

The Torch

VOLUME XXXI, NUMBER 19

LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

APRIL 1, 1996

Bunnies on parade



EVIL CLOWN The Torch

LCC faculty, dressed in Civil War-era costumes, take aim at small fluffy bunnies in the college's third annual Fun Festival. The festivities were a benefit for LCC's student literary magazine, *Denali*. For more April Fool's fun see pp. 3-6.

Burrows economizes on jokes

By EJ Schmidt
The Torch

"Economics like you've never seen it before," the two postcards on the front of the office door proclaim. The people on the postcards are looking skyward, waiting for something to strike.

At LCC what's waiting to strike is economics instructor Bill Burrows. Some students claim that after his impact you might never be the same again.

This guy is a little crazy about teaching, and many students have been subject to his antics and comical props in the economics classroom for the 13 years he has been at Lane.

One prop was a specially-altered vest from St. Vincent de Paul. Halfway through class he unveiled the vest with 500 \$1 bills stapled to it, silver dollars serving as buttons. He says he was trying to drive home some point about monetary policy, although now he's forgotten the exact point.

Another prop was the hard hat he used to wear, complete with sirens and flashing lights to indicate to students' right or wrong answers.

"Colonel, I'll expect to see

you on the airstrip tonight!" is the bizarre way he cheerily greets students.

It's crazy humor — part entertainment, part psychology — and it works in the classroom.

"I bombed in econ at UofO," says former student Ken Jackson. "The way Burrows talked about econ, I just absorbed it. It's a one and one-half hour

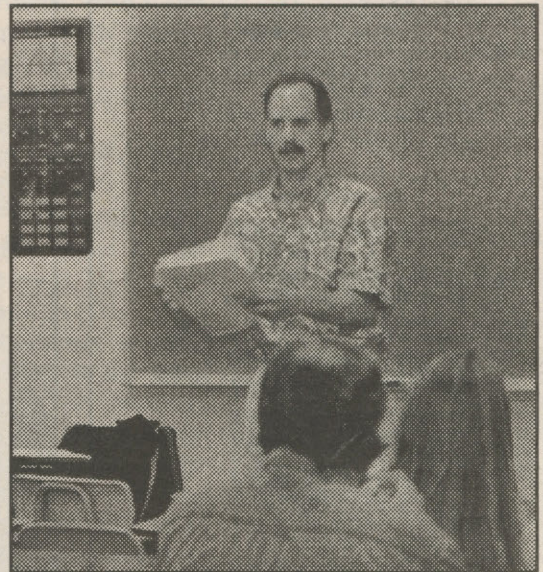
class; the time just flies by." This fellow has his fans.

"He's cool," says student Cheryl Wilson. "He's very humorous. He makes you laugh, and he doesn't talk down to you."

"He brings the subject to a practical level," says another student, Heather Edmonston. "He enjoys what he's doing, and it really comes across."

Another student, Janis Lee, adds, "Sometimes you laugh so hard you forget to take notes!"

But, why does this guy take everyday business concerns — like interest rates,



DANIEL ARMANINO The Torch

Burrows has taught at Lane for 13 years.

the stock market and the law of diminishing returns — and create goofy examples like "Bill's Pizzeria"?

Co-worker Ryan Anderson, who teaches anthropology and geography, says Burrows "takes a subject that can be dreadfully taught and tries to make it accessible. His performance in class seems linked to his caring about people," he says. "Bill is an incredibly creative guy."

But, despite his comfortable and fun demeanor with students, Burrows, 41, says

See **BURROWS** page 7

LCC Library is student-friendly

By Barbara Hargrove
Special for The Torch

"The library is changing all the time by accessing information with computers. It is not static," says LCC Reference Librarian Don Macnaughtan.

Students who enroll in the course, "Use of the Library" (LIB127), learn to use the library resources effectively and to access computer databases.

The class is a three-unit, non-lecture course where students work individually around their personal class schedules. They pace themselves with self-teaching materials and assigned completion dates. Librarians encourage the students to ask for help says Macnaughtan.

The two objectives for offering the course are: to make the library a friendly and non-intimidating resource; and to enable students, by the end of the course, to walk into any library in the country and be able to use it comfortably.

