

The Torch

VOLUME XXXI, NUMBER 15

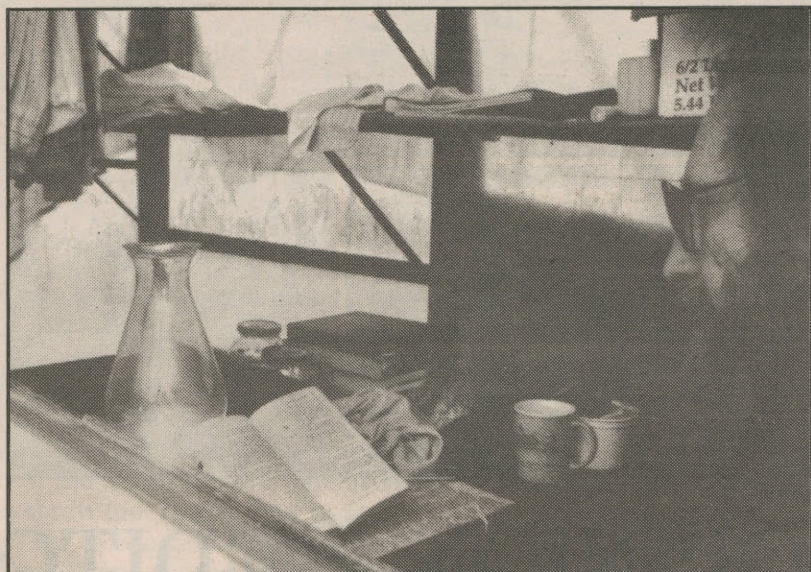
LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FEBRUARY 12, 1996

Man of the Woods

*Hidden hermit
never looks back*

By Kristine Sohnrey
Editor-in-Chief
Photos By Liesl Stein
The Torch



Self-described hermit Graham Lawrence in his tent.

We're going to meet the hermit in the woods behind LCC.

The muddy trail snakes under low-hanging branches, around fallen trunks and thorny briars.

"It's me, Graham, Kristine. Are you home?"

Graham Lawrence lives in the dense forest, camouflaged under the woods' canopy and today's rolling overhead clouds, a full 30-minute hike from the LCC Center Building. There are no tracks to his home, but I know he's out there because a mutual acquaintance has introduced us.

Some people consider him homeless, but Lawrence thinks of himself as a hermit, comparing his existence to Henry Thoreau's at Walden Pond, although less idealistic.

"Hello! Yes, I'm here," Lawrence answers.

He stands inside an A-framed shelter made from 10-foot tall Douglas fir poles donned in clear plastic. There are no solid walls, locked doors or fences for protection from animals or people. A knife could slide through that plastic like a pen across paper, and everything Lawrence has, his possessions and life, could be lost.

Yet, Lawrence is a man who doesn't look back. Lawrence is a man who has chosen a simpler way of living than his former complicated lifestyle.

A tall, unassuming man in his early 50s, Lawrence has keen eyes, long light brown and gray hair and a matching beard. His intelligence and courtesy break stereotypes of distraught, dirty, down-and-out homeless people.

He holds open his makeshift, plastic entrance for me. Before I even enter, the simmering bean soup's hearty fragrance which permeates his tent wafts through, smelling better than anything I will probably eat today. Lawrence shows me the homemade bread he is steaming over a gasoline camp stove. The many empty jam jars hint that apricot is Lawrence's current favorite flavor with bread.

Lawrence offers me a rather sturdy plastic bucket with a pillow on it, the best seat in the house. While I avoid the cooking pots, rubber boots and tiny handcrafted wood stove to

reach it, Lawrence hunts for an appropriate seat for himself.

An interior sleeping chamber, a large, rectangular wood and plastic box with sliding side doors, reminds me of an ancient, royal Chinese carriage. How curious.

Except for the natural fiber clothes hanging on clothes hangers from the interior chamber, I have the distinct impression of being in a greenhouse. It's a bright and airy place, slightly warmer than outside and very quiet — a place to breathe deeply and meditate.

"I've been living in various locations in the hills around LCC for 2 1/2 years now. Before that I lived on Wildish (Sand and Gravel Company) property," says Lawrence.

"Until last August (1995) I camped on that hill near three other men," he says pointing to another location near LCC. "But two state foresters told the property owners they would be responsible for the damages if a fire started on their property."

According to Lawrence, the property manager was apologetic when telling him the owners decided he had to move. They just couldn't afford the potential liability.

While the other men moved off the hills, Lawrence moved across them.

"It took me a week, 22 hauls, to move everything. I slept really well that week."

Lawrence says, "A fire would have been highly unlikely. I never build an open camp fire, and only use my wood stove when the weather drops below freezing," like during the recent cold snap when Lawrence got a little cold.

"... I don't know about the other men. Sometimes they got drunk, and one would get rowdy when he was drunk."

