

# The Torch



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VOLUME XXXIII, NUMBER 12

LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JANUARY 9, 1998



## Parking problems put tempers to the test

Photos by Bobbette Chichmanian



Finding a parking spot on LCC's campus any day is a hassle. Several students created their own spaces on the first day of classes however, causing gridlock for those in their path. One student, Joy Lund (above, speaking to a potential double-parker) kept a vigilant watch over the mess. See page 3 for the full story.

## Tax credits are sign of hope for students

Hope Scholarship and Lifetime Learning Credit to help with education costs

Victor Runyan  
Staff Writer

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 passed by Congress contains several tax breaks of special interest to college students or their parents.

Two of those breaks are the Hope Scholarship

Credit and the Lifetime Learning Credit. Both require the student to be attending at least half time, and both credits allow a taxpayer to get tax credit for money he or she spends on education for themselves, spouse, or dependents.

The Hope Scholarship Credit gives a family a 100 percent credit on the first \$1000 of educational expenses for the first two years of college and 50

See **Hope** page 8

## New editor in chief sparks *The Torch*

Judy L. Sierra  
Managing Editor

LCC's student-run newspaper, *The Torch*, begins winter term with a new editor-in-chief, Jack Clifford, making this the sixth time the newspaper has changed editors in the middle of the year in its 32

year history.

Oblio Stroyman, editor during fall term, submitted her resignation to the Media Commission in December, explaining that her family was moving out of state.

Reporter John Dreiling

See **Editor** page 8

## LCC mourns the loss of two 'family members'

**Jerry Langdon**  
(1937-1997)

Judy L. Sierra  
Managing Editor

LCC lost a dedicated member of its custodial staff when Jerry Langdon, of Campus Services, died Dec. 27 of heart failure. He was 60.

Langdon's three sons, Steve, Kevin and Brandon came to *The Torch* office to talk about the death of their father, but more importantly, about his life.

Steve said his father's death came as a shock, and added they were very grateful the entire family was together for Christmas.

He said his father loved all aspects of his job at LCC, especially meeting people. Langdon worked for LCC for 15 years.

"Dad always came home from work with stories about his work and the people, saying good things about the instructors."

Kevin said, "My dad always joked about his age because he loved to describe how some of the students

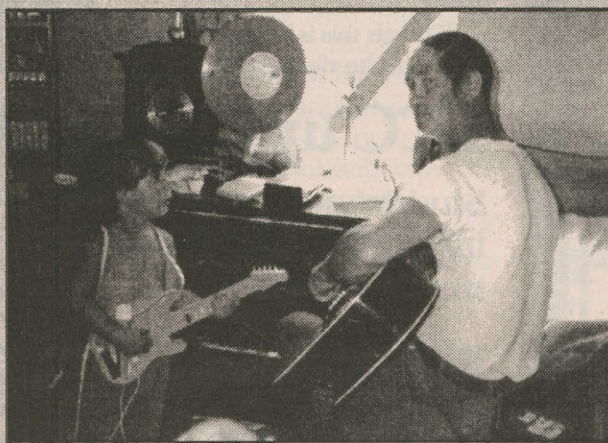


photo courtesy of Langdon family

Not even the camera can distract Brandon from following his grandfather's lead.

dressed. He had a sense of humor about it, because he got a kick out of things like all the piercings and such."

Langdon loved country music, according to his sons, and played in several local bands.

"I enjoyed watching my dad's bands because Dad

See **Langdon** page 5

**Bob Foster**  
(1950-1997)

Jack Clifford  
Editor

Singing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" at a funeral service might seem odd to some people. When friends and family of Bob Foster gathered however, to say goodbye to the longtime Lane baseball coach and instructor, the act was perfect.

"It was very appropriate and I know that the Bob would have a smile on his face," says Steve Wolf, Foster's best friend, former teammate and LCC colleague. "If he somehow saw that, I'm sure he had his hat over his heart, and a smile on his face. He always said baseball is a metaphor for life."

For Foster, life meant enjoying every second as if it were his last, adds Wolf.