Macnaughtan also states that because the library at LCC is a miniature version

of the UO's library, students considering transferring to the university will be familiar with the organization of the reference materials there.

Because computer technology has produced powerful and easy-to-use databases, the library replaced its previous card catalog with an online catalog called, "Athena." It also has access to the Internet and CD-ROM (nationwide telephone directory, Midline and full text to the Oregonian). Consequently, computer research occurs more frequently. Soon the library may offer a class based solely on computer resources.

This is the eleventh year that LCC has offered "Use of the Library." It is limited to 45 students per term and usually fills up. Besides computer skills, students learn how to access periodicals, newspapers, and the extensive reference collection. Upon completion of the course, the students are well-equipped with valuable skills.

Be aware of the signs on your way out, though, or you might destroy all of the work on your computer disk.

ASLCC springs forward

By Kristine Sohnrey
Editor-in-Chief

Student government starts anew spring term.

Former ASLCC Treasurer Thomas Lee left his position after dropping his classes on March 1. Lee's eligibility was dependent upon his student status, and he does not intend to be a student during spring term.

Senator Danny Armanino is serving as interim ASLCC treasurer. The new communications officer is Christian Hill, a former ASLCC senator and former editor-in-chief of *The Torch*. The new cultural director is Ilya Shrubak, an international student from Russia. The new food cart manager is Randy Dreiling, former ASLCC senator.

ASLCC President Adam Young posted for a permanent treasurer in March. He is also accepting applications for student senators.

Students interested in running for the 1996-97 student government may obtain application packets at the ASLCC student government office, CEN 479 between April 1 and noon, April 17. Presidential candidates require a vice-presidential running mate.

The May 6, 7 and 8 elections will be for 14 positions.

The Torch

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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.

Mail all correspondence to: The Torch, Center 205, 4000 East 30th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405. Phone: 747-4501 x2014. e-mail: torch@efn.org

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Disney recruits students from Co-op program

By Amy Fattig

Special for The Torch

On Monday, April 1 Disney representatives will interview LCC students for summer work.

More than 800 businesses work with Lane students in the Cooperative Education program each year, including Walt Disney World, which will recruit students on campus.

The Co-op program allows students to earn college credit while gaining

hands-on experiences in their fields of study.

Since 1970, more than 25,000 students have participated in the Co-op program, with 70 percent having been offered permanent jobs by their Co-op employers, says Bob Way, chair of the department.

LCC has 34 faculty members who work as Co-op coordinators to place students at Co-op jobs.

Students can get assistance in preparing a resume, cover letter, and a job

search plan from the Co-op program.

The jobs range anywhere from working in local elementary schools to working in Salem with the legislature.

"We've had the Disney Corporation involved with our program for the last 12 years," says Way. Students interested in working at the Florida theme park should contact Sharon Moore at extension 2540 or 726-2221. The interviews will be held at 3 p.m. in the Business Department, Room 203.

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Aliens get the runaround

By Athena Kelly
Managing Editor

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service isn't the only establishment cracking down on illegal aliens. Unfortunately for those of the extra-terrestrial persuasion, wanting to enroll in LCC classes just isn't enough.

After failing to produce the necessary paperwork, several species of intergalactic space travelers were denied admittance to LCC on Friday.

The aliens were at a loss for words and for options. Their space ship had made an ungraceful crash-landing in the upper parking lot, damaging several vital parts so that the craft is no longer suitable for space travel. The aliens had apparently tried to make the best of their situation by immediately attempting to enroll in LCC classes to glean as many

practical survival skills as possible.

The boldest of the aliens' ambitions produced mixed reactions at LCC yesterday.

"We just can't admit any illegal aliens," stated one admissions counselor who

LCC office worker.

"I sure felt sorry for the poor dears," said another.

Stranded on Earth, the stellar entourage was last seen in Eugene on West13 Street, panhandling for change.

The aliens seem to be working towards the grassroots beginnings of their own educational system here on earth. Admission will be open to all, regardless of citizenship, and tuition waived for those who are unable to pay.

In a similar vein, a disgruntled group of beings from the Dog Star system Sirius was

denied entrance to the U.S. last week. According to Border Patrol officials, the aliens "left Earth in quite a huff."

However, some local old-timers believe the border patrol officials are themselves aliens in disguise, who have long harbored personal grudges against the Sirians.