But his life hasn't always been simple. Lawrence is English, originally from a rural community 30 miles northwest of London. In 1967 he was hired by M.W. Kellogg Inc., to work temporarily in New York as a computer programmer. Lawrence loved America immediately. When he returned to England he searched for

"Some people are embarrassed. Some people don't know what to do or say."

—Graham Lawrence

Another kind of Valentine's gift

By Janis Lee
The Torch

Valentines with charming sentiments and heart-shaped boxes of candy are prolific everywhere, but sometimes this thing called love can bring another kind of gift.

Chris has a strong, clear voice that betrays a hint of urgency and purpose. This is a young individual in the midst of a personal crisis called AIDS, who has a message.

"You have to get yourself out of denial. I didn't think it could happen to me so I ignored it.... I encourage people to learn about AIDS. It's important to know what is safe and what is not. Looking at me, you would not know that I have AIDS. You just never know who might have it. A lot of people won't tell you they have AIDS. They're dealing with their own self esteem."

For four years Chris and the HIV virus have lived together. The last two of those years Chris' illness has become, what is called in the AIDS community, "full blown." Last winter, Chris experienced the first serious illness ... a bout of pneumonia.

"It really decimated my lungs. Now if I exert myself too much I can feel it. I don't have the lung

See GIFT page 3

Heating assistance

By Kristine Sohnrey
Editor-in-Chief

Oregon will receive more than \$1 million for low-income heating assistance.

Friday, Feb. 2 President Clinton released \$90 million from the 1995 fiscal appropriation which was forward-funded for 1996. It will be distributed through LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program).

Last November Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR) was among the congressional leaders who asked for \$300 million from the emergency funds for heating assistance. Instead, in December President Clinton released \$578 million from the regular appropriation in the continuing resolution.

According to Debra Farrington, DeFazio's Eugene assistant, the funds allocated for Oregon were not enough for the number of people eligible to receive them. Many people had to be turned away. Those LCC students and other Oregonians who think they may be eligible, but were denied funds previously, should reapply.

DeFazio's Washington, D.C. Assistant, Kathie Eastman said, "Peter DeFazio intends to give the president a little break before approaching him for first an additional \$100 million from the fiscal appropriation and the original request of \$300 million in emergency funds. After congress gets that, they'll start working on 1997 funding."

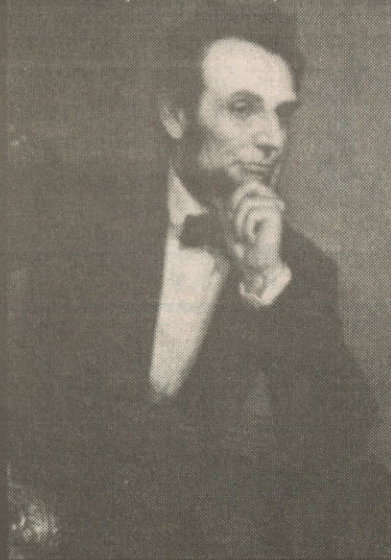
For more information, contact your electric or oil heating utility offices.

See HERMIT page 3

WINTER TERM

PERSON OF THE WEEK

Abraham Lincoln
(1809-1865)



Sixteenth president of the United States. His birthday is celebrated today, Feb. 12.

WEEK 6

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Wire stories are provided by the National Student News Service

This publication is printed through the facilities of the Springfield News.

The Torch, the official student-managed newspaper of Lane Community College, was published on Fridays October through December, but on Mondays between January and May.

News stories are concise reports intended to be as fair as possible.

Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the newspaper's Editorial Board.

Letters to the Editor should be limited to 250 words and include the author's name, phone number and address. Deadline for the following issue is Friday, 5 p.m.

Commentaries by *Torch* readers should be limited to 750 words. Deadline for the following issue is Friday, 5 p.m.

The Editor-in-Chief reserves the right to edit commentaries and letters for length, grammar, spelling, libel, invasion of privacy and appropriate language.

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LISA COLLIER The Torch

OPINION & EDITORIAL

Rumors about ASLCC affect student body

By Kristine Sohnrey

Editor-in-Chief

When I began attending the ASLCC meetings a confidante alleged that ASLCC President Adam Young had misappropriated funds meant for his Michigan conference attendance last July, and the proof was that Young had never delivered a report.

My own investigations found no substance in this rumor. What I found was that Young was awaiting outside data to submit with his report; no previous presidents had submitted reports; all receipts were in-house, travel and lodging arrangements were made by the administration using purchase orders and

ASLCC Advisor Barbara Delansky's charge card; and Young only carried enough cash to cover his food and other transportation needs.

For years now ASLCC presidents have attended educational summer conferences, just like Young. However, Young spent only \$1,700 of the \$2,000 he was budgeted by combining conferences, thus saving the student body \$300.

