

Fungus Fever

Mushroom enthusiasts head for hills seeking gourmet treasures

'Weiss'-cracking historian

Well-traveled LB history instructor takes us on a trip through the past

Johnson's Magic

Tina Johnson anchors pivot, leads Lady Roadrunners to new season

THE COMMUTER A Student Publication

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Out of the woods: A family copes with the end of an era

Jack Josewski
Of The Commuter

This is the story of a vanishing breed in the American West. It's not about the Northern Spotted Owl the Snowy Plover or the Idaho Sockeye Salmon.

This is the story of a human species that is fast fading into the sunset—the American timber-worker.

Pressed from all sides by environmental regulations, mill automation, overseas competition, and a Northwest economy that's leaving dozens competing for a single job, the American log-

ger is the new endangered species in America.

There are many stories surrounding the new order of business in the timber industry. This story concentrates on one local family learning to deal with and adjust to a new way of life—that of a displaced timber family. They are not alone. Throughout the western United States there are thousands of families that are in upheaval because of the changes in the timber-based economies. It will never again be the same as it once was.

Mike Kennedy, 36, is a logger. He has been around logging all of his life. Like his father before him, he has spent his life working the woods he loves. But, now that has all changed. He is now a student at LBCC learning a new craft that has taken him out of the woods and into the classroom. He is enrolled in auto-body courses, learning to repair cars and paint them professionally.

Mike and his wife Debbie have two sons. Jeff, 16, a sophomore at Sweet Home High School. Tim, 3, is the

youngest member of the Kennedy clan. They are among the more fortunate of the displaced timber families because they are buying their own home. It is a modest two-story house in the country, with plenty of room for the animals, not too far from Sweet Home. Mike and Debbie graduated from Sweet Home High School and have lived in the Seet Home area all of their lives. They were high school sweethearts.

Mike graduated from high school on a Friday night. The following Monday (Turn to 'Timber' on page 8)



Photo by Christof Walsdorf

Winter Wonderland

Despite the warm weather, winter really has arrived. You just have to go into the Cascades to find it, as Dylan Walsdorf did last weekend.

Annual World AIDS Day comes home to Corvallis

Valley Aids Information Network sponsors benefit to raise funds for education and outreach programs

By Jennifer Schlosser
For the Commuter

This past Sunday, the fourth annual World AIDS Day was observed with a benefit sponsored by the Valley Aids Information Network (VAIN). The benefit was held at the Majestic Theater in Corvallis.

World AIDS Day, observed in 150 countries worldwide, was started in 1988 by a group of health ministers in England.

The day is observed to provide a general awareness of AIDS throughout the world, according to John Berliner, President of VAIN.

"I think the result of this observance will be increased awareness and more compassion and understanding for people who have AIDS and their families," Berliner said.

The benefit included an appearance by Congressman Mike Kopetski (D-Oregon) and readings of AIDS literature by Jane Donovan, head of the Theater Department at LBCC; Jean Heath of Readers Theater in Corvallis; and George Lauris, theater instructor at LBCC. Live musical entertainment was provided by the Corvallis Peace Choir and many other local musicians.

Fifth District Congressman Kopetski spoke about the need to increase the efforts to fight AIDS. "AIDS

is a plague that will be with us for the rest of our lives. We must spend the money and brain power to eradicate this from the Earth," Kopetski said.

Kopetski also spoke about the need for parents to educate their children about sex and AIDS. He encouraged parents to talk openly about AIDS with their children and go a step further by providing them with contraception.

"By not handing your son or daughter a condom you are making a huge wager with their life. I encourage every parent to think it through and at least discuss AIDS and its dangers," Kopetski added.

The readings by Donovan, Heath, and Lauris were excerpts from books and poems about AIDS. "The pieces were chosen to show the variety of people who were affected by AIDS and give more understanding of the experience through literature,"

"By not handing your son or daughter a condom you are making a huge wager with their life".

Mike Kopetski

Donovan said.

Money raised by the \$10 cover charge and items sold was donated to the Valley AIDS Information Network for its general outreach in AIDS education. Condom key chains sold for \$4; Christmas ornaments containing condoms for \$6.50 to \$10.50. The benefit raised about \$1,000, and Berliner was pleased with the turnout (approximately 150 people) although he would have liked to have filled the house.

Selecting toys for Christmas is no longer child's play

Consumer advocate releases list of 10 most dangerous toys

By Tricia Lafrance
Of the Commuter

Shopping for children's Christmas presents can boggle the mind of conscientious parents, as they face toy shelves stocked 12-feet high with a dazzling array of old favorites and new hot items.

In addition to the usual blocks, games and cuddly stuffed animals, there are now mermaid dolls that sing and change colors, computerized toys that teach, fire trucks with electronic

engines revving and bells clanging.

And then there are toys bristling with armaments ready for battle.

On one aisle is GI Joe's Arctic Assault Carrier—"Ice Sabre"—a spring-loaded missal launcher which fires caps and boasts that it "really shoots."

On the other side is He-Man's Electronic Skeletor Skull Staff. It's a 3-foot sword with evil blazing eyes and snapping, motion-activated jaws. It has a purple-pointed spear on one end, a heavy skull with red spikes on the other and produces "seven sinister sounds," including an "evil laugh, battle swing swoosh and thunder enhanced sounds." It's hard to believe that a toy

like this exists.

Edward Swartz agrees.

Swartz, a trial lawyer and consumer-advocate for 20 years, annually searches toy shelves and publicizes the names of what he considers the 10 most dangerous toys. Both the He-Man's Electronic Skeletor Skull Staff and GI Joe's Arctic Assault Carrier made his list this year.

"The toys on the list are meant to be examples of other toys with similar hazards and to point out the broad categories of these hazards," Swartz said when he released the list last month.

His list includes the following.

1. X-Men: The Uncanny Wolverine Dress Up Play Set, by Toy Biz Inc. It includes a rigid plastic fist with claws that could cause eye injury.

2. Dick Tracy-Breathless Mahoney Doll, manufactured by Applause Inc. Although it is no longer produced, Swartz claimed the removable vinyl arms on this 10-inch doll presented a choking hazard.

3. Robotman's Stellar, by Kenner. Also out of production, this toy has batteries that caused burn and choking risks.

4. He-Man's Electronic Skeletor Skull Staff by Mattel Inc. The toy has (Turn to 'Toys' on Page 7)

A chance well taken on the ballet

I'm not going too far out on a limb in stating that the mid-Willamette Valley is acultural desert surrounded by lush forests.

Compared to Portland, Seattle or even Eugene, the core of the valley lacks unique art galleries, diversity of music, international or non-mainstream films and a taste of anything ethnic.

editorial

Until two weeks ago.

Thanks to some diligent politicking by the ASLBCC and their strong desire to inject some culture or diversity into the campus activities agenda, the Oregon Ballet was enticed into giving a campus performance. Normal ticket prices for the Ballet run in the neighborhood of \$35-\$50 and the LB show was priced about the same as going to a movie.

The word ballet often sends shivers down most people's spines when they hear it and for most college students it ranks very low on the priority list when it comes to life outside the classroom.

I've been to many ballets, not that I enjoyed the spectacle, but more or less I was forced to attend. And that was my initial gut feeling upon hearing of the Oregon Ballet's visit. I questioned the ASLBCC's "forcing" of an event on the students that appeals to a very small audience. Add to that the cost--\$3,000, and I became a Ballet skeptic.

That skepticism changed when I looked back on some of the more inane and vacant activities the ASLBCC has sponsored over the past few years. They were taking a risk, a gamble on bringing the Ballet here. There were no guarantees that the students would turnout for the performance. The ASLBCC staked a sizeable slice of the activities budget on the Ballet.

They took a chance and I applauded them for that.

That chance panned out, resulting in a good crowd, a change of cultural scenery, some added esteem for the school and a return on the investment the school put in the Ballet.

I hear the opera's coming in March, give it a chance you may learn to dislike it just like me.

The Commuter is the weekly student-managed newspaper for Linn-Benton Community College, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty or Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them. Readers are encouraged to use The Opinion Page to express their views on campus or community matters.

commuter staff

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MIKE LUCKVICH ATLANTA CONSTITUTION



No party celebrates this anniversary

After 50 years, you would think there wouldn't be much left to say about the attack on Pearl Harbor. It started a terrible war, Japan suffered, we suffered, and it ended.

Now we buy their cars and TV sets and eat sushi; and they dress like us, listen to rock music, and eat our fast foods. But it's an anniversary, although I don't see why the passage of 50 years is any more significant than 48 or 51.

So now we're getting Pearl Harbor specials on TV, in newspapers and magazines. And the same questions are going to be asked over and over again: Should Japan apologize for the sneak attack? Should we apologize for nuking civilians in two of their cities?



mike royko

Some will say yes to both questions. Many will say yes, the Japanese should apologize because they started it, and no, we shouldn't because we won it.

I've considered the issues and have decided that I'm not sure. If the Japanese want to apologize, that's OK. It was, after all, a sneak attack and not very sportsmanlike.

On the other hand, war is the most foul of human activities. The idea is to kill other human beings. And once the killing begins, there is little sportsmanship involved.

So does it really matter how Japan got it going? There are no rules requiring a kickoff or a jump ball; an umpire to say start shooting; or both armies to come out of their corner at the bell. One side or both sides start killing and the terrible game is on.

Actually, the Japanese would have been stupid to do it any other way. Our government knew we might be attacked. Yet, we gathered much of our Pacific fleet in one harbor like sitting ducks. It looked almost like an invitation, and some historians believe it was.

If that was the case, we really couldn't expect the Japanese to send us a diplomatic note saying: "Excuse us, please, we want to get this long-anticipated war underway, as you do."

However, you have all those ships in Pearl Harbor. If you leave them there, we will be forced to bomb them on a quiet Sunday morning. Then everyone will say we are sneaky. We would rather not bear this stigma. Please disperse ships so we can get the show on the road in a fair and equitable manner. Thank you very much."

If you believe they should have done that, then you sleep with the front door unlocked and the ignition keys in the car.

As for the second question--should we say we're sorry for nuking civilians? --President Bush was asked by reporters and he gave a flat no.

There will be no apology.

His is the basic American position: We didn't start the war, they did, so we have no reason to apologize for how we chose to end it. And if we hadn't nuked Hiroshima and Nagasaki, it might have been necessary to invade Japan.

Had the Japanese defended their own country as fiercely as they did those tiny Pacific islands, an invasion could have led to the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Americans and Japanese. So, that argument goes, by dropping The Bomb, Harry Truman saved more lives than he took.

Because a member of my family would almost certainly have been hitting the beach at Japan, I can't fault Truman for possibly saving his life.

But there are historians who now say that we might have accomplished the same ends by dropping one atomic bomb on an uninhabited mountain top or in a harbor to let the Japanese know what we could do if they didn't surrender. If we had done that, they say, the Japanese would have folded, we would have won, and the lives of thousands of innocent civilians--women and kids--wouldn't have been snuffed out.

'What Pearl Harbor tells us is the same thing that all of the other great and small conflicts have told us: that Man...is basically a jerk.'

We'll never know because it didn't happen that way. And in the year 2041, if anybody is still around, they might still be arguing that point. And we still won't know.

So I would just as soon take a pass on any further Pearl Harbor observances. Just as I will skip the anniversary of the sneak attack that began the Korean War. And the stupidity that led to World War I. And any anniversary connected with the Vietnam war, the Gulf war, and the mini-wars in Granada and Panama. And I'll skip reading "Scarlett" because I'd rather not think about the Civil War.

What Pearl Harbor tells us is the same thing that all of the other great and small conflicts have told us: that Man, the most advanced creature on this planet, with his incredible brain, his devotion to so many wonderful religions, his capacity for goodness and greatness, is basically a jerk. Not being a jerk means never having to say you're sorry. And as John Wayne would say, that'll be the day.

Mike Royko is a syndicated columnist who writes for the Chicago Tribune and appears each week in the Commuter.

forum

A time of change for new activities chairman

By David Rickard
Of The Commuter

For Adam Freis the last year and a half has been a series of changes, choices and new chances. A change of scenery from Los Angeles in April of 1990 to the "wonderful Willamette Valley" was the biggest and most positive choice Freis says he ever made.

He was heavily involved in the L.A. drug scene and believes the best rehabilitation was a change of environments.

Freis was recently appointed by the ASLBCC to the position of Activities Chair--another change and more importantly a challenge for Freis. Going from a non-attender in high school to a 4.0 student in college, the pre-med major is on "a straight course to an ultimate goal."

This week the Commuter Conversation focuses on the new Activities Chair--Adam Freis.

DSR: Student activities at Linn-Benton may sound a bit oxymoronic. Just what is lacking in terms of student activities?

AF: Pretty much everything. Last year (at LB) I didn't even know there were activities here. I want to introduce activities that are going to pull from the diverse student population we have here, especially the background of students.

From the activities I've seen this past year, they seem to target this group and that group but do not relate to the majority of the campus. I really want to bridge that gap that exists between an event or activity and the lack of participation in it.

