



Local gardeners learn the benefits of going native

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World Cup inspires a passion unmatched in U.S. sports

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A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

THE

COMMUTER

Wednesday, June 5, 2002

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 33 No. 27

Higher tuition hikes eyed as budget woes mount

by Wendy Geist & D.D. Malloy
of The Commuter

LBCC President Jon Carnahan is looking for student opinions on whether they would prefer to pay higher tuition or see more classes eliminated as the state's revenue shortfall worsens.

At a forum on the school's budget crisis last Thursday that attracted about 35 students and staff, Carnahan suggested that tuition may have to go up to \$46 per credit later next school year to balance the budget. Last month the board raised tuition from \$39 to \$43 effective summer term.

"I think the board needs to hear from you," Carnahan told the students.

Kim Gourley, an undeclared major who wants to enter the nursing program, complained that trying to get into occupational chemistry is already too tough. She said the wait list for a class

she tried to enter was full by the time of her 7 a.m. registration.

"I would rather pay extra tuition than have any classes cut," she said.

A per credit tuition of \$46 would still be among the lowest in Oregon, explained Carnahan. The highest community college tuition in the state, before the current state budget shortfall, was \$49 per credit in tuition plus fees. Now, other Oregon community colleges are raising tuition as high as \$50 or more per credit. Lane Community College in Eugene is planning a \$14 increase in tuition and fees.

One student pointed out that Corvallis has the highest cost of living in the state, and yet LB has the lowest tuition. Carnahan agreed, "We pay our employees 5 or 6 percent less than all the

(Turn to "Budget" on Pg. 3)

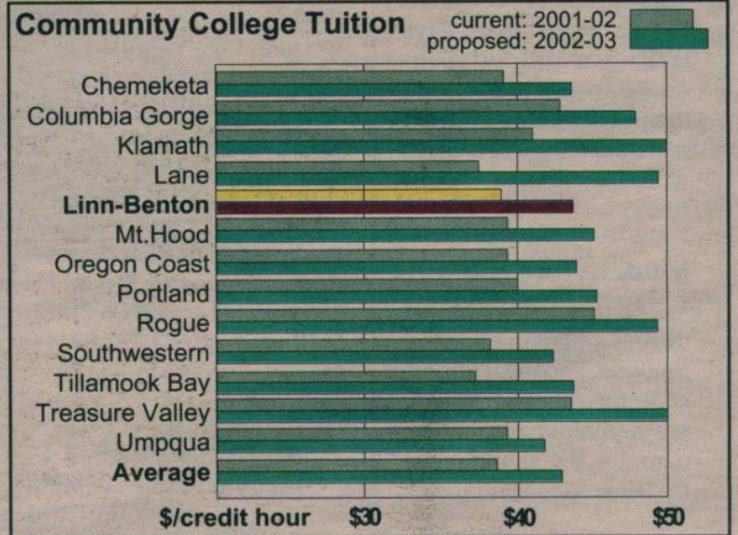


Photo by Stefanie Hessenkemper

President Jon Carnahan, flanked by community and college leaders, prepares to cut the ribbon at the East Linn Center Friday.

Staff, students, community celebrate East Linn opening

by DD Malloy
of The Commuter

LBCC President Jon Carnahan hosted the grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Lebanon East-Linn Center while standing on the central stairway in the two-story atrium. He welcomed about 150 guests and acknowledged those who had made contributions to the project.

Gary Westford, chairman of the Board of Education, told the audience, "This center is the result of a unique level of cooperation between a community college and human service agencies. This center shows the college's commitment to all of the citizens of Linn County. LBCC is a place where people can discover what they want to do and receive the education to do it."

Providing the gathering a historical perspective, Carnahan noted that in the past LBCC East-Linn "had classes all

over the place—granges, elementary schools, you name it. Now the East Linn programs are finally at one center." He pointed out that the ground-breaking was on the same date one year ago. The project was completed on time and on budget. "I told you that to complete this, it takes the whole village," said Carnahan.

Representatives of the other partners, including Community Services Consortium, Oregon Employment Service and Community and Family Services, gave brief presentations expressing appreciation to the college for spearheading the development of the facility. They also informed the guests of the role their agency would play in the cooperative Workforce Development Center's consolidated programs. The college will provide job-retraining programs in the same building where agencies assisting those

(Turn to "Center" on Pg. 3)

Court strikes down Internet filtering law for libraries

by Shelly Ellingson
for The Commuter

Librarians across the country breathed a sigh of relief last Friday when a three-judge panel in Philadelphia struck down Congress' attempt to force public libraries to run filtering software that would block web sites deemed "inappropriate" for children on library computers.

The court agreed with the American Civil Liberties

Union and the lead plaintiff, Multnomah County Public Library, who argued that compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) would be an unconstitutional violation of the First Amendment. The judges said that attempts to filter obscenity would also inevitably result in blocking legitimate sites, siding with the plaintiffs, who argued that filtering is an ineffective method of protecting children from being exposed to obscenity, child pornography, and other

content deemed "harmful to minors."

Many saw this law as a first step in big-brother-like censorship that would threaten all libraries and the freedom of the Internet environment itself.

"You can't have just a little censorship," states Charlie Weyant, LBCC librarian. "Should violence and racism be censored, too?"

Weyant said he had seen "lots of e-mail traffic from

(Turn to "Internet" on Pg. 3)

WEATHER THROUGH THE WEEKEND

High: 71° Low: 46°
Wednesday

High: 70° Low: 42°
Thursday

High: 70° Low: 41°
Friday

High: 74° Low: 45°
Saturday

High: 77° Low: 47°
Sunday

"June is bustin' out all over."

—Oscar Hammerstein,
song title, 1945

Source: Weather.com

PAGE TWO

OFF BEAT

I don't know you!

A day after getting married, a Texas man told his bride that he forgot his wallet and went back to the Houston airport parking lot to get it while she waited in the terminal to leave with him on their honeymoon to Italy. But the man apparently bumped his head and suffered a case of amnesia. He was found three days later at a nearby abandoned hotel. He has no memory of being married and does not recognize his wife.

Modern technology

The trick lighting failed during a play in Oldham, England, making it impossible for the audience to see the main character. The name of the show? "The Invisible Man."

Try, try again

Eleven years ago, a convicted murderer escaped from the Shelby County jail in Tennessee by crawling through a hole in a fence. Earlier this month, he escaped again. Same fence. Same hole. Jail officials have now closed the hole.

I'm smarter than you!

A man wanted for burglary for nearly eight years sent Louisville, Ky., police a letter taunting them, saying he was headed for Canada and they would never catch him. Wrong. The cops lifted his fingerprint and a DNA sample off the missive and linked him, not to a burglary, but to three unsolved rapes. Then the guy called the cops on his cell phone to taunt them again. They traced the calls to a Dallas hotel and arrested him. He was very surprised.

Excuse me, ma'am

An elderly woman was having her morning coffee in her home in central Finland when a frightened 450-pound elk jumped through her kitchen window and ran past her into the living room. It took police four hours to get the animal out, finally resorting to tranquilizer darts. The lady was treated for shock.

—From KRT News

LRC finals week hours

- Friday June 7, 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Saturday June 8, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Monday June 10, 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m.
- Tuesday June 11, 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m.
- Wednesday June 12, 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. (last day open for term).