Seven years ago Foster was diagnosed with a brain tumor, and despite a tenacious attempt to win

See **Foster** page 5



## Senator gives political science class personal lesson

**Jack Clifford**  
Editor

The day before a Jan. 5 speech in front of LCC students, U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) held one of his signature town hall meetings in Fossil, a small town in the southeast corner of Oregon.

That was an appropriate setting, since several in attendance at the Forum Building on Lane's campus view Wyden's hands-on approach to government as being from a long-ago era, when politicians actually took personal time to talk with people.

"This is probably the first time I've ever seen a major political leader this close," said Michael Durnan, a

sophomore political science major at LCC. "I'm comparing it to a time when I saw President Bush speak several years ago, surrounded by security, and he seemed off in his own little world. I didn't have a connection at all."

Wyden's way to make that connection is through close-quarter, person-to-person, "town hall meetings." Every year since his election in 1994, he has formed these get-togethers in each of Oregon's 36 counties.

"There's a line in a Woody Allen movie where he says 'You know, Diane, most of life is just showing up.' My opinion is that you don't have to pay to see me."

LCC political science instructor

Steve Candee arranges these up-close-and-personal talks with state representatives for his classes.

"Whatever comes down in terms of students' rights or students' benefits is the result of policy," he says. "Policy is carried by politicians and it's driven by politics. So it all has to go together. It's getting students to see the relationship between whatever affects them, and how it gets to that point where it does affect them, and what their role can be."

The senator spoke to Candee's class for approximately 40 minutes on issues ranging from campaign finance reform to the environment to the state of higher education. He almost immediately touched on the perception of "buying time" with political figures.

"A lot of people today almost feel you have to pay to see a member of the U.S. Senate," he told the crowd of approximately 50 students and school administrators, including LCC President Jerry Moskus. "There is enormous frustration and understandably so. I want to make sure that the door to government is open to help chip away at the cynicism and skepticism people have."

An audience member questioned how Wyden, just by virtue of his job, can avoid the "political insider" label.

"I'm trying to work both sides of the equation," he responded, "by staying close to the people who are putting pressure on the system. Then I also use this election certificate that I've been honored by the people of Oregon to have and try to get things done that help people."

The majority of students in the crowd were obviously interested in Wyden's view on college financial issues and he again pointed to the political process in action.

"Last year was probably the biggest year in terms of support for higher education since the G.I. Bill was passed after World War II," he said. "The Hope Scholarship was founded, the Pell Grant program was expanded, and tax credits were established. All this helped to put additional dollars in the pockets of students — students with modest incomes — who probably are working, have a family and have five free waking moments a day."

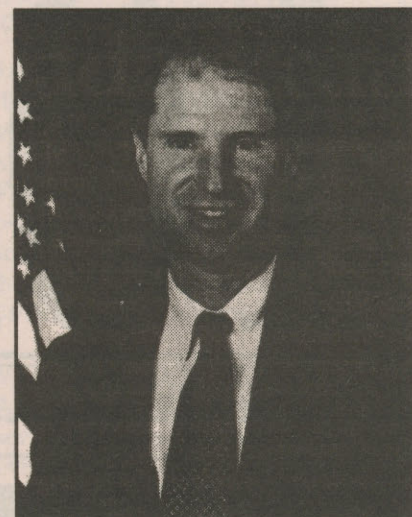


photo courtesy Ron Wyden office

**Senator Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) spoke to LCC students on Jan. 5.**

"As we look into the 21st century, we will see education in a different way. I'd like to see it be like electricity — you can plug it in and get it anytime throughout your life."

Candee has asked U.S. Representative Peter DeFazio to speak Friday, Jan. 9 in the Center Building, Room 402. The 11 a.m. discussion takes the place of Candee's scheduled class, but is open to the public.

## Thurston High School becomes LCC's newest off-campus center

**Pam McGlynn**  
For The Torch

Some LCC students are heading back to high school this winter term.

No, they didn't flunk out of college. These students are taking advantage of LCC's new Community Learning Center at Thurston High School in Springfield.

The 3,300 square foot center includes a computer lab with 24 workstations, a large classroom, a small group room, a testing room, a staff reception area, and rest rooms. The facility is wired for computers and audio-video media to support distance learning programs.