It appears that even in a time of such advanced technology, having a space ship and a dream just isn't enough.

wishes to remain anonymous. "It's against the law...risk factors are just too high."

It appears that even in a time of such advanced technology, having a space ship and a dream just isn't enough.

"Are we all just a bunch of robots here, or what?" exclaimed one frustrated

LCC PEOPLE

By Wiley Sohnrey
Chief of Editors

No more wallowing in the past.

Chittlin'Swine puts his snout in the groove as he laps the track at LCC.

"When we were younger, Chittlin' used to run circles around everyone else on the basketball court. I always thought he could really bring home the bacon with his alley-oop shots," says long-time friend, Miss Piggy.

But, "Life can really give you a ribbing sometimes," says student Swine, when he explained how he had to quit basketball after his tender loins were sauced in a barbecue accident. "Sometimes it's a challenge; sometimes it's a boar. I'd just like to reap what I sow."

Spring term at Lane Community College gives many students a chance to start again and strike new goals. Swine is certainly choosing his.

"Last term in my Life Fitness class with Mr. Boutin I learned how important it is to reduce my blood collateral and change my fat-to-mean ratio. Now I plan to start getting back into shape by walking and running."

When asked how he will handle running in the rain and mud, Swine said, "It'll be hog heaven!"

"Besides, I'll look a lot better in a bathing suit this summer if I start running now."

Miss Piggy claims Swine is quite athletic and hopes someone will discover his rare talent.



Chittlin' Swine

Leaving winter behind on the snowy peaks



Student checks out the dark side of the moon.

Contributed by Pat Williams

Titans set low standard

By Shark Bate
Sports Editor

LCC baseball has a new look — or rather, the pitchers do.

After deliberating for 13 hours last Friday, March 8 with NWAACC President Dick McClain; LCC's baseball coaches and LCC Athletic Director Harland Yriarte finally got what they wanted.

"Frankly, we — my players and I — are afraid of the ball," said Head Coach Bob Foster.

The NWAACC agreed that when the LCC baseball team competes both LCC and the opposing team will employ the use of soft-pitch underhand throwing between the pitcher and the catcher, and from baseman to baseman. Only outfielders will be exempt from the ruling. When throwing overhand they will be required to lob the throw to the infield, or else walk the ball in.

"It's scary, you know, this little canvas and cork bullet zipping at you at 80 miles an hour. After 'the incident' I had nightmares for months, and I had to see a therapist and take medication to get over the trauma," said LCC infielder Kenny Hollister.

The "incident" to which Mr. Hollister is referring is the cause of the new ruling. Last season a

player — who desires to remain anonymous at this time — was hit in the pelvic area by a pitch. The force of the blow shattered the player's protective device and rendered him unconscious. He has been in physical therapy for 11 months, and the doctors say the outlook regarding his returning to the everyday world is sketchy.

LCC Pitcher Travis Manning said, "We're relieved. The team was having a very difficult time feeling scared about the upcoming season. We're really relieved about the decision."

The ruling also says that a radar gun must be stationed at all baseball diamonds in the NWAACC to measure the speed of all pitches thrown in any game involving LCC. Any pitch clocked at over 10 miles an hour will not count, and, if any pitcher throws more than three "speedy" pitches they will be removed from the game.

When not playing LCC, other teams in the NWAACC may pitch as hard as they want.

"They're (the LCC baseball team) a bunch of pansies. What will it be next season? Nerf baseball?" Commented a Linn-Benton Community College player.

The baseball team plays their first game on March 15 in Eugene versus Mt. Hood Community College.

Ask Mr. Owl



Q. Mr. Owl, my pet German cockroach won't eat the Twinkies I feed it. Why?
-Wally

A. The answer here is simple, Wally. You see, German cockroaches know that those wonderful snacks are high enough in preservatives to kill them, and so our little friends don't even try to take a bite. Don't you wish you were that smart?

"Ask Mr. Owl" is brought to you by your friendly community college newspaper. The Torch is committed to quality education, and wants everybody to be smart.

The Torch

Reporting can be a real head trip

By Wiley Sohnrey
Chief of Editors

Reporting can be a real head trip. Ralph Q. Petersson, newswriting advisor to *The Torch*, found himself on a deserted island in the middle of Mollywood and Hind this April Fool's Day while investigating a report of crocodiles in the sewer.

