

Credit Check Challenge

One student's complaint attracts federal attention to LBCC's policy

by Justin Dalton
of the Commuter

An LBCC student's complaint about the college's new policy requiring credit checks for student loans has drawn the attention of federal officials.

According to Financial Aid Director Lance Popoff, a student sent a complaint to Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden in November protesting the credit check procedure instituted by LBCC this year in an attempt to lower its default rate on student loans. Last year, 24 percent of students who received loans failed to pay them back.

After viewing the letter, Wyden confronted the U.S. Department of Education (USDE), and sent a letter to

Popoff, which included Wyden's opposition to the school's credit check policy. Wyden said that the Stafford Loan was a "need-based" plan to help students get on their feet and get the education they deserve, and that credit checks were counter to that goal.

According to Popoff, from what he understood, the letter sent to Wyden expressed a lot of animosity toward the credit check policy that was instituted fall term. "Probably because the student was denied a student loan and was mad about it, and then felt compelled enough to write a letter and complain," said Popoff.

The letter sent to Wyden was the only formal complaint made about the credit checks, even though there are many other

community colleges in Oregon, including Portland and Umpqua, that also use these checks to keep their default rates low. "Many students from other community colleges have threatened to send letters, but none of them have followed through," said Popoff.

He added that when a USDE official called him to get a better understanding of the reasons behind LBCC's policy, Popoff learned that the USDE was in the process of writing a policy that would ban colleges from conducting credit checks on the Stafford Loan.

In a recent meeting involving all the financial aid directors in Oregon community colleges, the group decided, accord-

ing to Popoff, to "continue credit checks until we get something in black-and-white" from the USDE. "I think it's working well and is very focused in helping lower the default rates. We've tried many things in the past, with minimal success. The credit check seems to be the sort of last resort," said Popoff.

He added that if the USDE does adopt the policy, the colleges will be in a "double bind, with no end." He explained that the schools will have to assume responsibility for combating loan defaults without their most effective weapon.

The Financial Aid Department is connected with a national listserve on the Internet, he said, and if any changes occur to the proposed situation, they will learn of it immediately.

"We've tried many things in the past, with minimal success. The credit check seems to be the sort of, last resort."

—Lance Popoff



Photo by Jake Taylor

Food For the Heart

Culinary arts student Pamela Nelson-Munson prepares salad for the special Valentine's Day Luncheon hosted by the Santiam Restaurant staff last Friday, which served 81.

Wyden faces the voters

Oregon's senior senator asked about Iraq, Social Security and cloning at Lebanon town meeting

by Pete Petryszak
of The Commuter

Ron Wyden took questions on a diverse array of subjects, ranging from foreign affairs and the possibility of military action against Iraq to the federal budget, transportation issues and welfare reform, at the Lebanon Boys' and Girls' Club Saturday afternoon.

His own remarks lasting less than a minute, the senator opened the meeting by declaring all subjects fair game and told the 40 people in attendance, "This is an opportunity for you folks to educate me."

Questions about the likelihood of potential air strikes against Saddam Hussein and the role of American forces in the Persian Gulf and the world dominated the early part of the discussion. Wyden echoed President Clinton's statement that he prayed that Hussein would comply with the U.N. weapon inspection teams, and

also said that "the ball's in Hussein's court" if the Iraqi leader wished to avoid military action.

The United States has a vital national security interest in the Persian Gulf, the senator said, because biological weapons could be easily used against American citizens if Iraq was able to develop and distribute them to terrorists. When the Senate returns from its recess, it will take up a resolution authorizing the president to take "all appropriate action" to ensure that Iraq complies with the U.N. inspection plan.

Wyden also heard from parents of military personnel in the Gulf, who questioned him on the appropriate load for American troops to carry in maintaining world order and whether a new round of air strikes would be effective.

(Turn to "Group" on Pg. 2)



✓ **Tough Times**
Student mom perseveres despite family tragedy

Page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Check This Out

Drop deadline is Feb. 20, which means this Friday is your last chance to bail out of a course that's not working out.

✓ **Turnaround**
Runners break losing streak and take aim at playoffs

Page 5



Wyden calls for new highway law, more deficit reduction

✓ From Page 1

He answered by saying the U.S. should try to "delegitimize" Hussein and support alternatives to his government.

Social Security was also on the minds of many people. Wyden proposed making Social Security revenue off-limits and described the practice of using Social Security tax revenue to mask budget shortfalls, "one of the untold scandals of government."

He warned that the Social Security system would be hit by a "demographic tsunami" when many baby boomers retire around the year 2010. To prevent the fund from going bankrupt at that time, we must stop using Social Security revenue as a "multi-purpose spigot for every purpose under the sun in government."

Wyden also addressed the related subject of Medicare, criticizing the system for its cumbersome regulations and health care agencies' concerns over "turf."

He proposed initiating research into how the system's administration could be streamlined while expanding the care options the program covers.

Questions and answers touched briefly on cloning, telecommunications and welfare reform, concluding with a discussion of bills offering federal matching funds for transportation.

Wyden said that while there was a broad bipartisan consensus that cloning human beings was a bad idea, he said that it was also unwise to ban all research. Cloning research, he said, "could



Photo by Pete Petryszak

U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden talks to constituents at a town hall meeting at the Lebanon Boys and Girls Club Saturday. Wyden took questions on the subjects of Iraq, Social Security, cloning and welfare.

lead to breakthroughs against what were thought to be incurable diseases," and an "ill-crafted ban" could be more dangerous than "the work of a handful of scientists."

The Telecommunications Reform Act of 1995 was a partial success, Wyden

said, but it might be necessary to "dust off the anti-trust laws" to insure competition in the cable, phone and Internet markets. Although the law has not been able to stem the tide of colossal corporate mergers in the telecommunications industry, Wyden pointed out that it did

make possible the construction of a computer network connecting Oregon's public schools and libraries.

In the area of welfare reform, the senator said that "the current welfare system isn't working for anybody," and called on the federal government to allow states to adopt programs tailored to their own needs.

Oregon's welfare rolls went down 40 percent after its welfare plan was adopted, Wyden said. The key to an effective welfare system is to put people to work while providing adequate child care and continuing the health care benefits available to people receiving assistance.

The meeting ended with a discussion of transportation issues. Wyden talked about a proposal he supports that would free up federal gas tax revenue for the states to use for any transportation purpose.

Under current law, those revenues must be used for highway construction and repair, but under the Inter-modal Surface Transportation Enhancement Act (ISTEA), Oregon could also use them for light rail construction.

Saturday's meeting marked Wyden's 13 town hall meeting of 1998. When he was first elected to the Senate, Wyden vowed to hold a town meeting in each one of Oregon's 36 counties every year.