"For me, this is kind of halfway house in the delivery of educa-

tion," says LCC Vice President of Instruction Larry Warford. "We will provide things here, so people won't have to come to the main campus. We are trying to make education more accessible."

The learning center will offer both credit and non-credit courses starting Jan. 5. Credit classes include Career and Life Planning, General Psychology, Geography of Oregon, and Introduction to Business. A large selection of non-credit classes is scheduled — from drawing to computer to foreign languages.

The facility, which was christened with an open house on Dec. 8, was paid for in part by a 1995 bond measure. In addition, a partnership with Springfield School District allowed LCC to save

**"For me, this is kind of a half-way house in the delivery of education"**

money on construction costs, roadways, parking, and utilities. LCC's cost was \$422,000, according to a press release.

"Springfield School District and Lane have been able to leverage scarce resources,

together, to do things we couldn't do alone," says LCC President Jerry Moskus. "We couldn't have afforded this on our own."

## LCC upgrades library computer system

**Student access to the Internet is faster and more direct**

**David Arney**  
For The Torch

This winter term the LCC library will pick up the pace and cruise through cyberspace at a smooth 166 megabytes.

Vice President of Instruction and Student Services Mary Spilde authorized funds to purchase eight new computers for the reference section in the library. The new computers contain 166 megabytes

of storage and each will have direct access to the Internet.

"This is definitely a good thing. The computers have a lot more storage capacity and will make access to the Internet a whole lot faster," says acquisitions librarian Terria Burch. The college will install the computers sometime during winter term.

The eight computers are new model Pentiums and replace the old 386s which will remain in use in the library. Cheryl Coleman, a reference/circulation librarian, says the new computers cost \$1,229 each and were bought on

a group discount with the allotted funds.

New printers will not be purchased because of the library's policy of no printing. Coleman says that if printing were allowed, the system would be continually backed up due to the volume of printer use. Students can save the information they retrieve on personal diskettes.

"I think the computers run fine right now, but I guess it couldn't hurt to have some newer models. I'm sure it will speed up access to the Internet," says student Michael Brower.



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5	1,955	23,463	2,534	30,407
6	2,239	26,863	2,901	34,814
7	2,522	30,263	3,269	39,220
8	2,805	33,663	3,635	43,627



## Full time students can once again be card-carrying members of the OHP

Free medical/dental benefits offered to qualified students

John Dreiling  
Staff Writer

In the 1997 Oregon Legislative Session, legislators reversed themselves and granted full-time students access to the Oregon Health Plan effective Jan. 1, 1998.

The Oregon Health Plan offers eligible individuals free medical and dental benefits. According to Robert Scott, Oregon Health Plan public service representative, in order to prove eligibility, full-time students will need to be eligible for the PELL Grant, meet certain income requirements, and be uninsured.

According to Danny Armanino, ASLCC president, after the Oregon Legislature took full-time students off the Oregon Health Plan during the 1995 session, community college student body presidents, the public four year college student body presidents, and the community college presidents formed a coalition to

lobby for a change in the eligibility of full-time students.

LCC President Jerry Moskus says, "I'm really glad to see that the rule has been changed so that it won't be a barrier for students who want to go full-time."

Reflecting on the coalition's lobbying efforts, Armanino said, "It was a victory for the community college level because [the community college student body presidents] were the ones to start the issue and grab hold of it, and it was a victory for the entire state level because everyone pulled together."

Scott says full-time stu-



photo illustration by The Torch

An array of medical situations can impact students; no insurance compounds the problem.

dents can apply now for the Oregon Health Plan by calling the Application Center at 1-800-359-9517.

## Student government to look into parking situation

Jack Clifford  
Editor

Parking passion, the weaker sibling of "road rage," settled on the LCC campus Jan. 5, and disrupted at least one student's daily schedule.

Drivers in the south gravel lots, looking for any open space to put their vehicle, frustrated freshman Sarah Foster by blocking her Toyota pickup. Because she couldn't move her car, she missed an appointment following her 8 a.m. class.

"I had a lot of things planned, I had to rearrange my schedule, I had people to pick up," said Foster, who turned her personal frustrations into a campaign. "People need to learn to drive better. It's been crazy. I was here for a couple of hours, telling people not to park so other people could get out."