He says, "I was just following a lead from the infamous, yellow, rubber ducky and flowing down the effluent, when I felt a need to breathe. This was the first opening I sighted."

Petersson says he is glad he can finally

breathe, but wishes John would use a little saniflush.

John said, "No comment."

Meanwhile, the fire marshall wonders how Petersson managed to wedge his head through the drain opening, and how he intends to unwedge it.

"I don't want to destroy private property by breaking the commode," says the fire marshall.

When asked how he intended to get out, Petersson replied, "I don't know."

But, he intends to continue his newswriting classes, now called Toilet Trainings 1 and 2, and asks students to edit their own work.



COCO THE MONKEY The Torch

Dedicated reporter and journalism instructor Ralph Q Petersson finds himself in deep s___ after taking a breath of fresh air.

LCC implicates and replaces advisor

By Wiley Sohnrey
Chief of Editors

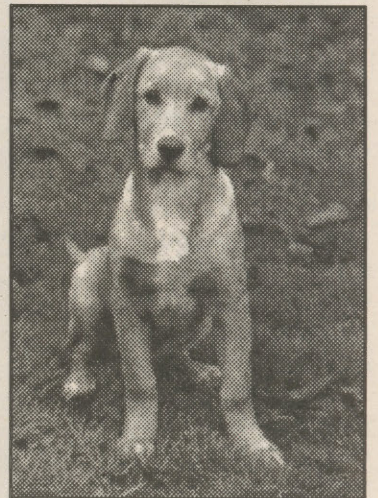
On April 1 Davis J, a lab mut who feels his science background will be helpful, became the new production advisor for *The Torch*.

Davis J was hired to take the place of former Production Advisor Dorothy Wear-in after she allegedly became implicated in a UFO abduction coverup.

Davis J says he was formerly friends with Wear-in and doesn't believe the allegations against her.

When asked if he planned to make any changes on *The Torch*, Davis J said he intended to chew over a few ideas. He has a bone to pick with the internet creators, and he wants to change the Thursday night pizza feed to Kibbles 'n Bits.

"Basically, I just plan to sniff out the problems, mark my territory, relax and grow



STUART THOMAS The Torch

Davis J accepts the job.

into my job," he says.

The Torch attempted to obtain comments from Wear-in at her home, but was unable to locate her. One of her neighbors — a short, bald man with large, black eyes and gray skin — thought she had gone over the hill into parts unknown, but he couldn't say where on earth that was.

The cat as the hat comes back

By Wiley Sohnrey
Chief of Editors

"Is that a cat upon your head?"
"That is my hard hat," the fireman said.
"Surely your hat is plastic and hard,
Not furry and soft in this regard."

"My hard hat serves me well," said he.
"Did it guard you from a firey tree?"
"No, no, I wear this hat at home,
To remind me from whence I come."

"You speak in riddles, fireman, sir.
I ask you please to explain here
Why you wear a cat on your head.
Is your brain made out of lead?"

"You have no need to be so rude.
Why are you in such a bad mood?"
He said, "My hard hat works so slick,
I think it is a wondrous trick."

"Nobody wears cats in their hair!"
"Why do you ask? Why do you care?"
"It is not normal — the way you act."
"What is normal? Tell me that."

I thought and thought to answer him
Until my brain began to dim.
What is normal? Myself asked I.
I could not think of a reply.



NICHOLE KEITH

Dan Chapman tries on a new hard hat.

"I do not know what normal is.
Can you tell me?" I did quiz.
"Normal's when cold is cold; hot is hot.
I am me, and you are not."

"Sometimes I study much too hard —
Too overworked and overtired.
This cat I wear upon my skull,
Makes me laugh; life's not so dull."

I thought about the fireman's word —
How zaniness the mind does gird.
And thought perhaps a cat could be
The perfect hat to place on me.

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Obituary

Myron Finklemeyer died on March 30, 1998, when Johnson Johnson inadvertently hit him with a riding lawn mower while Finklemeyer was gathering wildflowers on the LCC grounds. Finklemeyer is survived by his 1,800 canaries, a silo of birdseed and his good friend Big Bird who will inherit his vast estate.

Where was Jerry?