That goal was attained in both 1996 and 1997, and Wyden is well on his way to meeting it again in 1998, having already met in one third of the state's counties within the first six weeks of the year.

Student elections held next week

Five candidates—including two for president—will be on the ballot next week when elections for the Associated Student Government of LBCC are held on Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 24 and 25.

Although the five candidates represent more than twice as many as applied in the past two years, four of the eight seats on the council remain open, with no candidates. About 20 applications had been picked up, but only eight were turned in, and three of those were disqualified because they missed the noon

Friday filing deadline.

Voting booths will be set in the second floor College Center lobby and in Takena Hall and will be staffed from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 to 7:30 p.m..

The following candidates will be on the ballot:

- President: Keisha Merchant and Derek Allen Clark
- Vice-President: Rebecca Bruner
- Business and Health Occupations Representative: Shawna Kiefiuk
- At-Large Representative: Josh Stanley

commuter staff

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

Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty or Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of those who sign them. Readers are encouraged to use The Commuter Opinion Page to express their views on campus or community matters.

Address correspondence to The Commuter, 6500 S.W. Pacific Blvd., Albany, OR 97321; telephone (541) 917-4451 or 917-4452; Fax (541) 917-4454; E-mail commuter@gw.lbcc.cc.or.us. The newsroom is located in Room 210 of the College Center.

The Commuter Staff:

Editor, Melani Whisler; **Managing Editor**, Pete Petryszak; **Photo Editor**, Josh Burk; **Photo Assistant**, John Bragg; **Sports Editor**, Shawna Phillips; **Chief Copy Editor**, Mary Hake; **Copy Editor**, Jason Oullette; **Assistant Editors**, Schellene Mills, Benjamin Sell; **A&E Editor**, James Eagan; **Advertising Manager**, Kathy Hood; **Advertising Assistant**, Lauri Alex; **Digital Page Designer**, Jason Reynolds; **Production Assistant**, Michele Dardis; **Advisor**, Rich Bergeman.

Reporters: Keisha Merchant, Curtis Larson, Jeremy Parker, Erica Larsen, Valerie Blank, E.J. Harris, Leslie Smith, Julie Smyth, Justin Dalton, Brock Jacks, Anne Patricia Vernay, Spencer Berndt, Rebecca Newell, Eric Rinkin.

Photographers: Carrie Baxter, Natalie Dalton, E.J. Harris, Jake Taylor.

Outdoor summer jobs listings abound at LB Career Center

by Eric J. Rinkin
of The Commuter

Students who want a break from the ordinary this summer can find a wide variety of jobs at national forests, amusement parks and youth camps, according to the LBCC Career Center.

For instance, the Mount Hood Kiwanis Camp is looking for counselors to teach children, youth and adults. The camp is located in the U.S. National Forest near Portland, Ore.

The Student Conservation Association (SCA) has summer and fall volunteer positions in the Resource Assistance Program for areas throughout the U.S. and District of Columbia. The SCA provides opportunities for citizen involvement in the management and conservation of our nation's

parcs, forests, wildlife refuges and other public lands.

Northwest Youth Corps (NYC), which is modeled after the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), is also looking for summer employees. Corp members earn minimum wage and spend five weeks away from the amenities of modern civilization.

Disneyland and Disney World schedule only one recruitment visit to Oregon each year. They will be at the LaSells Stewart Center at OSU on Feb. 26 at 6 p.m.

Crater Lake is also employing students. They allow 2 days off to raft, hike or whatever you choose to do.

To find out more about these opportunities or others not described, see Carla Raymond in T-101 or call 917-4780.

Need to *Sell* or *Buy*
Something?

e-Trader.com

Online Advertising

e-Trader provides paperless advertising to the Willamette Valley.

Prices start at \$9.95
Photos available

P.O. Box 251 • Philomath, OR 97370
(541) 929-2214 See us at

<http://www.e-trader.com>

UMBRELLA PROPERTIES

SAVE MONEY. Studio, 1, or 2 bedrooms. Call the resident manager about move-in discount.

Albany

\$325-350 The Timberlinn 926-0925
\$325-445 The Sheffield 967-1288
\$535-550 MeadowGreen 926-4768
\$560 The CollegeGreen 928-4439

Lebanon

\$460 Oakwood Terrace 452-4932
\$495 The Countryside 259-2027

No Application Fee

541-484-6595

LOCAL NEWS

Teen mom remains positive despite tragedy

Story and Photo by Rebecca Newell
of The Commuter

For most people, Jan. 1 is a day of contemplating goals, resolutions, and optimistic views for the new year.

Tragically, the first day of 1998 was an event Lebanon resident Terry Turner would never live to see, and his death set in motion a series of events that threw the life of his daughter, a Lebanon High senior, into turmoil.

A week after Turner was reported missing on Jan. 2, his ex-wife's boyfriend, Wesley James Lewis, 29, was arrested and charged with his murder. Linn County deputies and Explorer Post members found his buried body two days later, and the following week his car was discovered in the Santiam River.

Sheriff Dave Burright said that Terry Turner was shot to death at his home on New Year's Eve. The Linn County Grand Jury indicted both Wesley and Turner's former wife, Patty Ann Turner, on charges of murder. Both are in Linn County Jail awaiting trial.

But there were more victims in the case besides Terry Turner.

Mikayla "Mikki" Turner has not only lost both her parents, but she has also had to endure the tragedy while going through the difficult birth of her first baby.

Mikki went into the hospital on Dec. 28 after beginning contractions in her eighth month of pregnancy. Over the next two weeks, while the legal drama unfolded in the local newspapers, she was on medication to stop the contractions in order to increase the development of her baby's lungs. On Jan. 11, Isaac Joshua Neal Lee was born.

Mikki and Isaac are living with her older sister and brother-in-law, Mandy and Jason Ridders, of Albany. Mandy serves as a support system, a position which Mikki wishes could be filled by her mother.

"The first day I came back to school, everyone just stared," Mikki said. "The next day, everyone talked to me

about the baby, acting like they were my best friend, but talked about my parents behind my back."

The most difficult things for Mikki have not been just the sleepless nights and lack of freedom that comes with having a newborn, but also the task of raising her child without the guidance of her mother. The first time her mother saw the baby was through a glass window at the county jail.

Talking to her mom on the phone presents another emotional struggle. "If she's having a bad day, it makes me sad to talk to her, but I do because I love her, and she's my mom," said Mikki. Patty's lawyer is working on a visitation between Isaac and his grandmother, but Mikki hopes she won't be in jail much longer.

