm fall day. There was a slight crispness in the air signaling the coming winter.

The sky was bright blue and the scent of decaying leaves and harvested hay drifted through the air, much like the scarlet and gold leaves that fell from the ancient oak trees set just off the rutted country road.

I had again escaped the boisterous noise and excited laughter of my brother and sister to find a quiet spot to enjoy my newest acquisition, a murder mystery that promised to frighten the wits out of me.

As I rounded a bend in the road I saw the halfuprooted sassafras tree, the one with the canopy of branches that had sheltered me for years against the sun and rain alike. The fragrant scent of the tree tickled my nose.

I sat in the spot that had been hollowed out from years of visiting this place and began to read. So absorbed was I in the intense suspense of the novel that I didn't hear the faint call of my name at first.

Thinking that my mother had once again noticed my absence, I craned my neck around to look toward the large old farmhouse that I called home. But I couldn't see my mother.

Though it was almost half a mile away, I could still make out the century-old building atop a slight rise in the distance. In the eight years that I had lived within that house, I had seen many strange and sinister things. There were so many frightening stories told by neighbors in this tiny town that very few people were brave enough to enter the woods after dark, stories of an old hermit who had been discovered dead near one of the Indian burial mounds that dotted the property. He was found dead with a spade in one hand, a beaded necklace clutched in the other. Many of the townsfolk had speculated that he had been frightened to death by the souls of the Indian warriors that still protected the mounds.

Thinking that I had been letting the book's intensity scare me, I returned to my story. Moments later I felt gooseflesh rise on my arms as a cool breeze blew into my face, an unusual occurrence in my hollow little shelter. Another breeze seconds later brought the sound of my name on the faintest of whispers. I shivered as a cloud drifted over the bright sun.

The gooseflesh intensified painfully on my skin. I felt the hairs on the back of my neck rise. "Time to go home," I thought to myself.

I gathered my book, brushed off the seat of my pants and prepared to leave my safe shelter.

A hush fell over the woods quieting the usual rustle of rodents and the cries of birds. I could almost feel the eyes of all the animals in the forest upon me. I was already regretting my choice of reading material as I began the long walk home.

The wind carried my name once again, caressing the side of my face and ear. My eyes frantically searched the woods for any sign of what was calling to me.

About halfway home I caught a furtive movement in the corner of my eye. I turned to face the figure that stood barely 30 feet away, slightly shadowed by the dappled light seeping through the sparse leaves and bony branches of the trees. The figure of a decrepit old man wearing a battered felt hat and ragged, dirty clothing was not quite solid, but no less menacing in its transparency.

My heart began to race though I was frozen to the spot by fear.

The old man raised his head, and for the first time I looked upon his startling appearance. His skin was mottled from the shadows and trees that could be seen clearly through him and appeared to be weathered by time and bitter hatred. His eyes were red and filled with the anger and frustration of unfulfilled revenge. The old man's nose was bulbous and pig-like, as if he had fought and lost generations of fights. His mouth was an angry slash on his withered old face.

My heart was beating so hard in my chest that I thought it would burst through my ribcage and race me home any moment.

The man raised a long, bony, claw-like hand as if in invitation, a string of beads appeared to dangle from his wrist. I felt my will being drawn from my body, propelling my feet one, two, three hesitant steps closer to the tranclusent figure before me. I began to shake in fear. The book I was holding slipped from my hand and fell to the ground with a loud thump, arousing me from the stupor I was in.

With a jerk and a shiver I gathered all my will-power and bolted toward my house as fast as I could run. I never stopped to look back or pick up the book that had fallen onto the dust-covered grass at my feet.

