

## HOOP HEAVEN

Men's Basketball team opens season with three straight wins ▶ Pg. 11

## CHRISTMAS IN NEW YORK

Home alone? Not in New York City, where everything is about family and fun for all ages and tastes. ▶ Pg. 8-9



# The Commuter

a weekly student publication

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

Wednesday, December 1, 2004

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 36 No. 8



photo by Erik Swanson

The Linn-Benton/OSU Community Chorale joins together with the LBCC Chamber and Concert Choirs during the dedication of the Russell Tripp Performance Center on Sunday, Nov. 21. The center was renamed in thanks for a generous donation made by the Russell Tripp family.

## Black-tie affair christens Tripp Center

Colleen Jacks  
The Commuter

The Russell Tripp Performance Center was dedicated in a gala, black-tie celebration on Sunday, November 21.

A generous \$500,000 dollar donation by the Russell Tripp family made possible a complete renovation of the aging Takena Theater.

Prior to the main event a private party was attended by members of the LBCC Foundation, LBCC theater and choir students and members of the press. This was to recognize

their efforts in bringing the new vision of the theater to fruition.

The festivities were opened with a presentation of "The Building Speaks" a fabulous demonstration of the new light and sound system designed by Bruce Peterson, LBCC's theater manager. The light show was accompanied by a musical score composed by Susan Peck of the music faculty. In a voice-sounding remarkably like Performing Arts Department Chair, George Lauris—the building gave its thanks to the Tripp Family for its new look.

The opening remarks were made by Lau-

ris and event emcee speech instructor, Mike Houglum. Lauris acted as stage manager.

A reading of "Why Act", was performed by Marion O. Rossi a member of LBCC's theater faculty. In addition, staged readings from "The Eloquent Umbrella" titled "Peace In The Valley", were directed by performing arts instructor, Jane Donovan.

On piano, Gary Ruppert, Dean of LBCC Arts and Communications Department, performed a beautiful rendition of "Ballade No. 1 in G minor op.23 by Frederic Chopin."

An acknowledgement of the LBCC Foun-

▶ Turn to "Tripp" on Pg. 7

## Winter sign ups start this week

Nick Milhoan  
The Commuter

With the temperatures dipping and the snow falling the transformation of seasons is upon us and with that brings the changing of terms at LB.

Registration for winter term began yesterday at 7 a.m. for those with over 120 credits earned here at LB. Starting today at 9 a.m. those with 50-59 credits earned will be eligible for registration. Those new to LB will be able to register starting at 3 p.m. this Friday.

"Make sure you check the times available and that the classes your looking at are ones you are placed into." said Dee Nath, LBCC registration employee. "If you didn't place into the class it will make it harder to get into that class because you have to talk to counseling and see if they recommend you into the class."

To avoid being subjected to those annoying wait lists its advised that students register as soon as they are eligible. It is also important for students receiving financial aid to register early. If a student needs a certain amount of credits to receive financial aid, they will not be activated until they receive their specific amount of required credits. This then creates a challenge for buying books and other supplies

▶ Turn to "Winter" on Pg. 7

## New program to meet demand for dispatchers

Jeromie Preas  
The Commuter

With a high demand for emergency communication workers in the area, LB is offering a six-month accelerated training course, worth 48 credit hours, for students to become public safety dispatches.

This is the second time this program is being offered and will start Jan. 3 and end June 24.

The curriculum will educate students with skills, knowledge, and abilities that are deemed critical to

the field of public safety dispatch. The areas covered include emergency medical services, crisis intervention, stress management, and psychology.

Teaching the course will be Pam Hicks and Christy Barnes from the Benton County Sheriff's Office, Rob Portier from the Lebanon Police Department and Kathy White from the Linn County Sheriff's Office.

According to Marcia Bollman, the program chair of Accelerated Training at LB, all four instructors are professionals in the field of emergency services and public safety communications.

"This is a great opportunity for a career change," she said. Students will have the opportunity to get on the job training with the cooperative work experience that is a part of the program. Students will be placed in both Linn and Benton counties.

The program will cost a total of \$4,500 and there is financial aid available.

To learn more, www.linnbenton.edu/admissions and click on forms, then select Public Safety Dispatcher. There are also planning guides available titled Public Safety Dispatch (911).

### WEATHER THROUGH THE WEEKEND


SOURCE: WWW.WEATHER.COM



high 48 low 35  
WEDNESDAY



high 48 low 35  
THURSDAY



high 48 low 39  
FRIDAY



Think Snow!  
high 47 low 36  
SATURDAY



Think Snow!  
high 44 low 35  
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# OPINION

**Send letters to The Commuter:**  
 Turn into Forum 222. Please sign them and  
 keep them at 250 words or less



COMMENTARY

## Gay marriage ban scars Constitution

**Jeni Ulm**  
 The Commuter

Our Constitution was made to ensure people of their inalienable rights, to make certain that the government could not be harder on one person than on another. It was not meant to separate the population into two parts. That is what happened to our constitution through Measure 36. The state of Oregon has removed some crucial civil liberties from the homosexual population.

Since measure 36 passed, gay and lesbian individuals have been excluded from having the right to be married in the eyes of the government. This is not only a blow emotionally to the gay community, who now understandably feel left out of yet another majority, it is also a financial defeat.

If a gay couple is together 20 years and one of them dies, the other is left with absolutely no compensation because the state does not recognize them as married. Because some see it as "immoral" to be gay, they somehow feel justified in leaving the offenders of these "sins" out in the cold, with none of the benefits that a heterosexual receives from marriage.

When did our constitution go from being a statement of our liberties and rights to a document that segregates? People should not by any means take this issue lightly.

Measure 36 not only takes civil rights away from gay and lesbian couples, it will not allow these families to have health care or insurance coverage. Children of gay couples will not be able to go to the doctor because 57 percent of Oregonians think their parents shouldn't be having sex. Citizens shouldn't be able to judge other people's lives to the extent of harming their children.

This measure also prevents gay couples from being able to make medical decisions for each other in case of emergency. In most situations if a married person gets hurt or needs surgery, the first next of kin is their spouse. Gay people will henceforth be ignored when the person they love the most in the world is in need of medical care, or maybe even dying.

I heard about a man who couldn't get in to see his child because he was not the biological parent and the other father was out of town. His son died alone because the state of Oregon did not recognize his parenthood. No matter how you feel about homosexuality, this is something that never should have occurred.

I do understand the tradition that some think they are preserving by passing this measure. They think that if they maintain the "mom and dad" persona in every household that the world will always be filled with sunshine and Tollhouse cookies.

There is fear here—fear of change, fear of difference, fear of true separation between church and state. It is a dangerous thing when people let this sort of idea into our government. The fear of the black man made slavery and the KKK. The fear of the Jew made the Holocaust. Men have feared losing their power to women for

generations, so we have been separated as well. Fear of terrorism won this election.

People are afraid that if they accept their gay neighbor, their children will grow up to be gay. Then they won't have any grandchildren and God will look at their family as a bunch of lowly sinners who go against the teachings of the Old Testament. To let fear create separation is a stepping stone of hate.

A strange thing about Christianity being the biggest promoter for this measure is that Christ never spoke against gay people. He only said to love one another, not to judge, to not concern yourself in wars, etc. "For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." (John 1:17) The problem here is that the Christians that are being heard are not standing as an example of Christianity. They are not following Christ's teachings.

I think if people were to truly study grace, which is supposed to be the whole message of the New Testament, they would see that we are not to judge each other's lives: "for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23) Grace is the covenant that God made with the people when Christ died. We are to henceforth live under grace, not condemnation and law. Therefore, even if you think gay people are sinners, God says he forgives them, just like he forgives you for getting drunk every Saturday and cheating on your wife. Slander and judgment are the true pitfalls that Jesus speaks of. In fact, homosexuality isn't even one of the deadly sins—but pride is.

Some people say that this country was founded on Christianity. But the first settlers who came here were trying to escape the religious oppression of England. They wanted to be able to live the way they saw fit, and worship God the way that they saw fit.

This country should stand most of all for freedom. I am depressed seeing that more people would throw gays and lesbians to the lions than to accept them as part of the human family. This is an instance where I see that fear has overridden the challenge for citizens to open their minds.

There should not be changes made to the Constitution in order to segregate, or solve a religious debate. The Constitution should be a place of freedom, a place of civil rights. It should not be a place for one group to be obviously set apart. Gay people may be different than the majority, but so are red-heads and left-handed people, and let's not forget those freaks that have the ability to yodel. We are all different. Luckily the United States isn't made of little islands, because I fear we would be separated like M&Ms by color or religion, sexual preference, and so on.

People need to be more okay with themselves. They need to be able to look in the mirror and accept what they see. If they could do that, maybe they would learn how to appreciate diversity and embrace difference instead of fearing it.

## Your grip may be ticket to success

**Brenda Razonbach**  
 The Commuter

Do you know how to shake hands? If not, you are not prepared to get your dream job, the one you are here at LBCC studying for.

Your handshake is as important as what's in your resume or how you dress when making that first impression. I first learned how to shake hands when employed as a new accounts representative for a bank. I was terrified when asked to stand up and shake hands as I greeted every customer. Yuk!

If I wanted to keep my job, I was going to learn to shake hands, so I did. I'm sure my first 100 attempts were pathetic. Now I enjoy shaking hands, because I know how, and it makes me feel in control. It's actually fun. You can figure out how someone feels by shaking their hand.

A person who is secure in their own skin will shake your hand without hesitation. Their handshake will be firm, open and friendly. A person who is insecure will offer a limp hand. I just hate it when someone offers a hand that feels like a wet, empty glove. It makes my skin crawl. It's like grabbing a dead fish.

Then there is the person who breaks every bone in your hand. This would be one of the control freaks who wants to let you know they're in charge. I know if someone crushes my right hand they are dealing with some serious issues and just need mental help.

A truly sick handshake involves someone grasping your right hand and rubbing the back of the same hand with their left. This handshake brings to mind used car salesmen and creepy guys, like the guy at your cousin's wedding who has had too much to drink and won't go away.

A snotty version of the handshake is offered palm down as if the person wishes to have you kiss their ring. These folks need to get over themselves.

The correct way to make that first impression with your handshake is to be the first to extend your hand. Open yourself up to this person. Give the other person's hand a good grip—not too limp and not too tight. Look them straight in the eye and smile.

If you are applying for a stressful job that requires quick thinking and determination, a limp handshake will surely get your resume tossed in the trash. If you are applying for a job that requires a gentle soothing person, a crushing handshake will surely peg you as a psycho and rejected.

A good handshake takes practice; it does not happen overnight. I recommend practicing on your family and friends. Have a handshake session the day before an interview. It helps, I've done it.

## The Commuter STAFF

The Commuter is the weekly student-run newspaper for LBCC, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty, and Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of the authors.

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# CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus

## Children invited to annual Winter Fest Dec. 4

**Jeni Ulm**  
 The Commuter

It's that time of year again! The 34th annual Children's Winter Festival will be held in the commons cafeteria 1-4 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 4 here at LBCC. Students are encouraged to invite family and friends to come and celebrate a variety of different winter holiday traditions and activities.

The LBCC Student Programming Board is sponsoring the event. It is free of charge, but they are requesting a donation of two cans of food to be donated to families in the community.

Activities planned include; dragon theater puppets,

face painting, cookie decorating (and cookie eating), Kwanzaa activities, Huitzilin (traditional Mexican dancers), free gifts, and visits from Santa or Father Claus (for only \$1 dollar).

According to Lethia Schulze, the publicity coordinator for the SPB, "The Children's Winter Festival is a fun activity designed to draw people in and get them involved, to make a connection between the community and our school."