By Athena Kelly
Managing Editor

LCC President Jerry Moskus is reported to have been sent home in October on administrative leave, but we now believe this was a coverup.

"The lights...my God, the lights! They came down and consumed me ... I thought I had been struck blind!" said Moskus of his recent alien abduction.

The adventure began last Thursday, Oct. 19, 1995, when Moskus was relaxing on the LCC campus after an important meeting. Reportedly, "little green men," who bore a striking resemblance to the lovable Hollywood image of "E.T.," approached Moskus.

According to Moskus, the aliens wore transmitters that were encoded to process and translate auditory and vibrational utterances of all living organisms into the appropriate language. The creatures approached him, bearing gifts of M&M's and demanding that he drive them to a local McDonald's.

Fearing for his life, Moskus chauffeured the hungry aliens to the Franklin St. restaurant's drive-thru window, where he was forced to pay \$59.60 to fill their bellies with Big Macs, french fries, and strawberry milkshakes. After a final round of cherry pies, the aliens then insisted that he accompany them home to reciprocate his fine hospitality.

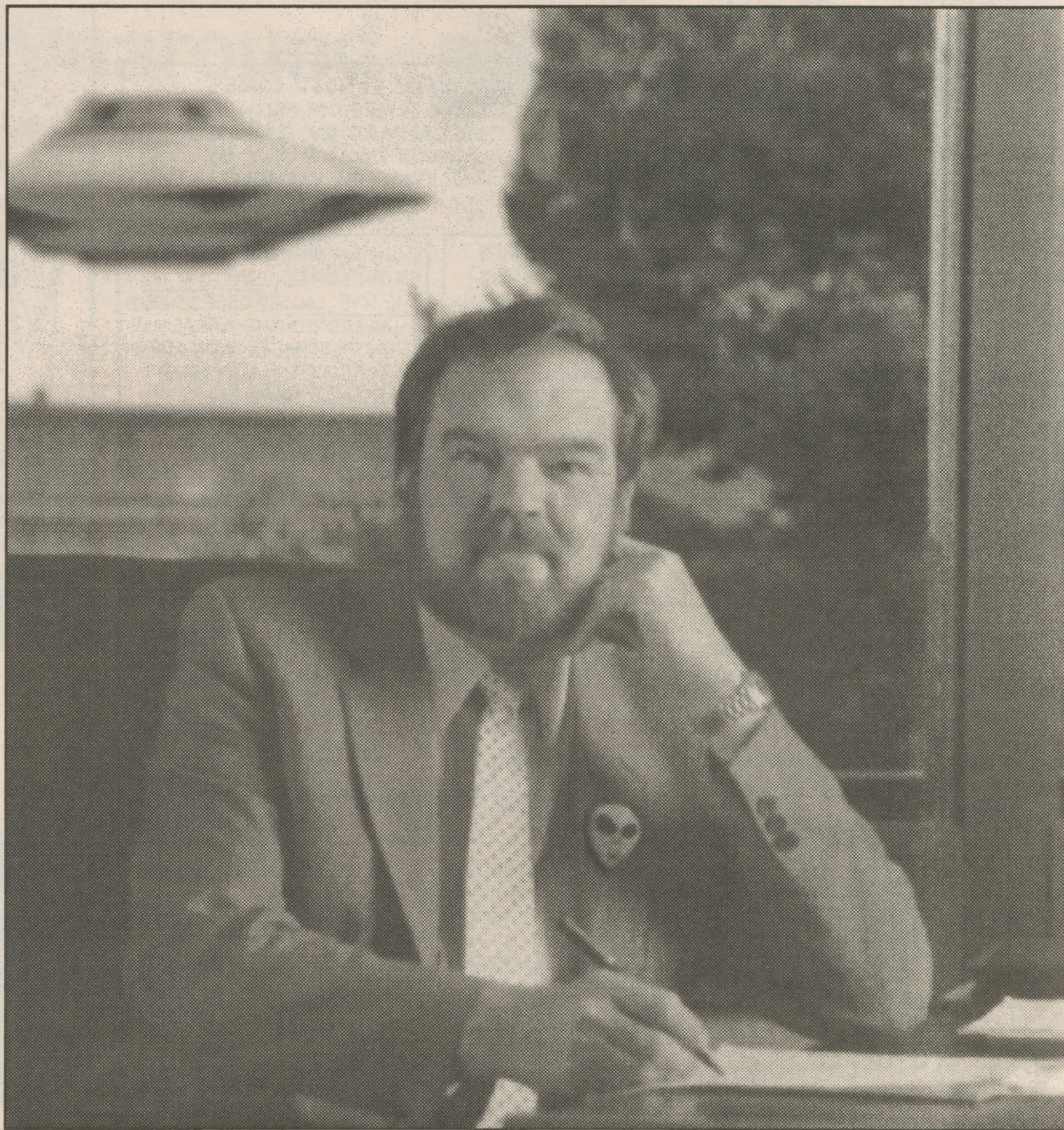
"I felt I had no choice, but to comply with their wishes," Moskus told *The Torch*.