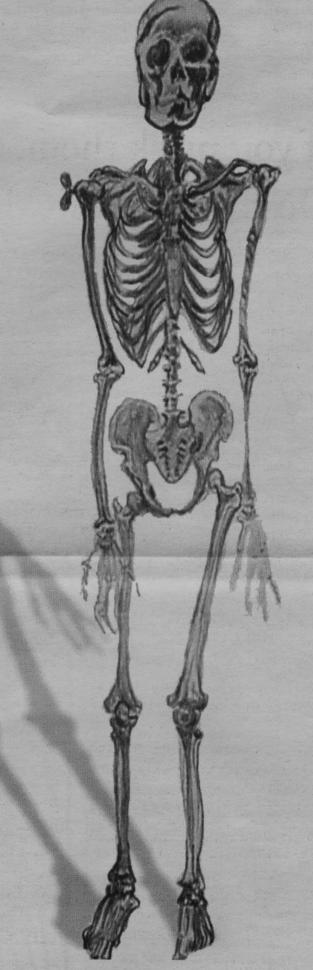
It seemed to take hours to cover the distance that appeared to stretch on forever, but it probably only took a minute or two.

As I entered the yard at full speed I saw my dad waiting for me on the back porch steps. When I collapsed in his arms and repeated my frightening experience, my dad hugged me and told me what he had seen.

He had just stepped outside to smoke a cigarette when he saw me begin my return home. Halfway there he saw me stop and stand very still, like a bird caught in the hypnotic stare of a snake, something that was in itself strange, since I moved at all times.

He said I stood there for a long time when a shadow appeared to detach itself from the forest and move toward me. As I broke away to run, the shadow followed me, a menacing blot that oozed behind me as if it were trying to devour me.

The entire time he watched the scenario



Drawing by Patsy Ina Fox

unfold, he was unable to move to help me. It was as if every time he tried to move, an invisible wall barred him from me. The spell appeared to be broken as I ran into the yard.

I never went back for my book; my dad went to get it for me, and I never again visited the sheltered spot beneath the sassafras tree. My dad and I had an unspoken agreement that I would let him know when I was going to be alone from that time on. We moved away from the farm the next summer.

The farm was demolished years later, after many strange and unnatural things occurred.

But that's another story....

FOR SALE

Desk, bicycle, wheels & tires, stroller, portable play pen, high chair, electric work, need to sell. Let's deal. Call 928-3048

TAX AIDE PROGRAM SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

RSVP is looking for volunteers to assist older and low-income taxpayers with tax form preparation. Training provided - may count as internship, CWE or class project credit. A valuble and marketable skill, and you are providing a neccessary service! Please contact RSVP at LBCC 917-4476 or Benton County 753-9197

HELP WANTED

Computerized notetaker. We need people to commminicate and take computerized notes with another student using laptop computers. Students should have demonstrated ability to understand, comprehend, and paraphrase from lectures within various class settings, including group activities. Journalism or English students, possibly second year students, would be great candidates for this position, but not required. Must be able to type at least 50+ wpm on a laptop keyboard. The hours vary, pay is \$10.21 per hour. If you are interested, please contact Nancy Sheffield in LRC-200 or call 917-4686

HELP WANTED

CWE jobs with Oremet-Wah Chang. We have several Cooperative Work Experience jobs with Oremet-Wah Chang that require students with engineering, science, and/or chemistry background. There is also a drafting job. These jobs provide excellent training, look good on the resume and pay better than the average student jobs. See the employment trio (Carla, Kathy, or Molly) in Student Employment (Takena 101) for these once a year opportunities!

HELP WANTED

Bank Tellers. We have a part-time and fulltime bank teller jobs in Albany along with a part-time position in Corvallis. All require some cash handling and customer service experience. Balance your priorities and see Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101).

HELP WANTED

Fab Technician/Operator (Hillsboro). This full-time opportunity asks only for a AS/AA degree or to be currently enrolled in a college technical program or three years experience in semi-conductor industry working with

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CLASSIFIEDS

wafers. See a Student Employment professional for your referral to this exciting opportunity (T101).

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Auto Technician (Mt. Angel). If you are a 2nd year student or graduate, have own tools, ASA certified or working towards certifiacation, this job is for you! See Student Employment for the details (T101) and start rolling in the dough now!

Classified Ad Policy

Deadline: Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads will appear only once per submission. If you wish a particular ad to appear in successive issues, you must resubmit it.