Another LCC student, Joy Lund, also took on the role of temporary traffic cop to ease the snafu. She persisted in directing drivers away from potential gridlock decisions.

"Give me a cape and tights, and I'll feel better," Lund laughed in reference to her "superhero" status.

The question on everyone's mind was "Where is Campus Security?" Lund contacted the officers, who explained since it was unclear who parked in the spots first, they could not ticket or tow the offending cars.

"It is difficult to enforce because you can't put lines on gravel," says Paul Chase, Campus Security director. "We ask people to be responsible and not block someone in. Our recommendation to them is to find spaces in the improved pavement areas."

ACLCC Senator Jeff Johnston happened on the scene during the fiasco, and promised a closer look at the problem.

"This is ridiculous. We should be able to do something through student government. Since Security's not going to do anything about it, student government's going to have to do it."

Whatever the final outcome, Foster learned an important lesson on her first day of the new term.

"I have had luck with cars anyway, but not at LCC. This is a first. Even so, I won't be parking (in these gravel lots) again."

## Plan for free LTD usage still in the works for students

John Dreiling  
Staff Writer

A plan which would allow LCC students to ride the LTD bus for "free" seems to be one step closer.

According to Danny Armanino, ASLCC president, LCC President

Jerry Moskus formed a negotiating team earlier this school year to work out with LTD a way for LCC students to ride the bus free.

LCC's negotiating team was composed of LCC Board of Education Member Kathleen Shelley, Purchasing Services Director Lloyd Rain, Student Activities

Director Barbara Delansky, and Armanino.

LTD's negotiating team was composed of Andy Vobora, Service Planning and Marketing manager, Connie Bloom Williams, Commuter Resources Coordinator, Pat Hocken, LTD Board President, and Kirk Bailey,

LTD Board member.

The two groups developed together two options which will now be considered by Moskus and the LCC Board of Education:

- Option A would increase the registration fee by \$5-8 paid by

See LTD page 8

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# Opinion & Editorial

JACK CLIFFORD, EDITOR IN CHIEF

THE TORCH

747-4501 ext 2014

## WINTER TERM

*The Torch* is changing its publication schedule from Fridays to Thursdays beginning with the Jan. 15 issue. Try us, you'll like us.

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## Keep your name off the OCA petitions

As terrifying as any "Friday the 13th" plot twist, the Oregon Citizens Alliance — written off as dead by many political observers — is revived and determined to again horrify the *true* citizens of Oregon.



*Torch Editorial*

The OCA announced on Dec. 30 its signature-gathering campaign, already underway and thriving, to put two separate initiatives on the 1998 ballot. One is aimed at government benefits for gays — slyly called a "pro-family initiative" by the OCA — and the second would outlaw abortions after the

first trimester.

Normally, we would be in favor of putting measures on the ballot, giving people the vote, ensuring true democracy in a sense. This recent attempt by the OCA however, to become the state's moral compass will resurrect painful memories for those who were here during the 1992 and 1994 elections when Oregonians voted down similar OCA-backed measures.

So, in this case *The Torch* urges you to say no to a frightening sequel; make your voice heard by not even giving the

OCA your signature.

In 1992, the OCA's Measure 9 equated homosexuality with pedophilia, sadism and masochism, and asked Oregonians to "recognize (these acts) as abnormal, wrong, unnatural and perverse and these behaviors are to be discouraged and avoided." The campaign propaganda incited hatred, discrimination, fear and division in Oregon.

Sanity prevailed as 55 percent of the voters sent this abomination to its death. Two years later, a similar, watered-down Measure 13 failed although the vote was closer.

Following OCA Director Lon Mabon's unsuccessful bid for the U.S. Senate in 1996, and criticism aimed his way from the alliance's inner circle, Mabon and his minions were hanging on via life support. Ironically, Measure 51 (the November 1997 measure to continue Oregon's assisted suicide law) recharged the troops by giving them something anew to fight.

That measure failed too. But, absurd as it sounds, they're baaaacck.

Why doesn't the OCA get it? Why can't the OCA let people be? Why must it control a woman's right to choose, and why must it police how adults live? What is the ultimate goal? At what costs?