DSR: The military holds recruitments on campus from time to time. Because of the military's stand on discriminating against gays and lesbians and given the fact that LB has a policy towards anti-discrimination, do you feel the military should be allowed on campus?

AF: To begin with I'm not really in support of our military. I haven't had to deal with the military on campus, yet, so I'm not quite sure just how discriminating they really are. But their policy of discriminating on the basis of sexual preference should not be endorsed by the school if they hold recruiting on campus.

DSR: The Oregon ballet was contracted to perform at LB to the sum of \$3,000. Considering the tight activities budget you must contend with along with the cost and benefit to the students, was the bringing the Ballet to town the right decision by the ASLBCC?

AF: Had I been the activities chair when the process of deciding on the ballet was going on, I would have done everything I could to stop it. Having worked directly with the Ballet (last week) they were just miserable to work with and get along with. On top of that, we had a lot of trouble selling tickets--and I'm thinking to myself we're in Albany and just how many people are going to be attracted to the word ballet.

I think it was a poor choice in making a commitment to an event that never really had a chance to begin with. The cost is also very upsetting. The money consumed on the

Ballet, leaves me with about \$700 in the activities budget for the rest of the school year.

DSR: Look at it this way, the Oregon Ballet, Portland Opera Society or 18th Century Elizabethian Poet Club looks good on the school's resume.

AF: There is talk of bringing the Opera to campus, that will cost a lot of money. I don't know where the money will come from to support this and judging from the poor attendance at the Ballet along with the Opera targets an even smaller audience--I will try to persuade the council it's not the best idea. All the students (the ASLBCC) did was sell their tickets and promote it. We didn't get any return in our investment with the Ballet. If we're trying to bring the students and the activities closer together here, the Oregon Ballet's visit appealed to a small part of the community.

DSR: One idea being tossed around for campus participation is a college bowl or Jeopardy Tournament. Will a trivia tourney be a distinct possibility within the year?

AF: I haven't heard a lot about one of these tournaments, but I'd like to test the interests of the students, first, to see if they would respond to a Jeopardy or College Bowl. That involves promoting and signing-up for it--not to say I'd commit on it, but to see if there was interest or support from the student body. Obviously, if the response was high, I'd move ahead and plan on sponsoring some kind of trivia tourney.

DSR: What prompted you to apply for the activities position?

AF: It was a combination of things. At the base level, it was great financially since they pay for my tuition. Also during high school, I was very much anti-student council. I felt it was a fake organization that instilled a sort of false security in the students. Yet, when I came to LBCC, Jennifer Curfman, a close friend, became involved in the student council and told me about things they were doing and it surprised me--a student council really doing something--so the activities position opened up and I thought that was a perfect opportunity for me to get involved in a positive side of school instead of resisting or fighting against it like I did in high school.

DSR: We're more likely to act upon or rally against the things that disturb or piss us off. Is there anything at LB that really ticks you off?

AF: Class discrimination rally pisses me off, and I've seen a lot of that here. I recently heard about the Teachers Association coming to an ASLBCC meeting and asking the students to donate money to repair the school--if every student would donate \$10 on top of their registration fee. That really made me mad.

Even though the students should take some pride in the school, we shouldn't have to pay for the repairs or maintenance by collecting money from us. The teachers are wanting to get us involved, but they seem to want us to shoulder the burden of paying for something we shouldn't have to.

commuter conversation



Adam Freis talks with ASLBCC advisor Charlene Fella.

ASLBCC has bugs in its works

By S. E. Strahan
Of The Commuter

The ASLBCC--our student governing body--could better serve the student body if it ironed out a few flaws in the way it operates.

I have seen firsthand these problems develop and how they impede the effectiveness of the council. By focusing on them in this column, I hope to benefit the ASLBCC and the campus.

The ASLBCC is a student organization that serves as an advisory group and a communication link between students, faculty and administration. When that link has a gap, it raises the question "Are they necessary?"

The ASLBCC is a vital and necessary campus component.

Yet, the lack of communication between the council and students creates an uninformed group that is often unaware what the student body needs.

This malfunction must not be blamed entirely upon the ASLBCC. The student body, through lack of participation, can take some of the blame.

I doubt that less than a fourth of the students could name one of the two reps in their division that make up the council.

A solution proposed by one of the science/industry reps would have each rep hand out a newsletter to the students in their divisions to serve as feedback for them, solving the first problem.

A second problem concerns conflicts between reps. Conflicts are bound to arise when people are put together and told to accomplish a task. When these conflicts begin to limit productivity, it is time to say something.

The conflicts between council members has, in the past, made a rep vote one way merely to irritate another. My advice is to "grow up"--you are not in kindergarten and refusing to play a game because you don't like the players belongs on the playground not in college.

A third problem, as I see it, is that because there isn't strong student leadership, ASLBCC advisor Charlene Fella has more influence over student council actions than do the council members themselves. Fella's advice often fills the vacuum left when representatives don't get involved enough to take the power for themselves.

An advisor's role is to inform in the areas of procedures and policies and budget decisions, and to be there if a rep needs support or assistance. The student representatives' role is to listen to that advice, but to make their decisions on the basis of their own informed judgment.

The solution to this problem is simple. Council members should step up and assume their electoral responsibility--to be aware of the issues and to vote for what each thinks is best for those he or she represents.

letters to the editor

Freedom of speech is right not a privilege

To the editor:

Contrary to the assertion by the student staff of the Women's Center in their letter to the editor, November 13, 1991, freedom of speech is a RIGHT--not a "PRIVILEGE." We do not have as the cornerstone of justice this country, and as a guiding light to all other nations, a "Bill of Privileges."

A privilege is something that you earn, like a driving license, and which can be taken away, if the license is abused. Or it is something that only a

class of people possess--as was the case with the privileges of the aristocracy before the American Revolution. You do NOT have to go to school, pass a test, jump through any bureaucratic hoops, purchase liability insurance, or do anything at all, to qualify for freedom of speech. Sure, we could say that if you tell lies, then you have not measured up to the responsibility that comes with the RIGHT of freedom of speech--but your license to think for yourself and to express yourself (without interference of any kind from any part of the government) cannot be pulled or suspended by any court or bureaucratic authority. Furthermore,

this RIGHT does not belong only to certain classes of the population--it is an inalienable right and belongs to the meanest of felons as well to winners of the Nobel prize.

This probably seems pretty revolutionary to most Americans in the 1990's, and maybe a majority of the people think that it goes too far. Apparently, freedom of speech is a little too rough for the staff of the LBCC Women's Center. Well, thanks to the Bill of Rights, they are entitled to the free expression of their opinion.

Charles Roll
(older-than-average student and volunteer tutor in mathematics)

Despite attempts, light will not shine on Looney Lane

By Charles Shepard
Of The Commuter

Attempts by the LBCC board of education, to have illumination at the intersection of Looney Lane and Hwy. 34, appear to be of no success.

A response was recently received from the Region administrator for the Department of Transportation (DOT), Kenneth Husby.

It stated that "illumination of the newly constructed intersection does not appear to be justified at this time."

"We want to simply improve the situation," said

George Kurtz, Vice President of LBCC. "We need to give the impression that this is not going to go away."

When an accident last spring took out the lighting at the intersection, the LBCC board contacted the DOT offering a donation of \$1,000 to help with the cost of new lighting.

A letter was sent to DOT suggesting the lighting be installed, during on going construction, to help cut the cost. Kurtz estimated the cost to be close to \$20,000.

Kurtz sent the first letter in March, 1990. Several letters have been sent since that time.

Senator Mae Yih also sent a letter supporting the board's concerns and ideas.

The board feels strongly about student safety and the commute from Corvallis along Highway 34 is a well-traveled route. "Turning onto Looney Lane is dangerous, and it is difficult to see at night or when it is foggy," Kurtz said.

With the ongoing construction delaying traffic from Looney Lane to Interstate 5 on Hwy. 34 and contributing to the dangerous artery, the DOT has placed reflectors to help drivers see the turning lane at this intersection.

Hostels offer safe, affordable housing to traveling students

The Oregon Council of American Youth Hostels (AYH) is encouraging college students to stay in local hostels while on weekend road trips of holiday breaks.

Hostels in Oregon, Washington, California, British Columbia and all over the U.S. and Canada offer inexpensive, safe lodging for around \$10 a night.

There are also coastal hostels, like the Sea Star Hostel in Bandon, Oregon, and hostels near ski areas, like the North Lake Tahoe Hostel in Truckee and the Ashland Hostel in southern Oregon.

Hostels provide dorm-style accommodations, along with showers and self-service kitchens.

Many hostels also offer free recreational and social activities, such as day hikes and spaghetti feeds. "It's a great way to get to know people while you save a lot of money," said Jamie Baker Roskie, Services Manager for the Oregon Council.

Membership is required to stay in AYH-affiliated hostels. AHY membership cards are valid for 12 months, and are good in over 70 countries worldwide. Memberships are \$25 per year.

American Youth Hostels is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping all people gain a greater understanding of the world and its people through its network of hostels and its educational and recreational programs.

For more information call 683-3685.

Hearing set on water concerns for proposed plant

A public hearing on a proposed discharge of treated wastewater to the Willamette River by James River Paper Company has been scheduled by the Department of Environment Quality (DEQ) Dec. 18 at LBCC.

James River is proposing to construct a paper recycling facility in Halsey to supply pulp for the James River mills in Halsey and in Camas, Washington. Both mills produce towel and tissue grades of paper.

The new facility requires a water quality permit from DEQ for the proposed discharge of treated wastewater. Because the discharge would be a significant new load of pollutants to the Willamette, James River must also receive approval from the Environmental Quality Commission.

The proposed permit limits for the discharge have been set at levels to protect Oregon's beneficial uses of the river and to assure that James River will not violate Oregon's water quality standards.

At the proposed discharge point in the Willamette River, the dissolved oxygen standard is designed to protect fish spawning and rearing. DEQ has set permit limits so that the discharge will have no measurable changes in the dissolved oxygen levels.

The recycled paper facility would not use a chlorine-based bleach for its pulp. Chlorine is known to produce toxic organics such as dioxin in pulp mill waste.

James River is proposing to use the wastewater from their paper mill as process water for the recycling facility. James River is also proposing to discharge the recycling facility's wastewater through the conduit that conveys Pope and Talbot's treated wastewater over several miles to the Willamette River. Pope and Talbot, which operates a bleached kraft pulp mill in Halsey, currently treats the James River paper mill's wastewater and supplies bleached pulp to the James River paper mill.

The proposed recycling plant will process about 500 tons a day of a variety of office waste paper to produce pulp. James River plans to initially collect 25% of the waste paper from the northwest and northern California. The remaining 75% will come from the midwest and southern California until local paper collection methods are developed.

The Environmental Quality Commission is scheduled to review James River's request for a new discharge to the Willamette at a regular meeting on Jan. 23, 1992. The 7 p.m. hearing in LB's Alsea Room is open to anyone.

Community College enrollment reaches record high

Oregon community college enrollment this fall hit a record high of 128,668, according to fourth-week enrollment reports from the state's 16 community colleges.

Enrollment is 5 percent higher than last year's comparable figure of 122,907. That's the largest percentage increase since 1986.

The increase is even more significant because it comes the same year the number of Oregon high school graduates hit a 27-year low, a factor which has also affected enrollment at the state's four-year colleges and universi-

ties.

Dale Parnell, Oregon community college commissioner, said a growing number of high school graduates are turning to community colleges.

"The word is getting around that you can get a good education and save a lot of money by attending your nearby community college for a couple of years then transfer to the four-year school of your choice," Parnell said.

Southwest Oregon Community College, with 18 percent more students, showed the biggest increase.

Other colleges with double-digit in-

creases are Central Oregon, Lane, Umpqua, and Tillamook Bay.

Figures for each college: Blue Mountain up 8 percent; Central Oregon up 12 percent; Chemeketa up 8 percent; Clackamas down 4 percent; Clatsop down 5 percent; Columbia Gorge up 1 percent; Lane up 12 percent; Linn-Benton down 3 percent; Mt. Hood up 7 percent; Oregon Coast little change; Portland up 2 percent; Rogue down 4 percent; Southwestern Oregon up 18 percent; Tillamook Bay up 13 percent; Treasure Valley down 4 percent; Umpqua up 13 percent.