No tests will be issued after one hour before closing. Call for writing desk hours at 917-4684.

Pot Sale

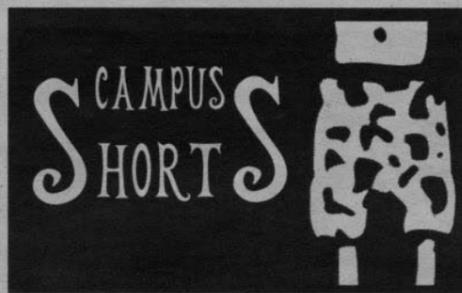
The Benton Center Ceramic Studio's annual Pottery Sale is planned for Friday, June 7 from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Student and instructor works will be for sale, including stoneware, raku, salt glazed and wood-fired pieces. All pieces are dishwasher and microwave safe, and all glazes are lead-free. Sale proceeds go to the ceramics account in the LBCC Foundation to help purchase kiln materials, glazing equipment and studio supplies. There will also be live music from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Benton Center is located at 630 NW 7th Street in Corvallis. Please call 541-757-8944 for more information.

Tastes of Asia

A fundraiser for the Multicultural Club will be held in the Courtyard today, June 5 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Menu includes: stir fry, noodles, desserts and drink. Students \$3, staff \$4. This event is made possible through a collaborative effort between Food Service, Student Life and Leadership, and the Student Activity Programs Committee.

Art on campus

Be sure to visit the ST building, (second floor, north hall outside the biology lab), to see the drawings done by Figure Drawing



234 students. Last week students had the option to visit the OSU anatomy lab, where they were then allowed to draw for two hours. In art, as in science, there exists a historical precedence for this type of study. Leonardo da Vinci, Michaelangelo, and others have studied from the cadaver and the classical approach to figure studies emphasizing basic anatomy.

Dancing the dragon

The LBCC Dragon will be opening da Vinci Days on Friday, July 19 at 4 p.m. and volunteers are needed to help make the dragon dance. The commitment from volunteers will be to attend four practice sessions beginning with a two-hour learning session on Monday June 10, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at which they will receive instruction. The payoff is the fun of dancing the dragon throughout the da Vinci site and an admission button into the event! If you are interested and able to commit to the learning and practice sessions, please contact Susan Prock, Coordinator of the LBCC Multicultural Center at 917-4461 or procks@gw.lbcc.cc.or.us.

Eloquent Umbrella reading

Borders Bookstore on Ninth Street in Corvallis will host a reading of the Eloquent Umbrella today June 5, at 7 p.m., in

their cafe as a kick-off for this year's publication. Support the staff and contributors of the Umbrella by attending.

Former instructor passes

Garland S. (Jay) Brooks passed away unexpectedly earlier this week. Jay was a Business Division faculty member from 1968-1992. He taught a variety of business technology and business management courses during his tenure here. He will be remembered for his development and leadership of DECA (student leadership group—Distributive Education Club of America) and the countless hours he spent with them, as well as for being the "voice of the LBCC Roadrunners" in his capacity as announcer and emcee for many games and school functions.

Brooks is survived by his daughter Gail Brooks of Albany, brothers Wes of Albany and Robert of Portland as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. A memorial service will be held at the the Albany Eagles lodge on Saturday, June 22 at 2 p.m.

Graduation day

The 34th annual commencement exercises for graduates of Linn-Benton Community College will be held at 7 p.m., Thursday, June 13, in the Activity Center.

The Willamette Valley Pipe Band will lead the procession into the Activity Center. LBCC Board of Education Chair Richard Wendland will give the Board's comments and past ASG President Jonathan Henderson will give the student address.

President Jon Carnahan will present an honorary degree to John Buchner and Phi Theta Kappa Awards to Erin Bartelds and Bret Furtwangler.

Carnahan will also recognize 16 LBCC retirees.

A reception sponsored by the LBCC Associated Student Government will be held in the Courtyard after the ceremony.

The commencement and reception are open to the public.

Shakespeare trip

A two-day trip to Ashland June 14-15 to see three plays at the Shakespearean Festival is being offered by Student Life & Leadership as long as there's room left in the van.

The trip costs \$35 and covers admission to three plays and overnight accommodations at Motel 6 in Medford. Students will be assigned two to a room with same-sex roommates. Students attending will have to bring either food or money to purchase their meals.

The play schedule is:

- "A Winter's Tale," Friday, June 14, at 8:30 p.m. on the outdoor Elizabethan Theatre.

- "Julius Ceasar," Saturday, June 15, at 2 p.m. in the Angus Bowmer Theatre.

- "Titus Andronicus," Saturday, June 15, at 8:30 p.m. at the Elizabethan Theatre.

Interested students can sign up in the SL&L Office in the Student Union.

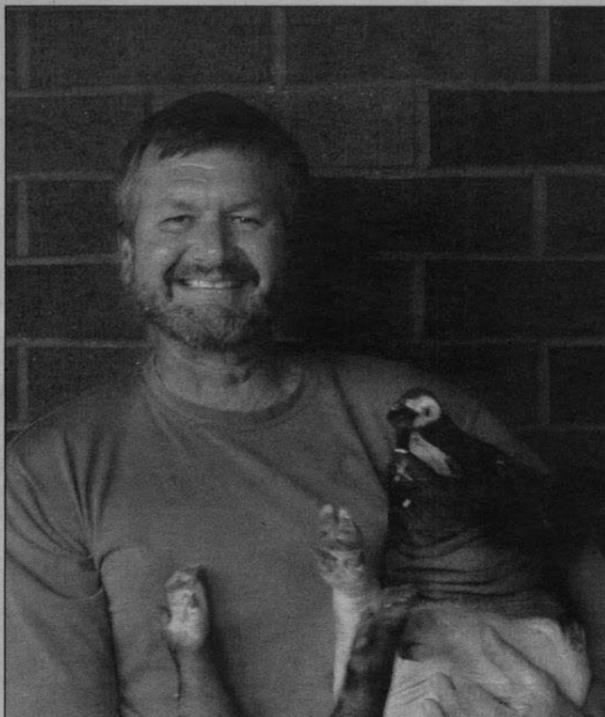


Photo by James Bauerle

Reluctant Pig

Retiring Animal Science instructor Jim Lucas won (or lost?) the Kiss the Pig competition last week in a fund-raiser for the EBOP Club during Ag Days on the campus. The relieved runner-up was President Jon Carnahan. Observers noted that Lucas seemed to enjoy himself more than the pig, who filled the Courtyard with loud squeals when it came time for the big smooch.

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, Associated Students of LBCC or the Warren Commission. 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, Chad Richins; **Photo Editor**, James Bauerle; **Assistant Photo Editor**, Stefanie Hessenkemper; **Copy Editor**, Wendy Geist; **A&E Editor**, Mariana Schatte; **Sports Editor**, Jered Reid; **Contributing Editors**, Twila Skelley, Sherry Majeski, and Donald Downing; **Writers**: Allen Garner, David Miller. **Advertising Manager**, Mikki Love; **Marketing Director**, Heather Shearer; **Editorial Assistants**, Thomas McGeary and Dan Petersen; **Pagination Coordinator**, Nicole Halverson. **Advisor**, Rich Bergeman.