Jorge Alvarez, the event coordinator, says that though the festival is targeted towards kids, toddler to 12 years, "It's not just for children, it's for the child that everyone has inside."

Alvarez expressed that this was not a Christmas

festival, that it was from a variety of countries' points of view.

"The winter festival is to show what other culture's celebrations are for winter. Christmas is a Christian holiday, we want to show festivals from different approaches as well," he said.

The festival is the biggest annual party that LBCC gives to the community.

All people are welcome. The SPB is hoping for a good turnout of kids, to come and enjoy the puppets, games, crafts, and the of course, the cookies.

Schulze concluded by extending invitation, "Everybody please bring your friends and family, come and enjoy the activities and the atmosphere."

## FRC staffer writes book on how to tie the knot on a shoestring budget

**Shannon Brown**  
 The Commuter

Good news for those planning next year weddings, you don't have to spend thousands to pull off a gorgeous event.

Kristen Meador has a new book hitting shelves this July, "How to Have A Wedding Without Spending A Dime", it will give heaps of information and ideas on how to have a wedding, spending little or no money at all.

Writing is just Meador's hobby. A 2001 graduate of LBCC and a 2004 graduate of OSU with a bachelor's degree in Human Development and Family Science, she currently works as an Associate Early Childhood Education teacher in the toddler room at LB's Family Resource Center.

Meador, who has yet to plan her own wedding, decided to write the book after she had helped so many friends and family members with their weddings. "Splitting the cost of flowers with another

couple who are having a wedding the same day is just one of the many ideas in Meador's book."

She also said, "you can cut your own flowers and make the brides and bridesmaids bouquets, and then with the left over flowers and filler, make boutonnieres."

The book took Meador three weeks to write, which she says is amazing, because it usually takes a lot longer. It is in its final editing stage right now and will be available to purchase when it comes out in July of 2005. The book will be available through Publish America, Barnes & Noble, Walden Books and Amazon.

Meador packs around a couple of "book idea" journals and writes thoughts down in her spare time.

She is currently working on a second book as follow up to "How to Have A Wedding Without Spending A Dime", which elaborates more on the ideas from her first book. It is about a quarter of the way complete.

## Construction to begin in January for North Santiam Hall and skywalk

**Kate Paul**  
 The Commuter

Beginning in January, the construction of a new multi-purpose building on LBCC's campus will break ground. Plans for the structure include a few new, upgraded features for the school, and a lot more classroom space.

According to the school's Dean of Arts and Communications, Gary Ruppert, there's a big shortage of large classrooms, faculty offices, and student lounge areas on campus. However, "with the additions of the new multi-purpose center these problems will finally be solved," said Ruppert.

With the bond issue that was passed, LBCC has been able to add extended learning campuses in Lebanon, and Sweet Home, along with the renovation that took place at the Benton Center last year. Along with these, the school is now able to add on some much needed classroom space here at the main campus.

The building will be a two-story structure, located directly behind the AHSS and the Business buildings on the two big

pads that already exist there. Linking the structure to the AHSS building will be an overhead skywalk.

On each floor there will be five classrooms, most of which will be larger because of the lack of them, and faculty offices. There are plans for art exhibit space on both floors as well, but on the second floor particularly. There will be new places for students to go to study or relax, along with vending machines.

On top of all this, the whole building will be set up for wireless Internet and every classroom will be multi-media stocked. This includes full spectrum overhead projectors, the Internet, DVD, VCR, and CD players, and the camera-screen machine ELMO.

Though the finished project is months away, the name of the new place has already been decided on and will be North Santiam Hall.

In addition to this, the AHSS building name will be changed to South Santiam Hall.

"Although it's not yet certain, the cost is predicted to be around \$2.5 million for the building, furnishings and everything else it takes until the structure is com-

plete," said Ruppert. The whole construction time is planned to take about 11 months, with hopes that it will be ready for use by November of next year.

## Sharing Tree offers cheer

You can help a child this Christmas season by donating a gift to the Sharing Tree located in the Library.

The tree, sponsored by Linn Christmas Greeters, is decorated with ornaments labeled with a child's name, age and gender.

Secret Santas can select an ornament and then purchase an appropriate gift for the age and gender of the child.

Bring the unwrapped gift to Student Life and Leadership office or drop off at the Library by Dec. 16.

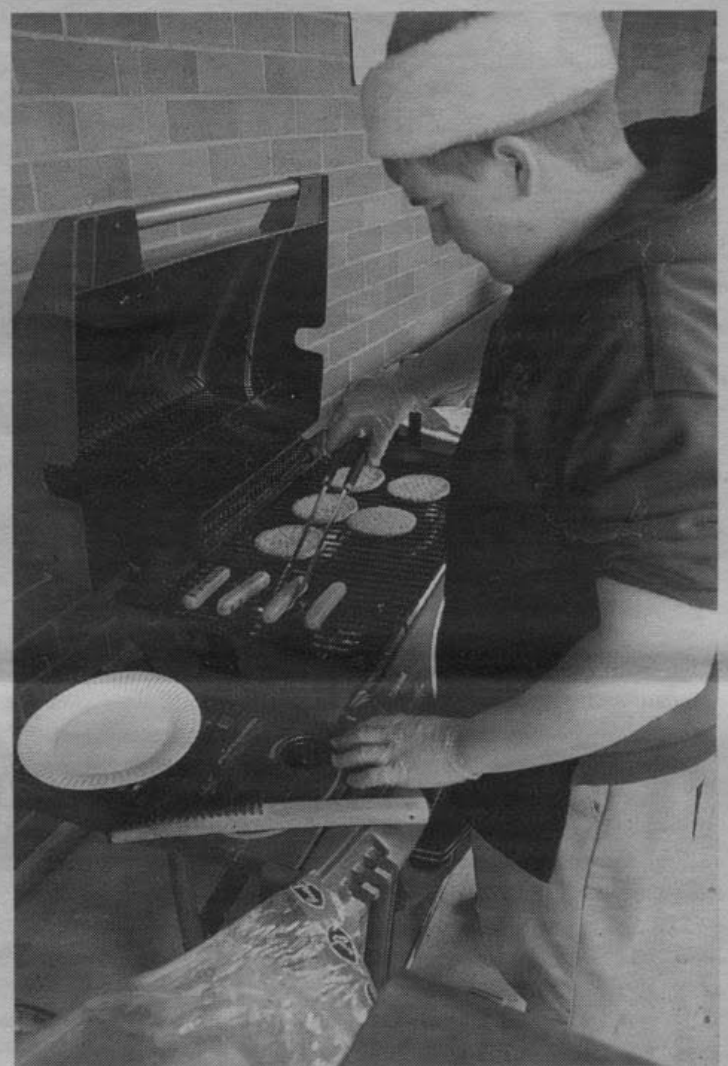


photo by Erik Swanson

### Serve It Up

Jeff Chase cooks up burgers and dogs in the courtyard this past Monday in a fundraiser for business students.

**Two-day lift ticket \$49**  
**rooms \$69 per night**

**Mt Bachelor**  
 mtbachelor.com/college  
 800-829-2442

**THE INN OF THE SEVENTH MOUNTAIN**

Current student ID and drivers license or photo ID required, age 18-23 only. Ticket must be purchased on Friday. Not valid 12/18 - 1/2 and 1/15-17. Offer expires 1/31. \$69 rooms limited to two people.

**UMBRELLA PROPERTIES**

**ALBANY**

**College Green \$540-575**  
 2 bedroom garage hook-ups  
 Near LBCC off Pacific Highway  
 6209 Wilford Ct 928-4439

**Meadow Green \$555**  
 Large 2 bedroom townhouse  
 Dishwasher garage hook-ups  
 462 SE 28th #F 926-4768

**The Timberlinn \$330**  
 Nice studio off Knox Butte Rd  
 3819 Linn Ave 926-0925

**The Sheffield \$385-460**  
 Affordable 1-2 bedroom, laundry  
 725 Davidson SE #28 967-1288

**LEBANON**

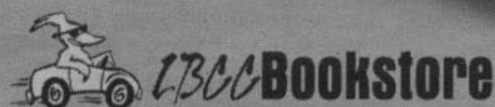
**Oakwood Terrace \$460**  
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**Countryside Duplex \$520-540**  
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**December 6 thru 10**



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Enter to WIN one of  
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 Contest ends 12-8-04.



Mon. - Wed.  
 9am to 6pm

Thurs. - Fri.  
 9am to 4pm

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 • **CC-213** •  
**Main  
 Campus**

Mon. • Tues. • Thurs.  
 9am to 4pm

**Benton Center  
 Bookstore**

Wed.  
 9am to 6pm

Fri.  
**CLOSED**

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# LOCAL NEWS

News on happenings around the country including Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon, Philomath, Sweet Home and Tangent

## Bachelor first Oregon ski slope to open lifts

**Shannon Brown**  
 The Commuter

The time is here again, time to break out those skis and snow boards, dust them off and apply a fresh coat of wax.

Mount Bachelor is the only ski area that opened up before Thanksgiving. According to their web sites, Hoodoo and Mount Hood are still waiting for more snow.

Hoodoo is hoping for a Dec. 3 opening and has quite a line up of events scheduled for this season. College students with current school identification can ski for half price Dec. 6-10, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Dec. 13-18 is Toys for Tots Week. Those interested need only bring a toy worth \$10 or more (no receipt required) and you get to ski for half price. The resort is closed every Wednesday. Currently the mountain has three feet of snow, they are looking for 24 feet to open. To check out more on Hoodoo go to [www.hoodoo.com](http://www.hoodoo.com).

Mount Bachelor cranked up the lifts on Nov. 23. The facilities are open weekdays 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and weekends and holidays 8 a.m.-4 p.m. The current snow pack is 11 feet.

To find out more about Mount Bachelor go to [www.mtbachelor.com](http://www.mtbachelor.com).

Mount Hood is waiting for enough snow to open the mountain, but no indication as to how much they are waiting for. Go to [www.skihood.com](http://www.skihood.com) for up to date information on Mount Hood.



### Free Caffeine

A Dutch Bros. barista serves up coffee to one of the hundreds of visitors that lined up for free drinks on Monday at the new full service Dutch Bros. coffee shop on Monroe Street across from the OSU campus. The location will give out two for one coupons, good for your next visit through Sunday. The give-away is a ritual for any opening of a new Dutch Bros. This is the company's second Corvallis location and first non-drive through coffee house outside of its original Grants Pass location.

photo by Matt Swanson

## The Dutch have landed in Corvallis

**Nick Milhoan**  
 The Commuter

The Dutch have arrived in Corvallis, Dutch Brothers that is. The coffee company known for its over zealous barristas and fast, convenient service has opened up a stand alone coffee shop near Oregon State in Corvallis.

The first stand alone coffee shop outside of Grants Pass opened up on Monday at 6 a.m, serving up free drinks to anyone all day Monday and Tuesday. The line stretched out the door, but those waiting for free coffee in the cold, foggy weather didn't seem to mind the wait.

"I love Dutch Brothers," said OSU sophomore Jamie Boatender. "I'm originally from Rogue River and grew up with them, so I'm so happy to have this."

Dutch Brothers has been a fixture in the Albany/Corvallis area for about two years now. However they have been around since 1992 when they started serving up killer mochas and fantastic lattes in Grants Pass, Ore. They have since grown to over 55 locations throughout Oregon and Northern California.

"We pride ourselves on speed and quality," said owner Travis Boersma. "The customer and coffee is the bottom line."

Brothers Dane and Travis Boersma (Dutch Brothers founders) decided to make a major career change, going from dairy farmers to barristas. They bought a double head espresso machine and set up shop in an empty milk house with 100 pounds of coffee and a stereo. Then they moved to sixth street in Grants Pass and it was all down hill from there.