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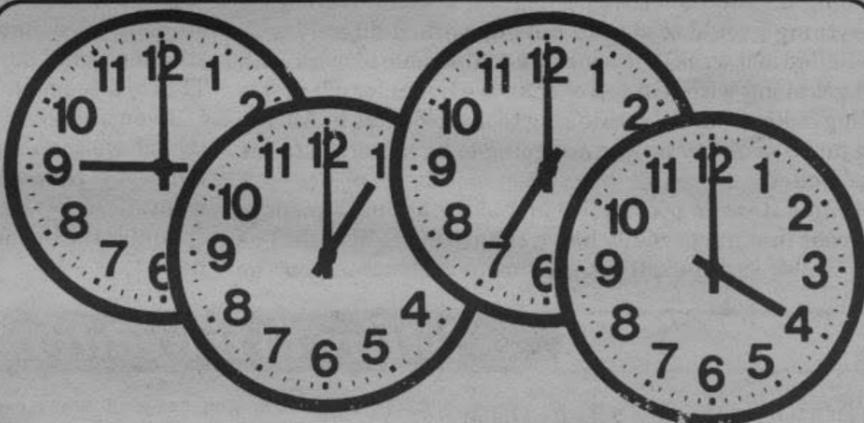
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Fungus Fever

Area mushroom stalkers scour the woods for tasty treats among the fallen leaves

By Matthew Rasmussen
For The Commuter

Dressed in warm clothing and insulated boots, the hunting party moves carefully through the woods searching for clues to their elusive prey. Eyes scan the forest floor in a methodical fashion—sweeping one direction, then darting the other—all the while clutching a sharp knife and carrying a basket to haul away the vanquished.

While one false step will never scare this quarry away, one missed sign can mean the difference between taking home a gourmet meal fit for a king and paying a king's ransom for a take-out gourmet meal.

The bloodless target of this victimless hunt is any one of the many varieties of edible wild-mushrooms that can be found growing from the coast, to the Cascades and on into Eastern Oregon.

"We're fungi-phobic. We are scared of mushrooms. It comes from the British."

John Reed

Mushroom gathering has become increasingly popular in recent years, both with adventurers wanting the exotic fungi on their own tables and those picking for profit by selling their finds to restaurants or mushroom brokers.

Most American mushroom consumers are only aware of one or two varieties of commercial fungi. The most common being the domesticated white button mushroom.

"We're fungi-phobic," says life-time mushroom picker John Reed about American culinary tastes. "We are scared of mushrooms. It comes from the British, they are too. Now the

Germans, Russians and Italians have all grown up eating mushrooms—they'll even eat some varieties that the books say are poisonous."

True gourmet mushroom lovers will not tolerate the domesticated white button; claiming that it is grown, not for flavor, but because of both its ability to withstand shipping and its fast fruiting cycle.

Along with the better-known varieties, such as the chanterelle and the morel; the Willamette valley is home to the highly-prized matsutaki, and the lesser known—but equally tasty—Boletus edulas and Tricholoma nudum.

"I used to tell my classes that there were 20 deadly varieties, 200 edible varieties and more than 2000 other varieties out there," said former microbiology teacher Genie Coleman about of the number and types of fungi in the forest.

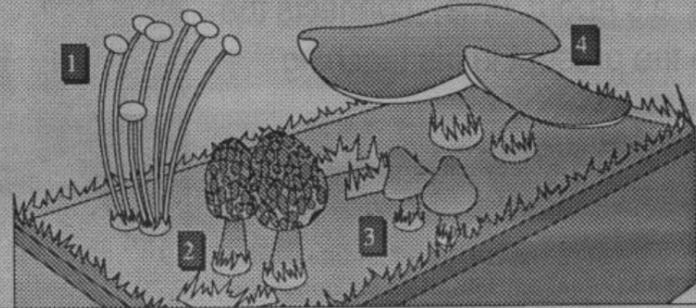
Although a lack of rain in August and early September has kept some species of wild-mushrooms from developing, some pickers feel all is not lost.

"This has been one of the rottenest years for chanterelles," says Evelyn Moreland of Salem, "but sharp eyes will catch just a morsel of a chanterelle buried beneath the duff (the bed of leaves and needles on the forest floor). They are not out there where you would normally see them—you have to work very hard."

"I've been all over the coast range deer and elk hunting this season and I've seen only one chanterelle," said Reed, a resident of Sheridan. He thinks that the dry summer combined with a possible over-picking of the beds last season led to this year's drop in mushroom numbers. "But if this warm rain continues," he said, "we may have a late crop."

Elite mushrooms

The familiar white mushroom used in salads and pizza has been cultivated since the 17th century. Some of its notable relatives:



- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Enoki, or enoki
For garnishing salads, soup. Sold as a bunch, 3 or 4 inches tall.</p> | <p>3 Straw mushroom
Remarkably tasty when eaten fresh. Available canned in U.S.</p> |
| <p>2 Morel
Very expensive, sold dried or (sometimes) fresh. Used in Continental cuisine.</p> | <p>4 Shiitake mushroom
Sold dried or fresh. Dried should be soaked until soft, stem removed.</p> |

SOURCE: "Madhur Jaffrey's World of the East Vegetarian Cooking"

"Ninety-nine percent of the matsutakes (collected in the Northwest) go to Japan and most of the chanterelles go to Germany."

John Reed, Mushroom picker

While competition is keen among commercial pickers, Forest Service officials on the Siuslaw National Forest report fewer commercial permits were issued for this season. Commercial permits are required for anyone picking to sell mushrooms found on federal land. Permits are also required for anyone planning to pick the matsutake. Permit fees are set individually on the separate national forests.

In response to the rise of mushroom pickers heading for the hills in the Willamette National Forest, the Forest Service began a free permit program designed to keep track of pickers on federal land. According to the Linn County Sheriff's office, four mushroom pickers have already gotten lost this season; including a Sweet Home woman and her children forced to spend the night in their car after becoming lost and running out of gas.

Commercial pickers can earn more than \$300 in a day, depending on current prices and, of course, finding the right spot. Fresh chanterelles are currently bringing in \$11.95 a pound in San Francisco. Matsutakes are bought for \$125 per pound in the states; but upon arrival in Japan, the fresh mushroom can go for nearly \$300 per pound.

Reed separates the commercial mushroom market into foreign and domestic components. "Ninety-nine percent of the matsutakes go to Japan," he said, "and most of the chanterelles go to Germany. What is left for the domestic market ends up in gourmet restaurants because the mushrooms are too perishable to be in stores."

Another group of mushroom pickers also has the attention of the county sheriff's department: hallucinogen hunters. Liberty cap and cubensis, both of the Psilocybe family of mushrooms and classified as controlled substances, make up the illegal side of mushroom hunting and cultivation.

Liberty caps, no larger than a pinky finger, grow wild throughout the Willamette Valley following rains in the spring and fall. According to Linn county Det. David Severns, persons caught picking the liberty caps are generally cited for trespassing. This, by edict from the district attorneys

office, is because intent is hard to prove in cases of wild-mushroom harvesting.

Cubensis, a far more potent Psilocybe, is not native to the area and is being grown indoors for sale locally as well as export to other parts of the country. A recent raid in Brownsville that turned up four pounds of the "shrooms" was the result of a tip from Minnesota police who turned up evidence that the "cubies" had been sent from Oregon. Indoor cultivation arrests, as well as arrests for possession of large amounts of any illegal mushroom, are dealt with as Schedule 1-Class B felonies. Conviction can result in a 10-year term in prison and a fine not to exceed \$100,000.

"It took three years before I would eat my own identification."

Evelyn Moreland

Both law enforcement officers and experienced pickers warn the would-be "tripper" of the dangers involved with the use of hallucinogenic mushrooms. "You can never be sure of the potency of any mushroom," says Reed.

Identification of wild-mushrooms, while generally easy for most experienced hunters, is nothing for the novice to attempt alone. Reed, Moreland and Coleman—all members of the Willamette Mycological Association—recommend joining a foray of experienced pickers and learning how to tell the difference between the "foolproof four" and the "fatal five" before venturing out on your own.

"It's no harder to tell a good mushroom from a bad one, than it is to tell a hemlock from a fir—once you know how," says Reed who joined the association five years ago.

Moreland, who has been a member since 1975 and is also a member of the larger Oregon Mycological Society. She says that although she started picking mushrooms in the early '60s, "It took three years before I would eat my own identification."

The association recommends "The New Savory Wild-Mushroom," by M. McKenny, for people with little or no experience with wild-mushrooms; and "Mushrooms Demystified," by David Aurora, for those who want to know a little more about the wild fungi.



Photo by Doug Wagner

Pony mushrooms are one of the many indigenous to Oregon.

Instructor offers the wisdom of history to help plan the future

Michael Weiss, creator of the student journal "It's About Time," connects the past to the present in his teaching

By Rosie Smucker
Of The Commuter

"It's About Time" is blazoned across the top of the publication.

Time for what?

Time to confront racism, time to eliminate bigotry, time to provide equal opportunities for minorities, time to end suppression of women.

Michael Weiss teaches the past in relation to the present. He offers the wisdom of history to everyone in the journal "It's About Time." Students' examples of "really good research" are published every term in this historical perspective.

Recently hired by the history department to replace Jay Mullen, he is enthusiastic about the job. "I love it, it's the only job I ever had that I don't consider a job. I feel like I'm getting paid for something I would be doing anyway. I feel like I'm almost stealing the money. Not quite, I mean, I wouldn't have to get up at 6."

Weiss has been a part of the LBCC scene for two years in part-time and temporary positions. At the end of last year, a permanent position opened up. Weiss, one of 67 applicants, was hired to a 10-year contract. He seems to be what the doctor ordered for the History department.

"Before I was hired, there was what you might call a lot of instability, people coming, staying for a short while, and leaving. I have no plans for going on to—quote bigger and better things." He's "permanently committed"—not only to his job, but also to expanding his knowledge of history.

"What's happening right now has a link to the past," and more specifically, "Someone that doesn't understand their past can't understand the present."

Weiss' past goes way back. Of the major civilizations that appeared 4000 years ago, only the Jewish faith remains a major part of modern society. Jewish professionals have claimed 12 per cent of all Nobel Prizes in Physics, Chemistry, and Medicine along with producing such famous men as Moses, Christ, Spinoza, Marx, Freud, and Einstein.

Weiss is following this tradition of excellence by seeing himself as the end result of "a people who've been around 4000 years."

"I see myself, as Jewish, as a part of the story of Abraham and Isaac and Moses. I make a big deal of that in my classes." He also makes a big deal of the Jewish migration to America which has a more personal aspect in Weiss' teachings.

His grandmother's family immigrated to American in 1907, "The biggest year of immigration in American history," according to Weiss. In Weiss' Western Civilization class, he always shows a film "of the immigrants coming across on the ship at Ellis Island and running up to the railing. "Whenever I show that, it brings tears to my eyes."

"I think of my grandmother coming from the Austrian/Hungarian Empire, and coming here for me. But she did that to carry on the Jewish tradition in the New World. It was stifled, it was destroyed where she was living. There were instances called pogroms in which Jews were murdered, in which they were denied any opportunity.

"I see myself as carrying on this tradition of learning and teaching. It's a real big important thing in the Jewish religion."

For Weiss, it all started in a small section of New York. He grew up with most of his relatives in a few block radius. "Everyone would congregate at my grandmother's house virtually every day for the first nine years of my life." The camaraderie and conversation gave this curly black-haired boy with the mischievous grin his first taste of storytelling.

The implications of this storytelling "of the history of my family," is very apparent. Weiss, always the historian, comments, "In many ways being a historian is exactly that, telling a story and hoping to tell it well."

When Weiss was a student, the historians didn't cut it. "I hated history when I took it in college." To improve on the abstract lectures of his college professors that failed to capture his attention, he brings the media into the classroom—music and videos—as well as hands on stuff like artifacts and manuscripts.



Michael Weiss relaxes in his office.

"Anything to avoid getting stuck in a rut or anything "to get more and more people to love history," adds Weiss.

He has a good success rate with his students, but not his wife, Elaine when it comes to history or enjoying the diversity and culture of history. "The summer of 1970 we traveled in Europe." "In Pompeii outside Naples, Italy, it was thrilling to see real places I had read about in history books." In Rome it was fabulous to look down the block and see the Coliseum and Roman forum."

Elaine expressed a very different viewpoint on the vacation. "I can't stand this boiling heat and these busted up buildings!"

Weiss figured that the Roman gods must have been listening because that fall she was hired as a junior high English teacher, but the New York school system in its infinite wisdom made her an ancient history teacher.

"She was punished for her ignorance and avoidance of history," says Weiss.

Elaine doesn't avoid history, she'd just rather write it.

She teaches English part-time at Lane Community College. She's also working on an oral history

"Someone who doesn't understand their past can't understand the future".

--Michael Weiss

project interviewing dislocated loggers to provide a historical documentary on the dislocated Oregon logger—history as it's being made right now."

Weiss credits much of his success to the support Elaine gives him.

She was the one who convinced him to "get out of psychology and into history" because he was a psychology teacher reading history books most of his spare time.

More importantly, she taught him how to write. "Even though I wrote a Master's in psychology, it was mostly statistics, studies, and experiments. To get your history Master's, you must be able to write. You have to be able to take a theme or topic and carry it through. You can't wing it, every word must be part of the jig-saw puzzle."

Weiss' life is a bit of a jig-saw puzzle.

He grew up in New York City in a strict "devoutly religious" Orthodox family. Although he won a history award in Hebrew school, his love for history developed when he was eight or nine years old.