CAMPUS NEWS

LB says good-bye to retiring faculty and staff

by Mariana Schätte
of The Commuter

The last few weeks have been sprinkled with retirement receptions on campus as several staffers call it quits.

Among the retiring faculty this term are Marti Ayers, faculty development; Allan Jackson, heavy equipment; Bobbie Weber, family resources; Jim Lucas, animal science; and Jane White and Tom Chase, both from the English Department. Retiring from the classified staff are Judy Burnette, Barbara Haslam and Margery Wyatt.

Traveling, volunteer work, painting, writing and keeping a part-time position are some of the activities the retirees said they plan to perform with their new free time.

Jane White said she is happy and a little bit sad to be leaving. She will hold a part-time position at LB, organizing the Valley Writers Series, which brings authors on campus and encourages local writers with workshops. She will also be fighting for peace and justice, she said, although she doesn't have a clear idea how that will happen. She now participates in the National Organization for Women and the American Civil Liberties Union.

On the other hand, Tom Chase said he feels a lot of nostalgia. "I think I am never going to stop teaching," said Chase. He also expects to dedicate some time doing volunteer work in the community. He is a member of the Sierra Club (the Mary's Peak chapter) and will be writing and doing other work with them.

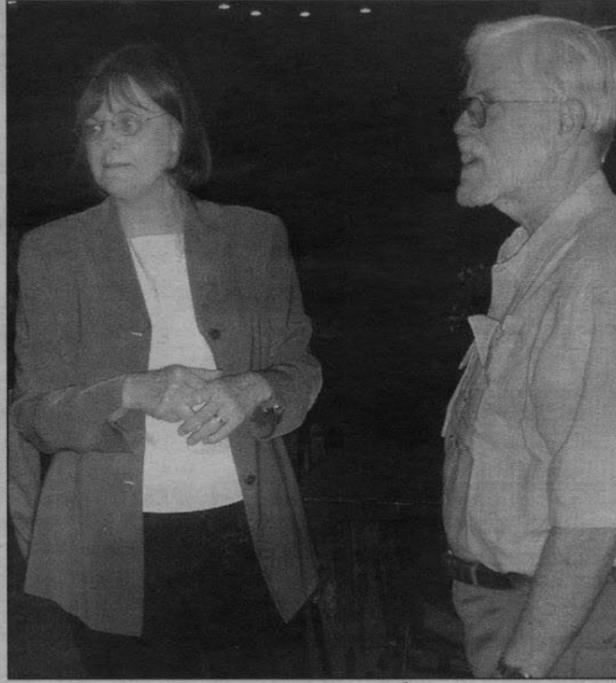


Photo by James Bauerle

Bobbi Weber bids farewell to her colleagues at a retirement reception Monday.

Budget: Rising deficit threatens LB

From Page One

other community colleges in Oregon. They hired seven new college presidents last year in this state, and I am the senior community college president and make less than all the new presidents," he noted.

Carnahan went into depth explaining how the state's budget deficit is affecting LB. The state learned that the budget shortfall was \$500 million in November 2001, only six months into the first year of a biennial budget. A new state budget shortfall of an expected \$880 million was announced two weeks ago.

LB has already lost 11 staff members, including one math instructor, to the budget deficit. Cuts have been made in management, contracted faculty and classified staff, and part-time faculty and staff. Next year, the equivalent of 232 full-time students will be lost due to reductions in the number of classes offered. All of these decisions were made before last week's announcement by the state Legislature that the state budget deficit is even worse than originally thought.

The first announcement of an expected \$1.26 million shortfall in revenue for LB will cause a loss of 178 classes. Now, after an announcement of an expected \$2.2 million shortfall in LB's revenue, an extra 365 classes could be affected, which would represent about 10 percent of LB's total number of offered classes. Faced with cutting a total of 543 classes or increasing tuition, Carnahan said the board prefers to restore as many cut classes as possible and also preserve all core classes.

However, he also said that two or three programs may have to be eliminated entirely, primarily small programs with less than 20 people, including staff and faculty. Carnahan declined to say which programs would be vulnerable to the cuts and added that employment and enrollment statistics will be factored into those decisions.

"Since Measure 5 passed in 1991, we are no longer able to go back to the community (for added revenue). I've spent the last few years begging in the Oregon Legislature. I would much rather go back and ask the community for support," said Carnahan.

Asked about the plan to add a radiology program, Carnahan said "We can't put our head in the sand. Even though we are in the midst of a budget crisis we cannot stop looking forward."

Opinion surveys are available in the SL&L Office, and students who wish to join ASG at the June 19 board meeting are asked to contact ASG President Roxanne Allen.

Center: IS installs communication system

From Page One

in need assess an applicants qualification for benefits and services. Carnahan presented awards of appreciation to persons who were a part of the planning, development, design and construction of the facility. He noted that the LB Information Services Department is installing a state-of-the-art electronic communications system that will be vital in today's higher education.

A reception and open house, including facility tours, took place after the president cut the ribbon on the stairwell.

Geist gives The Commuter renewed spirit

by Chad Richins
of The Commuter

Wendy Geist of Corvallis has been named editor-in-chief of The Commuter for the 2002-03 school year by the LBCC Student Publications Committee.

Geist, a journalism major who is currently a copy editor for The Commuter, said she is "looking forward to working with a new team" and said she will try to get more student opinions in the paper. "I sometimes feel that we are isolated from what students are thinking outside our office," she said.

Geist moved to Corvallis from Columbus, Ohio, two years ago with her husband Jude to make a new start after getting married. She holds a bachelor's degree in geography from Bowling Green State University.



New Commuter Editor Wendy Geist

When asked about areas of the paper she will focus on improving, Geist said "Hopefully we will have a graphics edi-

tor next year to update our use of graphics. Also, we will try to cover programs at LBCC that don't get that much attention, like science and technology programs."

Geist will direct a staff of writers, editors, photographers and ad designers, some of whom are paid with work-study funds or receive talent grants. Students can also get journalism credits for working on the paper if they choose.

Geist, who has worked for The Commuter since last fall, will inherit an award-winning program that has been named the best community college paper in the state for the past two years by the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association.

"I hope we have a good year," said Geist. "It will be a challenge putting together the staff and I plan to prepare all summer."

Internet: Court says 'Big Brother' filtering violates civil liberties

From Page One

the library community" since the decision was handed down Friday. "The vast majority are relieved that it came down the way it did," Weyant said. "We don't know if it will be appealed, however."

The U.S. Justice Department has not decided whether it will be appealed to the Supreme Court, but such a move seems likely.

So far, this issue does not affect the LB Library as it is not a public library, and is rarely visited by children. Adult students are free to research any topic they wish as long it falls within the college's Computer Use Policy, which forbids computers to be used to "access, distribute, or store pornographic material."

Any sort of filtering here would have negative effects on nursing students or anyone trying to research topics like sexual cults, abortion, and the like.

The Child Internet Pornography Protection Act would have required all public libraries receiving certain federal funds to block children's access to Internet sites deemed inappropriate by law. Noncompliance would result in lost funding.

The Albany, Lebanon and Brownsville public libraries are not currently receiving federal funds and would not be directly affected by the court's decision,

unlike 16,000 other public libraries around the country.