Now here's another rumor I haven't verified. When Young was elected as a write-in candidate, it is alleged that some people on campus were very unhappy. I was told they swore Young would not remain in office. He hadn't even had an opportunity to do anything, right or wrong, yet. If this rumor is true, are the

people who made the promise the same people who are generating the negative rumors about Young?

I believe one person cannot be falsely accused without causing injury to others — such as the entire student body. Young is its elected representative. How can anyone expect him to focus his creative, problem-solving energy on the student body's interests when he is constantly under attack?

This is a story about stories, to set the record straight. Let's hope those intent on ruining President Young's choices for success do it in the open, and with real facts.

RUMORS PART 3 — MORE ON ASLCC — IN THE NEXT ISSUE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Poking holes in argument

Religious right political hacks — like columnist Cal Thomas — try to portray use of condoms and safer sex as a liberal-left political plot.

Yet, Surgeon General Antonia C. Novello, appointed by Republican President George Bush, issued a statement in the June 9, 1993, issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association* strongly supporting condom use for prevention of HIV transmission....

Novello claims that ... 80 percent of all new HIV seroconversions in the United States will be avoided if ... persons use condoms consistently and correctly.

As to the question of pores in condoms,... she cites a National Institutes of Health study which found no holes even at 2,000 times magnification.

Acknowledging that holes can occur, she refers to quality control

testing by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration which has found an average condom water leak rate of 0.3 percent. If the failure rate of a batch of condoms exceeds four per 1,000, the condoms are recalled and barred from sale....

She says that there are further obstacles to passage of HIV even through a microscopic hole. A free virus, which is nonmotile, would pass through a hole only if it were associated with a cell that moves, or if it were moved by hydrostatic pressure through a hole.

However, monocytes and lymphocytes that may carry HIV are too large to pass through microscopic holes detected by routine testing. An FDA study simulating free HIV in fluid under pressure found that most condoms leaked no fluid at all, and that "even the worst-performing condom reduced estimated viral exposure 10,000 fold..."

Morris and Pendle attribute condom failures mainly to misuse rather than inherent defect in the product.... They also refer to the two rubber layers saying, "The possibility of a hole being made through both layers, or of a hole in each layer being perfectly aligned seems extremely remote."

A March 1989 *Consumer Reports* article "Can You Rely on Condoms?" also reports that examination of stretched latex condoms by an electron microscope showed "no pores" and even water won't filter through.

The leaky boat rumors about condoms spread by the religious right do not hold water. But condoms do hold water and hold back the HIV virus too.

Jim Senyszyn
Highland Park, NJ

another job in the United States and moved here in 1968.

Life in New York was fast paced with continual corporate agitation offset by lots of parties, motorcycle rides, alcohol and drugs. The spinning top of life increased its speed when Lawrence married an American wife, and they had two children.

But constant migraine headaches and other stress-related physical conditions became almost more than he could bear. His motorcycle rides became increasingly important as a coping mechanism. So, Lawrence and his family moved to where he could ride more frequently, Atlanta.

Problems that began in New York between Lawrence and his wife grew worse in Atlanta. Finally, the strain was too great, and they divorced.

Believing he should leave and allow his former wife to continue with her life, Lawrence left his job and began traveling around the country until he found an environment similar to that from his childhood with its gentle rains and forests. That place was Eugene.

"I decided the money wasn't worth the stressful lifestyle and physical suffering, and moved into the hills, which I find to be the most efficient way to live," says Lawrence. "Now I sleep better and when I want. I don't have migraine headaches any more."

"People try to stereotype me and make me fit a role. I resist this imposition on my identity and have become a social outcast in that I no longer belong to the community."

Yet, Lawrence does interact with some people. In fact, he admits, "I'm a hermit, but I'm also a contradiction. When I lived with people all the time, I grew to hate people. Now that I am seldom around them, I've grown to enjoy them."

Sometimes hikers unexpectedly happen upon his camp and walk right into his tent, checking out his belongings and opening his interior chamber while he sleeps or reads, his favorite entertainment.

"I usually say, 'May I help you?'"

"Oh, I get lots of reactions. People don't expect me to be here. Some

people are embarrassed. Some people don't know what to do or say. Some people sit and talk for a while. A few return. Usually people don't bother me," says Lawrence.

He socializes daily in a local coffee shop. He also tutors students in math at the University of Oregon, to which he commutes by bus or bicycle, making just enough money to survive.

"I checked into tutoring at LCC, but I received such a run-around that I got disgusted and gave up."

LCC student and OSPIRG representative

Wolf Carnahan says he paid Lawrence for tutoring and

"Graham was very personable, very intelligent and

able to teach me abstract

concepts regarding higher mathematics in a very professional way."

They met when Carnahan was attending an OSPIRG meeting at the university. Between discussions,

Carnahan said he was studying math.