Cost: Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free to students, staff and faculty. All others are charged at a rate of 10 cents per word, payable when the ad is accepted.

Personals: Ads placed in the "Personals" category are limited to one ad per advertiser per week; no more than 50 words per ad.

Libel/Taste: The Commuter will not knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in an unfair manner. Any advertisement judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.





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editorial

Gay-bashing overshadows tragedy of murder

Two weeks ago the name Matthew Shephard was unknown to most people outside Laramie, Wyoming. Unfortunately for Matthew, he got his first 15 minutes of fame due to hate.

You see, Matthew was one of those unfortunate people who end up in the wrong place at the wrong time

Aaron McKinney, 21, and his friend Russell Henderson, 22, have been charged with the brutal murder of Shepard. Their excuse—Shepard had supposedly hit on Henderson at a bar.

I'm trying to decide how this kid, who was 5 feet, 2 inches tall and weighed only 105 pounds, would be a threat to two healthy young men, bullies with big mouths who had no problem with gay-bashing, in its most lethal sense.

Shepard was kidnapped, robbed, pistol-whipped and tied to a fence on Oct. 7, then found hours later, comatose, by passersby who mistook him for a scarecrow. He died five days later from the severity of the beating and the exposure.

The men who were so quick to take Shepard's life weren't nearly as smart as they apparently thought they were. When they got into a fight a couple of hours after leaving Shepard's body hanging to a post, police found the bloody .357 in the pick-up Henderson and McKinney were driving, and Shepard's wallet in McKinney's house.

With all the senselessness and violence that we see in this country I still find it hard to believe that death is the proper punishment for making an unwanted pass at someone.

It seems that bullying is beginning to take over for civilized behavior.

I am also having trouble understanding why Shepard was ridiculed even in death when a scarecrow was placed on top of a parade float by college students, and his funereal was picketed by protesters with signs that read "Turn or burn" and "God hates fags" carried by people who disagreed with Shepard's lifestyle.

Whatever happened to compassion? Who feels for the boy who died because he asked the wrong guy the wrong question? And how about his family and friends? Don't they deserve the chance to grieve in privacy?

It seems to me as if everyone has an agenda that focuses on the fact that Matthew Shepard was gay, not that he was murdered for a stupid reason. Even the politicians are wrangling over a bill that would make gay-bashing a hate crime.

I figure that what consenting adults do behind closed doors is none of my business. But it is very much my business when bullies try to get away with "punishing" someone for words or gestures. What am I to tell my kids if they ask why this man was killed?

I'm not sure. I will tell them the truth, of course, but I will try to protect them from the harsh reality of life. Because how can I ever expect them to understand what happened to Shepard when I will never understand it myself?

-Schellene Pils

letters

To the Editor:

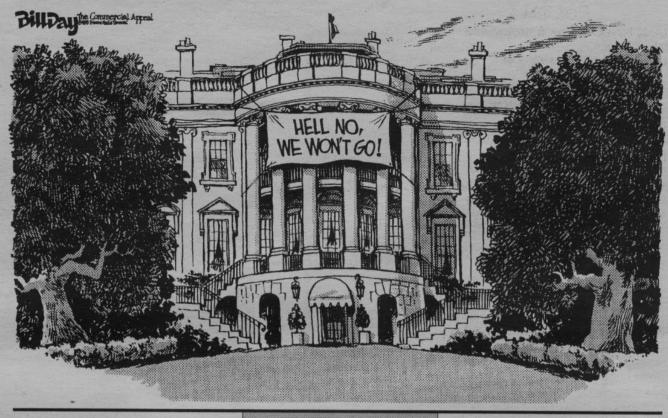
I am writing in support of two outstanding legislative candidates in our region who are big supporters of LBCC. John Donovan is running in House District 36, which is Albany and North Albany. John is a retired teacher who is very active in his church and community projects. He has been endorsed by the Linn County sheriff and most other local officials. His wife Jane teaches here at LBCC.