Fulfilling her new role as a mother has its ups and downs. "Having a baby makes you grow up and become more responsible. You can't think about just yourself. You have someone who depends on you," Mikki said. She is continuing at LHS and hopes to graduate on schedule this spring.

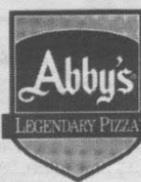
Mikki also hopes to be accepted at Southern Oregon State University, and is looking forward to the possibility of studying general education there. If that falls through, Mikki said she will attend LBCC next year.

In the meantime, Mikki looks forward to raising her son and being reunited with her mother.



Mikki Turner, with her son Issac, attends an LHS basketball game.

MID-WEEK MADNESS!
MONDAY - THURSDAY
Giant Pepperoni \$10.99



3033 Santiam Hwy.
Albany
928-9311

Open 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.

COUPON

\$3.00 OFF

Any Giant Pizza

Dine-in or delivery!
Please mention this coupon when ordering. Not valid in combination with any other special or offer. Good at any Abby's location.

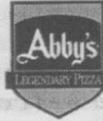


COUPON

\$2.00 OFF

Any Large Pizza

Dine-in or delivery!
Please mention this coupon when ordering. Not valid in combination with any other special or offer. Good at any Abby's location.



"A Taste Of The Olympics" Free Trip to OMSI !

Saturday, February 28
• Van departs at 10 a.m.
• Van returns at 4 p.m.

Meet in front of Tadena Hall. Transportation is provided. Open to LBCC students only.

Sign up in the Student Life & Leadership Office at CC-213 or call Dan Hildenbrand at 917-4463 for more information.

Come See!

Women: A True Story

A film series hosted by Susan Sarandon

(Co-sponsored by LBCC Student Life & Leadership and the Gender Equity Committee)

March 2: "The Double Shift"

Boardrooms A & B (CC-103)

March 3: "The Need To Know"

Fireside Room (CC-211)

March 4: "Body Politics"

Fireside Room (CC-211)

March 5: "The Power Game"

Boardrooms A & B (CC-103)

March 6: "Postcards from the Future"

Willamette Room (CC-219)

All programs will be held from 12-1:30 p.m. and will include a facilitated discussion following the video. Soup and rolls will be provided for all participants.

For more information contact the Student Life & Leadership Office, CC-213, ext. 4457.

Billiards Tournament

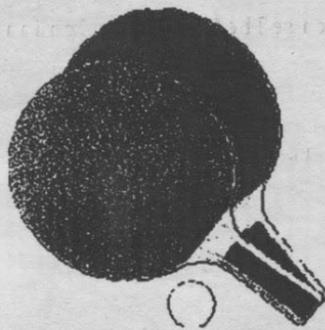


Free 8-Ball Tournament

When: Feb 26, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Where: In the Rec. Room, CC-212

Sign up by Feb. 20 in the Student Life & Leadership Office in Room CC-213. Warm-up starts at 9 a.m.
Double Elimination. Best of 3 games.

Ping-Pong Tournament



Free Ping Pong Tournament

When: Feb 26, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Where: In the Rec. Room, CC-212

Sign up by Feb. 20 in the Student Life & Leadership Office in Room CC-213. Warm-up starts at 9 a.m.
Round Robin, best of 3 games.

review

'Imaginary Invalid' still a 'must see' despite being 325 years old

by James Eagan
of The Commuter

Perhaps the greatest play written by French playwright Moliere was, unfortunately, his last.

"The Imaginary Invalid," written 325 years ago, and now on stage at Albany Civic Theater, is still as humorous and topical as it ever was. In its inaugural run, Moliere played the lead character and, after four days, died an ironic and painful death.

Ironic because the play that he wrote and was starring in happened to be about a hypochondriac who constantly surrounded himself with doctors.

Argan, played masterfully by Gary Tharp of Corvallis, is a rich, older man who is "chronically ill." The truth is, he's not really sick, he just thinks that nobody would care about him if he weren't.

Tharp does a wonderful job displaying the humor and pathetic stupidity of Argan. The transitions between the "well" Argan and the "sick" Argan are seamless.

Argan's daughter Angelique, played by Corey Coleman, is madly in love and wishes to marry Cleante, portrayed by Mike Coleman.

Their on-stage chemistry is completely flawless, partly due to the fact that they happen to be married. Angelique is a wide-eyed, shy but headstrong young woman determined to marry the man of her dreams, not her father's. Cleante is the dashing young suitor who had been corresponding with Angelique when they fell in love.

The man that Argan wants his oldest daughter to marry is a dim-witted doctor played by Brian W. Rhodes of Corvallis. Rhodes is completely convincing as the idiotic, infatuated young M. Tiaforius.

His father, Dr. Tiaforius, played by Don Kinder of Salem, is also an idiot, but is slightly smarter than his son. The two

work well together, and the characterization is very good.

Toinette, the devious maid, is played well by Marlene Rhodes. Playing both sides against the middle, she eventually helps to convince Argan that the marriage between his daughter and the doctor won't work at all.

Argan's second wife, played by Cindy Dicianna of Lebanon, is eager for her husband to die so she can acquire his wealth. Dicianna does a great job in switching from a loving wife to a merciless gold digger.

Other players include Oscar B. Hult, John Hill, Kelsey Armstrong-Hahn and Craig Hamnquist, all of whom portray their characters with skill and wit.

This was perhaps one of the funniest plays I've seen at Albany Civic Theater (ACT). Robert Leff directed a wonderful production full of both intellectual and physical humor.

The set, designed by Leff and Lee W. Snider, is incredible, and costume designer Jodi Altendorf made all the players look fabulous.

This is a definite must-see. So pry yourself away from the Winter Olympics for a night and see a rather humorous take on health care and the patients they are supposedly taking care of.

The play continues Feb. 20, 21, 26, 27 and 28 at 8:15 p.m., with a 2:30 p.m. matinee on Sunday, Feb. 22. Tickets are \$7 general admission, \$5 for persons over 60 or under 18.

Tickets may be purchased or reserved at Sid Stevens Jewelers in Albany (967-8140), or Rice's Pharmacy in Corvallis (752-7779). When tickets remain, they go on sale on a first-come, first-served basis at the ACT box office at 111 First Ave. 45 minutes before curtain time.

"The Imaginary Invalid" contains some bawdy humor, not suitable for younger children. Parental discretion is advised.

review

DS9 idealizes a color-blind future

by James Eagan
of The Commuter

I was watching "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" last week, and after watching it, I decided to pass along my impressions of this particular episode.

The fact that February is Black History Month made this week's commentary easier to write than I thought.

In this episode (one of the best I've seen in a while,) Capt. Benjamin Sisko has "visions" that he has been projected into the early 1950s, and is employed as a writer for a science fiction magazine.