The Corvallis Public Library receives few federal dollars, but has taken its own approach to preventing accidental exposure to online pornography or violence by placing special computers in the children's section that point youngsters to kid-oriented sites. Computer time is limited, and privacy screens protect the rights of adults who may be researching sensitive topics.

Web site blocking is effective only in stopping access to known pornography sites and in making certain search words invalid. Pornographic sites can still slip through the best filters. Co-plaintiffs in the ACLU lawsuit, like the Alan Guttmacher Institute, which researches and analyzes contraceptives, claimed that legitimate and constitutionally protected sites such as theirs get blocked as well. The technology inherently throws the baby out with the bath water.

SuperScout Web Filter, developed by SurfControl, blocks access to all the web sites listed in its database, and also has the ability to observe traffic—literally "Big Brother" observation. While some employers are using this technology to get more production out of employees, most think it invasive and unnecessary.

NetNanny has similar features, but is targeted for home computers.

A new "kids.us" domain was recently approved by the House Energy and Commerce Committee. The new domain is intended for children under the age of 13, and is seen by children's safety advocates as being similar to the children's section of the library. Some legal issues are avoided, since participation in the domain is entirely voluntary. However, civil liberties groups are already arguing that civil rights will be violated as soon as a company is not allowed a kids.us domain name due to the questionable content on their site.

Businesses are not eager to join, either. Most believe internet surfers are too used to the ".com" domain, and wager that a "kids.us" domain will have zero traffic. No clicks, no dollars.

A ".prn" domain for pornography has also been considered, but the question of who belongs and who doesn't still remains unanswered.

"Libraries are all about freedom of expression," stated Jorry Rolfe, department chair of the LBCC Library. "Exposure happens everywhere, not just online or in libraries. Just look at the covers of magazines found on the racks in any bookstore. Filtering is not the answer."

A WEEKLY STUDENT PUBLICATION

THE COMMUTER

The Commuter needs creative students to fill positions on the 2002-2003 staff

Graphics Editor

The Commuter is seeking an individual with experience in graphics and/or journalism to coordinate the graphic design and production aspects of the weekly newspaper. This position involves helping develop the overall design of the paper, creating illustration and info graphics for publication, and coordinating production. Macintosh experience preferred. The appointment carries a 6-credit quarterly tuition grant.

Photo Editor

Students with an interest in photography are sought for this position, which offers experience for anyone planning a career in photography. Several past Commuter photo editors have gone on to professional newspapers in Oregon and elsewhere. Applicants must have knowledge of conventional lab work. Familiarity with digital imaging is a plus, but we will provide training in Photoshop. The appointment carries a 9-credit quarterly annual tuition grant.

Sports Editor

An energetic writer with an interest in athletics and outdoors is sought for this position. Students with some journalism or writing experience preferred, but anyone with a flair for writing and a passion for sports is encouraged to apply. The appointment carries a 6-credit quarterly tuition grant and provides on-the-job training and experience covering a wide variety of intercollegiate athletics.

Assistant Editors

Applicants sought for several assistant editor positions, including Managing Editor, Copy Editor, A&E Editor, Online Editor. Some journalism or writing experience preferred, but all interested applicants are encouraged to apply. Appointment to Managing Editor carries a 6-credit quarterly tuition grant, while other positions carry 4-credit quarterly tuition grants.

Digital Page Designer

This part-time position pays \$8+ per hour for up to 12 hrs/wk on Mon.-Tues. Involves using Macintosh and Pagemaker to paginate tabloid pages under direction of the graphics editor. Mac experience and good English skills required; familiarity with Pagemaker helpful. Provides valuable experience for majors in journalism, graphics and pre-press technology.

Work Study Jobs

Editorial Assistant
Production Assistant
Advertising Assistant
Photography Assistant

These positions open to work-study eligible students only. Information on work study eligibility is available from the Financial Aid Office.

Applications available in The Commuter Office (F-222)
or from advisor Rich Bergeman (F-112)
For additional information call ext. 4563 or 4451

CAMPUS NEWS

Going Native

Local gardeners encourage use of native plants

by Wendy Geist
of The Commuter

Imagine taking a trip across the U.S. to find no native plants anywhere, no palm trees in Florida and no cacti in the Southwest, just tons of impatiens and petunias. It would be kind of boring, and the local insects, butterflies and hummingbirds that depend on those plants would have a tough time surviving.

Local gardeners and nurseries are making sure that doesn't happen by preserving the local native plants that are disappearing from our area as a result of pavement and development.

Botanists Jim and Susan Oliphant grow and sell native plants at their White Oak Farms nursery located at 1627 NW Highway 20 in Albany. The public also has easy access to a large selection of Oregon natives including bleeding heart, ninebark and wild columbine at their booth at the Corvallis Wednesday and Saturday Farmers markets.

Jim says there are two types of people who buy natives: the purists who use only natives; and those who mix them into their garden. "We at White Oak Farms try to encourage a lot of integration," said Jim. "There are too many cool things out there to grow."

He also suggests "consumers should not hesitate to ask the grower where their natives came from," pointing out that



Photos by Wendy Geist

Esther Gruber McEvoy (left), president of the Corvallis chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon, has turned her Corvallis backyard into Willamette Gardens, a nursery that specializes in native plants. White Oak Farms also sells native plants, and usually has a table at the Corvallis Wednesday and Saturday Markets (above).

digging up plants like camas bulbs from the wild is frowned upon. White Oak Farms propagates their native plants from seed and cuttings.

Another nursery in the area also specializes in natives. Tucked behind a tall wooden fence on a quiet neighborhood street at 3290 SW Willamette Avenue in Corvallis, botanist Esther Gruber McEvoy runs and operates Willamette Gardens. Active in the use of native plants since 1980, she started her third-of-an-acre backyard nursery two years ago.

A trip to her nursery, which is by appointment only, reveals pots and a yard full of native plants such as the rose checker-mallow, prolific yellow monkey flowers, red flowering currants that attract hummingbirds, Oregon irises and sword ferns.

McEvoy provides garden design, consulting and contract growing. She sells natives to Garland Nursery, First Alternative Co-op and high schools like Crescent Valley in Corvallis, whose students use them in native plant restoration projects. People also come to her for hard-

to-find perennial plants, she explains, that they aren't able to find at many local nurseries.

Among the benefits of native plants is that they attract butterflies to your yard. McEvoy says, once you plant natives "you'll see all kinds of things showing up." Monarchs are attracted to her backyard milkweed plants and painted ladies to her woolly sunflower, which is considered a host plant for that specific butterfly.

Natives also require less care than exotics, especially if they are drought resistant. Although, she says, they do require regular watering the first year or so, and they need to be put in the right spot. Don't put a woodland native plant in a sunny spot, she advises.

McEvoy takes an organic approach to controlling pests and weeds. She stresses to clients that she uses no pesticides or

herbicides.

Another way the public is educated about the use and conservation of natives is through the Corvallis Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Oregon (NPSO), of which McEvoy is the chapter president. The group attends monthly informative meetings and works on projects that include a native plant sale in

early May, a booth at the Benton County Fair in August and a checklist of native wildflowers in the Corvallis area.

The chapter also maintains a native plant display garden at Avery Park's na-

ture center. It took five to six years to get the Avery garden to grow and take root, said McEvoy. The plants exhibit showy foliage and flowers, including purple blooms on a near 3-foot-wide Oregon geranium plant and yellow daisy-like blooms on a woolly sunflower, which McEvoy says is one of her favorites.