"It took a while to get going," said Boersma. "But once we did we were serving to everyone from bankers to moms."

The company experienced some heartache this past summer when the headquarters went up in smoke and the coffee roasting machines were lost.

"Everyone was awesome," said Boersma. "Boyd's roasted all of our beans while we were getting back up and running and within two weeks we were doing it all again."

The only other "coffee house" location is the company's main Grants Pass location. There are currently five local stations, two in Albany, one in Lebanon and now two in

Corvallis.

"This location is the second coffee house," said David Morris, president of Dutch Love. "We are excited to see how it will do, its a great location."

The plan is to have live music every Friday and Saturday night, with the focus being on local area bands. Being that the location is right across from OSU, they also plan to get the campus involved as much as possible.

"There are lots of expectations with this store," said manager Joe Rosknecht. "It's a great location and we are excited."

The company has no plans to slow down their rapid growth. They will be opening a location in Woodland, Calif. on Friday and plan to open up more locations in Northern Oregon in the next year.

"Dutch Brothers rocks," said LB student Sara Bishop. "They have the best coffee."

The grand opening will continue through Sunday. They will be handing out two for one cards good for the next visit and giving out prizes.

"We are going to be spreading Dutch Love like butter," said Morris. "And as always we are guaranteed to satisfy."

## LBCC MAIN CAMPUS Commons

DEC. 1 - DEC. 7

### •WEDNESDAY:

ENTREES: Prime rib w/popovers, Swedish meatballs, tofu stir-fry  
 SIDES: Baked potato, cabbage w/apples & onions  
 SOUPS: Billy-bi, beef vegetable

### •THURSDAY:

ENTREES: Jamaican jerk chicken, sushi/sashimi, spanakopita  
 SIDES: Garlic ginger coconut, rice, ratatouille  
 SOUPS: Chili Mac, curried cream of carrot

### •FRIDAY:

Chef's choice

### •MONDAY:

ENTREES: BBQ Spare ribs/country ribs, Moroccan chicken, omelet bar  
 SIDES: Home fries, glazed carrots  
 SOUPS: Saffron chicken, vegetarian vegetable

### •TUESDAY:

ENTREES: Spice rubbed tri tip, fish on papilote, portabella & grilled vegetables  
 SIDES: Brabant potatoes, Santa Maria style pinto beans, corn fritters  
 SOUPS: Chicken consomme, roasted garlic

WEEKLY MENU

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Winter term open registration begins December 3rd. Classes start January 3rd. Call 800-667-1465 or email us at [ecampus@oregonstate.edu](mailto:ecampus@oregonstate.edu) for more info.

15 ONLINE Programs Including: Liberal Studies (B.A./B.S.), Environmental Sciences (B.S.), Natural Resources (B.S.), General Agriculture (B.S.)

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# CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus

## HOLIDAY BAKE-OFF



JOIN US IN THE FIRST ANNUAL COMMUTER HOLIDAY TREAT BAKE-OFF. ENTREES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER DEC. 1ST, THROUGH DEC. 6TH AT 3 PM. THE EDITORIAL STAFF WILL JUDGE SNACKS AND TREATS AND A WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE JAN. 12TH ISSUE OF THE COMMUTER. ENTRY IS OPEN TO LBCC STUDENTS AND STAFF



## Winter: Transitioning seasons bring renewed race to register for classes

▲ From Pg. 1  
 needed for classes.

If you are put on a wait list, you need to remember to get your wait list form from registration and have your instructor sign off so that you will be listed and receive credit for the class.

"No matter how you are paying for classes (Financial Aid, parents, cash or whatever) make sure to always take your required classes first," said Nath.

It's best to keep in mind that some classes will get dropped and other more popular classes might have more added. Last year because only one student was enrolled in a class it was dropped, but in many more popular classes such as the languages, additional are added because the demand is higher.

"Registering is so much easier now thanks to the SIS system," said Nath. "Always try that first

and if you are having troubles come talk to us so we can get you into classes right away."

Winter term classes start Jan. 3 and continue through March 18. The last day to drop for most full term classes with a full refund is Jan. 14.

The rest of the dropping dates are listed on Page 14 of the Winter 2005 Schedule of Classes, which is available in Takena Hall. The last day for fall term is Dec. 10.

## Tripp: Choirs open season at dedication of Russell Tripp Performance Center

▲ From Pg. 1

dedication was made by LBCC president, Dr. Rita Cavin. Cavin led a standing ovation to honor the Tripp Family, who preferred to remain in the background while the renovations took

place.

The combined choirs of the Linn Benton/OSU Community Chorale and the LBCC Chamber and Concert Choirs, directed by Peck provided the musical entertainment for the evening.

### CLASSIFIEDS

#### HELP WANTED

For more info about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101)

**Customer Service** (#2896, Corvallis) Full-time position requires Excel & Word skills and knowledge/experience in accounts payable. The pay is \$12/hr. If interested, please see me now!

**Treatment Aide** (#2894, Corvallis) This part-time position oversees teenagers in a rehabilitation center. Hours are swing shift, overnights or weekends. Must pass UA sample & criminal history check.

**Business & Health Occupations Rep** (#2891, LBCC) Serve as the voice for students in these fields. Must work Winter & Spring terms to receive 12 credits paid during Spring 2005. Last date to apply is Dec. 3!

**HVAC Service Technician** (#2893, Sisters) This full-time job is in colorful Sisters, home to skiing, the rodeo, etc. The pay is \$12-15/hour and you must have your own hand tools.

#### FOR SALE

**Walking sticks:** \$15.00  
 Oak, Ash, Cherry, Hazel. Hand rubbed finish; nylon or hemp hand grip.

**Geminhardt flute:** \$150.  
 503-930-4789.

#### CLASSIFIED POLICY

##### Deadline:

Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads will appear only once per submission.

##### Cost:

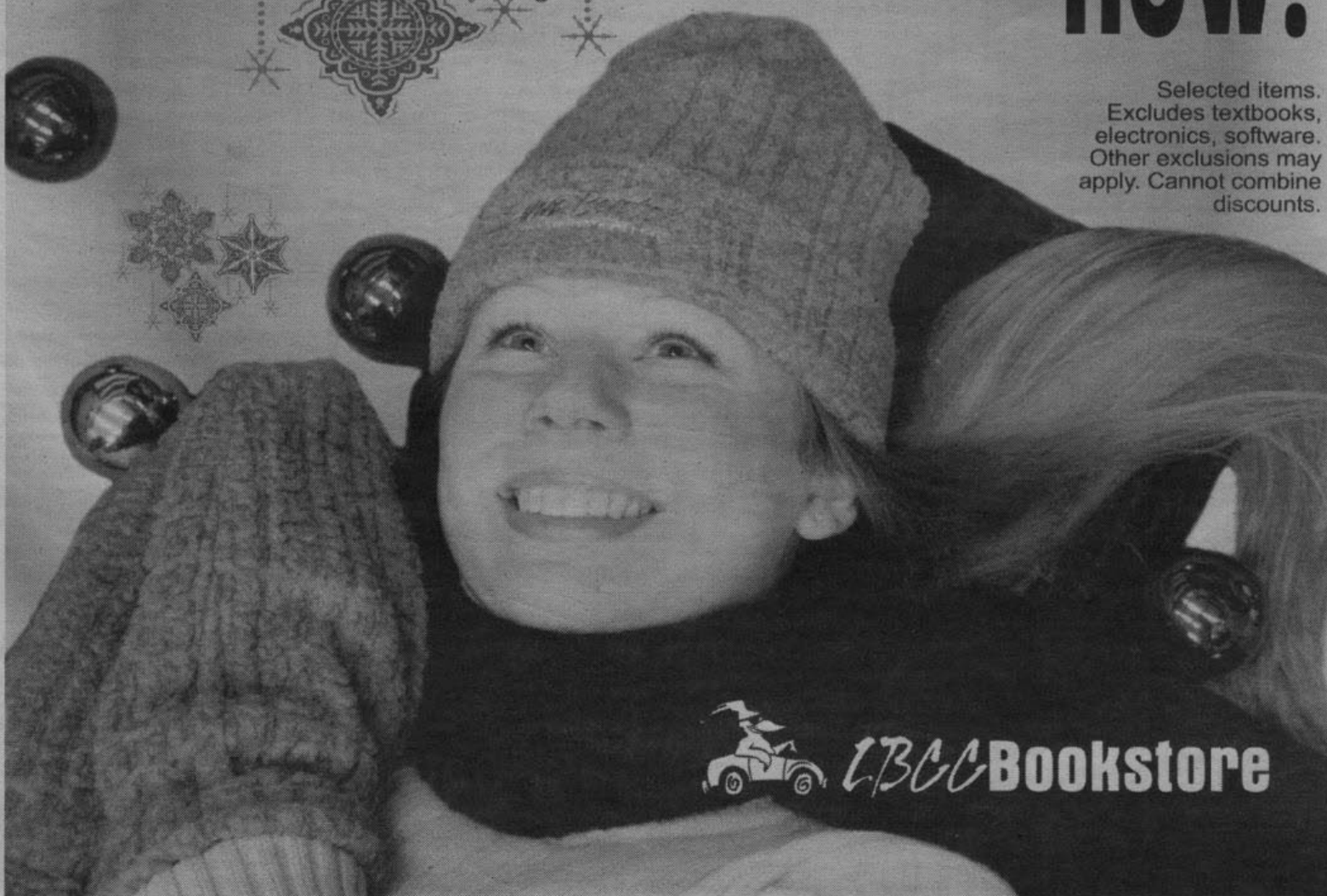
Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free to students, staff and faculty.

November 22 thru December 16

# Holiday Sale

happening now!

Selected items. Excludes textbooks, electronics, software. Other exclusions may apply. Cannot combine discounts.



LBCC Bookstore

Managing Editor: Peggy Isaacs  
Newsroom Desk: 917-4453  
commuter@linnbenton.edu

INFO

# SIZING UP New York City



## Shopping in NY is more than most bargain for

**Peggy Isaacs**  
The Commuter

Christmas in New York has become a tradition in itself that can be seen in the movie *Home Alone 2*. Times Square, ice rinks, tall buildings, lights and more people than you can imagine are some of the things experienced by visitors to the "Big Apple." Most of all one of the best things in Manhattan is the shopping that is available to everyone.

Shopping in New York is a great memorable experience, but during the holidays it is especially unforgettable and the New Yorkers help to make the experience even more wonderful.

When visiting Manhattan, shopping around Times Square is close to paradise for anyone with lots of money to spare. Even for the smallest of purses, there are multiple places to spend limited amounts of money.

The best place for a true New York experience is to shop and purchase items from the street vendors. Striking up a conversation with the salesman not only leaves you wanting to talk "New York Style," but gives you a hint of what it is like to be a New

Yorker. Trying to explain what that is in this forum would only leave the question unanswered. This is something that can only be understood by experiencing it and feeling the love and warmth that is put forth by the salesman in his most unique way.

With one vendor came a lesson on "How To" pick out a New Yorker. This came after he asked me if I was a New Yorker because I had pulled a "true New York move" when I tried to buy his \$3 sweaters. I only tried to get him to give me more of a deal so I wouldn't have to break another \$20 bill and told him I didn't have any more. The New York move came in when I amazingly had more when I saw another sweater I wanted when he pulled out a new box and dumped them on his cart.

We laughed as he dumped another box of sweaters and we watched people in torn jeans pounce upon them as well as neatly dressed, high-heeled women in heavy make-up, fur coats and their noses up in the air, like they were too good for these \$3 sweaters. These women: true New Yorkers.

Watch out for the high-class fur coat wearing women on the streets of New York Shopping. They are safe, of course, but shopping on the streets is their territory and they show it and will prove it, if need be.