No sooner had he accepted the invitation than he was engulfed in flames and white light as the Mother Ship descended upon the party.

"I thought my face would be sucked off," he commented.

Once arriving on the home planet, the party was faced with a dilemma: an alien child had been abducted by a foreign band of star-travellers, the Tu-Sirius.

Eerily enough, the eldest starchild had been re-



MR. WIGGLES The Torch

Jerry Moskus was taken on an unusual journey during his 'administrative leave' in late 1995.

ported missing at the same time that the Tu-Sirius had recruited Moskus to be their dinner guest.

The aliens panicked at the thought of their young one at the mercy of the one band of intergalactic travellers with whom they had no established communication code.

Stirred by their tragic plight, Moskus heroically volunteered to find the missing child. Spurred by the supportive cheers of his new friends, Moskus strapped himself into a space pod to be blasted into five-dimensional reality, where everything happens instantaneously.

Language barriers notwithstanding, Moskus managed to wrest the alien child from the clutches of the Tu-Sirius, who reportedly broke down in

tears at the thought of losing their new friend. Thanks to 5-D, he was able to complete the operation in under 10 seconds. At the special banquet held in his honor, he was lavishly rewarded with special gifts.

The child had actually flown from home when scolded by his parents for quarrelling with his younger siblings. After the eldest starchild had threatened to kill his younger sister, the parents had intervened, ordering a "time out."

Of his achievement, Moskus reported, "It was something I just had to do."

The conspiracy to hide this information was for Moskus' own good — to preserve his reputation lest someone should question his sanity.

Star of hit variety show comes down with 'the big one'

By Scoop D'Loop
The Torch

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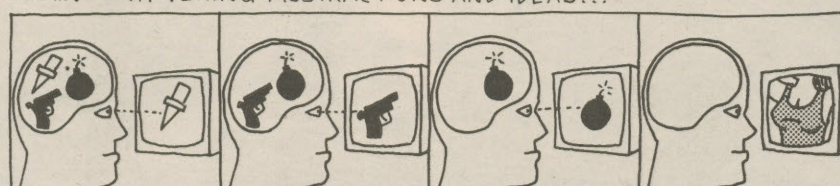
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The Torch

WACKY FUN PAGE

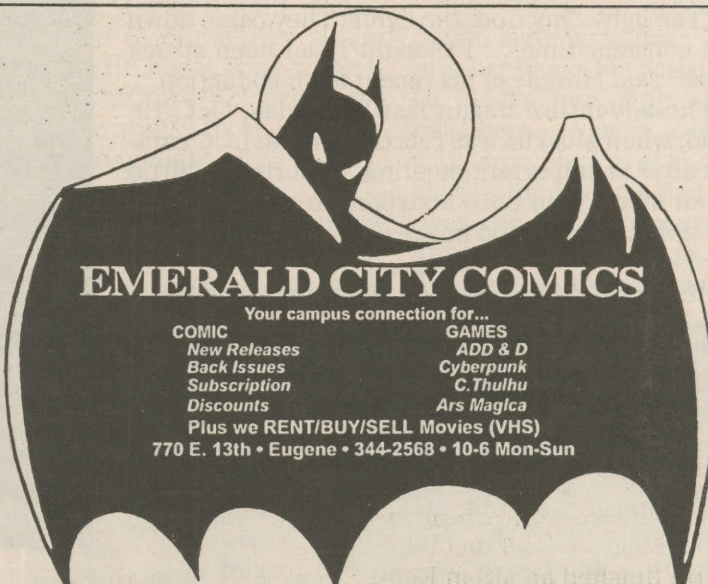


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THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman
GREETINGS: A question for Hallmark
by Patrick Jordan