"Near the campus convenience store in the EMU he was sitting with

a sign that said 'Mountain Man Math Tutor,' and it was a computer-generated, laser-printed sign."

Carnahan said Lawrence "was

well-dressed" in a "nice pair of knee-length hiking shorts and a long-sleeved shirt," despite his rustic

lifestyle.

Understanding why he lives as he does is difficult for some people. It's quite lovely in the summer.

During the winter, camping can be miserable, cold and wet," he admits.

Nevertheless, Lawrence has adapted to the cold and wet. Pointing to his two-burner camp stove,

Lawrence indicates he just lights it and reads using a kerosene lamp. "It's actually quite nice."

"I feel most peaceful here."

And he explains why, "My parents divorced when I was 3 years old. My

older brother and sister went to live with friends of the family, but I was

raised as an only child by my father, who parented by benign neglect."

Lawrence chose to spend his childhood in the nearby wooded area where he felt nurtured.

"They say, 'if you have a child until he's 7, you have him for life.' The forests had me by the time I was 7."

"There was this tree in the forest. I think it was a fir tree. Yes, fir. At the top of this fir tree the branches wove

together into a nest. I used to climb into the nest and let the tree rock me to sleep as it swayed in the wind."

Lawrence says he believes in nature spirits, that he can feel them when he's camping in different locations.

"There was this one malevolent spirit behind LCC that I could feel every time I walked the trail to my old camp. I think the spirit was upset when I cut back a bush for the trail. It was spooky," he said.

We talk about metaphysics, transcendentalism and Sir James George Frazer's book, *Golden Bough*, which compares similar myths from various cultures, primitive religion, and superstition. We talk about possible burial grounds on LCC property.

Though Lawrence is saddened by



Above: camouflaged in fir, the hermit's tent.
Below: enlightening the inner chamber.



his loss of family contact, he has not returned to visit his two children or two grandchildren. He gets his mail through White Bird Clinic, where he receives medical care. But no family writes or knows where he lives.

Where many people would feel insecure living like Lawrence in the woods, Lawrence feels safe.

He says he has no desire to change his current lifestyle. Why should he?

"It's ideal just the way it is."

GIFT from page 1

capacity I used to have, but I could have helped some of that if I had taken the preventative medication available to AIDS patients."

Like Chris, HIV Counselor Jim Shoemaker from the White Bird Medical Clinic warns, "The key to safe sex is communication between partners, but this doesn't happen often."

"The majority of the people I test don't discuss sexual histories or even ask if their potential partner has been tested for HIV. I know it is awkward to ask about sex, but if I don't know someone well enough to ask, I'm cer-

tainly not going to put myself in harm's way for a moment of pleasure.

"People need to know that anytime they come in contact with body fluid — be it blood, seminal or vaginal fluid — they are putting themselves at risk for HIV. Anytime anyone is having oral, vaginal or anal sex they need to protect themselves with a barrier, preferably latex."

"There is a lot of debate and misinformation about oral sex," adds Shoemaker. "And, honestly, I think the jury is still out. But there is a risk and a person needs to make a conscious choice."

They are putting themselves at some degree of risk when they engage in it.

"It is important that people educate themselves accurately on what their sexual risks are, and if they can't do that, they need to get in contact with a health service such as Lane County Health, Lane Community College's Student Health Service or White Bird Clinic."

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Sandra Ing, Student Health Services Director, invites all LCC students to stop by the waiting room of the Health Clinic and grab a few free condoms this Valentine's Day.

Says Chris, "It's fear and hopelessness that allow people to say, 'What's the use.' But unless we are willing to admit, we are in denial. We use the denial to keep ourselves ignorant."

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Codependents, love yourself as you would others



*Songs From
The Wood*
Kyra Kelly

Once upon a Valentine's, I was guilt-tripping my then-boyfriend about his disrespectful treatment of me. He pointed out, "I have a tendency to stomp on people, and you have a tendency to receive stomping."

Gee, I wondered, how did we ever find each other? Maybe in the movies they'd call it "true love."

It's the time of year again for another well-intentioned but over-commercialized American holiday.

In honor of the occasion, I'd like to say a few words about another great American Love Tradition: codependency, a mode of relating that affects approximately 96 percent of the population, according to Sharon Wegscheider-Cruse, leading national authority on the subject. I figure that some of you probably know what I'm talking about.

Codependency is a disease. It is subtle and so prevalent that we may be tempted to invalidate it, yet it's important that we recognize and acknowledge codependency to avoid getting stuck. It can be defined as an addiction to another person or a relationship and/or the inherent problems of either.

Quite naturally, this can result in self-neglect or abuse, or other problems, ranging from mild to severe.

I grew up with codependent parents, thus setting such behavior patterns. "Normal" makes me nervous ("When's the bomb gonna drop?"), and I love extremes. Hence the danger in embodying absolute yin or absolute yang: I choose to operate as a half-person. This mindset usually sends me reeling off in a panicked search for what so many Americans refer to as "my other half."