FACT BOX

If you want to join the Corvallis chapter of the NPSO, contact Esther Gruber McEvoy at natives@willamettegardens.com for a membership brochure.

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There's a new Bead Store in Corvallis!
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 Downstairs in the College Center P Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8-6 Fri. 8-4

Tropical BOOK BUYBACK

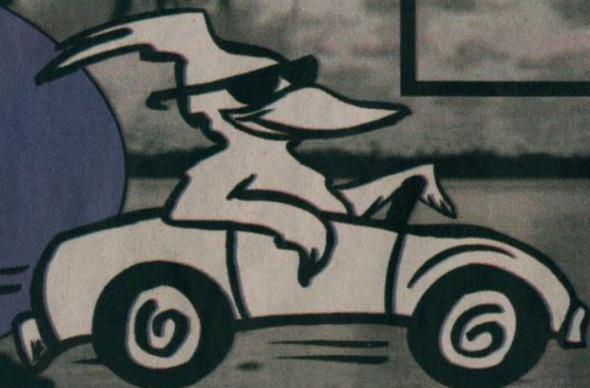
Siletz Room CC-213

Mon.-Wed. June 10 -12 9am-7pm

Thurs.-Fri. June 13 -14 9am-4pm

**Come Early &
Win Cool
Summer
Prizes!**

*limited number of prizes per day



Reserve your Summer Term Books Online
Now thru 5pm June 21

LBCC Bookstore

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Spring Sing



Photos by James Bauerle

The LB Chamber Choir, under the direction of Hal Eastburn (left), entertained a crowd in the courtyard last Thursday in a prelude to their formal concerts later this week. At top, from the left, are Aaron Luckman, Seth McLagan, Danielle Palmer, Chelsea Westerfield and Scott Ingham. On Thursday June 6 the Chamber Choir and Concert Choir present the annual Scholarship Concert at 8 p.m. in Tadena Theatre. On Sunday June 9 the Chamber Choir joins the Community Chorale to present "Reason for Spring" at 3 p.m. in Tadena Theatre. Tickets available at the door.

East Linn Center seeks art applicants

by Twila Skelley
of The Commuter

The new LBCC East Linn Center is accepting applications for an art project competition. The winner will receive a budget of up to \$10,000 to complete the artwork.

The intent of the artwork should be representative of the history of the site, including the Elkins Flour Mill which is on the same property as the center. All proposals for the project should include this historical theme. Other artistic interpretations recounting the significance of the area is also encouraged.

The artwork should be aesthetically pleasing and fill the dimensions of the area allotted for the artwork. The dimensions of the flat wall area, as stated in the project application, are 16 feet high and 21 feet 6 inches wide. The flat area is able to hold a reasonable weight and is located at a second-story height.

The project is open to all Oregon, Washington, Idaho and California residents, but preference is given to Oregon artists. Artists must provide their own insurance and the application deadline is July 31. Once all applications have been considered, five artists will be selected and given \$100 to better develop their ideas. The five artwork proposals will be presented to a panel of administrators, established artists and community citizens who will make a final decision on the selection.

For more information contact Gary Ruppert at 917-4534, or stop by the East Linn Center in Lebanon.

Romance Quiz: LB students speak up

by Twila Skelley
of The Commuter

This last weekend while basking in the sun, I decided to expand my knowledge of literature by reading a fashion magazine.

Quite literally there must have been only one true, full length article in the entire 234-page magazine. The rest of the magazine was full of easy-to-decipher quizzes, graphs, polls and quick-answer statistics. Not one of them took more than 30 seconds of my time, or attention.

Of course, all the polls were about hair, make-up, weight, what is overrated in bed, and when or when not to dump your guy. This got me thinking, I should do my own poll about relationships and fashions, and try to relate it to the LBCC crowd.

The question, what goes through your head when you first notice a good-looking person, was posed to four random guys in the LRC. The answers that followed varied.

"I wonder if her mom is good looking," stated one.

"What's her name?"

"Did my girlfriend just see me check out that other girl?"

"She's an eight on my 10 scale."

When this same question was posed to girls, they only had two answers, "is he taken" and "yeah, he's cute."

The second question asked was, what is the most important quality you look for in a mate? Men answered honesty, humor, good looks, and able to cook. Women said they are looking for a tame temper, generosity, thoughtfulness and conversation in a mate.

What pet-peeve do you have against the opposite sex? Guys polled said too much make up,

going to the bathroom in groups and pretending not to eat.

"I took my girlfriend to a really nice seafood restaurant and she ordered chicken strips!" said one.

Women's pet peeves about guys go as follows, guys who dress over-the-top preppie (meaning we can tell you fixed your hair over that ridiculous visor), when guys rate women, and guys who make plans and then break them at the last minute. "I hate the, I don't know, what do you wanna do conversation. Quit wasting my time."

Women, do you like facial hair on your men? "Either way, I don't care," said a woman in her late 20s, while the woman in her early twenties said she likes facial hair on guys who have dark hair, but that red heads and blondes should go smooth.

Guys, long hair or short hair on gals? One-hundred percent said long hair.

Every person asked the question, ever been in love? said yes.

Striking out on my own in search of the likes and dislikes of LBCC students, I found out nothing of true importance, but it was indeed insightful. Depending on the varying ages and personalities of the people polled, it was interesting to see the differences in the way that everyone views relationships. I would hope that this article has given you, the reader, some insight into how the opposite sex thinks and if not, don't worry, it's all in fun. Sometimes it seems like it would be easier if we could all just pass a note: do you like me? check yes, no, or maybe.

All pointless information and non-scientific polling was taken from completely random sources.

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ON THE ROAD

Dramatic hiking trails abound on Cape Perpetua

From short, easy beach trails, to a 6.5-mile ridge loop trail, the cape is hikers' paradise

by Suzie Downing
for The Commuter

If you like to hike and need a new adventure without having to travel to the Cascades, it might be time for a change of scenery. The Oregon Coast has some wonderful surprises in store for you in the Cape Perpetua Scenic Area.

Just south of Yachats lie some of Oregon's most diverse and dramatic hiking trails to entice every level of trail aficionado. From the easy .3 mile Cape Cove Trail to the beach, on up to the difficult 6.5 mile Cook's Ridge/Gwynn Creek Loop Trail through old growth forests and open meadows. I chose the most ambitious one and it proved to be a great choice.

The Cape Perpetua Scenic Area is 26 miles of interconnected hiking trails, all of which start at the Interpretive Center just off of Hwy 101. It provides a panoramic view, which is perfect for whale watching when adverse weather chases tourists indoors. It also provides films and displays that show the unique and diverse coastal ecosystem, as well as a wonderful gift shop.

Leaving the Interpretive Center, it is only a short walk across the upper parking lot to the trailhead of the Cook's Ridge/Gwynn Creek Loop Trail. One is quickly swallowed up in the dense canopy of overhanging Western hemlock, Douglas fir and Sitka spruce trees. For roughly 300 yards, the quiet roar of the Pacific Ocean exploding against the terraces of volcanic rock of the tide pool area below the Center can be heard. Then the dense forest closes in and engages the senses in an array of forest sounds and smells: birds chirping, a hawk occasionally screeching somewhere overhead, the quiet padding of the hiker's footsteps on the spongy-soft trail thick with tree needles. The smell of wet moss, damp forest dirt, and decaying old growth per-



Photo by Suzie Downing

Hikers along the many trails in the Cape Perpetua Scenic Area are treated to peek-a-boo views of the Pacific as they make their way through dense forest.

meate the cold fresh air.