Dan Wilkerson is running in House District 37, which includes most of Linn County south and east of Albany. Dan is a longtime Lebanon resident. His resume includes Vietnam vet, firefighter, Lebanon School Board Chair, and Lebanon Chamber of Commerce president. His opponent doesn't come close to Dan in terms of experience and ability.

Both candidates are strongly supported by education organizations. They will work hard for LBCC in Salem. Please make the effort to vote for John Donovan and Dan Wilkerson on Nov. 3!

Grant Schott

OPINION PAGE



benjamin sell

The dire economic consequences of speed limits and failed radar detectors

It's a sight we all dread.

You are speeding past an suspicious-looking white sedan only to watch in your rearview mirror as it makes a U-turn and falls in behind you, red and blue lights flashing. The next thing you know you're on the side of the road with a flashlight in your face, handing over your license and registration to a stony-

faced deputy with too much time on his hands.

This unfortunate scenario is exactly the one I was faced with late one night last week. After I received my citation and vented my frustration on my malfunctioning radar detector, I drove home, a little more wary of police perhaps, but no slower than the speed I had been traveling when the cop clocked me.

It's amazing that one little yellow piece of paper can have such a momentous effect on a young life. Because of the ticket I was handed last week, my insurance is sure to skyrocket and any plans I had about getting a faster car are now confined to the realm of wishful thinking. I'll probably have to work more hours now to make up the difference in insurance rates. That means I'll have less time for homework, my grades will slip, causing me to drop out of school and go to work at some minimum-wage job at a convenience store, which will more than likely lead to my being killed or otherwise maimed during an attempted robbery while I am

on duty.

But I digress, my run-in with the law got me thinking, what good to tickets serve? Is the fear of getting a ticket a deterrent to fast driving? I really don't think so, because if it was the average speed on Highway 20 wouldn't be around 70 miles per hour. The only thing that tickets really influence people to do is purchase a radar detector. This is my second ticket, and as I'm sure you can surmise, the first one did not cause me to change my driving habits, nor will this second one. I'll still drive 70 mph every morning like I have done since the day I got my license.

The same goes for just about every person I know who has ever received a citation for driving too fast. They don't feel that just because they got caught once, they should change their daily driving habits—they just become more wary of police on the road. That is, until they slip again and get another ticket.

So, what would be a reasonable alternative to giving out tickets that have little to no effect on the way people drive? Well, in light of the fact that most highway traffic these days travels at around 65-70 mph, why not do what Montana and other states have done and simply raise the speed limit? The federal government has removed their constraints on states' ability to set their own speed limits, so why not take advantage of it? I don't think that a speed of 65 mph on a five-lane highway with minimal curves and a largely flat surface is unreasonable or reckless.





A CHILD WHO DOESN'T UN-DEPOTAND THAT A JOKE CAN BE TAKEN TOO FAR...

JOHING AROUND WITH THEM.

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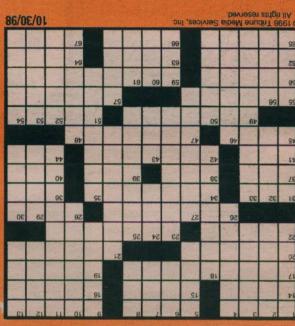
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43 Set on fire	
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ncite	48 City where Mark	55 Tibetan monk
present?	46 Blame	54 Active starter?
sprint to	43 Set on fire	53 " Frome"
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67 Tuscany river seinisis 99 65 Daisylike flower 62 Vicinity 63 Vicinity 64 Stem section 64

the event 19 Wisdom after 58 So to be heard 19 Prisoner System malady 55 Cavalryman 57 Pricepore 51 Digestive aggressively 49 Approaches of Celtic 45 mater 47 III-starred lady 44 Be in debt 42 Rear part baiznan4 14

wall Outlawy

38 Bad dog 36 Layer baus 34 Гіке в Ывуаріе 31 Altar sentence Greatly 26 Implement 53 Welty and others

> tributary 20 Gratify 21 Paid attention inuossiM et DVBIRDE TI optuo 91 15 Nevada resort

14 Wheels' shaft 9 Lists of charges

> Leader **ACHOSS**

Western state