Another time the women showed themselves was on 42nd Street across from Madame Trousseau's when the "hot" Gucci bags were sold. It was like a movie. You can first see someone casing the street, one block ahead, then another guy motions for someone to cross the street, this individual does. As soon as he crosses to the other side, he opens up a bundle of bags wrapped in a sheet that was hauled over his shoulder as he goes through the streets. When the first bag is seen from the opening in the sheet on the sidewalk, the fur coats appear and descend on the pile like lions on a wildebeest. It is quite the scene. Not the typical street scene or scary, but certainly one to be entertained by.

Another shopping treat in New York is of course Macy's Department Store. Macy's is a multi-story department store where just one floor has nothing but coats and as you can imagine, multiple furs of all styles and colors. There is one floor each for home furnishings, kitchen ware, men's wear, and women's wear, one for children wear and jewelry and make-up on the first floor. 73-year-old Katherine, Macy's employee of five years, but cashiering for fifty years, said that on any given day "30,000 people can go though here and there's more on the holidays."

Just a block around the corner from Macy's is the jewelry district. Make sure money is set aside to shop here. There is a shop there that sells tiaras and scepters for

pageants. The tiaras range from small to extra large, larger than Miss Universe's. The scepters are crystal balls and rhinestones mixed beautifully together into a piece of art that any princess would be proud of, at any age.

Shopping in New York at Christmas time is a great opportunity to meet New Yorkers, take in the entertainment and begin to understand this remarkable city that breeds courage and strength.



Above left, a view from the top of the Empire State Building putting New York in a manageable size and The Statue of Liberty.

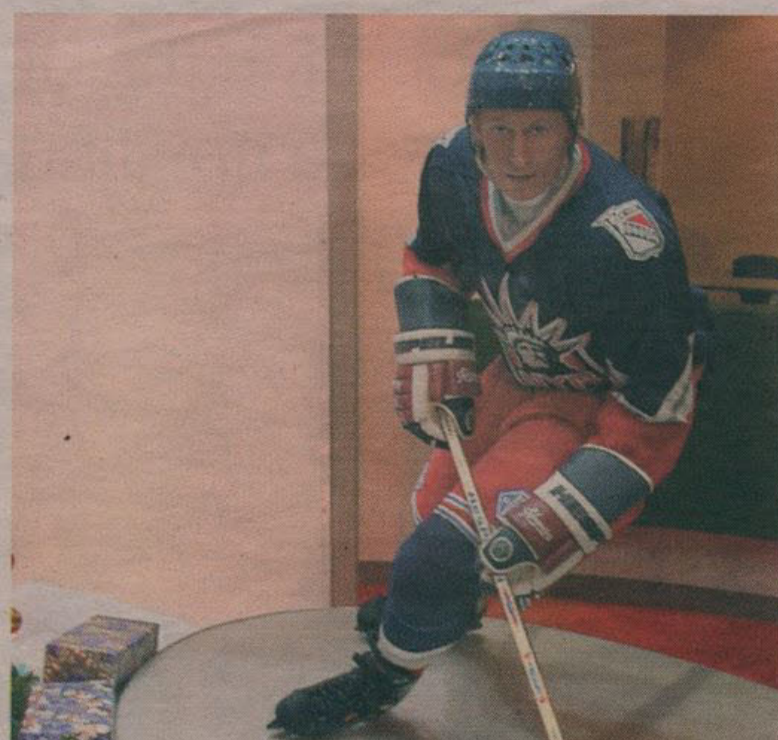
photos by Sheena Bish

Directly above, a street vendor showing off his wares. To the left, walking in Times Square is Christmas in December. Below, Santa makes a big appearance before resting for the big night.

photos by Peggy Isaacs







Above, a view of the bustling city including Madame Trousseau's, where you will find this amazingly lifelike waxwork of Wayne Gretzky. Gretzky is one of many well done and fun to see features at Madame's. Below is a view of Rockefeller Center and the giant Christmas tree known to so many, accented by happy ice skaters below. photos by Peggy Isaacs

## City splendor enhanced by sharing with family

**Sheena Bishop**  
The Commuter

Hark! How the bells, sweet silver bells, all seem to say throw cares away! (And while you are at it, pass the eggnog.)



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Isaacs

Everyone knows how Christmas feels to them. Allow me to recall a particular holiday season that means a lot to me.

My family is divided by time zones, three to be exact. My grandparents, Walter and Adrienne, live in New York. Not the city, that would be too much for my grandpa. Boys who grow up milking cows at 4 a.m. on a Minnesota farm don't do well with hectic traffic and noise. No, they live on Long Island in an area called Islandia.

You might think that this makes for a boring New York life, away from the city. But that is not the case. The Island is home to more wineries than I can count, and for my Italian, New York bred grandmother, that is the per-

fect place to live. And let me tell you, nobody knows food like my family does.

My aunt is a fabulous cook who also happens to be vegetarian, therefore rarely savors the amazing buffets she dishes up every time we go back east. Her husband, my uncle Mike, is an avid Jets fan with season tickets and enough fan wear for the whole family, including their four kids.

So we have fabulous feasts from my aunts house and all the joy of a grandmother who uses an IV to adjust you to the level of alcoholism necessary to survive a week out there.

And here is where Christmas comes in, or rather the week after Thanksgiving, when we flew out for my Grandpa's 50th birthday. The Monday after Thanksgiving we went into the city, to the heart of Manhattan.

The St. Patrick's Cathedral was beautiful, glowing in the night with all its glory. We went inside and lit candles before strolling down to Time Square.

I lit a candle for the angels on the ceiling. I asked God not to let them get tired and fall down, because it was a long fall and I didn't want them to break their wings. I figured that was pretty important to the angels, and at the age of six, I knew they appreciated it.

I've been to The Big Apple many times, but I have to tell you that New York in the Season warms you. It's a sensation that you only understand if you have been there, and while you may desire to know it, you will never understand until it happens to you.

Even the obnoxious cabbies disappear into the background while the lights swirl up the tree at Rockefeller Center making everything else blur and people catch their breath. Inevitably, there is always a Nancy Karrigan down on the ice, twirling and spinning nonchalantly while the normal people around them with

slightly less grace attempt to stay on their feet.

I know this sounds hoaky, but take an evening carriage ride through Central Park. If not for you, do it for me. I happen to be a huge fan of carriages and all the old world charm they possess. Of course, my first time out in a Central Park carriage turned out to be a slightly traumatizing event..

My mother made me sit by the horse blanket, and even tried wrapping me up in it for warmth. I declined the blanket and tried not to sit too close, but inevitably the smell of soggy, wet horse wore off on me. The rest of the trip nobody wanted me next to them because I stunk. Thanks, Mom. Great idea. Dogs were sniffing me when we walked by.

Grandpa Wally, although I'm sure he didn't enjoy doing so, willingly gave me piggy-back rides after the horse incident. As I said, he grew up on a farm. Animal smells didn't bother him. I soon forgot the smell lingering everywhere I went, because Time Square is too bright and big to a six year old. Even at the age of 18 the lights tempted me.

That is, until we hit Planet Hollywood and Grandma decided it was time for a beer. I must admit, the temptation was enough to stray me momentarily.

There is something everyone has to know about Time Square. The Toys'R'Us has a ferris wheel in it! It's not the biggest thing, but the building is four stories tall, and you can see the top of the wheel on the third floor. And the cars! The cars are so cool! Having been deprived of this privilege as a six-year-old, I was adamant that my dad go with me at age 18, but alas, being the only one there young at heart, I again missed out on the opportunity to ride the ferris wheel. And don't you know, I only went into the store to convince them to take a ride. Bah, Humbug!

There are giant Christmas ornaments everywhere in ABC studios. Back out on the street looking in, I was excited to see what it looks like from that angle, instead of looking in from a television. Even if you hate ABC you have to admit they have a beautiful studio. I momentarily noticed all the fluff around MTV, but quickly lost interest.

There are many differences between my first and second Manhattan experiences. As a little girl I placed my hands against the north tower of the world trade center and stared up, asking, "Mommy, does it touch heaven?" and as an adult, recollected my childhood memories while staring into a pit.

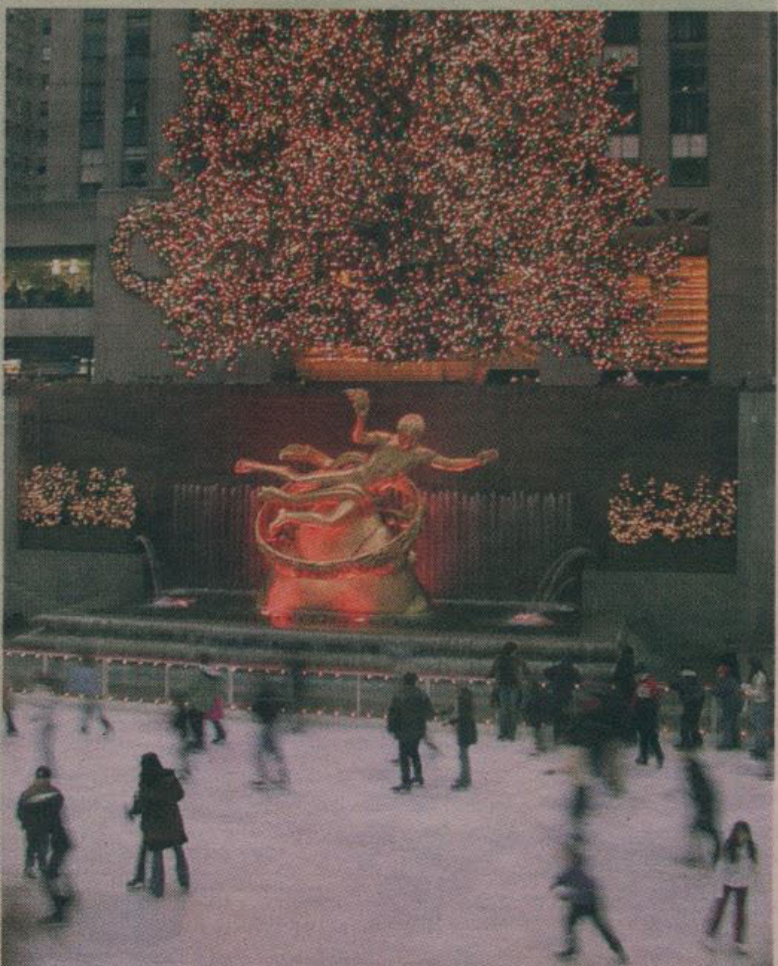
It also doesn't seem as magnanimous now. It's still the intense city I remember, but now also attainable. I no longer have youth and innocence to guide my eyes down the streets, and remember seeing more of the things we like to think don't

exist than I did before. I also see the price tags in the Macy's window and desire less to go in.

The best part of New York for me is the free tour guides. Its hard to go wrong when my grandparents are there with the scoop on everything. And if you get lost, you can have a beer and ask for directions before you go.

I have spoken highly of my New York minutes, but here is the key. . . I had family. New York symbolizes adventure and fun for most, but to myself it is also a place where my heart will always lie, Christmas or not, because out on a little island that most forget about, live very special people that make the long plane ride out more worth the wait than the lights of all the cities in the world.

I can say from experience that New York is best enjoyed with the ones you love.



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# SPORTS

Coverage of competitive and recreational activities at LBCC, as well as from around the state and nation

## After demolishing the Ducks in the Civil War game, Beavers may go bowling with the Boilermakers

**David Rickels**  
 The Commuter

It's been a long season for the Beavers, but they have managed to finish on top this year with an overall 6-5 record and 5-3 in conference play.