The premise is this: Sisko writes a story about the "fictional" Deep Space Nine (DS9), and because the captain happens to be black, the story cannot be published. As far as the public is concerned, the editor in chief explains, "Benny" is a white male.

Undaunted, Benny continues to write DS9 stories, even though none of them will be published. Then one of the writers has the idea that it was just a dream, and there is no black captain, nor is there a space station. Hopes rise, and Benny celebrates his victory with his girlfriend.

After the celebration, however, things turn dark. Benny's friend is

shot, and when he tries to help, Benny is severely beaten by the police.

Upon returning to work, it is revealed that the publisher refuses to publish the DS9 stories, and Benny is fired.

Captain Sisko eventually wakes up from his visions, and tells his colleagues of his adventures.

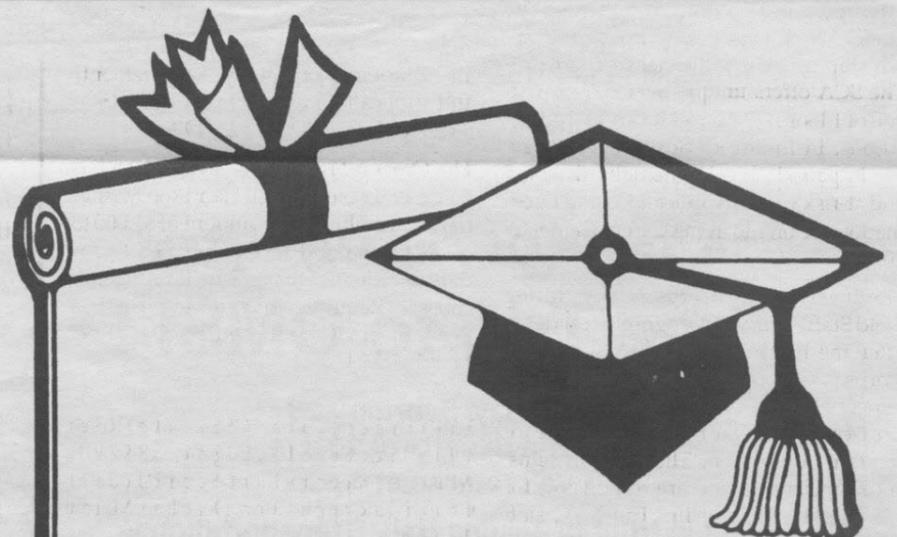
What really struck me about this episode was the way the racial issues were presented. It was straightforward and honest, not hiding behind the shield of political correctness.

The point of the episode is that while racism has existed in the past (and continues to exist in the 90s), 300 years in the future, race is irrelevant. All races, sexes and species from other worlds can live in peace and harmony.

Gene Roddenberry's original vision of what Star Trek was supposed to be has once again been fulfilled.

This was perhaps one of the best "Deep Space Nine" episodes ever produced. The writing and acting were excellent, and it was nice to see some of the actors playing different characters without the prosthetic makeup.

When this episode comes back around in repeats, I highly recommend that you watch it, whether you're a Star Trek fan or not.



GRADUATION APPLICATION DEADLINE

If you plan on participating in the graduation ceremony and/or graduating Spring Term 1998, you must apply at the Admissions Office by:

APRIL 10, 1998

Note: The graduation process has changed. You may be required to meet with your advisor before you apply so....

DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE!

Caps and gowns will be available in the Bookstore prior to the graduation ceremony.

The ceremony will be held on June 11, 1998.

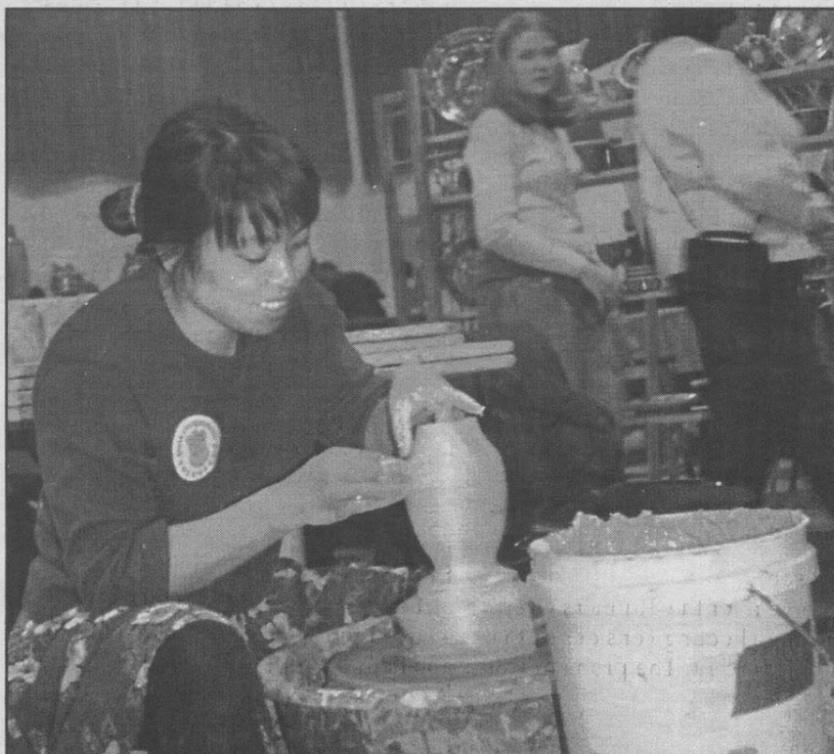


Photo by Trish Vernay

A Ceramic Tradition

Corvallis potter Terry Inokuma demonstrates her craft during the Asian Celebration in Eugene on Saturday. Inokuma's studio, Poem of the Wild Boar, is at 430 N.W. 15th St. About 10 LBCC students took advantage of a free ride to the fair offered by the Student Programming Board.

SPORTS PAGE

classifieds

HELP WANTED

Cruise Ship & Land-Tour Jobs. Excellent benefits. World travel. Ask us how! 517-324-3090 ext. C60651.

Federal Summer Jobs are great ways to get experience and be outside as engineering aids, forest aids, biological aids or hydrology aids. See job placement in the Career Center (Takena 101).

UPS Orientation & Interviews: Great pay and great hours! Be at the Alsea/Calapooia rooms (CC-203) 7 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 23 with your last 2 employers names, addresses and phone numbers and be ready to fill out an application. Local sorter jobs 5-9 p.m. Mon-Fri and Unloader jobs 4 a.m.-8 a.m. Mon-Fri.

Design Technicians and Design Automation Support (Corvallis). Work for an established company. Drafting and computer support positions pay well and have great benefits. See Student Employment for this great opportunity! (T-101).