I anticipated seeing wildlife since I was the only human around. At least it felt that way since there had been no signs of other hikers. As it turned out, I completed the 6.5 miles sans humans and wildlife, unless you count four-and-a-half giant slow-moving slugs that slimed their way across my trail at various points in the hike; the half being part of the unlucky fellow who met my 70 pound dog's prancing foot!

Regardless of the absence of wildlife, this is a hike for anyone who wants to escape the hustle and bustle, as well as the pollen-laden air, of the Willamette Valley and enjoy the solitude of the forest for a couple of hours. The trail climbs for almost three miles before leveling off somewhat and then dropping down. It is very well maintained, with only a few spots that will need pruning after the new spring growth is complete.

While walking it is easy to imagine a

time when dinosaurs roamed the earth. Undergrowth of giant sword fern, rhododendron ready to burst into bloom and dense patches of salmonberry cover the forest floor. There is Oregon salal, red alder, mossy big leaf maple, and autumn-reddening vine maple that overhang the many small creeks cascading down the rock draws, finally emptying into Gwynn Creek. Rotting old-growth logs, called "nursery logs" litter the area, sprouting shade-tolerant western hemlock seedlings.

The abundant moisture of the area and a year-round growing season produce this lush rain forest. The forest trail winds past Sitka spruce, some as large as nine feet in diameter. Somewhere in the area is a trail that leads to the Giant Spruce Tree, a massive tree over 500 years old.

It is said that Captain Cook named Cape Perpetua on March 7, 1787. According to the City of Yachats website,

"The dense forest closes in and engages the senses in an array of forest sounds and smells: birds chirping, a hawk occasionally screeching somewhere overhead, the quiet padding of the hiker's footsteps on the spongy-soft trail thick with tree needles."

some say he named the 800-foot high cape after a saint whose birthday fell on that date, while others think it was because of a storm and high winds that kept him in the area for several days, with that particular headland in sight the whole time, perpetually. Searching for information on the 'Gwynn' of Gwynn Creek so far has turned up nothing, but it would be interesting to know who this was and what her relation to the area might be.

The hike provides a virtual feast for the eyes with many colorful species of wildflowers, including the White Fawn Lily and Queen's Cup. Wild Lily-of-the-Valley carpets the forest with deep green, heart-shaped leaves. The second half of the trail has many small and mossy rustic bridges, as well as partially submerged rocks that help you cross the water cascading down over jutting rocks and shallow gullies.

Near the end of the trail, the sound of the ocean crashing on the jagged shoreline below can be heard before it can actually be seen. I looked forward to the spectacular views I had read about. Yes, the views are spectacular, that is if you don't look down on Hwy 101 that runs directly below and parallel to the trail the last half-mile or so, a mild distraction for the hiker who has just experienced a couple of hours of environmental bliss.

Still, this is a remarkable area to visit and I will return to perhaps try the Cummins Creek Loop Trail or the St. Perpetua Trail, which is reputed to have the best view on the Oregon Coast. Give it a try! You just might find your next great outdoor adventure area.



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ON THE ROAD

Floras Lake offers secluded coast getaway

Windsurfing, fishing, hiking, ocean views among lake's pleasures

by April Smith
for The Commuter

When the wind breezes across the light-blue waters, a slight ripple is created at Floras Lake. On days like this it is common to hear a slight slap against the water, as a windsurfer's board skims the swell and races across the water's surface.

Floras Lake is such a discrete place, hidden off of Highway 101 about 15 miles south of Bandon on the Southern Oregon Coast, that it is uncommon to find a crowd of people there.

This lake takes me back to those early idyllic years when all there was to worry about was how to fill sun-drenched days at the beach with fun things to do. The litesome, athletic windsurfers who most commonly visit Floras Lake find it hard to assimilate all of the activities in a weekend offered here.

While the rest of my group chose to windsurf, I was attracted to the trails that appeared near the lake. I noticed them while I was trout fishing off of a wooden-arched bridge, big enough for a vehicle to cross but marked off by posts. Listening to the trickle of water beneath me, as it flowed through some rocks to the pool in which I fished, I saw an opening that led through the moss-covered trees. Unfortunately, this was about the same time my windsurfing party was winding down for lunch.

We all gathered in one member's van and drove to Langlois, a small quaint nearby town for lunch. Without many restaurants to choose from, we knew there was no going wrong with choosing a busy market. Following the crowd to the deli part of the store, we did as the

locals did, and ordered the best hot dogs and sandwiches I have ever had, thanks to their home-made mustard.

Once we were back at the lake and the group was once again windsurfing on the finely cut wavelets, I began my journey into the almost-eerie forest. Much to my surprise the trees dwindled down, turning in to a sandy path. The ocean's loud thunderous sound let me know it was only a hill away. I found it delightful to take my shoes off and let the coarse dark sand flow between my toes, as I strolled to the other side of the lake. I found it was hard to think of anything else except the peacefulness this amazing lake had to offer. As I made my way around part of the lake toward the vociferous ocean, there was a gap in the sand dune that separated the lake from the ocean.

I later read this break in the dune was man-made, in order to create a bay. Floras Lake was to become a town during the early 20th century, and it was hoped it could hold the coast's biggest sound between San Francisco and Seattle. Once the bank was dug into, however, it was found that only sand held the ocean and lake apart, with no rock. If the canal was opened the lake and ocean would merge. This finding quickly stopped the prosperity of Floras Lake as a town. Knowing this piece of history made my stay even more exciting, as I tried to imagine what might have been if the natural sand bank was made of rock.

Listening to the harmonious mixture of ducks, swans, blue herons, finches and killdeer, I continued onto a clay-like path that led to more trees. Happily munching on deliciously sweet huckleberries and salmonberries, I saw a ray of light beaming onto the trail ahead of me. Following this bright tunnel, I came out on a bluff overlooking the ocean. When I squinted my eyes



Windsurfers enjoy the ripples on Floras Lake, an out-of-the-way attraction along the Southern Coast south of Bandon. The little-known lake, between Highway 101 and the Pacific, was once an aspiring seacoast port that never got off the ground.

I could see a dot that was a fishing boat on the horizon.

More than ever, I wanted to share this breathtaking scene with someone as the huge red sun steadily sank into the Pacific. I could not help myself as I sat down, allowing my legs to dangle from the bluff, and watched the smog-free sunset as I had never seen it before. Pinks, oranges, blues, purples and every hue derived from them created an overwhelming, magical, Walt Disney-like picture. Too quickly the sun completely disappeared into the water, ending my memorable journey.

I turned back knowing I needed to reach camp before darkness fell. Following the trail, slightly lit by the shimmering moon, I could smell the smoke and hear the crackling campfire. The excited sound of the familiar voices of my friends was welcoming. Everyone was telling their own exaggerated stories about how high they jumped and the air they cleared while

windsurfing. As I slipped into a vacant lawn chair beside the campfire, it was my turn to tell my tale, while roasting a hot dog on the fire. As the dusk turned into night and our conversations came to an end, we were all sad-

dened by the thought of returning home, back to our jobs within the hustle and bustle of city life.