The season was almost split down the middle for OSU, with a first and last half of the season that nearly mirrored each other.

In the first part of the season the Beavers won only one out of five games.

The Beavers were looking OK after their first game, which was a one-point loss to LSU, which many blamed on kicker Alexis Serna because he missed some crucial kicks, including three extra point kicks.

The next four games did not look much better, with only one win against New Mexico. After a 49-7 loss against California, there was talk of the season already being over for the Beavers.

The second half of the season was the mirror image of the first.

The comeback began with a sweep of the Washington teams. Then Arizona and Stanford also fell to the revitalized OSU squad. The finale of the season was the stomping of the Ducks with an over-powering 50-21 Civil War victory.

There was a bright spot to the losses for the Beavers this season. Every loss was to a team ranked in the top 25.

The second half of the season also showed an improvement in individual performances as well.

Kicker Alexis Serna used the first game of the season as a learning experience. Serna was 24-24 in extra point completions after the LSU game.

He also completed 16 of 17 field goals including a 55-yarder. Not only did Serna's kicking help



The 'Raising Reiser' project enters its next phase after the old stands are demolished following the annual Civil War game. The stadium is being expanded from roughly 35,000 to 55,000. Currently Reiser Stadium is the smallest of any NCAA Division I college in the nation. The cost for the renovations is estimated at \$80 million and is scheduled to be complete before the beginning of the next football season. The renovations will add luxury boxes as well as moving Coach Mike Riley's office inside the stadium, this should help in recruitment because potential players will be able to see where they could play their college years.

photo by Peggy Isaacs

to win games, but also put him in the running for the Lou Groza Award, which honors the top college kicker in the country.

Anderson has also had a great season with a performance that has put him at the top of the Pac 10 for passing. He passed for 3,257 yards for 25 touchdowns. Mike Hass is also at the top of the conference with 81 receptions for 1,274 yards and seven touchdowns.

Also noteworthy was the honor given to defensive end Bill Swancutt, who was named co-defensive player of the year in the PAC-10.

What all of this means is that the Beavers are bowl bound. It is

most likely that the Beavers will face the Purdue Boilermakers in the Sun Bowl in El Paso, Texas.

The Boilermakers are a strong team that was at one time ranked No. 5 until they lost four games in a row. Many, including Purdue Coach Joe Tiller think that this game would be great for the fans. But I'm not sure Coach (Mike) Riley and myself would care for it that much, because there would probably be too much offense for either of us, Tiller is clearly not taking the Beavers lightly. Purdue is well acquainted with the Sun Bowl making this year's appearance their third showing in four years.

The Beavers are not yet guar-

anteed a spot in the Sun Bowl but they are the most likely team to be Purdue's opponent. This bowl trip will be the fifth bowl game in six years for OSU.

Other bowl possibilities include the Las Vegas Bowl (which the Beavers played in last season) and the Insight.com Bowl in Arizona.

With the controversy involving players at the Headline Cafe in Corvallis that hit the Beavers near the end of the season and the losses at the beginning, a trip to the Sun Bowl for New Year's Eve would be the best present the Beavers and their loyal fans could ask for this holiday season.

## Rally cars rip up the Northwest

**Jake Rosenberg**  
 The Commuter

As spectators shield themselves from the dirt and gravel sprayed from the spinning front tires of a 1984 Volkswagen GTI, Nick Thomas prepares to enter the next hairpin-turn while facing his audience in a head-on drift.

Thomas, a 19-year-old real-estate agent, races his GTI rally car in many Sports Car Club of America events all around the Northwest with his co-driver and father, Doug. The rallies consist of a series of 15-25 timed stages 2-10 miles long on many different road surfaces, mostly dirt and gravel, but sometimes tarmac and even ice.

The SCCA offers club rally events for professionals and members, while novices can race in closed-course rallycrosses. "You can race in a rallycross as long as you have \$25 and a car," says Thomas. Whether you have a front, rear, or all-wheel-drive vehicle, there is some way to race it.

Winners don't always have the fastest car. Thomas and his father have placed on the podium in many events despite having only a 1.8-liter power plant. "The winner is usually better than the others because of consistency and durability, not speed," he said.

The top speed usually does not exceed those of highways, but still poses a danger. Injuries and even fatalities are not uncommon in the sport, but the SCCA has many rules to make sure that drivers and spectators are as safe as possible.

Crowds grow larger every year thanks to large commercialization of all-wheel-drive vehicles, video games and world-wide TV exposure. Fans of the sport usually aspire to become participants after seeing the track-side action, as spectators can watch for free at most events.

"There is a definite level of preparation involved with the car, the drivers and the course, so it isn't a cheap sport by any means," Thomas said after wiping off the many layers of dirt on his \$8,000 "budget" rally car. "TV and video games do a good job of portraying the sport, but nothing is better than actually having your own rally car."

## Indoor arena serves amateur athletes

Soccer and roller hockey players compete through year at local sports arena

**Jake Rosenberg**  
 The Commuter

In a college town, the demand for organized sports is matched only by that for financial aid and a part-time job. Since February of 1999, The Corvallis Sports Park has contributed what intramural leagues and gymnasiums are unable to provide—indoor soccer and roller-hockey.

The 20,000-square-foot arena calls itself home to 130 soccer teams and 15 hockey squads between many leagues, keeping General Manager Blake Leamy and his 18 staff members busy every day of the week. The sports park offers many ways for people of all ages to get involved. "Lil' Kickers uses soccer as a vehicle for learning for kids 18

months to 12-years-old," Leamy said, "We have a 35 and over soccer league as well."

Future goals for the complex include the expansion of other sports such as lacrosse, dodge ball, as well as gift-prize poker tournaments. Leamy also says that LBCC has talked about starting indoor football and physical education classes there.

Soccer demands most of the arena time, going Tuesday through Friday, being occupied by league games, soccer-themed birthday parties and other programs. The sports park also has a store inside the main lobby where players can find gear or accessories for their gaming needs. Leamy said, "We are the only soccer store in Corvallis, so we do pretty good there."

For a \$20 annual fee, members of the Corvallis Sports Park receive exclusive information on upcoming events and a five-percent discount off merchandise in the store. One place the member discount does not apply is The Upper Deck sports pub

located above the playing surface. Inside you will find four televisions, one of which is a 52-inch big-screen, six beers on tap and pizza, burgers, burritos and nachos. James Cedarstrom, a 22-year-old hockey playing OSU graduate, claims, "The popcorn shrimp is better than McGrath's."

Every Monday night Cedarstrom, nicknamed "Jagr" for his close resemblance to NHL star Jaromir Jagr, continues to hone skills that he developed at his hometown rink in Roseburg. After the game, he and his seven teammates can be found in The Upper Deck downing post-game snacks with pitchers of Budweiser while watching the end of the Monday Night Football game or other hockey games. "It's a cool place to play," Cedarstrom said, "after the game you can just chill and have a beer."

For more information about the Corvallis Sports Park call (541)757-0776, go to [www.corvallisportspark.com](http://www.corvallisportspark.com) or drop in at 175 S.W. Twin Oaks Circle in Corvallis.

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# SPORTS

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## Men open hoop season with promising 3-0 start

**Brad White**  
 The Commuter

There was a new look out on the floor last night as the Roadrunners took the floor for their first home game of the new season on Nov. 23 against the Willamette University JV team. With Coach Randy Falk starting two freshman and three sophomores, the team turned to the upperclassman for leadership and found it in the second half, as LB won 94-77.

In the first half the Roadrunners were looking a little sloppy and not playing any defense. Still, with 12 minutes left in the first half, the Willamette Bearcats had only a slim lead 17 to 14, despite some solid shooting.

"We just weren't playing any defense in the first half," said point guard Mike Braziel after the game. At the midway point of the first half, however, LB had clawed its way back into a 21-18 lead.

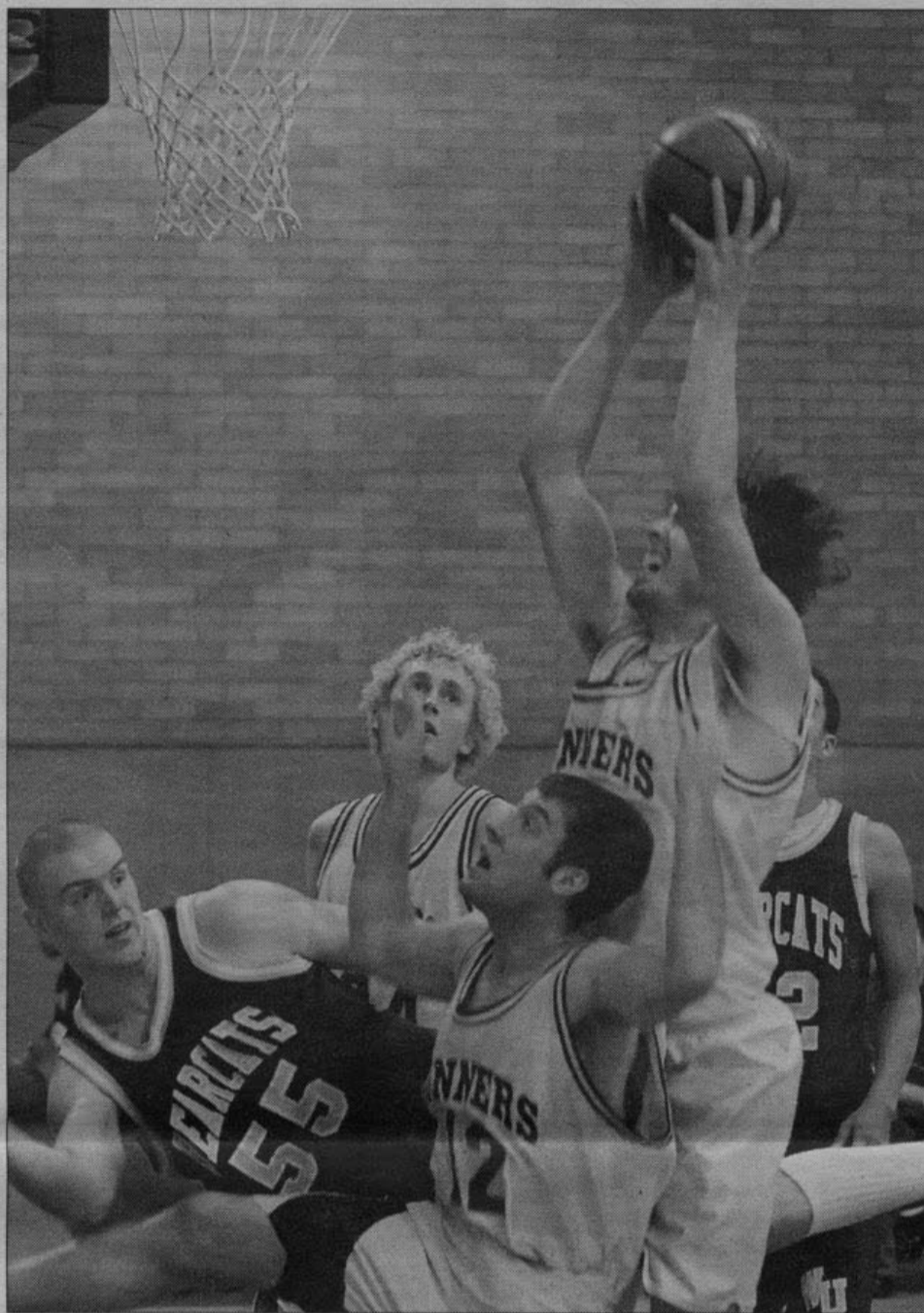
Turnovers were the key to who was going to win or lose this game, and it was Willamette making the miscues that let the Roadrunners come back by turning the ball over numerous times late in the first half. This gave the Runners more confidence, and Braziel ended the first half with a three-pointer with three seconds left on the clock to give the Runners a solid 55-48 half-time lead.