The late 1960's and early 1970's was the "era of youth trying to save the world." This movement motivated him to try to make a lasting contribution through psychology (he has a Master's in psychology from Michigan State) by "helping all us neurotic folks with our problems." But that just "wasn't for me."

So he decided that the way to make a real difference was to go teach in the New York City ghetto.

His first job got him hooked on teaching. It was in the south Bronx, public school #54 teaching mentally retarded children. Located in the worst ghetto, the school was like a diamond-in-the-rough for Weiss. The kids were "wonderful" and probably taught him more than he taught them.

At that point, he knew he "loved teaching—at least the few seconds when I was really teaching and not being a policeman, monitor or baby-sitter."

Three years later, he "realized that the system, the administration, the job itself, the despair in the kid's lives—in the streets, in the homes—the impact

I thought I could make, I couldn't. Also it just became intolerable living in New York."

The rent. The congestion—it took 30 minutes to drive 4 miles to school. Carbreak-ins. Gunfire in the street. It wasn't the place for a "regular family" like he wanted to have.

Married in 1970, he and Elaine motorcycled around eastern Europe for their honeymoon. The summer of '72 they "wound up in southern Oregon." They both began teaching at Rhode Community College in Grants Pass.

Weiss taught psychology part-time, and Elaine taught English. They bought a 28-acre property north of Grants Pass in Wolf Creek on which he built a house.

"I learned how to build houses from scratch, carpentry, plumbing, electrical. I wanted to get to the point to which I could look at anything that's made by human hands and learn how to fix it and duplicate it. While I don't consider myself a master craftsman, I can now do that."

Teaching psychology was not stirring the creative juices so with his wife's encouragement, he began working towards a Master's degree in history. He graduated from the University of Oregon in 1989.

Living in Eugene and commuting to work, has not been a hindrance for the theologian of history. The 45-minute, 2200 miles-a-month drive "gets me to prepare for the job in the morning and unwind at the end of the day." To keep his mind alert, he often listens to history books on tape. "I don't waste a single second. To paraphrase what somebody said once, that somebody who's tired of Paris is tired of life, so I think somebody who's tired or bored by history doesn't understand the importance of history and that history is happening every moment.

"I try to show students that people were as passionately interested in the events of the past as we are of George Bush or Dan Quayle—if one can get passionate about Dan Quayle.

"One of the big things in recent history is social history—talking about the lives of the people. I try to bring that to class."

It can be "dangerous to look at parallels in history. 'You can't step in the same stream twice,' someone once said. Henry Ford said, 'History is bunk.' Another said, 'The only thing we learn from history is that we learn nothing from history.' There is never an exact parallel. 'Stormin' Norman' and 'Stormin' George' during the Persian Gulf Crisis drew a parallel to Hitler in the 1930's. The error in their reasoning was that while we tolerated Hitler as that "funny guy with a mustache" we did not put him in power as we did Hussein."

Weiss believes that this depicts the tragedy of American diplomacy—trying to build an American Empire. But, hopefully, "in learning from the past we can apply some of the wisdom that we've gotten into the present."

The recent governor race in Louisiana drew his comment. Although it was a choice between the "lizard and the wizard" as a bumper sticker put it, Weiss thinks that the election "indicates that maybe something wonderful is starting to happen in America."

Perhaps it is an indication of a trend. "The South traditionally used to be the most unprejudiced in the country—they hated everybody. This election shows that the deep South is turning around and people are avoiding racism in this country. We still have a long ways to go, but this is a promising sign."

Racism has also reared its subtle yet ugly head for Weiss in Southern Oregon.

When the Weiss' sold their property at Wolf Creek, they listed it with a broker in Grant's Pass. When discussing the price with the real estate saleswoman, she advised, "Well, whatever price you ask, people are always going to Jew you down."

"At that point, my wife was ready to pack up her papers and walk out the door." Weiss added, that he found that term offensive and "not the proper thing to say, especially in front of a Jewish person."

Another time, one of his renters mentioned "fixing up the house" it was now neat and clean and he could start living like a white man."

The journal Michael Weiss' students put out every term gives this perspective to modern life—the "Reader's Digest" of the history world.

The thrust of the publication, the message Weiss is sending students, is caught in the title, "It's About Time."

Unsafe toys concern local stores

a package warning—"This toy is to be used for lighting and sound effects only. Do not throw, strike at or swing it at other people, animals or objects." A big task for a small boy.

5. Robin Hood-Prince of Thieves Sword and Daggar, a Kenner product. This is made from heavy rigid plastic that Swartz claims could cause impact injuries.

6. Rabbit Animal Friend Gumball Machine, Carousel Industries. Swartz says this is a hazard because a young child can choke on gumballs.

7. GI Joe "Ice Saber," manufactured by Hasbro Inc. According to Swartz, this toy presents potential hearing and missile-projectile injuries.

8. Silver Bullet Sling Shot, manufactured by Lamari Corp. No longer in production, the sling shot could be used to propel hard objects and cause blindness.

9. FAO Schwarz Slugger Bear. This was pulled from stores due to claims the removable 8-inch baseball bat might cause choking.

10. My First Sony Walkman, manufactured by Sony Corp. This is on the list because Swartz claims it could cause hearing impairment.

Twenty-three children died and 129,000 were injured by toys last year, according to a report by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

"Toy-related accidents increased 11 percent from 1989-1990," said Lucinda Sikes, a commission spokesperson, and many of those injuries involved small balls.

In order to test toys for such problems, Jim Noel of the Toy Factory in Corvallis uses a "choke tester" put out by the CPSC—a little tube with a slanted slot. If a toy part fits inside, it's considered not safe for children under 3 years of age.

"A lot of the things that Swartz puts on his list," said Noel, "are toys that will fragment or burn—things that are grossly wrong to put out on the toy market. So far, we've never carried a toy that's been on his list."

Toys R Us, K-Mart, Kay-Bee, Target and Fred Meyer go for the hot items where TV advertising draws shoppers and purchasing in quantity keeps prices lower.

"We've had no problems and no complaints with any Christmas toys," said Claire Anderson at Target toy department in Albany. "But if we do I'll call corporate headquarters and as soon as we get the OK, we'll pull the toy from the shelf immediately."

Recently, a woman returned a little toddler outfit fearful her baby might choke on the bows and tassels which could be easily grabbed and stuffed in her mouth, Anderson recalled. Corporate headquarters was called and the customer not only got her money returned but the outfit was pulled from the store.

More attention is paid to Better Business Bureau reports, Consumer Safety Product Commission statements and Parent magazine surveys than to Swartz's list, according to Steve Hanson, store manager of K-Mart, Corvallis. "It's just one man's opinion," he said.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission has not recalled any of the Swartz listed toys.

"Certainly balloons are among the most dangerous items there are on the market because a child could asphyxiate," added Hanson. "But that's a product that will continue to be on the market and if used properly, it's a



fun and safe item. But if used incorrectly, it's as dangerous as any toy on the market."

Local merchants agreed that toy retailers ought to exercise some responsibility and decision-making regarding which toys to carry, local merchants agreed.

But parents have primary responsibility to see that children have safe toys, said Noel. They're the ones around all the time and must exercise judgment on a child using an older sibling's toy.

And manufacturers, absolutely, need to be attentive to the materials and design of toys, Noel said, because that's the level where you can catch the obvious bad toys. Once they're packaged and in the box, you have to take the word of the manufacturer, he added, "and there are some potentially dangerous toys out there."

A Christmas Poem

By Deborah Walsdorf

They gather in groups throughout the house. Aunts, uncles, even unwelcomed in-laws.

It's Christmas again.

My cousin and I scratch and pull at our polyester tights as we sit on the crushed velvet sofa, singing Christmas carols.

"SIII-I-LENT NIIGHT"

In the kitchen the uncles are getting drunk, agitated.

"HOOO-O-LY NIIGHT"

They start moving towards my aunt's husband, their brother-in-law.

"AAALL IS CAALM"

Someone shoves him against the buffet. My aunt is screaming.

"AAALL IS BRIIGHT"

They tell her he's getting just what he deserves, for knocking her around so much.

"ROOOUND YON VIR-IR-GIN"

"But a box *did* fall on me!" She's hysterical.

"MOOO-THER AND CHILD"

All the other aunts are yelling, "It's Christmas! It's Christmas!"

"HOOOLY IN-FANT SO TEEEN-DER AND MIILD"

My grandmother has her shotgun out again. One uncle has jumped on her.

"SLEEEP IN HEAV-EN-LY PEA-EEACE"

"I'm going to kill that bastard! Let me up! I'm your mother, god damn it! Let me up!"

"SLEE-EEP IN HEAV-EN-LY PEEACE"

*All children of Linn and Benton counties
are invited to:*

The 21st Annual

*LBCC Children's
Christmas Party*

Saturday, Dec 7, 1991 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

College Center Building

Letters to Santa Cookie Decorating

Magic Show Sing-a-long

Clowns Photos with Santa - \$1.00

All children aged 12 and under are welcome

(Parents please accompany younger children)

*FREE**

**Canned food donations accepted for food drive*

Sponsored by LBCC Student Programs



Determined logger turns to LB to retool for new career

he headed out into the woods with a brand new lunch box and thermos bottle. The company that his father worked for had been holding a job for him until after graduation.

The timber industry seemed like the natural progression into the workforce for Kennedy. "My dad worked in the woods along with all of his friends. All of my friends worked in the woods and it was just natural for me to go to work in the woods, too. It was what I wanted to do and it was just expected that when I graduated from high school, that's what I'd do. It was the way of life around here," says Mike.

Over the next 18 years, Mike slowly worked his way up through the logging ranks. When he reached the top in his chosen profession he was a crane operator loading log trucks in the woods from the cab of a brand new \$400,000 log loader.

His yearly earnings ranged around \$30,000 to \$35,000. Paid holidays and health insurance were provided by his employer Willamette Industries.

Then he lost his job.

A typical day for Mike, when he was a logger, would sometimes start as early as 3 a.m. He would be picked up at front door by the company "crummy" logger's slang for a small bus or truck used to take the logging crew to the woods.

The crew would start loading log trucks in the

"I was making as much as a lot of these people that have a college education . . . That's changed now. A lot has changed"

Mike Kennedy

forest by daybreak. Throughout the day, Mike would spend his time sorting the timber that was yarded to his position by the logging crew. The logging trucks would then haul the timber to the mills throughout the valley. That cycle was repeated many times during the course of one day.

"I'd get the trucks loaded and on the way to the mill. In between the loads I'd have a little time to get down and talk to the peeler-picker or the chaser or whoever. I'd spend my day loading the trucks, talking to the drivers on the CB radio and talking to my friends. Those are my kind of people and I liked it. We liked to do the same things," said Mike.

When Mike talks about his job working in the woods, he speaks of a lifestyle in the outdoors where seeing deer, elk and bear was as common as the Oregon rain. He describes the timber industry with the feelings and emotions of a man who has seen what he wants to do with his life, who has heard his calling, but can no longer head out in the woods to follow that calling.

After a long workday, the company "crummy" would drop Mike off at home, where he would take

care of his animals, feeding his stock and completing his other chores, just a typical 16-hour day for Mike.

The next day he would get up and do it all over again.

While his co-workers began to be laid off, Mike and Debbie got the jump on a lot of other families in the timber industries. They saw that the way off life that they had been living was going to change and that the people living in the timber-based economies were also going to have to change.

Through the help of the Community Services Consortium in Lebanon, Mike began to prepare for college to learn a new way of making a living. Employment specialist Tanarae Greenman of the Consortium says they help people like Mike set their goals, provide information about training and labor markets, and help to identify the resources that are available in the community. They also help people with such things as improving interviewing skills and preparing a resume.

When Mike was working as a logger, Debbie was putting in a few hours in the evening to supplement their income. Since Mike lost his job earlier this year, Debbie has been working full-time and is trying to get on at the high school in Sweet Home permanently so she will be able to provide the family with health insurance. Without Debbie working it's doubtful that Mike would be able to continue going to college.

"I've got to have some sort of a job with benefits," says Debbie. "If one of the kids were to get hurt or sick than that would just do us in."

"I'd have to quit school and get a job quick," Mike adds.

Debbie studied upholstery at the Sweet Home LBCC center some years ago and does some work on the side to bring in extra money. Mike hopes to one day have his own shop at home, where he can make a living doing body work and auto painting with an upholstery part reserved for Debbie.

Because of the hectic schedules that Mike and Debbie are keeping these days, they rarely see each other during the week. By the time Mike is getting home from the college, Debbie is already leaving for her job at the school.

"I don't get much sleep during the week," Debbie says. "I don't see my older boy at all during the week and I have to get up early in the morning with the baby."

Mike has also had to adjust to a whole new experience. "The shop class is easy for me. The auto-body class is simple. The welding class is easy, I took welding in school and I do a lot of welding right here at home. The math class is not easy for me."