On Election Day 1992, the tensions in this state were causing violence because of the OCA's campaign tactics. *The*

*Register-Guard* reported that many opponents to Measure 9 received death threats and feared for their safety. The rhetoric and calls for violence went both ways — even OCA leaders reportedly wore bulletproof vests at their headquarters in Portland.

Um, did someone mention family values?

It is almost certain these measures will reach the 1998 ballot; 94,681 signatures are required and the OCA says it has collected 60,000 signatures for the abortion measure and 40,000 for the "anti-gay" measure. Opponents to both measures are gearing up for another contentious year.

"Are we taking the OCA ballot measure seriously? Most definitely," Lisa Horowitz, executive director of the Oregon National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League, was quoted in the Dec. 31 issue of *The Register-Guard*.

The OCA knows this undertaking is a last-gasp effort at impacting the political scene.

"The reality is, we're a political organization. If we cannot affect the political process, then we're not viable," Mabon told *The Register-Guard*.

Like Jason from "Friday the 13th" the OCA has one foot in the grave. Throw a little bit of dirt on the group by saying no to its petitioners.

## Letters to the Editor Speak Out!

### A PRECARIOUS SITUATION

It is apparent that people and the things they desire; animals and THINGS do not mesh in peace like they did, say, 35 years ago. Revolution after revolution of hedonism — coupled with man's already ardent pursuit of wine, women, and song have animated and cheapened the gleaned countryside in the Nuclear Age. Bulwarks of slow, decimating Death are, and have BEEN established by the Industrial-Military Complex. Radiation: albeit in a Mack truck is very, very, real. Great spills of things such as oil threaten the oceans support of its life. The atmosphere of big cities, by and large, is like warming up the car with the garage door closed.

Water, albeit that which supports native Oregonian trout, is awash in its willy-nilly way with acid rain, etc. Supermarkets offer better water for expensive sale than can be found out of the tap. Of course, one can filter, boil, freeze, let stand, and refrigerate in his home environment. But how many citizens are even aware of what city water actually is?

Food itself, that Sunday dinner that most know and love — is not always a safe thing to ingest. One hears all the time of people sickened

to death by something they depend upon to keep them alive. The pace of 1998 American life allows for little slack in food production labor. Mistakes happen — but I will say that controls are sticter and margins and allowances are one heck of a lot fewer than they were 35 years ago.

The Sun itself is killing more and more people. With the depletion of the ozone layer AND the mass use of fossil fuels, we are being burnt and choked and flooded by melting polar ice caps. This wide world, with its ever burgeoning population and all the things the new babies TAKE in their lifetimes — is getting like a can of bad sardines. Virgin areas of man's implementation are getting fewer and fewer, and traces of pollution can be found anywhere on the globe. The sun and its photosynthesis is being adulterated.

The solid and liquid wastes that are produced by man at this hour are causing a Purgatory of the pollution morass. Landfills ooze, contaminating rivers, oceans, etc., have more than sharks can handle. We have made great strides in this regard but much, much, more needs to be done.

Finally, people pollute their own minds and bodies. The intravenous injection, suffocation, swallowing,

touching, and smoke inhalation of the pollutants known as DRUGS is at epidemic proportions.

—John Craviotto  
Alumnus

### GOOD JOB KIM

Please forgive the belatedness of this note of appreciation to *The Torch* and particularly to staff writer Kim McCloy for her 11-14-97 article entitled "Rewarding jobs for disabled."

As a *Torch* reader (and sometimes critic) since 1971, I extend my praise for McCloy's concise, informative, wonderfully written article that touched both head and heart.

Thank you.

—Jerome Garger  
Writing, Literature, and Peace & Conflict Studies Instructor

### LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

*The Torch* will try to keep readers informed on campus and community issues in a clear, concise, fair manner. Occasionally we may not accomplish this goal. (Sometimes we may even piss you off.)

If you ever want to put us back in our place — or let us know that you appreciate a job well done — please submit a letter to the editor.