A wise man recently pointed out to me that $1/2 \times 1/2$ does, in fact, equal $1/4$.

I still find it difficult to avoid the strange appeal of emotional cripples.

"Kyr," I say to myself during those blessed moments of sane clarity, "this man is unavailable (or "in pain," "too busy," "angry," or "abusive"...)."

"Yes!" I joyously respond, "I can fix him!" Thus, I find myself with an interesting project rather than a partnership. Eerily enough, it usually follows that I find myself staring at the project in question wondering to myself, "Dad? Is that you?"

This kind of situation is a result of more than my love of challenge. It's a self-defeating pattern that spreads to infect my lifestyle. The only challenge here is in success-

fully avoiding myself. In such situations, I recognize that falling back into the sticky pit of codependency is my choice.

How does a codependent react to parents or best friends who slam furniture into the wall or drive drunk?

Well, after taking on the role of referee and rescuer, ("I'll cover up for them when the cops come") I have also been known to console myself by spending \$300 on cute, ridiculous clothes or stuffing myself with sugar.

In this way, I reward my ability to put up with inappropriate or abusive behavior. It's this sick badge of pride that I'll wear. Like, "Yeah, I can take your abuse, and I still won't give up on you. You can't drive me away. I can deal with any crisis, and I don't need anyone to console me as long as I have distractions (television, work, cigarettes, alcohol, sex, whatever) to numb me."

What a saint.

Actually, people like me are very devious.

I see someone in pain, and something clicks in the back of my head. "Here's where I fit. I can make you need me."

Then I get to feel superior when they're not what I wanted them to be, or incapable of reciprocating ("I knew that...").

It's a frustrating game. When you grow up thinking it's the only way to play, the rules follow you around.

Denying your own wholeness contributes to the blaming, victim mentality that seems to currently pervade our society. Our culture trains us to be this way. It fits with being a good little consumer. It's escapist, avoidist and self-destructive. It is evidenced by the high degree of addictive, obsessive and compulsive behavior. Alcoholism, workaholism and perfectionism are minimized or even rewarded in our culture.

A "nice" woman who is beaten at home may choose to compensate by going to the grocery store and venting her frustration on the nearest clerk...or on her own children.

You can spot codependents early on. We're the "good students" in school who are used to doing all the group work on a project. Others lean on us, but it's okay because we have the control. There is no danger of something not going exactly our way. No one else can mess it up... unless we're trying to control another person.

If any of the above sounds familiar, I challenge you to ask for what you want and need this Valentine's Day.

To quote one of my favorite authors, Marianne Williamson, on the role of actual partnerships, "The purpose of intimacy is for us to midwife the perfection in each other. The point of love is to reveal to us the light inside."

If we are to stop being victims, we must stop buying this prepackaged, disempowering role. Remember, there really are no victims, only volunteers.

I am going to take responsibility for myself this Valentine's Day. Instead of eating an entire box of Valentine's candy, I'm getting a massage.

Feel



Kisses, candy & roses: these are a few of my favorite things

By Dee Mentzer
The Torch

Romance is "a love affair; romantic involvement; love."

But what does romance mean to a budget-conscious, schedule-crowding college student?

Is it a dozen roses, a box of candy or, maybe, a candlelight dinner?

Of the nearly 200 students who were asked this question, the overwhelming response was between school, work, and families who has time for romance?

According to many students whose loved ones also attend LCC, they use their lunch time as personal time with their significant others.



According to soul mates Book Exchange Director Trev Mostella and SRC Director Lisa Linnell, "At least we're both in the same situation, so we can be a little more understanding."

But for those who don't have their significant others here at school, it can be tough to keep romance in their relationships.

After time commitments, the biggest problems that students have with romance is the cost.

The average cost for a dozen roses is \$45. A one-pound box of chocolates is approximately \$8, and a romantic candlelight dinner is around \$75.

There also seems to be a difference in the definition of romance between genders.

According to the men who responded to, "What do you think is romantic?" The top answers were: honesty, good communication, roses, a nature walk or a box of candy.

Women answered flowers, poetry, moonlight walks under a starry sky, cuddling on the couch, a stroll on the

beach, and just plain quiet time.

The Torch Editor-in-Chief Kristine Sohnrey said, "I like a guy to give me little things like a stick of gum, a single chocolate in pretty foil wrapping, or wild flowers. Back rubs go a long way, because I experience physical pain all the time."

When I'm with someone I want to feel peaceful and have respectful, honest, caring communications. I've had money; I'd rather have love. I'm a really busy person, but if there was someone I wanted to be with, I'd find the time.

"Right now, I just try to be uplifting with everyone I meet and to love my family and friends."

As a solution to the lack of funds and time problems, some students, like Sohnrey, even offered suggestions.