When Mike has completed his LBCC courses, he will be a certified auto-body painter. "I've got my mind made up that I'm going to get that certificate. It might take me twice as long as everybody else, but I'm going to get it."

Mike's determination is severely tested when it comes time to do his math homework. "I do have a hard time with the math. Both boys and Debbie are tip-toeing around here when I have that math book out. I get to sweating and get mad and feeling that I can't do it."

He jokes about the days when he went to high school knowing that much of the information that he was learning would not be needed for a career working in the woods.

"I was a year ahead of my cousin in school and he always got straight A's all through school. If I wouldn't have sat next to my cousin in math class, when I was a sophomore, I probably wouldn't have made it. I wouldn't have passed at all. I don't have him to sit by now. It's all up to me now."

As a logger, the important skills were the ones he developed working his way up through the ranks, not the kind that are learned in any classroom.

"Where I've been for the last 18 years, sitting in a crane loading log trucks, getting down and stapling a forest service ticket on every load, that didn't take any special math class. I was making as much as a lot of these people that have a college education, that know how to read real good, that know how to do this special math. That's changed now. Things have changed a whole bunch."

College has changed Mike's outlook on a lot of things, particularly about going to school. The people who grew up in logging families have been going into the woods and mills for generations in Oregon but rarely into the classrooms once they were out of high school.

Mike would like to see his boys enter different fields besides the lumber business. "I have always told my boy, and I'll be telling my little one when he can understand me, that you are not going to work in a mill. You are not going to work in logging. I'm not saying that I don't want you to, I'm saying that you are not going to do it."

The insistence that his sons need to do something different with their lives is one of the things that Mike feels very strongly about. He has taken his son Jeff over to LBCC to help on an auto-body project that they are working on together. "I've told my son, Dad is going to make it over there. Dad is going to pass over there, and dad is going to learn how to do something over there. And that just goes along with what dad has told you over the years. Plan on going to this college when you get out of high school."

The changes that Mike and Debbie are going through are also affecting a lot of other families in the West. Not many are as fortunate as the Kennedys. Men who have always made good money, from \$10-15 an hour, are suddenly finding themselves looking for jobs that will pay \$5-6 an hour. In many cases the logger or millworker will have a spouse that can help the family finances, as Debbie has done. But, in other families, problems such as a lack of child care, transportation and job training have effectively cut off that avenue of financial help.

The Oregon Legislature has earmarked \$60 million to help timber communities in 1991-93. Besides economic development, the timber-response plan provides \$20 million to extend unemployment benefits and \$5 million for worker retraining.

In September Gov. Barbara Roberts and Gov. Booth Gardner of Washington handed the congress a seven-part plan for more federal aid to help these families. It includes everything from more social services to help prevent family violence and abuse, to more retraining and development of furniture factories and other types of wood products development.

Congress, however, isn't likely to act until it also deals with a compromise on how much federal timber will be sold while also protecting the habitat for the Northern Spotted Owl, a threatened species.

Even with a compromise, Oregon will lose several thousand more timber jobs in the next two years, according to the Oregon Employment Division.

This picture is not pretty for families like the Kennedys, who are trying to start a new legacy for their family. Their future is not in timber and they are smart enough to see it. "We are luckier than a lot of other people. A lot of people have got it a lot worse than we do," Mike said.

"We'll make it though," Debbie says. "Both working together, we'll make it."

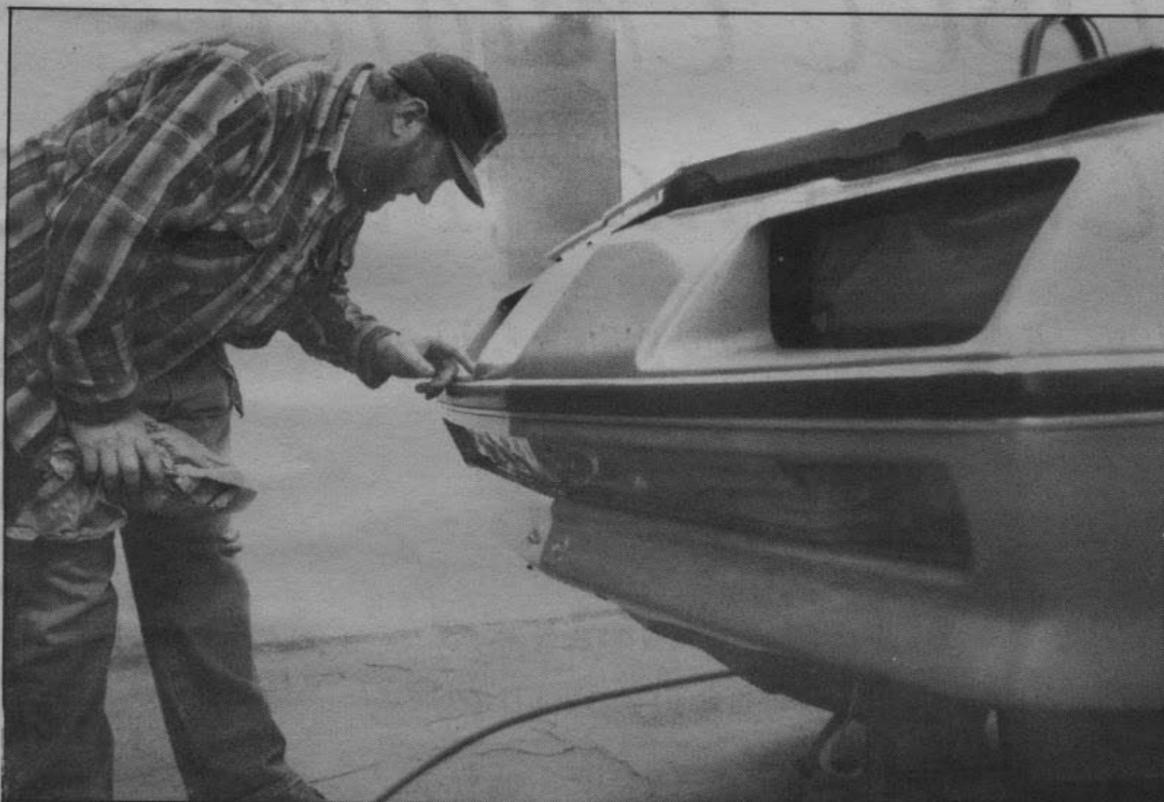


Photo by Christof Walsdorf

Mike Kennedy examines his hard work in LBCC's auto body lab. Kennedy, whose family has been in the logging business for generations, is retraining as an auto paint specialist at LBCC. He was laid off from his logging job earlier this year.



Photo by Christof Walsdorf

Kennedy gets little help from his dog, Kelly, as he stocks up on firewood for his Linn County rural home.

Displaced timber workers lose not only job but whole way of life

By Jack Josewski
Of the Commuter

I arrived for my interview with the Kennedy family on a rainy Sunday. The family lives in the country between the towns of Sweet Home and Lebanon.

When I arrive, Mike is outside on the roof of the house doing some work. His son Jeff invites me into the house, where I am met by Debbie, an attractive lady who leaves me with the impression that her children and home have been given a good "going over" so she is prepared for company.

She invites me in and introduces me to her 3 year-old, Tim who is watching "Bambi" on the TV. She seems nearly as nervous as I am, and offers me a seat and a cup of coffee. In a few moments her husband Mike comes in the back door and introduces himself.

He is a big man and completely fills a door when he walks through it. He has an easy way of talking to people and immediately I begin to feel at ease around this man.

He sits down, his son Tim running to his lap, and we begin to talk. He begins to tell a story that has begun to sound very familiar to me. It is about a man who loves a way of life that is slipping away from him. About a man that will always love the outdoors and all of the things that go with the way of life of being

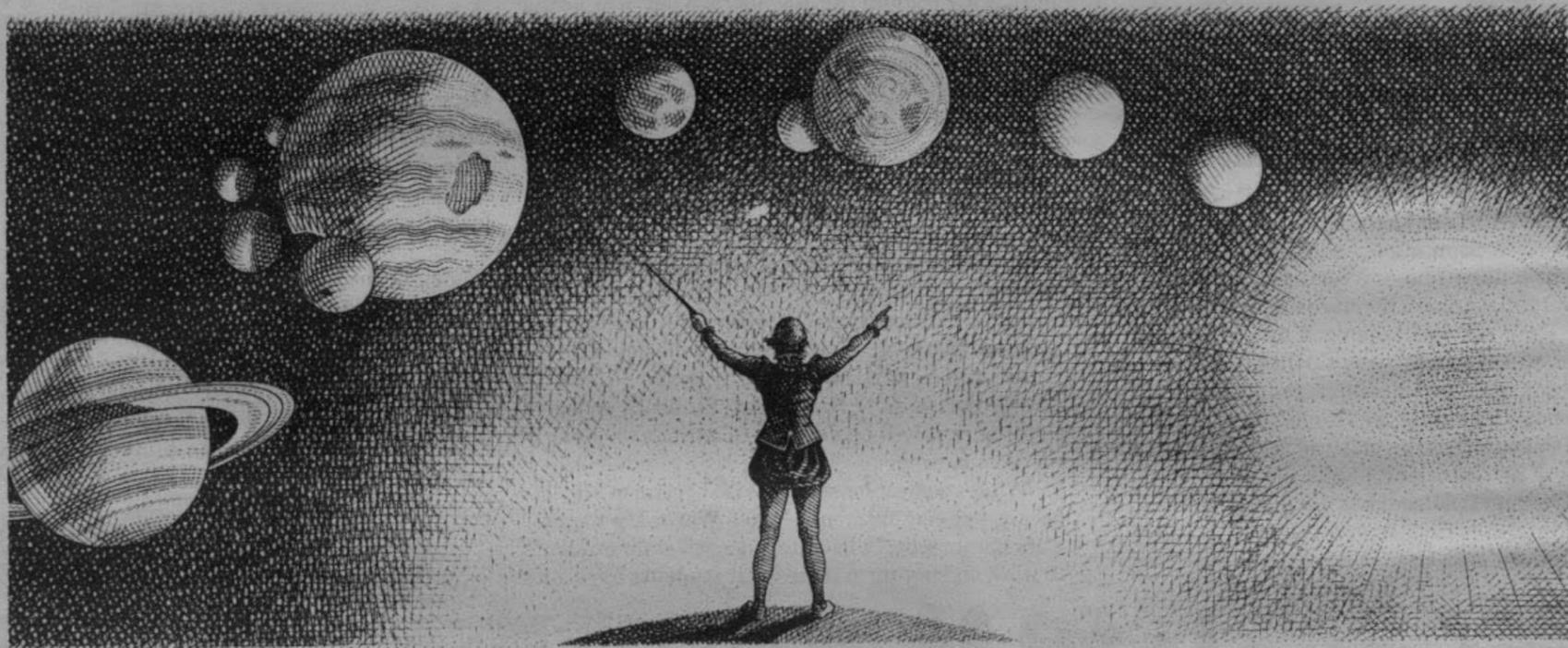
a logger. A man that cares very much about the environment and does not want to see the forests hurt.

He is not just talking about a job that he has been working somewhere, but a complete way of life. He describes a life where the men working around you - are your friends, your fathers friends and the people that you have grown up with all of your life. Your friends from school, your next door neighbors. The people that have helped to raise you and fashion the "you" that is inside of all of us. These are the people that Mike worked with in the woods. It has been his whole world and he makes no bones about his bitterness at leaving the life that he loves.

Mike and his wife Debbie made me feel comfortable in their home. They told me their story, not as though they were complaining, but as if they were reciting the acts from some bad play. Their feelings of determination towards the future left me with no doubt what-so-ever that they were more than capable of handling whatever came their way.

I left with a feeling of pride at having had the chance to interview these people. But most of all, I felt a sense of pride in the way that they had represented the timber workers and displaced mill workers across this country.

Because you see, I am a displaced timber worker also.



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national features

Students organize to fight hunger and homelessness

Coalitions form between campuses to raise awareness among students and to provide food, shelter to urban poor

When 35 year old Billy Peters moved to San Francisco last year, he didn't expect to end up on the streets. Educated at Stratmore and Westminster Colleges in England, he felt confident that he would find work in a radio station or as a waiter. However, as the economy worsened and Peters' savings ran out, he found himself homeless and remained that way for the next seven months, until students from a coalition of San Francisco area colleges and universities helped get him off the streets.

Although students on individual campuses have been involved in campaigns to help people like Billy Peters for many years, an increasing number of students from campuses located near one another are taking a new approach in the fight against hunger and homelessness by forming multicampus coalitions.

"In years past, students from several different schools had regional meetings and discussions, but this year students have really put coalition-building on the front burner," says Jennifer Coken, Director of the National Student Campaign Against Hunger and Homelessness (NSCAHH), a national group that trains and mobilizes students to work on hunger and homelessness issues. "Students are discovering that by establishing city-wide or state-wide coalitions, they can share resources and learn from each other and help build continuity in their individual campus programs. They can also get satisfaction from knowing that they are part of a larger solution."