The key to the second half was defense from LB. Coach Falk explained that the defense just wasn't getting after it in the first half, giving away easy baskets and not capitalizing on the other team's mistakes. Whatever it was that Coach Falk told the team at halftime, it worked because it looked like a totally different team playing in the second half.

"We really picked up the D in the second half," agreed Braziel.

With a quick start from freshman wing Keith Hoffman and solid outside shooting from freshman Paxton Ritter, the Runners had Willamette on their heels.

"I was just focusing on the defense and the shooting took care of the rest," said Ritter. In the second half LB was starting to play more as a team—they were rebounding the ball better, getting easy



Tommy Bain leaps over a crowd of players for two of his 14 points, during last Wednesday's game against Willamette University's JV team, in which the Roadrunners won 94-77.

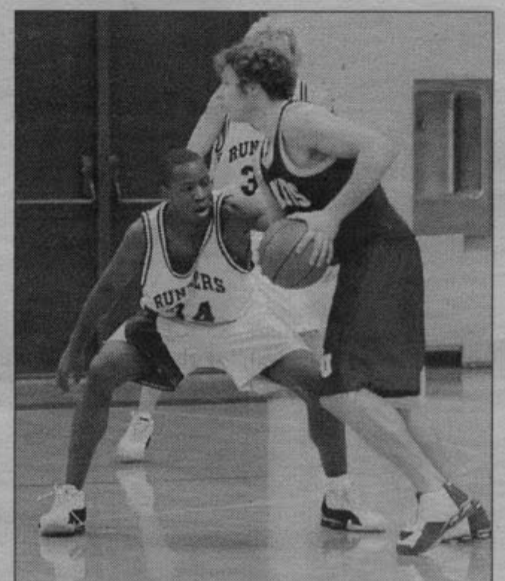
photos by Erik Swanson

fast break points and moving the ball around.

Free throw shooting was another key to LB keeping their lead—the Runners shot a perfect 100 percent from the line while Willamette shot a decent 85 percent. The Runners were a perfect 10 for 10 from the

line, and if they keep pushing the ball inside like they did last night they will have plenty of opportunities to go to the free-throw line during this season.

LB had five players score in double figures, led by Brazil's 23 points and Ritter's 20. Sophomore Tommy Bain had



Paxton Ritter pressures the ball as a Willamette player tries to bring it up court.

14 points, and freshman Derek Grinnell had 11 and Hoffman had 10. Braziel also led the team with eight assists.

The Runners were without guard Sean Lake and guard Josh Irish due to a class they had to attend that was at the time of the game.

"Well, we are 3-0 now and are starting to play as a team. I like how the season looks," said Braziel.

On the weekend before Thanksgiving, the Roadrunners opened the season on the road by coming out on top in a four-team tournament held in Coos Bay. They defeated the host team, Southwestern Oregon, 82-72 in the championship game on Saturday Nov. 20 after defeating Umpqua handily by a score of 71-57 the day before.

In the championship game LB was again led by Braziel, who scored 27 points. Lake had 12 points, as did Bobby Schindler, who also pulled down eight rebounds. Bain was also in double figures in scoring with 10. In the first game against Umpqua, Lake led the way with 19 points, followed by Braziel with 18 and Schindler with 11 points and seven rebounds.

The Runners are playing at home again tonight when they host Linfield College in a non-conference game at 7:30 p.m.

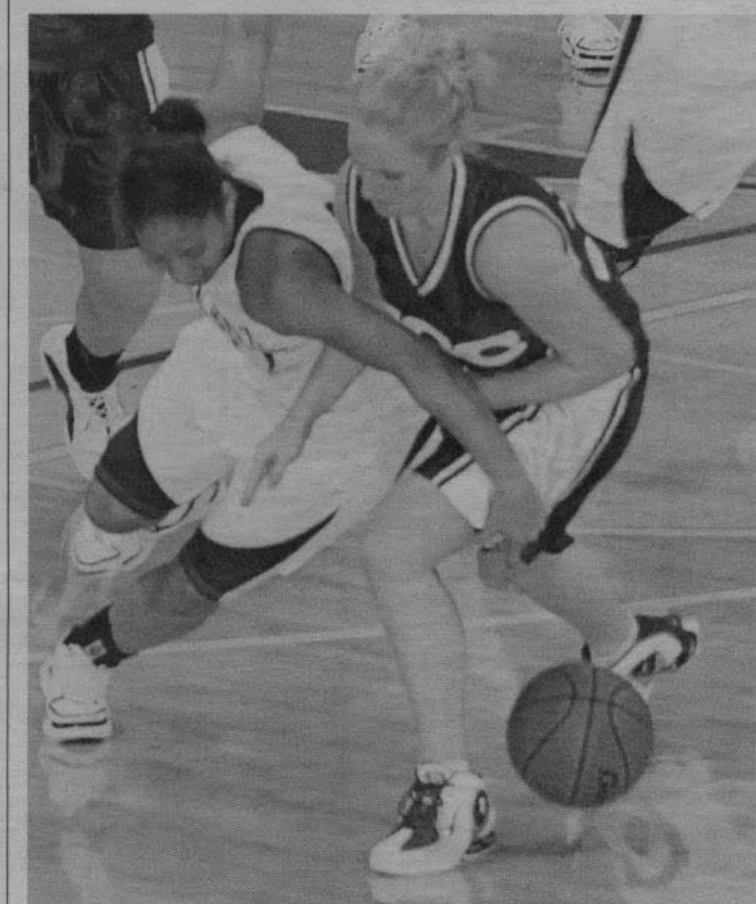


photo by Sherry Majeski

### Homecoming

The Lady Runners won, 60-48, in their opener against Northwest Christian College Tuesday night. The season opened on the road the Nov. 19-21 at the Shoreline Tournament in Seattle, winning one of three games behind three different leading scorers. LB dropped the first game against Shoreline 64-45, with Kendall Dionne leading the team with 12 points, including two for three on three-pointers. The next day they overwhelmed Clark College 67-46 behind 20 points from Kelsey Richards. On Sunday, they dropped a close contest against Highline 64-62; Sarah Long lead the way with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

## Volleyball team makes early tournament exit

**Jake Rosenberg**  
 The Commuter

The Lady Runners made an early exit from the NWAACC volleyball playoffs during the three day tournament at Mt. Hood Community College that began Nov. 18. Despite a promising first game win, LB fell to eventual third-place winner Whatcom in four games on the first day.

After dominating the first game 30-14, LB tried to continue their winning ways led by first-team Southern Division All-Star Chelsea Nay and her 20 digs. The Whatcom team matched point for point before rallying and taking the Runners 30-23 in the second game.

Second-team All-Star Marcy

Drake contributed 14 kills and 15 digs as LB kept things close through the third game. Whatcom eventually took a two games to one lead though, after First-Team Tournament All-Star Emily Castro caught fire and put the Runners backs to the wall with her 19 kills.

With the match and season on the line, Coach Jayme Frazier fired up the squad and put LB in contention late in game four. The team fell just four points short of a game three victory but would only feel more heartache after a 28-30 defeat in their final game.

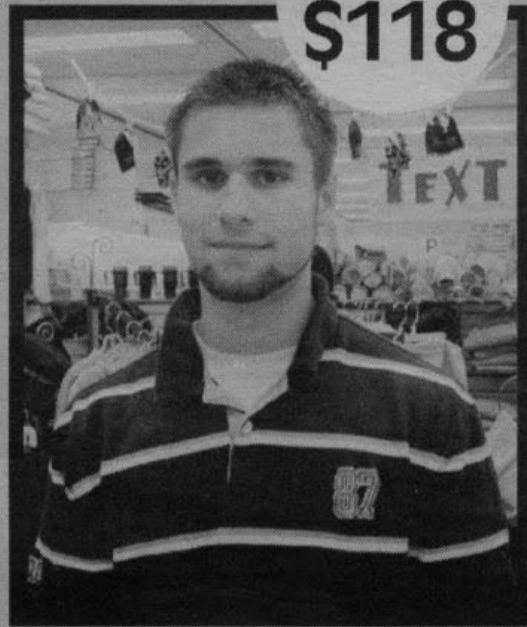
Clackamas eventually defeated the Walla Walla Warriors in the championship, taking the 2004 NWAACC crown after a runner-up finish in 2003.

**WINNER!**  
**Congratulations!**  
**WINNER!**

To the Winners of the

**Bookstore's**  
**BIG**  
**Giveaway**

Joseph Rosa  
\$118



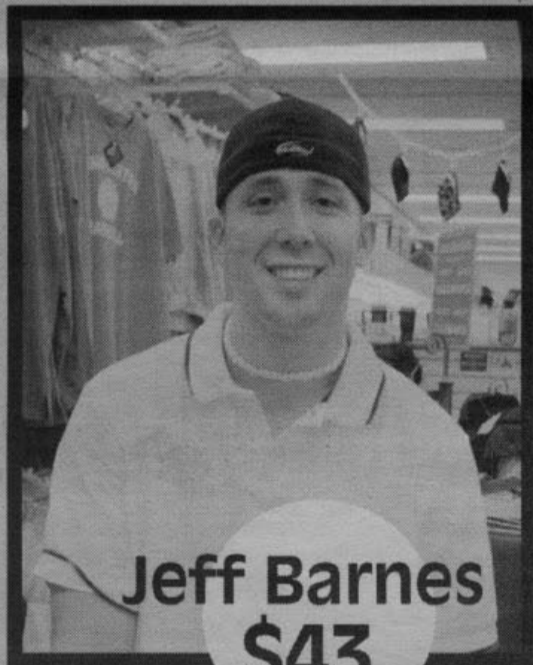
\$83

Katelyn McWhirter

Darlene Parks  
\$75

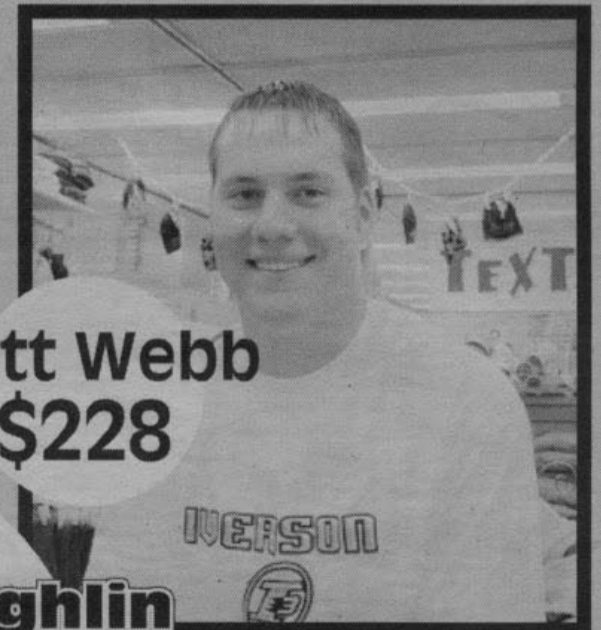


Kristi Barker  
\$280



Jeff Barnes  
\$43

Brett Webb  
\$228



Delburt McLaughlin  
&  
Patrick McGrory  
Were also  
**WINNERS!**

**Next Term**  
**It Could Be**  
**YOU!**



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Information about plays, movies, books, artwork, and other entertaining or artistic endeavors

## Acrobats tumble onto shoreline

**Peggy Isaacs**  
 The Commuter

When the word acrobat comes to mind one thinks about high wires, tightropes, tumbling, juggling, singing and dancing. What doesn't come to mind is how acrobats became a deal breaker for a military alliance, but this is exactly what happened during the Han Dynasty (207B.C.-220 A.D.).