One thing was for sure, the windsurfing, site-seeing and relaxing trip to Floras Lake would be an annual trip!

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HELP WANTED

Summer Jobs are coming in! Have you started looking? If not, why are you waiting? Jobs go fast as there are many people looking right now. There might not be much to pick from by the time summer comes. See Student Employment (Takena 101) for more details and to get signed up! *Also, we have 2 summer farm companies advertising right now—#1407 & 1402.

Cashier #1403 (Albany) If you have cashier experience, we have a full-time temporary cashier job for a sporting goods store right here in Albany. Great summer job and possibility for part-time during next school year. Pay is \$9.75/hr. See the Career Center (Takena 101) for more information!

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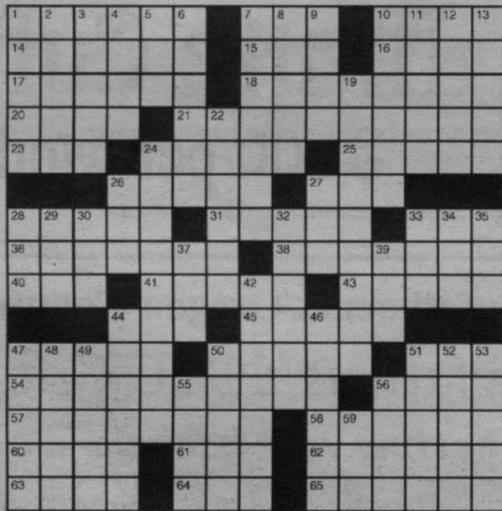
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 20 Sea eagles
 21 Consolidate
 23 Golfer's gadget
 24 Devoutness
 25 Canaveral and Hatteras
 26 Illegal act
 27 Slippery fish
 28 Forbidden
 31 Barroom fight
 33 Atty's org..
 36 Served with ice cream
 38 Japanese entertainers
 40 Work at
 41 Onward in time
 43 Authoritative decrees
 44 Before, to a poet
 45 Stoppages
 47 Disgrace
 50 Clamping devices
 51 CD—
 54 Growers of medicinal plants
 56 Existed
 57 Indelicate
 58 Suit maker
 60 Highland negatives
 61 Score of zero
 62 Decorative border
 63 Linemen
 64 Consumed
 65 Gangster's gat



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Solutions



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 42 Scotland's emblem
 44 Decorate with a raised design
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 47 Glisten
 48 Virile guy
 49 Carrying a weapon
 50 Drop in
 51 Artifact
 52 Maine town
 53 Blend together
 55 Horne of song
 56 Hairpieces
 59 Fuss



SPORTS PAGE

COMMENTARY

World Cup frenzy ignites all but U.S.

by Mariana Schatte
of The Commuter

Friday May 31, 3 a.m., I was on the Internet checking my e-mail waiting for the World Cup to start when suddenly a girlfriend from Italy was asking me what I was doing up so late. The answer was not hard for me to explain nor for her to understand, the World Cup.

I was the only girl in a room of five people from Argentina, Mexico and Chile. It is probably not very often that guys find a girl who talks about a sport with so much knowledge and passion. Pretty much everything I know about World Cup is because I saw what I know. My friend said that in Italy right now, they eat soccer, they breath soccer, TV is only soccer, and all commercials are in one way or another related to soccer, just like Chile is right now too.

Chile may not be in the World Cup this time but the passion is so intense that it has the biggest TV channel in a legal battle to transmit the games on TV, and one day before Chileans didn't know what was going to happen.

The games are broadcast live on national TV, and no matter the fact that this World Cup sucks with the schedule, they get the highest rating.

But it sucks even more for me because I am here, in the U.S. Not for the fact that this is the United States, but because people don't share the same passion and don't live in the World Cup frenzies like in my home country,

Chile. I am ignorant about soccer as a sport, but not being a sports fan I still know a lot about the biggest international event in the world of sports. In one way or another, I feel sorry for this country. There is nothing in sports that compares to the feeling of this soccer event. You don't see people on the streets celebrating nationally, and everybody likes a different sport, someone may like baseball while another likes basketball. Football, as the rest of the world knows it and is referred to in the U.S. as soccer, is the sport of choice.

According to Jered Reid, The Commuter sports editor, it will never get an important position in popular sport because soccer doesn't have the elements that Americans look for in good sports entertainment "high scoring, violence and strategies."

It's every four years, and when it's over we can't wait until the next one, and we promise ourselves that we will have the money to attend the next World Cup. I promised myself during France '98, when I was a 19-year-old freshman in journalism, that in 2006 I was going to be out of school and going to the World Cup, especially if it was going to be in Germany. Now I know it will be there so I face the problem of graduating with no money in my pockets, but with the possibility of going anyway because a step-dad and a dad are both Germans—one of them has to go. The 2010 event may be in Chile, at least they are applying for it, so hopefully I will be out of graduate school by then.



Photo by Getty Images

A soccer fan displays the zeal characteristic of The World Cup, now underway in Japan and Korea.

Underdogs in both NBA/NHL Finals try to pull off the impossible

by Jered Reid
of The Commuter

The NBA and Stanley Cup Finals, two end-of-season events that share a lot of the same aspects, have finally arrived.

Last Sunday the buzzer sounded on one of the greatest seven-game basketball series I have ever watched. A Robert Horry three-pointer, Shaq's and Kobe's ability to carry their team, and three referees in Los Angeles all prevented the Sacramento Kings from going to their first-ever NBA Finals.

A couple of weeks ago I wrote a story about the dominance of the Lakers and stated that the Kings had no chance at beating LA. I am now currently writing this article with my foot in my mouth. It was not that I wanted to see the Lakers win, I was strongly pulling for the Kings, and I would love to see an NBA Finals end without a city riot. But at the time I did not realistically see the Kings winning. But after the amazing seven games that I witnessed, I have realized something. The Kings were and are a better team, they have bet-

ter chemistry, and do not depend as much on their key players.

The Lakers proved that without Shaq, Kobe and great leadership they are a second-class team. The only other player that I would like to give credit to on the Lakers is Horry.

The Kings proved how to beat the world champions by playing as a team. The Lakers had troubles when they did this. When key players of the Kings fouled out, the Lakers were able to succeed; a great example is Vlade Divac fouling out in game seven. So, who is to learn from this lesson? The New Jersey Nets. The Nets will be in their first NBA title game and are powered by point guard Jason Kidd. On the surface this series looks a lot like last year's final with Allen Iverson leading the charge for the 76ers, but it's not.

Kidd has a far better support-

ing cast than Iverson did. Kerry Kettles, Keith Van Horn and Kenyon Martin make a fine supporting cast. Another key difference is Kidd. Unlike Iverson, Kidd gets the entire team involved and always chooses to talk about his team before himself in interviews. In my opinion, Kidd is the perfect team leader and should be the MVP. With all that said, the Nets, in my mind, have a realistic shot to upset the Lakers.

The other "winter" sport still in action is hockey. And the parallels between hockey and basketball are downright freaky.

Out of both leagues the Western Division was and is the dominant division, with about four to five teams in the West being better than the East's top team.