## Foster: baseball was LCC instructor's life and love

continued from page 1

out, it was one of the few battles he ever lost. Wolf, Foster's wife Sharon and their two children, Robby and Jennifer, were at his bedside on Dec. 15 when Bob Foster passed away at the age of 47 in his home.

Foster helped shape LCC as a force in the baseball world, and he also devoted time and effort in support of summer semi-pro baseball in Eugene. He attended LCC in 1969 and was a member of the first Titan basketball and baseball teams. He earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from Oregon College of Education and a master's degree from UO in 1991.

In 1974, Foster helped lead the Eugene Emeralds to a Northwest League title. Three years later, he played for the Portland Mavericks, also a Northwest team. He became LCC's head coach in 1979, a stint that lasted until 1996. He also served as LCC Athletic Director from 1986-1991.

Listing Foster's numerous awards and achievements on the diamond would portray his life as simply a sports figure, but friends remember him as so much more.

"When I came back to Lane," says current LCC baseball coach Donny Harrel, "Bob was very open in sharing his experience with me, a young guy, compared to someone that's been in it for 20 years. He allowed a new coach to come in and do his own thing, but at the same time, his door was always open."

That open-door policy was in place for new acquaintances, and always there for

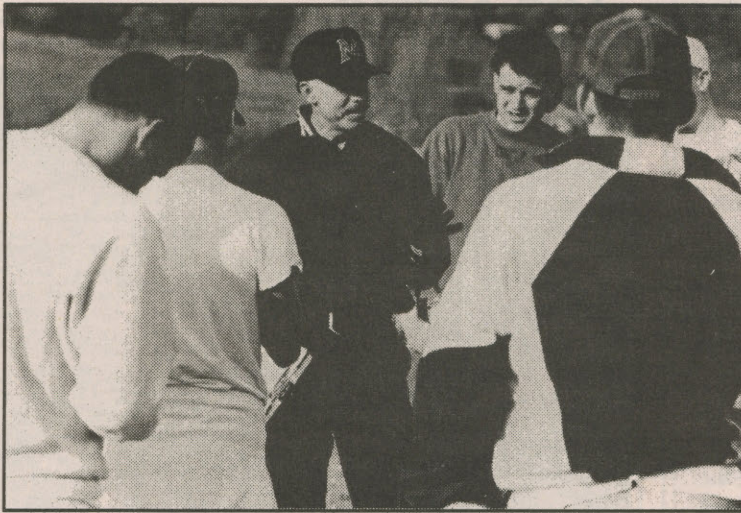


Photo courtesy of Sharon Foster

**Bob Foster (center) instructs LCC players during the 1993 baseball season. He coached from 1979-1996.**

longtime friends.

"Even in the last few years when he was sick, he'd walk in here and give me a big hug," remembers Sue Thompson, Cooperative Education coordinator for the Physical Education Department and a friend of Foster's for 20-plus years. "I walk by his office now and can't believe he's gone. Every encounter with Bobby was delightful. He was a sweetheart."

In addition to his experience as Titan athlete and coach, Foster was also an instructor in the sports of basketball, flag football, golf, badminton and tennis. His experience as a player gave him an edge, and an attrac-

tion, as a teacher, says Wolf.

"His enthusiasm and energy for the games was infectious and students picked up on that," he says. "A lot of people connected with him as a person who had the passion and talent for what he was showing them."

Thompson echoes that sentiment.

"Bobby was the ultimate participant. He loved to play no matter what it was, whether a meeting, a rafting trip, a golf tournament, or a basketball game. He was the ultimate teacher through his play."

Foster's wife Sharon, who works in the P.E. department, prefers to let the "LCC family" speak about her husband.

Thompson acknowledges the bond that keeps everyone together during this grieving process.

"We're fortunate in this department that we're like a family. Everyone brings something unique to it. Bobby's gift was his humor and his lightheartedness."

Even in the face of his devastating illness, friends say Foster kept up his spirits and didn't succumb to despair. During 1,500 baseball games together — either as players or coaches — Wolf says he and Foster kept a playful attitude.

Foster's desire to be "just one of the guys at all times" also impacted those close to him. Wolf recalls a time on the golf course, when Foster suffered two minor seizures, one on the fourth green and one on the 18th tee.