When you eat dinner, eat dinner with a special friend. If you have time to sit on the sofa and watch television, why not snuggle up with your loved one and watch it together. It doesn't cost much to go for a walk.

the *love* '96

A Valentine's Day Photo Essay



DANIEL ARMANINO

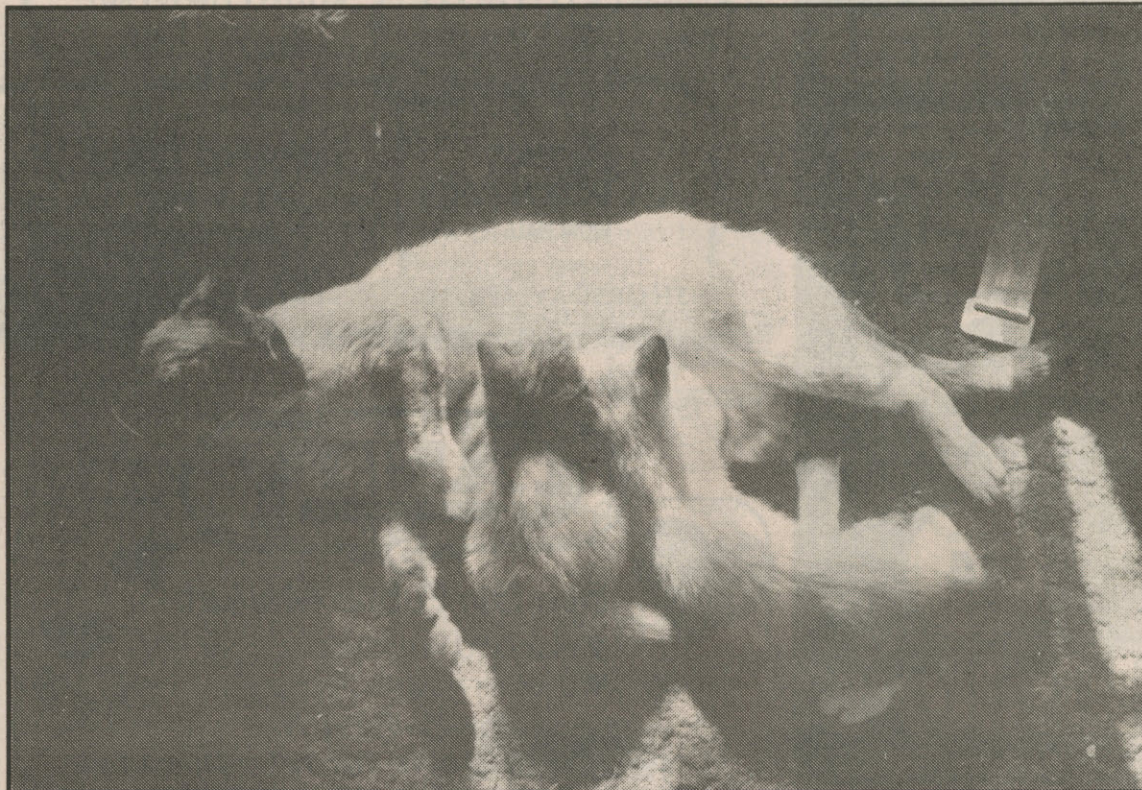
Above left: Liesl and Lisa; best friends and partners in crime.
Below left: An LCC student enjoys watching birds with his son.
Right: Campus couple.
Below right: Unconditional love; a mother and her kittens.



LISA COLLIER



LIESL STEIN



LISA COLLIER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

DEAN GRABSKI, EDITOR

THE TORCH

747-4501 EXT. 2014

'The Nerd': play delivers well-timed comedy

R E V I E W

By Deb McManman
The Torch

Let me say that I don't care for plays. I have been to many critically-acclaimed stage plays, and I have only liked a couple of them, but "The Nerd," presented by Eugene's Lord Leebrick Theater Co., is a delight. There is not one single bad thing I can possibly think of to say about it.

First of all, the building which houses the LLTC is fun and kind of funky — just what you'd expect from a Eugene-based theatrical company. The theater, at 540 Charnelton, is in a turn-of-the-century building that has held a variety of shops, anywhere from a garage to a trendy antique shop.

But on to the play itself. "The Nerd" takes place in Willum Cubbert's home in TerreHaute, Indiana, circa 1984, where some friends of his are gathering to celebrate his birthday.

Willum, played by Dan Pegoda is a struggling architect. Pamela Lehan-Siegel is his girlfriend Tansy, and David Beck his best friend Axel. They are joined by a client of Willum's, the stuffy and pretentious Warnock Waldgrave, his wife Clelia and their precocious son Thor.

All of these actors interact with and bounce off of each other in a most believable manner. Their motivations and actions are clearly portrayed and there is never a doubt that they are exactly what they appear to be, which in this play is no small feat, since the dialogue moves at lightning-swift speed, and there are many comedic lines that require perfect timing.