The Western-Conference Finals was between the two best teams in each league, one of the leagues had the best season-

record team (Kings and Red Wings) and the other had the defending world-champion (Lakers and Avalanche).

In the Eastern-Conference Finals both leagues had two teams that were not even close to the finals last year. One team had never been to the finals (Nets and Hurricanes) and the other team was a historical powerhouse, yet has not done well in the last few years (Celtics and Maple Leafs).

In the East both series went six games and the team that had not been to the title game went on. In the West I was sure it would follow the same pattern. Last Friday the Red Wings went on to win game seven in a blow-out 7-0. So I was sure that the Kings would blow out the Lakers just because of the pattern, but that of course did not happen.

Although I do believe that

the pattern will ring true in the finals. If the Lakers win then the Red Wings will win, and vice versa. If the Nets upset then the Canes upset, vice versa. Both series should be magnificent and if you're not into the drama of game seven, there's always that soccer tournament going on.

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OPINION



COMMENTARY

The Editor's Last Rant: So long and thanks for the memories

by Chad Richins
of The Commuter

This is it. The last Commuter I'll have anything to do with is the one you're reading right now.

In the two years I have worked at The Commuter I have heard and seen a lot of things, and I'm not just talking about insanity in the news room on Tuesday afternoon with a looming deadline.

I got to interview Ken Kesey. I was able to rant about a few things and get some community feedback on articles or comments people liked and address some concerns that people brought to me. Mostly, I learned what it takes to run a newspaper and live in the constant treadmill state of news production.



Chad Richins

The journalism program here at LB is a great opportunity for anyone who wants to get into the field and learn the ropes. I think LB as a whole is a priceless asset to the community for the opportunities it provides, whether you are straight out of high school and on a career fast track, or if you have wandered about the world for a few years to get an idea of what you want to do. LB is a rare example in today's world of an organization that does a lot with a little. Instead of squandering money from taxes and tuition, LB is able to put quality teachers in classrooms and provide constant support for students to help them pass those classes.

So LB has been good to me. I got to meet Ken Kesey.

I also got to meet Corliss the LB Loop Bus driver who always has a smile and a good word for the riders she gets safely to and from work and school every day.

I got to take classes from the likes of Doug Clark and Jane White, Beth Camp and Linda Smith, Margarita Casas and Michael Weiss, giants all, in the field of education, who have somehow learned to teach motley groups of sleep-deprived students who have other things on their minds. My only regret in that department is that I never got to take an art class from Analee Fuentes, who is my idea of class.

Here at LB. I also got to enjoy the campus community, the feeling of casual camaraderie by interacting with people like Susan Prock at the Multicultural Center, Gary Snyder at the Cafe and Ramon Pena in the commons. The fact that at some point in time all of these people gave me free food should in no way be seen to slant or prejudice my opinion of the fine people they are.

Now to unfinished business:

One of the things I regret in my time at The Commuter is one of the first articles I did, on the Corvallis Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission, which recognized the LB Peace Studies group with their annual MLK award. The story was fine, except for the fact that I left out the name of MLK Commissioner Joan Collison, who supplied me with all the information, and even a photo of her handing the award to Doug Clark, reprinted below. Collison went out of her way to help a junior reporter and didn't even get recognized with a caption because I didn't make sure it happened. It is not a huge deal, but it taught me a lesson that if people are good enough to help you out, you should return the favor whenever possible and recognize their effort.

Now when I do a story, I always try to give credit where credit is due and send the subject of the story a few copies of the paper. Another thing I regret is the story I never got to about metallurgy student Walter Lee who traveled all the way from Nebraska to attend LB and has been one of the program's star students. I kept putting off the story until I could devote more time to in-depth coverage, and now I won't get to it.



To all of the technical and mechanical and electrical programs on campus, I have to apologize that I know more about arts and entertainment than engines and circuits, so I usually write about what I know and have neglected some important parts of the LBCC picture.

I wish I had someone to take a few parting shots at in my last commentary, but I haven't made many enemies here to pick on. Maybe the book buy back could run smoother. Maybe the campus could support a few more musical events. But all in all this is a comfortable and well run place to get some book-learnin' and find people to socialize with as well.

My parting advice to all is, don't drink and drive, vote Republican or fight about money. Anyway, I'm out. So long and thanks for all the laughs.

P.S. Al Gore in '04!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Petition-gathering rules overlook the Bill of Rights

To the Editor:

I am a volunteer signature gatherer for a ballot initiative which would bring health care, including prescriptions, dental [insurance], and eyeglasses, to all Oregonians.

At LBCC I have been confined to certain low traffic areas and told I could not be in the cafeteria. Actually, by law, petitioning and leafleting are allowed in all areas of a public college or university except blocking doorways or being in classes. The college needs to ease off the restrictions and let the Bill of Rights prevail.

—June Hemmingson

LB helps returning older student redirect life's goals

To the Editor:

As a former administrator at Oregon's largest community college, Portland Community College, I resigned my position to follow my dream and open Broadway Flowers near Lloyd Center. After contracting arthritis and 12 years of working 6-10, I joined Fred Meyer in customer satisfaction and service. With my elderly mother in a wheelchair, and wanting to live at home, I left the city for Lebanon to be her caregiver.

After 34 years in Portland, it's been a long trip back to my home town. I began looking for rewarding employment that could accommodate my arthritic disability. At PCC I had an office and a secretary. I thought, "Now it's 2000 and I don't know how to turn on a computer. No computer skills—no job."

Seeking direction and advice in retraining, I met with Linda Peer of the Community Services Consortium in Lebanon. She assigned me to job search, resume, and interview skills classes. She also directed me to the Oregon Vocational Rehabilitation program and LBCC.

With my previous two years of college, I registered as a full-time student and embarked on an unknown future with a real focus. I want to be a late-night radio talk show host. With the help of Sherry Rosen in the Career Work Experience program, I completed an internship with KBVR, at OSU, in news and information. This path led me to Rich Bergeman, LB journalism instructor. He has advised The Commuter through two straight years as the best overall community college newspaper in Oregon, according to the Northwest Newspaper Publishers Association. He is a no-nonsense and totally focused instructor. It is very likely that if you want a career in journalism you're not going to ever find a better instructor in this field. Bergeman is terse, high energy, and direct.

I recall his remark when The Commuter staff was intensely editing and proofing copy. He said to a staff member, "What's wrong? Can't you take the heat of a copy deadline?" Sometimes I thought he was increasing the pressure so that the students will be prepared for the stress in a real newsroom. Timely coverage of breaking stories requires a reporter's immediate response and an accurate, finished story.

From the beginning, my "beat" has been the college. I would like to thank the administration, faculty, and students for being honest, straight forward, and supporting me in writing about LB. It's great not to have to cover a deceptive municipal administration.

Thank you LBCC. You serve your district well every day, and your alumni need to always remember that they have their career today because when they needed an educational opportunity, regardless of age, you were there. The college provides new futures for the area's work force. Now after 34 years, LB is in its second generation.

What has DD to say in departing the Commuter? "Try to make sure that your kids can attend LBCC. And continue to elect a Board of Education that is fiscally conservative and aware of the educational needs of the district. Support the board in trying to keep the cost of tuition as low as possible and continue to maintain viable programs."

All the Best!

DD Malloy