According to Fu Qifeng, author of "Chinese Acrobats Through the Ages," acrobatics flourished and the wide variety of juggling, tumbling, and magic acts came to be known as the "Hundred Entertainments." It was at this time that Emperor Wu Ki of the Han Dynasty presented the first grand acrobatic performance at the Imperial Court. Wu Ki invited a number of important foreign dignitaries, thus making this performance the first time in Chinese history that acrobatic art was presented for diplomatic purposes. The foreign guests were so impressed by what they saw that they agreed to enter into military alliances with the Han Emperor.

Today, professional acrobatic

troupes travel throughout China bringing their own unique costumes, stage props and acrobatic styles to factories, villages, army units, remote areas and frontier outposts.

One such group, The Peking Acrobats, will be coming to the Pacific Northwest performing at Chinook Winds Casino Resort on Friday, Dec. 10 and Saturday, Dec. 11 for audiences of all ages with their remarkable style of dexterity and agility.

The 26 member troupe is the largest of its kind and performs under the flawless direction and choreography of Hai Ken Tsai, whose family is steeped in three generations of Chinese acrobatics.

Hailing from the People's Republic of China and carefully selected from the finest acrobat schools, these gymnasts, jugglers, cyclists and tumblers transform 2000-year-old athletic disciplines into a festival of entertainment and wonder.

One such wonder was immortalized in the Guinness Book of World Record for the Highest Human Chair Stack in which six acrobats balanced themselves on a 21 foot stack of



courtesy photo

**Peking acrobats, seen here in New York, will be performing at Chinook Winds Casino Resort on in Lincoln City Dec. 10 & 11. The troupe has been featured throughout Hollywood.**

six chairs while simultaneously performing handstands with no safety lines or guide wires. The troupe has also been seen on The Wayne Brady Show and in the movie Ocean's Eleven.

The Seattle Times has reported: "Nearly everything the Peking Acrobats did last night was amazing - and stunning, and breathtaking and WOW!" and Chris Pasles of the Los Angeles Times stated "The Peking Acrobats regularly passed from

the seemingly impossible to the virtually unbelievable."

Many of the magnificent feats seen in the shows are rich in tradition with training beginning at a young age and adhering to a rigorous schedule that is followed the rest of their lives. Myth and religion also influenced the acrobatic performing arts. The Lion Dance performance is Buddhist in origin.

With generations of families carrying on this highly ac-

claimed tradition, it has always maintained popularity with the people. It is with this pride and pleasure that The Peking Acrobats embark on their Nineteenth North American Tour.

Show times for The Peking Acrobats are 8 p.m. Tickets range from \$10 to \$20. For more information, or to obtain tickets, call Chinook Winds Casino Resort box office at 1-888-MAIN-ACT (624-6228) or Tickets West, 1-800-992-TIXX (8499).

## Artist presents gut-wrenching views of war and injustice

**Melissa Chaney**  
 The Commuter

Sue Coe, a politically opinionated artist, gave a lecture accompanied by a slide show of her work on Wednesday, Nov. 17 at the LaSells Stewart Center on the OSU campus. Her exhibit "The Tragedy of War" was recently on display in the Fairbanks building the OSU campus.

Her art addresses many controversial issues such as politics, AIDS, animal rights and human rights violations like those found in sweat shops with child labor. During the course of her lecture she presented dozens of examples of her work, at times humorous, horrifying and touching. Coe's portrayal of these issues was emotionally wrenching.

One of Coe's drawings depicted Vice President Dick Cheney with a George Bush

head growth, while another displayed a field of earth scattered with the bodies of male baby chicks, some still alive, that were being used as fertilizer because they were of no use to a chicken factory farm.

Educated at the Royal College of Art in London and born in Tamworth, England, Coe explained how she had been an artist since childhood and has had hundreds of solo exhibitions. Examples of her work have graced the covers of magazines such as the New York Times and Time.

At times during the two hour presentation and with her British accent, she would describe a piece as being "not bad" or "rubbish" and at others was not shy about letting the audience know what she considered brilliant.

Dressed in overalls, a striped shirt and beret, she came across as an optimistic, ec-

centric and devoted woman. She believes that painting and drawing creates a level of "intimacy that you can't get with a camera."

When asked by an audience member how she resists becoming depressed and discouraged after visiting slaughter houses and people dying of AIDS, she replied, "Disassociation. You can't live with it all of the time." She also said that, "[later on] I remember more than I actually felt at the time."

After her lecture, she gave out prints in return for donations to the Heartland Humane Society and accompanied interested audience members on a tour of her exhibit "The Tragedy of War" in the Fairbanks building at OSU. The exhibit was featured through the month of November and ended yesterday.



photo by Erik Swanson  
**Susan Coe speaks at OSU.**

### RESTAURANT REVIEW

## Great hamburgers are just the beginning at Jamie's

**Nick Milhoan**  
 The Commuter

Tired of the same old boring fast food hamburgers? Then it's time you visited Jamie's Great Hamburgers in Corvallis. Many people remember Jamie's for its annoying ads during the late 80s and early 90s that went "Hamburgers, Hamburgers, Hamburgers, Jamie's," as the little red men danced across your TV screen.

My dining partner and I looked over the menu, trying to find something different than the usual array of burgers with ketchup and mustard. I chose the Big Bopper, which has avocado, sprouts and cream cheese. They were all out of sprouts, so I went without and did add onion to mine. My dining partner chose to have the San Franciscan, which was on grilled sourdough bread with all the normal fixin's, as well as Jamie's special sauce.

You can choose how you want your burger cooked. Both of us chose to have them medium-well. My burger was wonderful, cooked to perfection. There was a bountiful amount of avocado and cream cheese. It was a nice change from the normal sauces found on one's burger. The cream cheese and avocado blended well together. My partner's burger was great. The sourdough bread added a nice touch to the burger and the special sauce was rather unique and had a flavorful taste. The

burgers were served with a generous portion of fries that were cooked just perfect, not too soft, not too crunchy.

Other burgers available on the menu include the Philadelphia, which is very similar to the Big Bopper, the Texas, which has jalapenos and jack cheese, and the big burger, which consists of bacon, ham, cheese and a fried egg. Jamie's also has a Taco salad, Cobb salad and Chicken Fajita salad. Kids meals are also available for those little tykes.

Shakes, malts and floats are available for those with a sweet tooth. You can also get the normal array of sodas, lemonade, and ice tea. Beer and wine are also available for the patrons of age. I was curious about the chocolate Coke available, so the waitress gave me a sample and I found it very interesting to say the least. I wouldn't go out of my way to get that again, but it was unique.

Jamie's has a 50s style setting, with a car on the wall, a video game in the back and its interior decorated in red and chrome. A Juke Box is available as well. Jamie's is open until 9 p.m. 7 days a week and is located at 1999 Circle Blvd. in Corvallis (next to Albertson's).

So if you are wanting to get away from the same old cardboard burgers found in the drive through, visit Jamie's for a unique and tantalizing experience that will make your mouth beg for more.

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## Jon ten Broek plays acoustic sounds at Benton Center

Peggy Isaacs  
 The Commuter

Highlighted in this month's Benton Center Acoustic Showcase will be master musician Jon ten Broek, local performer from Corvallis. This month the showcase will be on Dec. 10 at noon in the lobby of the Benton Center located at 757 NW Polk Ave.

Throughout the Northwest ten Broek has been performing for over 20 years. He has played for venues such as Timberline Lodge, Salishan Lodge and the Columbia River Cruises.

He is a highly praised musician and has played for the House of Representatives.

As a teacher of music ten Broek offers evening classes on guitar, in all levels, and autoharp in Corvallis through Linn Benton. He also teaches private lessons.

ten Broek has completed a book entitled "Fingerstyle Pattern Picking: 150 Patterns," all in right-hand accompaniments, published by Mel Bay. Also included are alternate bass note patterns, bass connecting runs and practice progressions.

Using the autoharp, ten Broek has excelled. His talent for arrangements and technical skills have made him an accomplished producer of folk and traditional recordings. He uses the autoharp in his performances, workshops and creates teaching material for autoharp. His teaching style is one that imparts solid, progressive skills music theory and performance techniques, all in the context of a fun, positive, empowering environment.

ten Broek has recorded four Cd's. His first "I'd Rather Be In Oregon" is recorded with friends and offers music from the heart celebrating the Northwest and

the musical traditions loved by its people. Dick Theis from the Corvallis Folklore Society said of this Cd "Jon has brought together a delightful dozen blend of voices and instruments."

Other Cd's include "Cascade Noel" - a blend of favorite Christmas Carols using different rhythmic patterns. "Gather at the River" is a collection of hymns on autoharp and guitar. His last Cd "Love's Ripening" by Straw Into Gold, an all women review, is produced by ten Broek.

At the Benton Center he will be performing with Marti Spehar, from Corvallis. they will be featuring Christmas music on the flute and lute.

ten Broek will also be appearing at the Best Cellar Coffehouse on Jan. 28 in Corvallis.

So sit back and enjoy the sweet harmonies and pure melodies, a sure treat for your holiday pleasure.



courtesy photo  
 Jon ten Broek seen here will be playing at the Benton Center on Dec. 10. He will be playing with Marti Spehar featuring the flute and lute.

## Zuckerman's latest CD shows love for rock 'n roll

Peggy Isaacs  
 The Commuter

Do you have a craving for some good old fashioned rock 'n roll with a brand new beat? Then pick up the new CD by Josh Zuckerman. Zuckerman's new perspective will give the listener "a totally new sensation," which incidentally is the name of his new CD.

Josh developed his love for music while being raised in St. Louis, Missouri. At the age of eight he was introduced to the violin which he studied for the next five years. Zuckerman's interest in music soon drifted toward rock 'n roll. After unsatisfying gigs in several cover bands, Zuckerman decided to write his own music. Inspired by the sounds of the east coast, he relocated to New Jersey where he continues to compose his melodies and lyrics.

This promising singer/songwriter/musician expands his musical horizons with each song he composes and records. His lyrics are said to be truthful, surrounding life's challenges and quest for spiritual growth. In his lyrics from the song "Karma" he emphasizes this by saying "I've been lonely...feeling blue, I've been lied to...and I've been used, but now that I'm at another place, I've chosen forgiveness...and now my angels are..jumping..."

Zuckerman's well articu-

lated melodies are spirited and intriguing. Although a musician at heart, he remains focused on strong songwriting and vocal harmonies. He also loves the stage and proves this by his charismatic stage presence that leaves his audience a lasting impression, enticing people to come back for more. Frontiers newsmagazine is quoted as saying "Zuckerman emerges as a fresh new talent who manages to create and skillfully walk his own unique path in the increasingly diverse field of contemporary music."

The new CD is rock 'n roll at its finest. The beat and lyrics are uplifting and making you want to get up and dance, even when no one's around. This is definitely a "party record" that you'll want to add to your collection. The sounds remind you of John Mellencamp, who is one of Zuckerman's favorite artists. Some other influences are Bon Jovi, Cher, Sting, Madonna and the Pretenders. More of his favorite artists are Pink, Sheryl Crow, No Doubt and REM.

Zuckerman has recently returned from his second European tour. In previous years he traveled with the international group "Up With People" and performed in many sold-out shows including one attended by more than 40,000 people at

the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia supporting Peabo Bryson as well as the 1998 World Expo, in Lisbon, Portugal supporting world legendary guitarist, B.B. King. Zuckerman has performed and traveled in over 15 different countries. The motto he lives by is: "Be who you are..& It's all about love..."