As the party gets underway, a surprise guest shows up. It is Rick Steadman, who saved Willum's life in Vietnam. Willum feels eternally indebted to Rick, and has offered him anything he wants, from money, to a place to stay.

Rick of course takes him up on his offer, deciding to move in with Willum.

Randy Lord's performance of Rick is wonder-



GARY GRASS The Springfield News

Randy Lord and Dan Pegoda

fully hilarious. He has some very amusing scenes, reminiscent of the well-known Abbot and Costello comic piece, "Who's on First?"

Rick is many things rolled into one, but undoubtedly one of the most irritating and obnoxious human beings ever to grace the planet. Rick shows up unexpectedly at Willum's party, dressed as a monster, because he mistakenly thinks it is a Halloween costume party.

From the moment this odd little nasally-voiced creature appears on stage, the chuckles escalate, and soon turn to howls of laughter.

It seems that Rick has no place to live. His brother, Bob, gave Rick all of his credit cards and said, "Go somewhere," then moved without leaving a forwarding address. As the play progresses, we understand all too well why he did this.

Rick is "the house guest from hell." He smells bad, picks his nose in public and does impressions of "Jimmy Durante ... before he died." He practices his tambourine loudly and incessantly. And he "helps" Willum out by drawing things like colorful and childlike chimneys on Willum's carefully-rendered architectural drawings. In other words, he is a big pain in the neck.

In one incident as related by Willum, he and Rick were on an airlines, when the plane experienced severe turbulence. Rick, who was wearing a pilot's cap that he bought at the airport gift shop, jumped up in the aisle and yelled to the passengers, "urinate, urinate or your kidneys will explode!" Willum says that "I'm pretty sure that some of them did." In desperation, he adds, "It's a hundred things like that every day. He follows me ... he seems to have unlimited time, unlimited funds ... he follows me ..."

Tansy and Axel decide to do something about the annoyance known as Rick, so they plot to get rid of him. As Axel says, "This is a desperate situation. It calls for something infantile." As the play escalates, some pretty silly things happen, and there is a marvelous surprise twist ending.

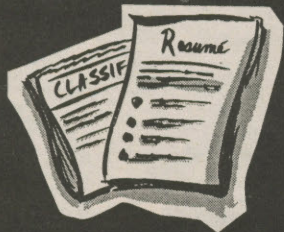
The play is skillfully coordinated by Director Lynda Czajkowska, and everything fits together like a finely-crafted jigsaw puzzle.

Tragically, the author of "The Nerd," Larry Shue, died in a plane crash in 1985, leaving behind only a few plays for future generations to enjoy.

I highly recommend "The Nerd" to anyone who enjoys laughing a lot. And who knows ... maybe I'll acquire a liking for this genre because of it.

"The Nerd" is playing through February 18. Ticket information and show times are available by calling the LLTC box office at 465-1506 or the Hult Center Box Office at 687-5000.

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RYAN BATE, EDITOR

THE TORCH

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at Lane

-Womens-
Feb. 14 @ 6:00
vs. SWOCC
at Lane

MS WALK AND ROLL

The Oregon Chapter of National Multiple Sclerosis Society is sponsoring the MS Walk and Roll, Rain or Shine on Sat., April 13 in Eugene. Walkers will begin this 10K at the Valley River Center at 9 a.m. Funds will be used to serve thousands of people in Oregon and to support research for finding a cause and a cure for this disease of the central nervous system. Lunch will await walkers at the end. For more information, call 1-800-422-3042.

The LCC women hash it up

By Ryan Bate
Sports Editor

The Clackamas Cougars romped over LCC's women 81-65 on Jan. 29.

Clackamas outscored LCC 46-22 in the first half before LCC rebounded to outscore Clackamas 43-35 in the second half. Then LCC's closest attempt to even the score came 2:30 minutes from the game's end, 58-68.

"We need to come out with more intensity and enthusiasm in the first half...we played a good second half," summarized LCC's Leisa Rody.

Few shots fell for the weary Titans as they lost their third game in a row. LCC made a miserable 27 percent (20 of 75) of its shot attempts from the field, including a season-low 20 percent (4 of 20) from beyond the three-point line. Nearly half of the Titans' points came from the free-throw line where they made 21 out of 27 for an excellent 78 percent.

Two Titans scored in double digits. Jenny Kammer, who referred to the women's first-half play as "lackadaisical," scored 13 points while teammate Andrea Gustafson had 12 points and grabbed 12 rebounds.

Tracie Lawrence, whose shots actually were falling (3 of 4 for 75 percent), attributed the Titans' first half woes to lost confidence from losing, and said, "We need to believe we can do it before the game."

In LCC's Jan. 31 game the team made a futile attempt against Umpqua Community College and scored 59-75.

The biggest factor that kept the Titans out of the game was the dominating rebounding by Umpqua. LCC was outrebounded 68-33.