Accounts Receivable Clerk. Collect membership fees, reconcile and post payments and answer inquiries in this full-time position in a club setting. See Carla in Job Placement (Takena 101).

Student Conservation Association (SCA) has summer and fall volunteer positions in the Resource Assistant Program for areas throughout the U.S. and District of Columbia, including Hawaii and Alaska. The SCA provides opportunities for citizen involvement in the management and conservation of our nation's parks, forests, wildlife refuges and other public lands. You may obtain academic or internship credit for the field experience. The SCA offers unique personal growth and outdoor experiences for special populations, including disadvantaged, hearing impaired, developmentally disabled and at-risk youth. Applications and information are on file in the Career Center T-101.

Northwest Youth Corps is now hiring Field Staff! The NYC program is modeled after the historic Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC's) of the 1930s. Corps members earn minimum wage and spend entire five weeks away from the amenities of modern civilization. They live in tents, cook their meals, and are responsible for the chores of camp life. The NYC staff direct coeducational teenage (14-19) crews on a variety of reforestation, conservation, and recreation projects located in remote areas throughout the Pacific N.W. Interesting employment opportunities at Takena 101!

DISNEYLAND and DISNEY WORLD schedule only one recruitment in Oregon each year. It will be held at LaSells Stewart Center at OSU on Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. You must attend the meeting in order to be considered for an interviews immediately following. Information available at LBCC's Career Center, T-101, or call OSU Career Services at 541-737-0519.

Earn money and have fun this summer! The Career Center has a file full of wonderful summer opportunities. Stop by and review our files. We are in Takena 101, or call 917-4780 for more information.

Mount Hood Kiwanis Camp is looking for counselors to teach children, youth and adults with significant disabilities during the summer. The camp is located in the U.S. National Forest near Portland, Ore. Counseling positions are available for university/college students, teachers, high school seniors, etc. This is an excellent training opportunity for present or anticipated work with people with disabilities or other related services. This provides six hours of undergraduate or graduate credit through Portland State University and tuition scholarship for qualified students.

WANTED

Looking for serious but fun female keyboardist, drummer, and bass to play

with R&B, hip-hop rap group with Christian influence. Call 754-7514 if seriously interested, leave message.

Computer wanted! Minimum requirements of 200 MHZ 32 meg ram, windows 95 based preferred. Need to run Auto Cad R13. Contact Jeff at 967-8860.

FOR SALE

1984 Chevy S-10, A/T, stereo, need to sell, \$1800. Leave message 541-327-2853.

Used Speed Queen Dryer, Excellent condition! \$115. Call 541-929-3512.

Hardly used HP 300 LX Palmtop PC, 2MB, Word, Excel, e-mail, and more! \$300 OBO. 541-926-7857.

MISCELLANEOUS

ATTENTION MUSICIANS: Musicians club forming here at LBCC for students and staff. Membership free. Come join the fun. For more details contact Jon at (541) 327-2853 or e-mail at alex@dnc.net

Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual group is meeting every Wednesday, this term, from 2-3 p.m. Re: Social activities, support and community building. Call 917-4660 for meeting place. Someone will call you back!

Kitten available. Healthy, good disposition. Free to good home. Call 753-6791

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Department of Military Science at OSU is offering a scholarship. This scholarship is available to students who will receive their associate's degree this spring, and plan to pursue a bachelor's degree in any field except theology. Requirements and applications available in Career Center. Deadline: February 20, 1998.

The Oregon Fire Chiefs' Association has made available the Neil Hamilton Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to cover tuition and textbook expenses for those students enrolled in Fire Science courses. Requirements and applications available in Career Center. Deadline: March 6, 1998.

Scholarship available for Broadcast Journalism majors. Contact OSSC Valley River Office Park, Suite 100, Eugene, OR 97401. Must be Oregon resident. Submit Federal financial aid application. Deadline: March 1, 1998.

The St. Charles Medical Center is offering the Mary Ann Thomas-Hosier Scholarship. The scholarship will be awarded to a student enrolled in his/her initial nursing program. The \$1,250 grant is to be used for tuition, books, or direct school fees. Contact the career center in Takena Hall. Application deadline is March 1, 1998.

The Oregon State Scholarship Commission is offering awards in over 140 programs. You can pick up the application and description of the awards in the Career Center in Takena Hall. Applications must be received by OSSC on March 1, 1998.

The University of Oregon has a new scholarship called The Diversity Building Scholarship. Additional information is available in the Career Center in Takena Hall. Deadline: March 1, 1998.

The Mildred I. Martignone Nurses Scholarship is available for nursing students. Deadline: March 1. Contact Career Center in Takena Hall.

The Oregon Institute of Technology is offering the Merit, Leadership and Diversity Scholarship. Eligibility requirements and applications are available in the Career Center in Takena Hall. Deadline: March 15.

Southern Oregon University has two academic merit scholarships and a Diversity Scholarship available. Additional information, requirements and applications are available in the Career Center in Takena Hall. Application Deadline: March 2, 1998.

Playoffs still in sight

Men bring losing streak to a halt Saturday with an overtime win

by Shawna Phillips
of The Commuter

The Roadrunners kept their spirits as well as their playoff hopes alive by ending their four-game losing streak on Saturday night with an exciting overtime victory over Clackamas.

The Cougars held the lead all the way through Saturday's game until the final minutes of the second half, when LB grabbed a three-point lead. But it didn't last long, as a Clackamas player hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to send the game into overtime.

Linn-Benton wasted no time and scored quickly in its first two possessions and led the rest of the way in taking a huge 97-92 victory.

"This win was a big step for us. It got us focused and headed in the right direction again," Coach Randy Falk said. "We hadn't reached that level of competition in the last four games."

Freshman Marc Cordle's game-high 27 points was only four shy of his season high. Brian Fauth had 23 points, while post players Nick Matsler and Brian Csergei added 18 and 15 points respectively.

It was not a good rebounding game for LBCC, as the Cougars out-rebounded the 'Runners 30-19. Free-throw shooting made the difference—Linn-Benton scored nine more points than Clackamas from the charity stripe.

Wednesday's game was also close, but this time the Roadrunners came out on the losing end, 72-69.

"This win was a big step for us. It got us focused and headed in the right direction again."

—Randy Falk

LB started off hot, taking a 9-0 lead to open the first half, but then turned the ball over 10 times and allowed the Timbermen to grab a 35-28 half time lead.

The Roadrunners came back strong late in the second half, pulling within one when point guard Justin Priddy drove to the basket and was fouled. He made one of two, but on the next play an Umpqua player was fouled and sent to the line, where he sank both to give his team a three-point lead.