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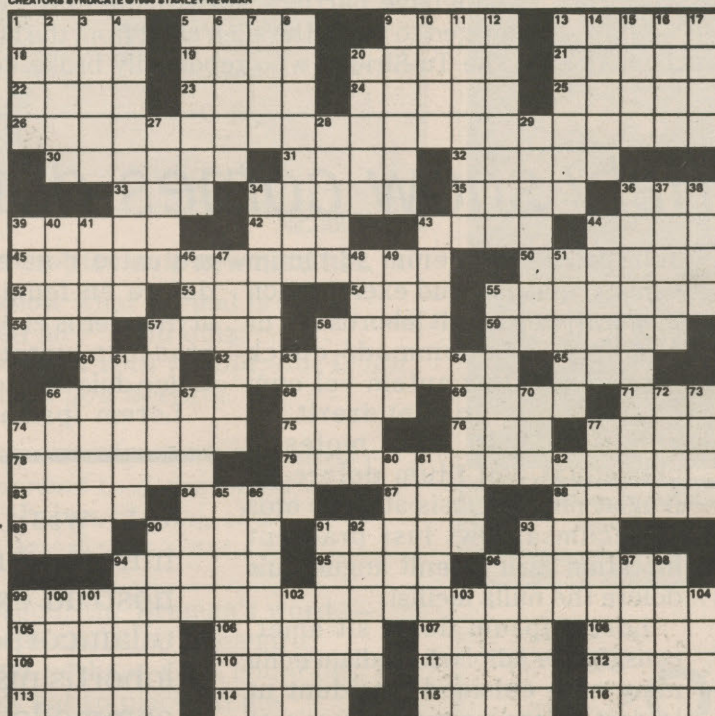
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ACROSS

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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION

MATADOR ATTACHE LASER
OKINAWA DRILLER APPLE
CRADLES DIEDOWN TRUES
HORSESHOE CRAB ELI RAT
ANA NNE BASIN ONO
PEPPED EVENTS MFOR
RABELAIS SMART NOTRE
PLANETS SOPS AMISH
MAC CHAMPATHEBIT ESA
SKITS AIRY ELBA AMES
SKINS FIRSTLADY TBONE
RANT MINE HIVE DEEMS
ONT GIVESFREEREIN EAT
HAILE LENS RODENTS
TEEMS IDEAS SIDESTEP
EAST CLARET SECEDE
ASA DIANA SHE JOT
BED ADS WHIPINTOSHAP
ADDER SCOOTER ARCADES
GULLY INFRONT BEALERT
SPELL ENFANTS SOMEDAY

OKINAWA (20 Across) is the largest of Japan's Ryukyu Islands; it was occupied by U.S. forces from 1945 to 1972. ESA-Pekka Salonen (57 Across) is the conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Sir ERNEST Rutherford (14 Down) received a 1908 Nobel Prize for his pioneering study of radioactivity. Tertullian (15 Down) was a second-century Christian theologian.

that his nature is to be quiet and reclusive.

"It seems the basic elements in my personality are opposite of what I do," he says. "In the summer, I allow myself to cancel the newspaper. If I didn't have this job, I think I'd just hole up and turn into a hermit," he confesses.

Burrows didn't intend to study economics. He never even expected to teach. Like the postcards on his door, it fell from the sky to his feet. "Fate," he says. Like other times in his life, he simply seized an opportunity when it presented itself, then used it to help others.

He was ready to graduate with a BA in psychology at the University of Nevada/Las Vegas, and found himself short one social science credit. When his name came up in the lottery to choose his class there was only one choice left, Principles of Economics at 8 a.m.

"I wasn't quite sure what I was in for," he says chuckling. "I was totally forced by the circumstances. I was lucky I had a good teacher who lit a fire in me. I absolutely loved the stuff, and I decided to get my BA in econ. I was just a couple courses shy of finishing in psychology, so I did that too."

He finished an MS in Economics as well. "I was an over-achiever, I suppose," he recounts, after telling of two years of harrowing 25 credit terms. "I wouldn't recommend it," he says, "It cost me a marriage. It was insane."