Despite the loss, four Titans scored in double figures. Rody and Megan Miller each had 13 points; Kammer and Gustafson both scored 10 points.

LCC resurrected itself Feb. 3 when the team beat host Portland Community College in a rout, 89-42. Jenny Kammer came



DANIEL ARMANINO The Torch

The home team scrambles for a lead.

alive to score 20 points, and teammate Miller made 16.

Lane outrebounded PCC 52-29 and shot a perfect 50 percent from the field (41 for 82).

The win gives the women a 3-6 league record for the season.

The women play host to Southwestern Oregon Community College February 14 at 6 p.m. and then play their last game versus Chemeketa at Salem, Feb. 17.

Men's basketball: playoff hopes dwindle

By Ryan Bate
Sports Editor

After three straight losses, the LCC Men's team sank to fifth place in league play.

Even after fouling out two of LCC's best players and playing a more solid game, Clackamas Community College still had difficulty in pulling out a 77-72 win over the LCC men's basketball team on Monday, Jan. 29.

The desire to win was evident as arguments exploded among players, coaches and referees. After establishing a substantial 10-point lead barely five minutes into the game, it looked like Clackamas (7-1) was going to roll to a rout over Lane (4-4). Then someone lit a match, and a fire burned to life on the Titan's heels.

LCC point guard Jackson Shafer scored back-to-back threes on his way to 18 first-half points, and guard Elvis Harper scored a few baskets as the entire team suddenly came together. Clackamas looked stunned as Lane took the game into its own hands.

By half-time Lane was only

trailing by two points, 44-46.

The second half proved to be even more exciting than the first. Clackamas' Jawanza Hadley snatched a half-court pass midair while at the same time jamming the ball through the net with two hands — an alley-oop dunk. But Harper, who stands 5'11", showed that size isn't a factor after leaping a clear foot over 6'5" Hadley to score a smooth lay-in.

The two teams were continually trying to one-up the other.

Both teams shot poorly in the second half, LCC making 32 percent of its shots and Clackamas making 26 percent. Once again Lane showed its improving proficiency at the free throw line, converting 14 out of 18 shots for 78 percent. During the past two games LCC has shot an admirable 83 percent (34 for 41).

In the end foul-troubled Lane succumbed as both Scott Cowan and Amos Baker fouled out.

Three Titans scored in double figures. Shafer had 20 points; Cowan had 13; Elvis Harper made 10; and Jason

Colarchik recorded a double-double (double digits in scoring and either rebounding or assists) with 13 points and 12 rebounds.

On Jan. 31 LCC played host to Umpqua Community College. With playoff hopes slowly dwindling the 4-4 Titans needed a win — badly.

At halftime the team's chances seemed threatened as Umpqua had a four point lead 35-31. As the game wore on, LCC looked close to another loss when it rallied late in the second half, pulling the Titans within one point.

At the end of the game, though, it was Umpqua on top 75-67. Apparently, for the Umpqua Timbermen, the third time is the charm as UCC pulled out a win after being beaten by LCC twice earlier in the season.

Cowan and Baker shared high-point honors with 14 points apiece, and Elvis Harper had another solid showing with 11 points in the loss.

The Titans had a scheduled road trip to Portland on Saturday, Feb. 3, but due to the freeze, the game was canceled.

The men's team bus turned back at Corvallis, then, encountering traffic, and pulled off at the Glenwood exit, about a mile before the LCC exit. The men hiked the remainder of the trip back to campus, reportedly arriving at 11 p.m. after the unscheduled workout.

In the rescheduled contest on Monday, Feb. 5, Lane put up a good effort, but came up short 59-57. The win was PCC's second win of the season.

Scott Cowan scored a game high 13 points and had 12 rebounds. Shafer also scored 11 points as the Titans were outrebounded 44-29 and turned the ball over 23 times.

Lane plays host to Southwestern Community College this Wednesday, Feb. 14, and plays its final game against Chemeketa on this Saturday, Feb. 17 in Salem. Both games start at 8 p.m.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Wednesday February **14**

DISCUSSION: "Survival in the Wilderness and on the Planet," talk by Dick Person. He touches on survival strategies — hunting, gathering and native wisdom. 7:30 in 100 Willamette Hall, UO. \$2. Free to students.

Thursday February **15**

OPEN FORUM: EarthSave Eugene sponsors, "Beyond Vegetarianism — Animal-Free Shopping and the Ethics of Consumption," a vegetarian potluck will be held at 6:30 pm in the Unitarian Church. Donation.

Friday February **16**

LAP-A-THON: 17th Annual Womenspace Lap-a-Thon. Walk, run, swim, even aerobicise to end the violence. Prizes for everyone, sweet treats, t-shirts, and soaks at Onsen Hot Tubs. It's open to all ages and abilities. Call 485-8232 to register today.

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