LBCC got some good looks at the basket on the last possession of the game, but they were unable to convert.

Although Wednesday's loss extended the 'Runners losing streak to four games, the big comeback win over Clackamas on Saturday put them in a position to qualify for post-season play.

"It's all on us now. It doesn't matter what anyone else in the league does. If we take care of business and win these next two games, we will be ensured the fourth playoff spot," Falk said.

Cordle led the way for LB again with 23 points, while Fauth had 19, and Csergei added 11.

The 'Runners, 7-5 in league and 14-10 overall, will have home-court advantage for their last two games of the season. Tonight they will go up against SWOCC at 8 p.m. and then play Portland on Saturday at 8 p.m.

Both teams are in the lower half of the league standings.

Lady 'Runners' 'turn over' two games

by Shawna Phillips
of The Commuter

Turnovers continued to plague the Lady 'Runners last week, as they dropped their last two road games of the season.

In Wednesday's 53-71 loss to Umpqua, Linn-Benton committed 29 turnovers, which the Timberwomen converted into 26 of their 71 points.

The Roadrunners played fairly well in the first half and managed to stay within eight points, but the second half was another story. LBCC shot 36 percent from the field, and were outscored by 10 as two of Umpqua's players reached 21 points on the night.

"We didn't play too badly on Wednesday. We made a little run to cut their lead to eight, but in the second half free throws made all the difference," said Head Coach Craig Jackson.

The problem for the 'Runners wasn't bad free-throw shooting, considering that they shot 67 percent. The problem was that they only went to the line nine times and the Timberwomen were 15-for-27 from the line.

Three starting post players—Melissa Hofmann, Karen Bryan and Talia Cheren—were the leading scorers for LB. Hofmann had 14, Bryan scored 12 and Cheren added 10. Both Bryan and Cheren had seven rebounds, while Jenny Gardner dished out five assists.

Linn-Benton went up against league-

leading Clackamas on Saturday and the outcome was as expected. The Cougars came out on top in the 89-58 victory.

Clackamas got out to a quick 18-0 lead and only very briefly looked over their shoulder when Linn-Benton cut the lead to seven, but the Cougars had no intention of letting the 'Runners get closer than that and built the lead to 15 by the half.

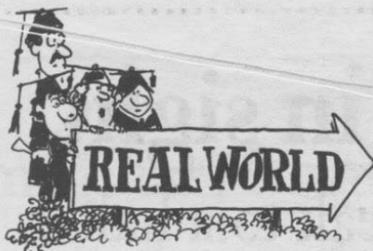
"We made a really good run, but then Clackamas took over again and it was never close from that point on," Jackson commented. "They were just more aggressive than we were."

Again LB committed 29 turnovers, but this time free-throw shooting made no difference whatsoever as the Roadrunners actually had a better percentage, and Bryan scored 11 of her 19 points from the line.

Besides being the scoring leader, Bryan also led in rebounds with 12. Hofmann and Beth Carroll both added four assists.

The Lady 'Runners will be fighting to get their first win of the season in the last two games, both at home. This week they will go up against the only other two teams in the Southern Division with losing records.

Tonight they will play Southwestern Oregon Community College, and Saturday night they face Portland Community College. Both games will be held in the Activities Center at 6 p.m.



Join the Fun!



Free tuition, trips, and more...

As shown in photo top from left to right:

Rebecca Bruner
Team Coordinator

Rebecca is a second-year college student local to Albany. SPB has been "way more educational than my classes. We've gone to fun conferences in Seattle, San Diego, and Honolulu this year. I've learned so many valuable lessons for life."

Laura Caswell
Series Events Specialist

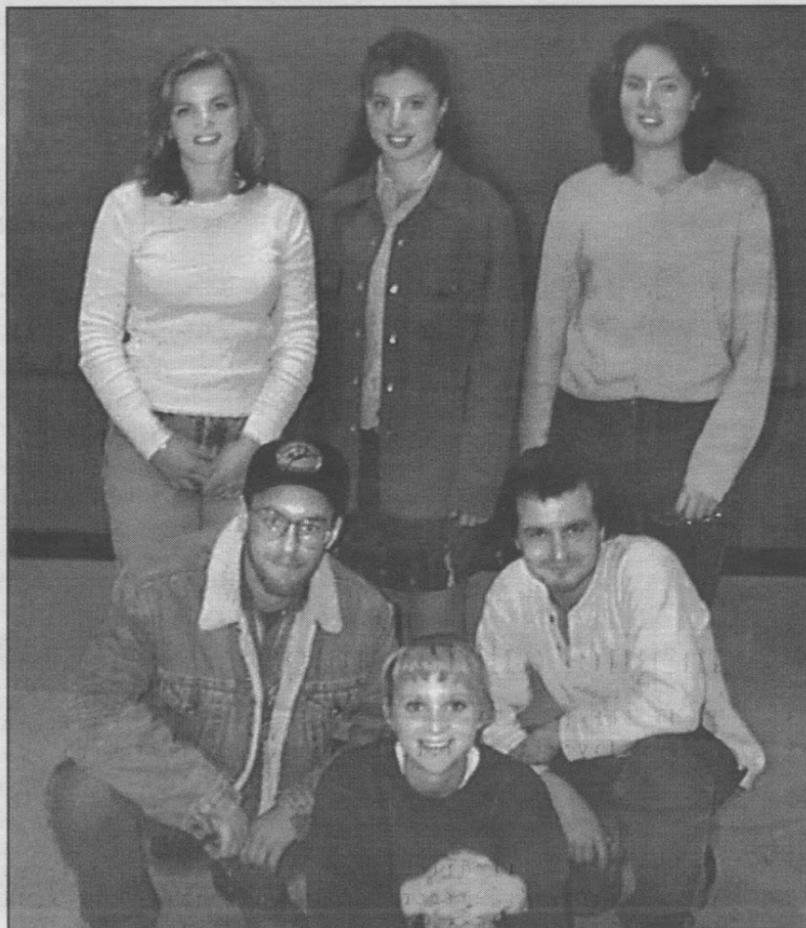
Laura programs events related to weekly, monthly or per-term series and communicates with national and local performers.

Bridget Bailey
Multicultural Events Specialist

She organizes events relating to cultural awareness and diversity. The annual events include the Children's Winter Festival, the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and the Cinco do Mayo Celebration." In addition, we help each other in all our events."

Tammi Paul Bryant (not in photo)
SPB Advisor

"SPB is a way for you to provide fun and meaningful activities for students at LBCC."