In some instances, students from several schools are holding multicampus awareness-raising events to draw attention to the problems evident on most of America's city streets. Other student groups from different campuses are forming city-wide coalitions to better provide basic necessities like food and clothing needed to keep homeless people alive during the cold winter months. Still other students from colleges and universities located near one another are working together to help the hungry and homeless get out of America's shelters and soup kitchens.

Minnesota student coalition raises awareness by staging 'sleep-out'

In an effort to raise awareness of St. Paul's growing homeless population, more than 150 students from four colleges and universities slept out on Nov. 18th and 19th on one of the city's main thoroughfares.

The sleep-out was organized by the Twin Cities Hunger and Homelessness Coalition. The student coalition is composed of campus groups from St. Paul area schools including the University of Minnesota, Bethel College, the University of St. Thomas and the College of St. Catherine.

"Macalester [College] has always done the sleep-out but this is the first time we expanded it to include more schools," says Greg Smisek, a senior philosophy

major from the University of St. Thomas. "We all decided it was time to work more together so ideas could be shared."

Jan Corman of the University of St. Thomas Campus Ministry, one of the administrators that helped students plan last week's sleep-out, believes that in these tough economic times it is a logical step for students to work together. "When you're up against limited resources, the business of cooperation becomes economically intelligent and necessary," says Corman. "When students from different schools work together on issues like hunger and homelessness a couple of things get enhanced. The learning, the potential for impact and the additional support that comes from that increases one's courage to take whatever might appear to be the next step."

Seven schools in the St. Paul area also are planning to join forces in April for the 8th Annual Hunger Cleanup sponsored by NSCAHH. The cleanup, similar to a walk-a-thon, raises funds for people and organizations that help the hungry and homeless. Student participants raise funds from sponsors by volunteering time to work on community projects like painting a homeless shelter or cleaning a soup kitchen. The Twin Cities Hunger and Homelessness Coalition plans to raise \$15,000 during this year's Hunger Cleanup.

"With more schools we had a louder voice and got more press," says Smisek. "And we got students to work with community members. That was easier because all the schools worked together."

Boston students clothe the homeless as winter weather chills New England

In order to provide clothing to their city's homeless before the New England winter begins in full, students from ten Boston area schools worked together to coordinate existing and new clothing drives to coincide with National Hunger and Homelessness Week.

Students from Emerson College, the University of Massachusetts at Boston and Wellesley College among others, participated in the Boston Warm-Up during the week of Nov. 22nd. Students collected clothing that will be donated to various shelters in the Boston area.

"What's easiest for students is short term projects because of commitments," says Warm-Up founder Lars Lambrecht. "Ultimately it's better for students to work on long-term issues, but students have a lot

of resources, there's no reason they can't work on both." Lambrecht, a senior at Babson College majoring in marketing, feels there is an overwhelming potential for collective power in Boston, where so many schools are concentrated in one area.

"This was completely a student initiative," says Jody Raybuck, advisor to the Babson Volunteer Office. "To coordinate the schools in this way can only exponentially multiply the results. I was amazed they got so many schools involved."

Lambrecht and Juan Fernandez, also a marketing major and an intern at the Babson Volunteer Office, focused on helping the clothing drive by providing publicity and clothing bins.

"Programs in the past have demonstrated the effect that students can have when they take action in unity," says Lambrecht. "Our combined effort will show that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts."

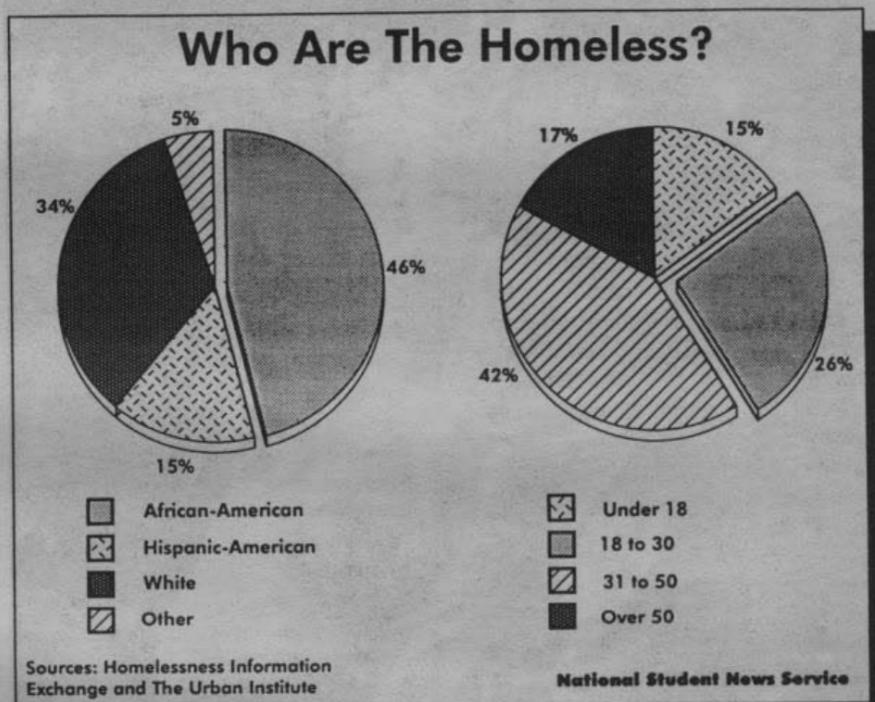
Bay area students unite to help San Francisco's needy find jobs

In an attempt to get the homeless off the streets and the hungry out of the soup kitchens, students from five San Francisco area colleges and a high school joined on Dec. 6 to write resumes for 20 women in the Downtown City College Center.

The coordinated effort, called "Roving Resumes," is a project of the Bay Area Homeless Project. Students from schools including the University of San Francisco, the University of California at Berkeley, the Hastings College of the Law, and St. Ignatius High School wrote their one-hundredth resume for hungry and homeless persons during the week of Nov. 22nd.

"We had 25 volunteers from six different schools

(Turn to 'Homeless' on Page 11)



EXPRESS YOURSELF

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Point of View" pages to express their opinions. Commentaries and observations on campus, community, regional and national issues are welcome.

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A new series from MARVEL

Homeless problems on the rise nationally

show up for one event, and 20 of them have continued to do it regularly," says San Francisco State senior Henry Ostendorf, who founded Roving Resumes in April when he lugged

from pg. 1

his MacIntosh computer and printer to a shelter clean-up. "Most of them have even been calling me to find out when the next event is—now that's exciting."

"Many of our students have visited families in shelters, so students have come face to face with poverty," says Sister Mary Ignatious of the University of San Francisco Campus Ministry, an administrator who works directly with the Bay Area Homeless Project. "Now they can make a contribution to help a person not be in those circumstances again."

The Bay Area Homeless Project, a coalition of eleven colleges and universities in the San Francisco area, including Stanford University, Santa Clara University and San Jose State University, will hold a conference Feb. 13th through 17th entitled "Beyond Soup Serving." The aim of the coalition's conference is to train students to go beyond direct service and affect policy that will solve the hunger and homeless problem.

"We're personal advocates for people who aren't getting what they're entitled to," says Ostendorf, who wrote a resume for Billy Peters, a homeless man in San Francisco. "It's a simple idea that allows students who feel the need to serve to assist in the long-term economic mainstreaming of an individual."

national briefs

Charges filed against man selling college term papers

TAMPA, FL—Charges were filed on Oct. 27 against A. Engler Anderson for allegedly writing two term papers in criminology for students at the University of South Florida.

If Anderson is guilty, the state prosecutor recommends that he donate \$500 to the criminology department. One of the two students who bought his paper from Anderson was expelled. The other was dismissed from his major.

Test your knowledge on hunger and homelessness

- The Food Stamp program currently serves ____ of eligible recipients.
 - 100%
 - 87%
 - 66%
 - 53%
 - less than 50%
- What is the fastest growing sector of the homeless population?
 - Families
 - Single Men
 - Elderly Women
 - Students
- Between 1978 and 1988, the budget authority of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development dropped by nearly:
 - 10%
 - 25%
 - 50%
 - 60%
 - 70%
- Every day, ____ people die of hunger-related causes.
 - 40,000
 - 20,000
 - 5,000
 - 1,500
- There are ____ people in the United States who are hungry at least twice a week.
 - 100,000
 - 5 million
 - 20 million
 - 40 million
- Homeless children account for ____ of the entire homeless population.
 - 55%
 - 33%
 - 25%
 - 10%
 - 3%
- Which group works two-thirds of the world's working hours, receives 10% of the world's income and owns 1% of the world's property?
 - People in Africa
 - Women
 - Third World Citizens
 - Children
- Veterans represent approximately ____ of the homeless population.
 - 76%
 - 67%
 - 48%
 - 40%
 - 33%
- Approximately ____ of the world's population is chronically malnourished.
 - 5%
 - 15%
 - 25%
 - 35%
- Forty-five percent of all poor renters paid at least ____ of their incomes for housing in 1985.
 - 70%
 - 50%
 - 35%
 - 25%
 - 10%

Answers: 1. c; 2. a; 3. d; 4. a; 5. c; 6. c; 7. b; 8. e; 9. c; 10. a.

local briefs

Local musicians perform

The LBCC Performing Arts Dept. is sponsoring a Community Chorale and Chamber Orchestra featuring the works of Bach and Handel Monday Dec. 9 and Tuesday Dec. 10 in the United Presbyterian Church in Albany.

Local musicians from Albany and Corvallis will be highlighted as soloists in the evening of music. Tickets are \$4 and for more information contact Hal Eastburn at ext. 217.

Free LB Christmas concert

A free Christmas concert featuring the LBCC Concert Choir and Chamber Choir will take place Dec. 5 at 8 p.m. in the Mainstage Theatre in Takena Hall.

Four centuries of Christmas music will showcase the talents of LB's music division. Contact Hal Eastburn at ext. 217 for more information.

Women's Center festivities

The Women's Center is having a Holiday Open House Wednesday, Dec. 4 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. They will be serving an array of holiday treats in a festive atmosphere. Everyone is welcome to join the festivities at the Women's Center, IA 225, for some holiday cheer.

Children's Christmas party

Santa needs volunteers to be elves, take pictures, assist performers and more for the LBCC Children's Christmas Party. The party offers music, clowns, jugglers, cookie decorating, food and a visit by Santa. Admission is free to Linn and Benton County children with a donation of two cans of food. Drop by the LBCC Commons Saturday, Dec. 7 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. or come by the Student Programs office at CC-213 to sign up as a volunteer.

Benton Center ceramics sale

The annual holiday pottery sale by ceramics students and staff at the LBCC Benton Center in Corvallis will be held Friday, Saturday, Dec. 6 and 7.

Headed by Benton Center ceramics instructors Jay Widmer and Dale Donovan, the sale offers a wide selection of domestic wares, sculpture and vessels. The opening reception will be held from 5 - 7:30 p.m. Friday. The sale continues 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday.

The studio is located on the west end of the Benton Center, 630 NW 7th Street. For more information, call Jay Widmer at the Benton Center, 757-8944.

LRC open this Saturday

The LRC will be open Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 to 4 p.m. There will be instructional assistants available to answer math questions, ok modules and grade tests. Tests will be issued until 3 p.m. and must be completed by 4 p.m.

First Responder course

Forty-eight hours of training for fire fighters, quick response teams and law enforcement personnel who may be the first on the scene of life-threatening accidents is available winter term at LBCC.

The information covered in the First Responder course is mandated by the Oregon Health Division. This course is self-supporting and the fee is \$225. The LBCC Winter Schedule of Classes is in error as it shows the class as being offered free.

For more information about the First Responder course or other Emergency Medical Technician courses offered at LBCC, call the LBCC Health Occupations office, 967-6107, during regular weekday business hours.

Eloquent Umbrella deadline

January 9th is the deadline for submissions to The Eloquent Umbrella, LBCC's creative arts journal. Poetry, prose, essays and art wanted from students and staff.

Submission forms are available at AHSS 116 and Benton Center. For more information call Linda Smith at 753-3335.

Academic All-America Team

USA Today and the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges is conducting a search for the Academic All-America Team. One student from LBCC will be selected based on eligibility of a cumulative 3.25 GPA, 12 or more term credit hours and graduation in 1991-92 academic year.

Eligible students must submit three letters of recommendation from staff or faculty at LBCC, and hand in a 500 word (or less) essay describing their community college experiences.

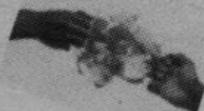
Three teams of 20 members will be selected nationwide and will be honored at the AACJC Annual Convention in Phoenix, Ariz. on April 13.

The deadline for applications is Nov. 27. They can be obtained from the Student Services, CC-213.