The youngest of four boys

born to a German mother and English father, Burrows is proud of the fact that he is a first-generation American.

"I was like the torchbearer for the family, although I'm not sure how I got that job," he chuckles. He was the first in his family to complete high school and the first to go on to college.

But, it wasn't an easy go for Burrows. He was an Air Force "brat" and moved eight times before he finished twelfth grade.

"You can do two things when faced with moving so much. You can become shy and reclusive, or you can just get down to business, and meet those chums in a hurry," he says.

Substance abuse also dramatically affected his home life, although he chooses not to go into details. He says that, despite the dysfunction around him, he's not bitter, that those experiences ended with positive outcomes, making him who he is.

At some point, "I just figured there were two things you could do when times are good: you could worry about when things were going to turn bad, or you could just go ahead and giggle through the good. I like the giggle," he says.

He lost one marriage to economics, but at LCC he gained another one. His wife, Liz, was one of his students.

"I was taken by her, but wouldn't allow any interac-

tion. I think that whole year she came to my office twice for help," he says.

"I knew he was a good teacher," she says. "After spring term all the classes had a party for him at Amazon Community Center, and I talked with him. I liked him.

"I just figured there were two things you could do when times are good: you could worry about when things were going to turn bad, or you could just go ahead and giggle through the good. I like the giggle,"

He seemed like a supportive, nurturing person."

She went to Corvallis in the summer of 1983 to finish a compressed sequence of organic chemistry, and they corresponded by letter, nurturing a platonic relationship. By November they were dating, she says. They married in 1985.

"Bill is a very shy person, but he gets into this shtick. Basically, I think he's a ham at heart. Anything he sets his mind to he does really well," Liz comments.

Burrows shows off a picture of their daughter, now almost 2 1/2. Redheaded and pink cheeked, she smiles

through the camera. Her head is tilted over her right shoulder. She is wearing knee high, black rubber boots and denim overalls with a heart on the front. He was the first man at LCC to apply for and get parental leave. He stayed home with his daughter when she was three months old so that his wife could return to work. His voice softens as he speaks of her.

His accessible personality also translates into being accessible to his students, who need assistance with sometimes grueling, sometimes goofy, homework assignments.

In the corner of Burrows office, a "Crap-o-meter" with a red light bulb sits atop a file cabinet next to an iridescent purple and white ceramic angel-cow. He can't show me how the "crap-o-meter" works; the batteries for the remote control are dry. But, it sits in plain view of the visitors chair, waiting for that student with the unbelievable excuse.

Just because he teaches economics doesn't mean he's beholden to its institutions.

He admits that for six years he had no checking account. "I was pissed at the domestic banking system," he says, although he can't recall why. "I really taught them a lesson," he laughs.

Ask him why the stock market steams ahead, or why the business cycle ebbs and

flows. He'll tell you that you'll get different answers from different economists.

"Economics can be complex, but it affects everyday life. The way you open people's minds is to get them to laugh. It's amazing what people will be willing to listen to when you get them to chuckle," he says.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday April 1

ANNUAL MEN'S AWARENESS DAY: Events will be held throughout the day. Starting with a belching contest at 8:17 a.m. in the LCC cafeteria. This will be followed by a "Lunch Pail Talk" at noon to discuss the addition of an indoor rifle range on campus. The day will end with a big 'ol **TRACTOR PULL** held in the athletic field. Bring your own tractors.

MUSIC: Country-western, punk rock band "Raging Rednecks" will be performing on the 6th floor of the CEN building at 3:65 a.m. This will ROCK. Free peaches will be handed out during the show. LCC Main Campus.

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Presentation Date: April 1, 1996

Time: 3 p.m.

Location: Business Department, Room 203

For More Information Contact: Sharon Moore, (503) 726-2221

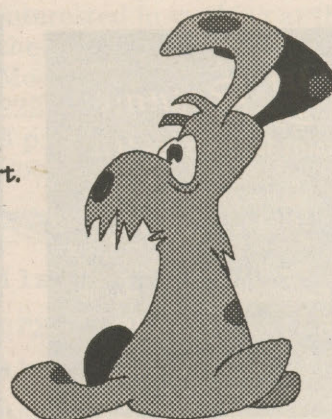
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