As shown in photo bottom left to right:

Dan Hildenbrand
Intramural & Recreation Specialist

Dan is a second-year team member. His position focuses on intramural activities such as the 3-on-3 Schick basketball Tournament, Turkey Trot Fun Run & Walk, and securing donations for sport activity prizes. For him being on the board has been a great leadership role experience. He said, "SPB is great for on the job experience, learning, and just plain fun that will help me down the road all through life."

Rebecca Moore
Current Events & Political Activities Specialist

"I am a first year student here at LBCC. I plan to go into the medical field and transfer into a 4 year college. I plan events for the students to participate in and enjoy. As being a member of a team, I also help out and participate in activities that are planned by the other board members. As a team we try to plan activities to let the students feel welcomed into this school."

Elijah S. Van Flack
Community Events Specialist

"As the Community Events Specialist, I help organize activities such as the Oregon Coast Aquarium trip, Dinner Theater, LBCC Welcome Back, Spring Days, as well as the Children's Winter Festival. We all work together and have a lot of fun."



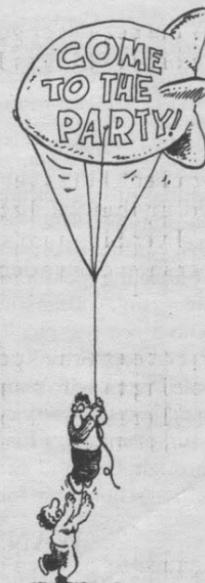
Join the 98-99 Student Programming Board Team!



- **Become a part of your school. Have a say in what happens at LBCC.**
- **Great leadership role that will help you all through life.**
- **Take an active role on campus.**
- **Make new friends and have fun being a student leader.**

Applications are due Feb. 23 by noon. Interviews will be held Feb. 25 in the Willamette Room at 2 p.m.

For an application or more job descriptions, contact the Student Life & Leadership Office in CC-213 or call 917-4457.



OPINION PAGE

commentary

Sizemore's initiatives fail to 'measure' up

by Pete Petryszak
of The Commuter

Now that Bill Sizemore has decided that he will indeed run for governor this year, it would be nice if he could give the initiatives a rest.

Sizemore's organization, Oregon Taxpayers United (OTU), sponsors of Measure 47 and Measure 5, has four proposed ballot initiatives that are gathering signatures to be put to a vote in November, the same time voters are choosing whether or not to elect Sizemore to be our governor. One initiative prohibits the state government from creating new local governments while another attempts to keep public employees from lobbying the legislature. The most serious proposals would set in stone the state's current spending levels and budget priorities, allowing increases only for inflation, population growth, or by a two-thirds vote of the Legislature.

In light of the fact that OTU has already passed several major tax measures in recent years, and their effects are still not clear, this latest crop of OTU ballot measures seems like overkill. The fact that their own leader is running for office make them appear even more unnecessary.

If Sizemore were elected, he could pursue policies to affect the same kind of changes these initiatives would create. It seems strange that an organization whose president and founder is running for executive office would waste their resources on an initiative campaign rather than concentrating on getting their agent and advocate into the highest office in the state. It suggests a lack of confidence in their man.

It would be poetic justice for Sizemore to win election only to find his hands tied by an ill-conceived and poorly written set of initiatives that he insisted on rushing to the ballot rather than taking the time to give them a thorough examination in the legislature, which is what the governor would normally do to get policies enacted. Given OTU's track record of enacting unclear, sloppily constructed initiatives, it's surprising that Sizemore would risk having his term as governor hamstrung by a confusing set of ballot measures.

If Mr. Sizemore is truly interested in governing, he should demonstrate an interest in other aspects of government beside tax issues. While keeping taxes to a minimum is important, he must remember that taxes are a means to an end. A coherent policy on taxes can't be developed until it is made clear what our state government's priorities will be in regard to spending. Governors are expected to do more than debate taxes.

Unfortunately, Sizemore has yet to indicate that he considers any government service, from police and fire protection to education and transportation, to be worth paying for.

Sizemore and OTU raised an important issue with Measure 47 that ought to be addressed. Property taxes had risen rapidly and people who paid them were carrying a disproportionate share of the burden of government. After rallying tax reformers to pass Measure 47, Sizemore could demonstrate a true concern for quality and effective government in Oregon by examining ways to properly fund education and other areas of government, but as yet we are still waiting for him to do anything of that nature.

Even Sizemore's own tax conference this October should have demonstrated to him the fact that there is no consensus on tax and budget issues and that hastily crafted initiatives, while they may be effective populist stands, do not help in solving the problems in the long term.

There is an old political adage that building a barn is the toughest job in the world, especially when any jackass can come along and kick in the door. For years now, Sizemore and company have been doing a lot of kicking. He now has a chance to discover firsthand how his armchair legislation can prevent the effective government he claims to desire.

Callor
Daily Kent States 2/14



letter

Women's Center closure inspires call for support

To the Editor:

I write to you this day out of concern. As of fall term of this year the Women's Center was closed down. At no time did the administration of LBCC ask for student input in this decision (outside of the Student Senate). As a work study student my freshmen and sophomore years, the Women's Center provided me with employment. However, the Women's Center was much more than a job. At times, the student staff dealt with crisis issues, which we would refer to the counseling center. The Women's Center provided a safe, quiet atmosphere for women on campus, a place to talk to an instructor, to get food from the food pantry, or just relax and not think about the rest of the world.

The Women's Center provided me with a great amount of support as a returning student after many

years away from the academic world. In short, the Women's Center was a vital part of my success here at LBCC. I fear that with the current opinion of the administration, future women will not benefit from the presence of a Women's Center. The Women's Center was created so that returning older-women students would have a place to reorganize, and to help those students integrate back into the academic life. I have read recent articles in The Commuter and am dismayed at the apathy in regard to the Women's Center in both the students and the administration at LBCC. Jon Carnahan, to you, Sir I ask one simple request: Please open the door! The money is there, the room is there, and how hard can it be to find a few work study students to run it? I have heard from both you and Ms. Watson that safety is a concern, yet you propose to have lounges throughout campus that will not in any way be supervised. We need the Women's Center back! Students and staff, please let your feelings be known. Contact Mr. Carnahan or Ms. Watson. Let them know how vital the Women's Center is.

Melissa C. Gorby

commentary

Death sentence for Linn County dog incites push for changes in livestock protection laws

by Benjamin Sell
of The Commuter

Cody, a Chesapeake bay retriever, is currently awaiting execution at the Linn County Animal Shelter.

His crime: chasing livestock in a field near Tangent. His fate invites comparison to a similar but more celebrated case; that of Nadas, a malamute mix, who was sentenced to die more than a year ago for chasing a horse in Jackson County. However, he may have won a reprieve, as his owner, Sean Roach, is having him moved to Utah in order to keep Jackson County officials from executing him.