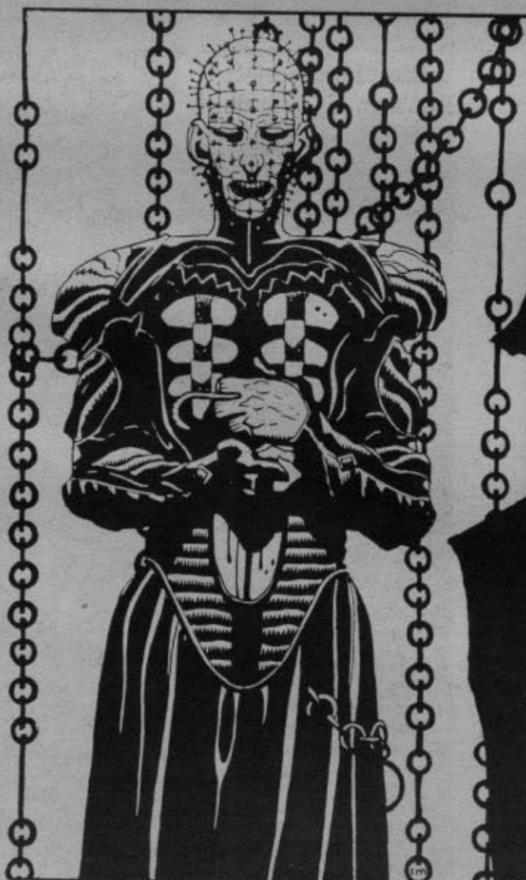
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arts & entertainment

MUSIC

DEC. 4

The Corvallis Arts Center is auditioning performers for a 1992 Spring Brown Bag Concert Series. Storytellers, actors, dancers and musicians who wish to perform at the noon-time concerts should send or deliver cassette or video tapes, performance history, promotional materials and an application form to the Corvallis Arts Center Performing Arts Committee, 700 SW Madison Ave., Corvallis, OR 97333.

coming soon

Deadline for submission of audition tapes is December 14, 1991.

DEC. 5

Patricia and Lowell Chase bring Christmas cheer to the Hult Center with various holiday music in the SHOcase Free Noon Concert.

DEC. 21

David Ogden Stiers, well-known as Major Winchester on the popular TV show "M*A*S*H," comes to Newport to conduct the Yaquina Chamber Orchestra in Newport at 8 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center. The Dec. 21 concert will be at 2:30 p.m. at Linfield College in McMinnville. Although the Newport performance is sold out, tickets are on sale for the McMinnville concert. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and students.



FILM/THEATER

DEC. 5-8

The Pentacle Theatre in Salem pre-

sents John Bishop's "The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940," directed by Molly Fitzsimmons. The play opens Nov. 29 and tickets for that performance is \$8, and \$7 for all other performances. Tickets are available at the Mid Valley Arts Council Office at 265 Court Street NE in Salem. To charge by phone, call 370-7469.

DEC. 6

The Christmas comedy "My Three Angels," directed by Christopher Gorell, opens tonight with a champagne opening at 8:15 p.m. with a matinee performance on Sunday at 2:30. Other performance dates are Dec. 7, 12, 13, 14. Tickets are available at Sid Stevens Jewelers in Albany and at Rice's Pharmacy in Corvallis. Admission is \$5, \$4 for students and seniors.

DEC. 6-7

The International Film Series ends its fall run at Wilkinson Auditorium on the OSU campus with Tim Burton's 1990 film "Edward Scissorhands," starring Johnny Depp and Winona Rider. Admission is \$2.75.

ART

DEC. 4

Registration for children's classes at the Corvallis Arts Center is open. The Arts Center is located at 700 SW Madison Avenue and is open Tuesday-Sunday 12-5 p.m.

The Bush Barn Art Center in Salem presents the "Garlands and Glitter" Holiday Exhibit at the Bush Gallery until Dec. 31, showcasing a number of unique and one-of-a-kind gifts for this Christmas season by over 150 artists and craftpersons from the West Coast. The Center is open Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 10-5, and 12-5 on Sunday. Admission is free.

'For the Boys' worth seeing; 'The Addam's Family' disappointing

OUR FLICK OF THE WEEK is "For the Boys," a corny but effective show-biz melodrama that is undone only in its final scenes by a laughable makeup job that ages co-stars Bette Midler and James Caan. The look like reptiles. Before that, "For the Boys" spans five decades and three wars in the saga of two feuding entertainers who are bitter apart and bitter together. Caan plays a patriotic singer who is forced by his handlers to accept wisecracking singer Midler into his USO act. The tear-jerking patriotism couldn't be more manipulative as songs are intercut with dogface soldiers, but what recommends "For the Boys" is its behind-the-scenes savvy about entertainment odd couples. More often than not, one member of a team feels as though he or she could have made it just as big without the other. In this case it's Caan's character who is in a headlong dash toward loneliness. This is smart casting given Caan's well-known real-life self-destructive impulses. His buried anger is right there all the time. As for Midler, she plays a charismatic little duck with a big voice, and the role fits her perfectly. Now, about that makeup job. You really have to blame director Mark Rydell for accepting the heavy, evenly spaced liver spots applied to Caan's kisser. He looks like he's wearing wallpaper. It's not easy to recommend a film that concludes with unintended laughter. But "For the Boys" has sizable heart and sass. R. 3 stars.

gene siskel

THE ADDAM'S FAMILY. A disappointing big-screen version of the TV show. What's wrong is that this is basically a collection of gag lines that take place wholly within the Addams family household. That's a mistake, because the humor of the original New Yorker cartoons involved placing the creepy characters next to straight characters and observing the difference. Here there is no surprise to the gags. Additionally, the jokes dominate any relationship that might develop between the leads in the film, played by Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston. The picture looks great; the makeup is fine, but there's no heart in the picture. PG-13. 2 stars.

AN AMERICAN TAIL: FIEVEL GOES WEST. A thoroughly lackluster, shabbily drawn animated feature about a Jewish mouse family that leaves New York for more wide-open spaces. The ethnicity of the original film is completely missing; instead, the supporting character of a goofy cat (voiced by Dom DeLuise) takes center stage as little Fievel's best friend. James Stewart's voice is used for the role of a dilapidated sheriff who also helps Fievel and friends fend off the fiendish plans of a nasty cat. A lot of noisy scenes render the action meaningless. There are no memorable songs, either. G. 1 star.

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PG PARENTAL GUIDANCE SUGGESTED SOME MATERIAL MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 10 READ THE WEEKLY NEWS

OPENS DECEMBER 6 AT THEATRES EVERYWHERE

arts & entertainment

Excerpts from:

"Transcripts from the Ted Kennedy/ Johnny Walker Christmas party"

CBS Television

12/12/91 Air time: 8 p.m.

Check local listings for stations

KENNEDY: Good evening, America, and welcome to my Christmas party here on CBS television.

I'm glad to be here and we've got quite a show planned for you all tonight, so just sit back and enjoy, and while you're enjoying it, maybe you'll forget Chappaquiddick.

(Laughter)

KENNEDY: My first guest is my nephew, William Smith. Now as you all know, Willy has a problem with a young woman and his name is being splattered all over "Current Affair."

But I'm sure that will be all over soon.

Tell me, Willy, what is your defense in this case?

WILLIAM: I'm a Kennedy.

KENNEDY: And don't you forget it. Remember, in any situation, no matter how bad it is, a Kennedy emerges unscathed. See you after the party, Willy, get outta here.

Let me direct you to my wonderful orchestra here in Studio B, led by the wonderful Paul Shaffer. Take a bow, Paul.

(Applause)

KENNEDY: How are you tonight, Paul?

PAUL: Just wonderful, Mr. Kennedy.

KENNEDY: Has anybody been giving you any trouble lately? Something I could handle?

PAUL: No, no, that's all right, Mr. Kennedy.

KENNEDY: Just give me the word if someone messes with you, Paul. Marilyn Monroe found out what happens when you mess with the Kennedys.

Hey, could I get a stiff drink or something here? No, not that punch crap, give me some of that Johnny Walker Red.

I don't give a flying (bleep!) what the director thinks! I'm a Kennedy, dammit! I could buy and sell him and spit out his ashes!

Either give me a drink or you'll be riding home with me tonight.

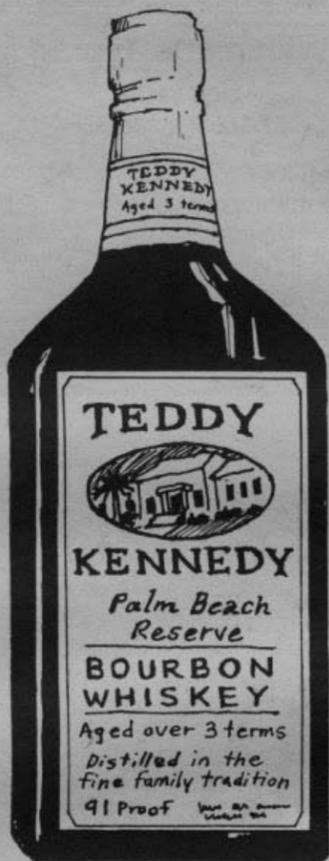
Thank you, that's better. When I tell you to do something, I want it done, dammit! Am I asking too much?

SANTA: Ho ho ho!

KENNEDY: Well, look, boys and girls! It's Santa Claus! What do you have in the bag for us, Santa?

SANTA: Ho ho ho! Nothing for you, Teddy! Santa's heard you've been a baaaaad boy this year...

(Laughter)



JRC '91

KENNEDY: Yeah, yeah, you're a (bleep!)ing hoot, Santa. Give me the damn bag and shutup. And never, never upstage a Kennedy. You hear me, Santa?

SANTA: Ho ho ho! Calm down, Teddy.

KENNEDY: Answer the question, you dork. Do I make myself clear?

SANTA: Sure, Teddy.

KENNEDY: Just because you're Santa Claus don't mean a damn thing. You don't have the power a Kennedy has. You ride a sleigh. I ride other things. Say, that reminds me, Paul, do you need a date sometime?

PAUL: No, that's all right.

KENNEDY: Don't say I never offered. Hey, look, it's the children coming to decorate the Kennedy Christmas tree!

How are you, you little angels?

CHILDREN: Fine, Mr. Kennedy.

KENNEDY: And what's your name, little girl?

GIRL: Mandy.

KENNEDY: How old are you, Mandy?

GIRL: Five.

KENNEDY: Call me when you're 21. Or call my nephew when you're 15. Well, decorate, decorate. 'Tis the season, children.

CHILDREN: Thank you, Mr. Kennedy.

KENNEDY: While the children decorate the tree and I get plastered backstage, we'll go to a word from our sponsor.

See you in a few when my guests will be Clarence Thomas, Chuck Woolery and that girl from the "Cherry Pie" video.

So pop that popcorn and use that bathroom or whatever and we'll be back in two...

Tom Petty entertains Portland audience to the tune of a six-song encore

By Cory Frye
Of The Commuter

PORTLAND—"I'm just up here enjoying myself," admitted Tom Petty to the throngs of screaming masses. He was slightly out of breath, just having finished an eight-minute-plus version of his 1985 psychedelic classic "Don't Come Around Here No More" from the album "Southern Accents."

review

The crowd was still stunned from the guitar solo in which Petty scampered about the stage under a barrage of strobe lights, running in circles to keep away from the guys dressed as Nixon, Reagan and George Bush.

And the performance was just that: weird, quick and quite a show. The "Don't Come Around Here No More" performance was simply the icing on a larger, universal cake. Not only did Petty perform the songs, he made sure that the audience was entertained as well, with snappy banter when he addressed the Portland audience.

After Petty sang a numbing rendition of "Free Falling" from his solo album "Full Moon Fever," a figure emerged from inside the large, twisted foam tree that was part of his set and came down to him. It was the "Psychedelic Dragon," probably a roadie with a dragon mask, and he offered Petty the "Psychedelic Harmonica," which the dragon bade him to play.

Uneasily, Petty asked the audience, "It's the Psychedelic Harmonica. Should I blow into it?"

The crowd shouted their approval.

"I don't know," he said. "It's pretty powerful."

More hoots. "Play it," someone shouted.

Petty did, slowly blowing into the chambers to test the waters. Then he just tore loose into a barn-burning rendition of "Psychotic Reaction."

The best rendition of his classics was an extended version of "Break-down" from his first album. During the middle of the song, Petty began to plead with an unseen girl to not hurt him. A solo white light came down on him as he cried, "Don't, don't, don't, don't." Pause. "Never, never, never, never." Long pause. "Make me cry," he finished, lowering his head until it almost disappeared. His guitar swung upwards to his neck and there he stood until the rest of the Heartbreakers quieted down. When they did, he shouted, "Break down!" and the band was back with him for the finish.

Unlike most bands who play the Coliseum, the Heartbreakers came to have a blast and they did, along with the thousands who joined the party. In fact, when they left the stage, the tumult grew to such proportions that they came back and did an encore of six songs.

And that wasn't enough; the crowd was hungry for more.

Maybe someday he'll come back. And when he does, one can be sure that he'll leave 'em the way he left 'em.