**Josh Zuckerman just returning from his European tour is releasing his new CD 'A Totally New Sensation', spirited with uplifting good old fashioned rock 'n roll that will make you get up and dance.**

courtesy photo



### REVIEW

Linn-Benton  
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE

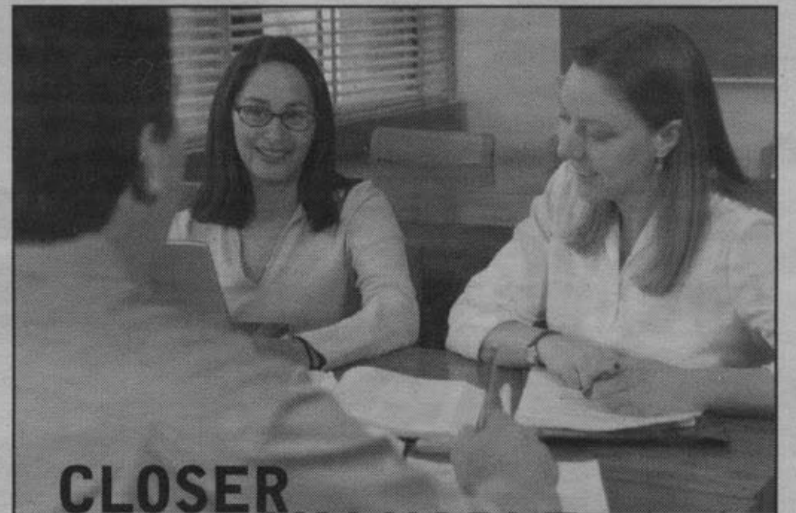
## BENTON CENTER POTTERS SHOW & SALE

Friday, Dec. 3, 2004 • 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.  
 O. Robert Adams Ceramics Studio, north side of  
 LBCC Benton Center, 757 NW Polk Ave., Corvallis



Student & instructor works for sale: stoneware, raku, salt glaze & wood fire. Tour the O. Robert Adams Ceramic Studio!

LBCC is an equal opportunity institution. If you require disability accommodations in order to attend, please call (541) 757-8944 at least one week in advance.



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## 'WAR IS OVER IF YOU WANT IT' - JOHN LENNON

# THE VIBE



**Albany Boys & Girls Club**  
 1215 Hill St. SE  
 Albany  
 926-6666

**Dec 2 - 4**  
**Celebration of Trees**  
 Auction & viewing  
 6:30 p.m.  
 \$25 Thursday auction  
 w/hors d'oeuvres & wine  
 Free - viewing



**Burton's Restaurant**  
 119 SE 3rd St.  
 Corvallis  
 752-6624

**Dec 4**  
**Breakfast w/Downtown**  
**Gingerbear**  
 Have breakfast and meet  
 the bear  
 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
 Cost varies

**Corvallis Arts Center**  
 700 SW Madison  
 Corvallis  
 754-1551

**Dec 2-4**  
**Winterlight Holiday**  
**Gift Show**  
 Gift show  
 10 p.m.  
 Free

**First Assembly of God**  
 2817 Santiam Hwy.  
 Albany  
 926-2291

**Dec 5**  
**Carols by Candlelight**  
 Old fashioned caroling  
 6 p.m.  
 Free

**Linn-Benton College**  
**Multicultural Center**  
 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW  
 Albany  
 917-2291

**Dec 1**  
**4th Annual Artist**  
**Against AIDS**  
 Community artwork  
 12 - 1:30 a.m.  
 Free

**Linn-Benton College**  
**Russell Tripp Performance**  
**Center**  
 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW  
 Albany  
 917-4531

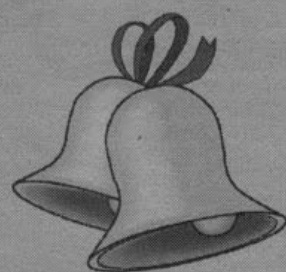
**Dec 11**  
**Linn-Benton Concert**  
**Band**  
 Community band  
 2 p.m.  
 Free

**Linn-Benton College**  
**Commons Cafeteria**  
 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW  
 Albany  
 917-4457

**Dec 4**  
**Children's Winter**  
**Festival**  
 Holiday traditions and  
 activities for all ages  
 1 - 4 p.m.  
 Free

**Platinum**  
 126 SW 4th St.  
 Corvallis  
 738-6996

**Dec 4**  
**Big Boy and The Toys**  
 Classic Rock  
 8 p.m.  
 \$6



**Dec 18**  
**The David Samuel**  
**Project Christmas Party**  
 Blues  
 9 p.m.  
 \$5

**Venetian Theater**  
 241 W 1st Ave.  
 Albany  
 928-2469

**Dec 2**  
**Grand Opening**  
**Ceremony**  
 LBCC Chamber Choir  
 7:30 p.m.  
 \$



Look closely and you will see a house that sports a yellow tupperware lid as a trim piece. The Victorian houses displayed in Storybook Land were modeled after authentic homes of the time in San Francisco. All of the people involved in the whimsical world have something to be proud of: In the last 28 years, Storybook Land has grown from a small room with 10 displays and only 50 trees to a huge room filled with seven full sections of entertaining delight for every generation. Storybook Land has four new attractions this year to accompany the classics we all know and love. Here is a wonderful example of what people can do when they join together for the good of the community. Food donations are being accepted for FISH.

photo by Sheena Bishop

## Community spirit lifts the fantasy world known as Storybook Land

**Sheena Bishop**  
 The Commuter

If you want to view a Christmas paradise, try Storybook Land. Located at the Linn County Fairgrounds, this is Season 28 for the magical world that began with only 10 displays and 50 trees back in 1976.

While most of us recognize Storybook Land as a place we adored as a child or attended with a child, a closer look shows just how much magic Santa has to work all year round to make Storybook Land a success.

An insider allowed a preview through the whimsical world to myself, which I happily jumped on. Who wouldn't love to be the first to see this? As we wandered through, I learned all the little details you miss when attending with the masses.

Everything was created by people who live in the areas of Corvallis, Albany, Sweet Home, Brownsville and Lebanon. While you and I were busy trying not to burn the Turkey or gag on aunt Mildred's tomato Jell-O salad, Storybook Land was well on its way to rising for the occasion.

This year's efforts began on Nov. 20, when all of the overhead cables and lighting were being strung. In years past, keeping all the cables up was somewhat of a challenge. The issue was resolved by clamps made by a Lebanon fireman. For several years now the clever idea has made the cable situation much easier.

The cables must be strong to hold the estimated 400 strands of lights, hung to guide you through the show. Recently emergency lights were added as well, so if there is a power outage visitors will still be able to find their way out, with the help of the workers that carry flashlights just in case. There are usually six helpers spread around to answer questions.

There is also an estimated four miles of wire all over the place to hang the trees on. There are 1,400 trees in the display this year, but environmentalists don't fear. The trees used are all thinner trees that would have to be disposed of anyway. Storybook Land takes trees that otherwise would be destroyed, bringing them together where people may enjoy their beauty and fresh smell.

The big guns came out on Nov. 27, when all of the scenes were unloaded. The sets are divided into seven areas, all given a color, while a leader for each section helps direct the general placement of the displays as they are unloaded into the room.

This year the addition of four new scenes were packed in. They include Tarzan, Peter Pan, Hey Diddle Diddle, and a One Horse Open Sleigh.

The total time to unload into the room was about an hour and a total of six hours later the 80 dedicated workers had almost completely set

up the entire show.

Worth mentioning is the beautiful train display on the white base, a tribute to Helen Ayers who dedicated 20 years to Storybook Land. The train display was added about three years ago and has been a hit.

They call it Ayersville, and it includes a place for the trucking company and mill that Ayers and her husband owned. Take a good look at this one, all you big kids. How many local things can you find depicted in the extravagant train system? Can you find the Habitat for Humanities houses? It truly is amazing.

On another note, take a look at the ground. See the white fences and the little tree brackets holding them up? How about the hand made and painted snowmen scattered about? If those aren't obvious enough, take a peek at Main Street and the Victorian area.

Almost all of these things are the work of Corvallis man Wayne Parker and his wife Marge. If you want to really appreciate the dedication this couple has put in, look at the details. The Victorian houses were patterned after houses in San Francisco. If you look closely, you will see an ornate bed made out of Popsicle sticks, a coat rack made from spools, and outside accents that are really Tupperware lids and home interior candle holders and wall sconces.

Another historical tidbit you will find on Main street is the Barber Shop itself. Parker created this piece as a reflection of his own life. As a youngster he lived above his father's barber shop, hence the face peeking out of the apartment on the second story.

Other well known favorites include the Church, exactly replicating one in Downtown Albany and the magical Teddy Bear Land. Santa will be waiting at the end before you go home to take Christmas requests.

Before you go, grab a couple items you don't need from your pantry. A sleigh is set up at the entrance for donations to FISH, an effort that gathered 20,000 nonperishables last year.

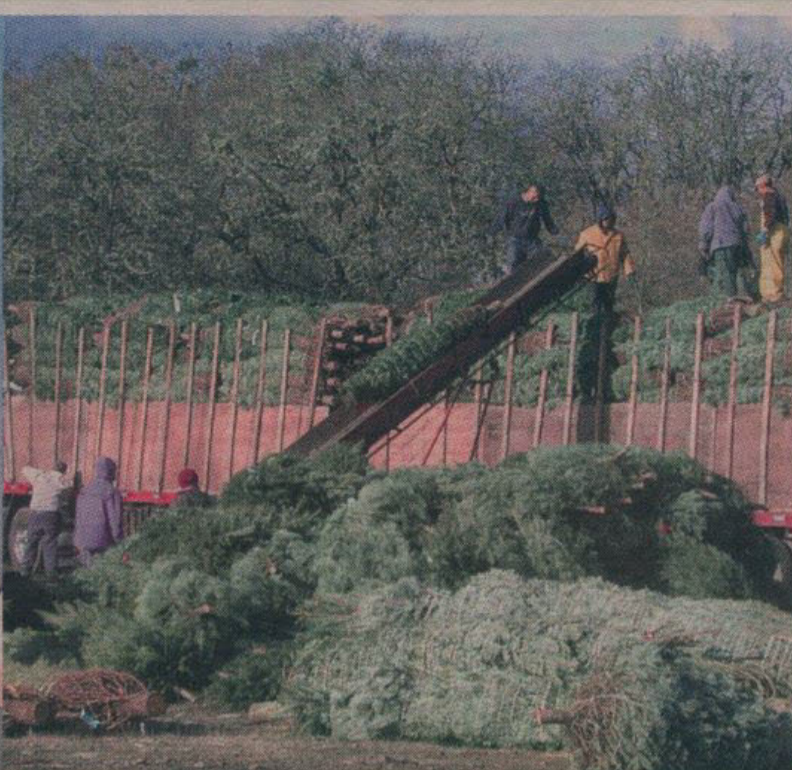
Storybook Land is supported by approximately 150 people year round who have currently put in about 4,000 hours of work for this year's display. Donations can be made year round and are tax deductible. If you see President Trisha Pimm, Vice President May Olsen, Secretary Michele Argabright, Treasurer Tami Chaput, or Chairman Ed Butler give them a big thanks. Thanks to everyone that has contributed to this article, Storybook Land would not be without all of their continuous efforts.

Admission is free, but donations are gladly excepted. Storybook Land opens this Friday, and even if you don't have any little ones, Storybook Land is a treasure to those young and old, for generations past, present, and the hopeful future.

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# HOLIDAY SHOWCASE

Pictures reflecting preparations and celebrations of the holidays throughout the Willamette Valley



**Happy Holidays**  
from  
**The Commuter**  
photos by  
Peggy Isaacs,  
Nick Milhoan  
Erik Swanson,  
Matt Swanson