Tangent attorney Robert Babcock is representing Cody and is fighting to save his life. Babcock, who also represented Nadas, is planning to try and gather enough signatures to get a measure on the November ballot to change the current state law, which states that any dog can be put to death for chasing livestock even if the livestock aren't injured, according to an article in the Albany Democrat-Herald.

This law needs to be changed. Dogs chase things; it's in their nature. I hardly see how it is the dog's fault that he felt the urge to chase a few sheep. If anything, it is the owner's fault for not making sure that the dog was unable to get to the sheep. Executing the dog accomplishes nothing because it doesn't know why it is being executed or even that it has done anything wrong.

Instead, why not punish the owner by imposing a huge fine, or if livestock are injured, forcing the owner to reimburse the rancher? Or perhaps the owner could be forced to enroll his dog in an obedience class where

it will learn to leave the livestock alone. In the end, the same result will have been reached—the dog will no longer chase livestock. The difference is that one solution saves a great deal of anguish on the part of the owner.

Dogs can grow to become a part of the family, and everyone knows losing a member of one's family is a painful experience.

At the very least the law needs to be changed so that the consequences are determined by the individual circumstances, which is what Babcock seeks to do. Currently, under this law, my 15-pound rat terrier could be executed because he ran around in a sheep pasture barking at some sheep, even though he would have absolutely no chance of hurting them. Or what if someone's pet Chihuahua escaped from a stopped car and ran after some sheep in a nearby field?

What's next, a law prohibiting cats from chasing mice and birds?

A dog doesn't know that chasing livestock is wrong any more than he knows that it is wrong to pee on the furniture before he has been house-trained. This law is wrong, and it needs to be changed. Killing an animal for being an animal makes about as much sense as cutting down a neighbor's tree because it is casting a shadow on your garden. The tree can't help it and neither can the dog.

So, kind reader, if you happen to see one of Mr. Babcock's signature gatherers, take a moment to stop and sign his petition. The life you save might be your own. Well, your dog's anyway.

LOONEY LANE

ACROSS

- Ship's pole
- Gives off
- Asian holidays
- Prevailing trend
- Spanish Peter
- British peer
- Woe is me!
- Murdered
- Gobi's continent
- Zodiac sign
- Indy break
- William Holden film, "___ 17"
- Atlantic food fish
- Health resort
- Up to now
- Character weakness
- Swiss peak
- Corner
- Of the arm bone
- Siestas
- Balked
- Whirlpool
- Mosaic pieces
- Assign
- Ernie, the golfer
- Astaire's sister
- Whinny
- In position
- Practical sci. class
- Going cheap
- Last Russian dynasty
- Author of "The Devil's Dictionary"
- Saudi
- "Camille" star
- Orbit-shaped
- Banister
- Pasted
- "Hud" star
- Patricia
- French pronoun
- Unkempt
- Writer Ferber

DOWN

- Man alone
- Stack
- Male feature
- Take a makeup exam
- Greek letters
- Gibson of
- "Hamlet"
- Neighbor of Wash.
- Stumble
- ___ boom
- Sara the suicidal poet
- Right on maps
- Small combo
- Palm-face encounter
- Astronauts' grp.
- Bean curd
- Crocheted coverlet
- Italian astronomer
- ___ Catalina Island
- Highland pattern
- "___ and Rockin'"
- Not merited
- Soup dispenser
- Rendezvous
- Likely to be bought
- Menial worker
- Writer O'Casey
- Siamese
- Third-baseman
- Wade
- Sierra
- Hard to find
- Spoken
- Letters
- Latin farewell
- "Thiel" star
- Scat singer
- Fitzgerald
- Wish undone
- Cot or cradle

© 1998 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved. 2/16/98

SPICE GIRLS... SPICE GIRLS... THAT'S ALL I EVER HEAR YOU HIPSTERS TALK ABOUT NOWADAYS...

I WAS INTO THE SPICE GIRLS WAY BEFORE ANY OF YOU WERE!

WAW HIPPER THAN YOU'LL EVER BE...

BUT I'LL TELL YOU THIS, FOLKS...

THE **K** CHRONICLES BY KEITH KNIGHT

I REMEMBER WHEN THE SPICE GIRLS WERE A BAR BAND AT A PUB IN CAMDEN TOWN BACK IN '92...

THEY ALL PLAYED THEIR INSTRUMENTS BACK THEN...

AND THERE WAS A SIXTH SPICE GIRL...

Ye Olde Puke & Vomit

Baby (Cello) Ginger (Didgeridoo) SCARY (Hammer Dulcimer) Spooky (Triangle) Posh (Harp)

SHE WAS AN 87 YEAR OLD CROONER FROM MANCHESTER NAMED "MELA"... IF YOU WANNA BE MY LOVAAA!!

YEAH BABY!! BRAVO!! CLAP CLAP CLAP

I WAS THEIR VERY FIRST GROUPIE AND SLEPT WITH EVERYBODY IN THE BAND... BUT IT WAS OLD SPICE WHO TOOK ME ON AS HER BOYFRIEND...

IN FACT, I SHACKED UP WITH OLD SPICE FOR A WHILE, THINKIN' I COULD SPONGE OFF HER WHEN THE BAND MADE IT BIG... #

UNFORTUNATELY SHE CROPPED ABOUT 3 WEEKS BEFORE THEY GOT SIGNED...

STOP

BEAT IT! WE'RE DISCUSSING THE CLINTON SCANDAL'S EFFECT ON KIDS.

KID HEALTH!

DAY CARE PROBSNS

CLASS SIZE PLANS

NEWS

SIGNE PHILADELPHIA DAILY NEWS Philadelphia USA

DUE TO THE UNFORTUNATE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CABBAGE PATCH SNACKTIME KIDS DOLL, MATTTEL WON'T BE INTRODUCING THE REST OF THE LINE...

HEY, DRINKTIME DOLLY, WANNA DRINK OUT OF FLUFFY'S BOWL???

MOOOOM!!! DOLLY'S TRYING TO SUCK FLUFFY'S BRAIN OUT!

EEOW!

CARTOONISTS & WRITERS SYNDICATE http://cartoonists.com

© 1997 ADAM "BABY FOOD" GREEN

Muffin

Aren't LANDLORDS funny?

Keeps me laughing for hours!

They get all hyper when preparing to show potential tenants around.

Clean this place up!

Mom?

I ♥ PHILOSOPHY

All sense of reason is LOST.

Get out of here!

But I LIVE here!

I don't care... you're unappealing!

There's just one way to end this madness.

Wanna beer, Chunk?...

Did I ever tell you that you're my favorite tenant?

now

Nora McVittie