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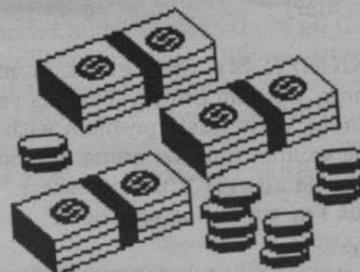
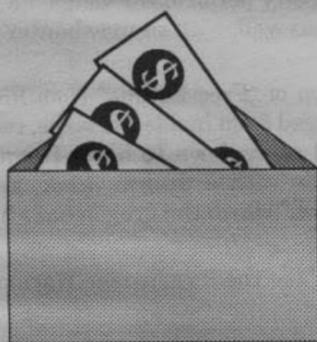
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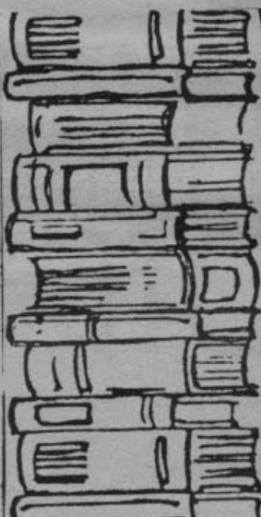
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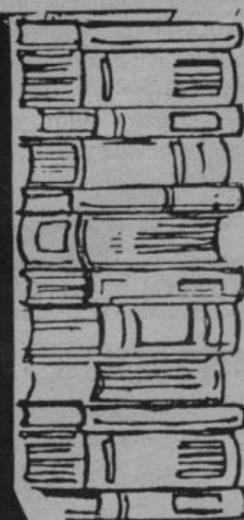
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sports

NCAA play-off system could end confusion over national champs

By Mark Peterson
Of The Commuter

With Miami(11-0) and Washington(11-0) going undefeated in 1991, many college football fans are screaming for some type of play-off system. Miami and Washington won't meet in a bowl game because UW, the Pacific-10 champion has to play in the Rose Bowl against Big-10 champ Michigan.

on the mark

This means college football fans have to rely on the Associated Press writers and the college coaches to decide who the best is.

These fans have a point. There should be some type of play-off system to decide who is actually the best team in college football.

Every major college sport has a play-off system of some kind except for football. The NCAA basketball tournament is even making millions of dollars.

Some people may say, "What about the bowls? Would they become obsolete?" The bowls can be used, just used as sites for the games.

The Rose Bowl is known as "The Granddaddy of them all" so it could be used as the championship site to be played on January 1st.

The next two biggest bowls, the Orange Bowl and Sugar Bowl, could even be the host sites for the semi-final games.

Since football takes a lot out of the players, cut the tournament down to sixteen teams.

The play-off system hopefully will be inevitable because who knows, Miami or Washington may not be the best team in college football. The best team right now might be Florida(10-1) or Michigan(10-1), but they each have one loss. The best team could even be teams like Colorado(8-2-1) or Tennessee(9-2). The national champion should be the team who can play best under the pressure of a tournament.

We might see a play-off system pretty quickly if the two polls end up splitting their vote as they did last year when Colorado took the AP poll and Georgia Tech took the CNN coaches poll.

By the way, "Go Washington!"

Johnson's magic leads Roadrunner hoop team

By Joel Slaughter
Of The Commuter

Tina Johnson might be described as just another athlete at Linn-Benton, but she is really much more than your average student-athlete. Johnson is at the halfway point of her Roadrunner athletic career, having played one year each of basketball and volleyball.

Not only is she versatile, but also a standout in both sports. Last year she scored 40 points and 11 rebounds in a league game. This past volleyball season Johnson shined in a four set loss to Chemeketa with 22 kills, 21 digs, and 4 blocks. No matter what happens in her remaining stay at LB, Johnson has already demonstrated she is a tremendous athlete. In addition, she spends a great amount of time pursuing her Microcomputer Operations major.

Johnson, 5'11", was a three sport star at Scio High School, where she graduated in 1990. She played volleyball, basketball, and softball, while picking up several MVP awards and All-Star honors.

Johnson has played volleyball for five years and basketball for nine years. She first got involved in sports by watching her older sister play. "My older sister played basketball in high school," explained Johnson. "I always went to watch her and it just made me want to play."

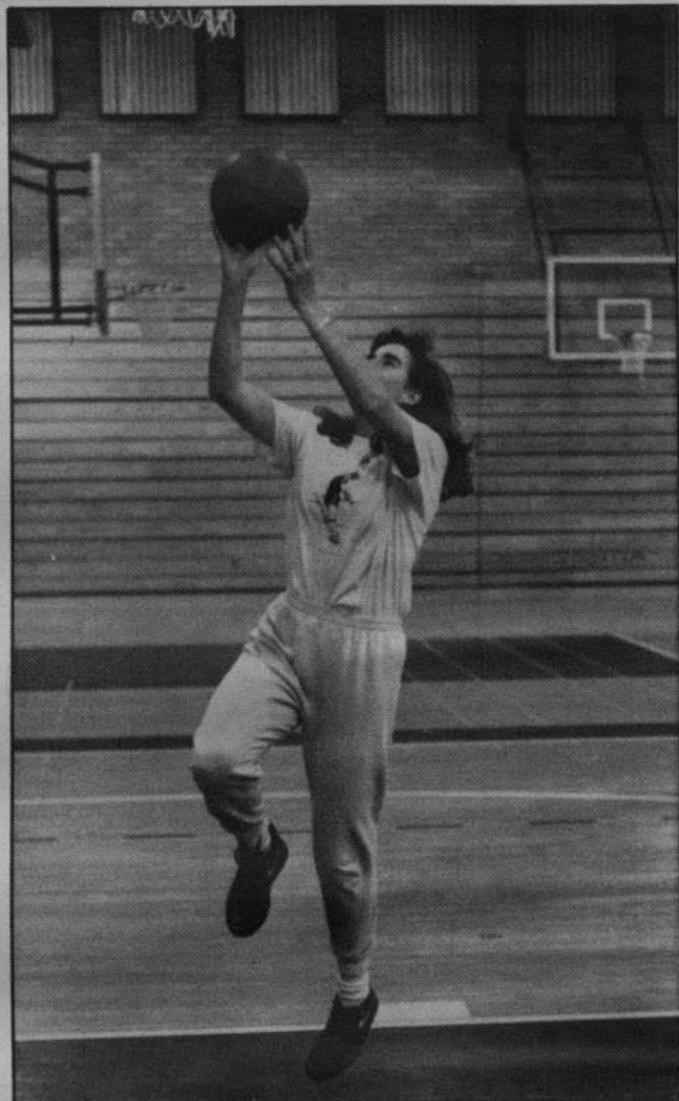
Linn-Benton was the logical choice for Johnson, who liked it's small size and price tag. "I didn't really know what my major was going to be," said Johnson. "So I just decided to come to LBCC because it's small and it's cheaper."

Johnson's three coaches at LB have all been instrumental in helping her improve consistently. Kevin Robbins has coached Johnson in volleyball and Debbie Herrold and Belinda Lopez have shared the task in basketball.

"They've all taught me a lot," said Johnson. "All three are really competitive, so I guess I've learned to be a bit more competitive. I've learned so much. I've improved in everything."

Johnson also found that athletics at the college level requires a little more work. "In high school I wasn't in really good shape and in college you kinda have to be," said Johnson. "So, I've gotten in shape."

Johnson contributes her athletic success to her parents, her coaches, and the people of Scio. "My parents have



Tina Johnson practices her layups at the Activities Center gym. Johnson returns for her second year to anchor the Roadrunners.

always been really supportive and in Scio I had a lot of supporters and my coaches, of course, have helped me a lot," said Johnson.

A small town girl who has put on some big time performances, Tina Johnson has already made her mark at Linn-Benton. Who knows what she might accomplish in the second half.

LBCC men dominate Western Baptist JV LB women reach consolation finale

By Joel Slaughter
Of The Commuter

Linn-Benton's mens basketball team started off on the right foot last weekend, blowing out the Western Baptist junior varsity 100-69.

The Roadrunners, 1-0, took control in the first half, holding Western Baptist to 44 percent shooting from the field and no free throws.

LB went into the locker room at halftime with a 52-27 lead, and then continued to roll in the second half, en route to the 31-point win.

Guard Eric Price led the Roadrunner attack with 21 points, eight rebounds, eight assists and five steals.

Four other players scored in double

figures.

Forward Ryan Lyons picked up 19 points, six rebounds, five steals, and three assists.

Center Ramiro Ramirez and guard Zac Metzker each scored 13 points and Chris Scarborough added 12.

Although Linn-Benton turned the ball over 18 times, they had 16 steals, twice as many as Western Baptist.

"I was very pleased with the way the team played," said coach Randy Falk. "Our efforts showed a well balanced attack, both offensively and defensively."

The Roadrunners will host the Linfield JV team Thursday night at 7 p.m.

Linn-Benton's women's basketball team lost in the consolation title game at the Yakima Valley Tournament on Sunday, losing to Yakima Valley, 90-65.

LB reached the consolation title game by losing the opener to Everett Community College 61-55 on Friday, and then beating Clark Community College 71-59 on Saturday.

Tina Johnson was chosen to the all-tournament team by scoring a total of 67 points in the three games.

In the game against Clark, Johnson shot an amazing 12-15 from the field and scored 29 points.

The Roadrunners next home game is December 11 at 6 p.m. against Clark.

CADDIE PAUL BRAMLETT ROOTED SO HARD FOR HIS GOLFER THAT HE TURNED AN EAGLE PUTT INTO A BOGEY AT THE 1978 QUAD CITIES OPEN IN COAL VALLEY, ILL. LEONARD THOMPSON STROKED HIS THIRD SHOT ON THE PAR-5 TENTH HOLE FOR WHAT LOOKED LIKE AN EAGLE. BUT A CHEERING BRAMLETT ACCIDENTALLY DROPPED A TEE WHICH DEFLECTED THE BALL AWAY FROM THE HOLE AND COST THOMPSON A TWO-STROKE PENALTY.

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A RED-FACED REFEREE WAS FORCED TO USE A SOCK AS A PENALTY FLAG DURING A TEXAS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL GAME IN 1980. F. RAYMOND RALCH ARRIVED AT THE STADIUM IN HOUSTON AND DISCOVERED HIS REGULATION YELLOW FLAG WAS MISSING, SO RALCH GRABBED THE NEXT BEST THING TO STUFF INTO HIS BACK POCKET—A WHITE SOCK WITH THREE YELLOW STRIPES. WHENEVER RALCH CALLED A PENALTY, THE STADIUM ANNOUNCER COULDN'T RESIST SAYING:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THERE'S A SOCK ON THE PLAY!

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Photographers Wanted

The Commuter is seeking students with experience in photography to take photographs for the newspaper. Film and processing provided. We're looking for photographers with a good eye for content and composition, and who want the experience and exposure that comes with photographing for newspapers. Dependability and creativity a must!

Contact Christof Walsdorf,
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the funny page



MISTER BOFFO
by Joe Martin



SHOE
by Jeff MacNelly

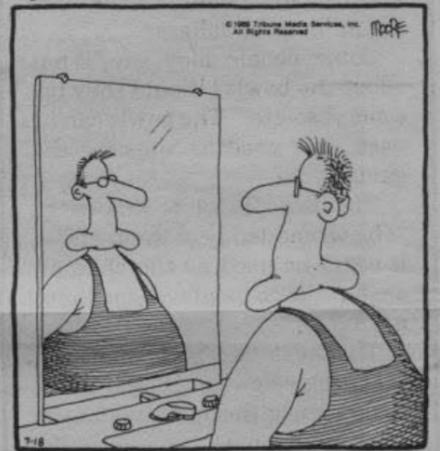


top ten list

From the home office in Zigzag here's this week's Top Ten List of New Energy Sources.

10. Harness the static cling in Dee Andros' polyester slacks.
9. In cold and flu season, use foreheads of feverish youngsters to warm dinner rolls.
8. Make use of the steam that comes from Dan Quayle's ears when tries multiplication.
7. Cher's G-string.
6. Build a hydroelectric dam to utilize the runoff from Albany's tobacco chewers.
5. Norm's bar stool at Cheers could heat a family of six for the winter.
4. Tap into the sexual energy between McNeil and Lehrer.
3. Gov. Barbara Roberts thought to be holding vast amounts of Sterno in her Portland apartment.
2. Put Curly on a treadmill, and throw a beehive in his pants.
1. Beef Jerky and lima bean after-dinner mints.

IN THE BLEACHERS
by Steve Moore



In spite of daily workouts and miles of jogging, Dennis could never get rid of his annoying paunch.



"Yo!! Mind if we play through?"



Merry Christmas!
FROM CORY FRYE

Hello!
Well, it's been a great first semester, and now I'm sure you're all going home for the holidays and if you are, more power to ya! Me, I think I'll stay in town and sit on my butt Christmas Eve and dream of living in a better town. Anyway, so you next semester when I plan to tick more people off--with a vengeance!
Fater days, Cory Frye