The seizures usually lasted about 45 seconds to a minute, and the second one shook up Wolf, although Foster encouraged the group to play on.

"So, when I teed off on the 18th, I topped the ball and it went about 40 yards down the fairway. Bobby got up right after me, hit the ball about 250 yards down the middle, turned to me with a little grin and said, 'You shouldn't let this get to you Steve.'

"Bob was the type of person who just wanted to be as normal as everyone else as soon as his seizures were over."

In memory of Foster, LCC has established a scholarship in his name. Donations can be sent to the Bob Foster Scholarship Fund, c/o LCC Foundation, 4000 E. 30th Ave., Eugene, OR, 97405. In addition, the baseball team plans to retire Foster's number on Opening Day of the season.

"He's going to always live here, in this house, for baseball," says Harrel.

## Langdon: as a father, he taught his kids to appreciate the outdoors

continued from page 1

was pretty vocal — he would get up there and talk, and the crowds always loved him. He wasn't shy at all."

Kevin says anyone who knew Langdon saw a very nice, kind, hardworking man. "He was just himself."

"Dad loved to go camping, fishing and hunting. He always took us with him," Steve recalled. "It was more than just the hunt because Dad hasn't shot a deer in years. It was about getting into the great outdoors, being together and enjoying the wonder of it all. He taught us to respect the outdoors, as well as other people."

"Our family would like to say thank you to all the people at LCC for the support at the funeral service, for all the cards, calls and flowers," Steve continued.

"The support has been overwhelming and so appreciated."

Langdon and his wife Viola celebrated their 35th anniversary in August.

"He was the best father and grandfather in the world. We're all still in such shock, and it's going to be hard without him."

Langdon is also survived by his daughter, Renee Carr, and eight grandchildren.

One of LCC's lead custodians, Randy Lindstrom, said the department has lost a dedicated co-worker who brought laughter to the workplace.

"Jerry was such a joy to work with. He was always there. The day I came back after the funeral, I knew he'd never be there again and there was a big empty spot — it will never be filled."

Kay King of LCC's Nursing Program sent a card to Langdon's family sharing a moment she observed that portrayed his sense of humanity. She wrote:

"Jerry was getting ready to raise the American flag as a young woman walked by with a boy trudging unhappily behind her. Jerry asked the child if he would like to raise the flag. He helped the boy raise the flag then helped him down off the base of the pole. The child no longer looked unhappy nor trugged, but walked up the sidewalk beside his mom."

"That story typifies the kind of man my dad was," says his son, Steve.

## In Memory of Jerry Langdon

Written by R. James Platz  
from Campus Services

Let it be known that Jerry was first and foremost an artist in the true sense. Many of us here at Lane knew of his insatiable desire to form a great country music band, designed around his magnificent bell-like bass voice. There had been quite a number of stumbling blocks for this endeavor of his. One being getting a group of musicians to commit to the effort involved in playing on a regular basis, and to be dedicated to staying in action and turn off the TV a few hours a week. Jerry had a strong confidence in his ability to sing most of the classics of country music as good or better than the originals.

It appears now that perhaps he had a lack of confidence in doing it all alone on the stage or bandstand. This man had the talent and ability for music, but also had a dedication to his job at Lane Community

College that was unshakeable. For Jerry, it couldn't be done alone. He needed a few good people. I, for one, supported him in this, and encouraged him to persevere at all cost! It was not to be, for the Lord had a different plan for Jerry up there in heaven I think.

Many times we could see Jerry toddlin' down the aisle in the hallway or the kitchen, swingin' the mop in time to his voice booming out some glorious Hank Williams melody. What a great model for us to see how work doesn't have to be so serious as to have our souls be in jeopardy for it. Ah yes, and I'll miss too, that perfect Starling bird call he had that resounded across the campus so lovingly and even seemed to make the birds take notice, in a brief and crystal moment in time. Jerry, we'll miss you so much. Please be in glorious peace in that "Great Jam Session in the Sky!"

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# Arts and Entertainment

GERI SCHWEIGERT, A&E EDITOR

THE TORCH

747-4501 ext 2014

## This "Postman" fails to deliver on big promises

Geri Schweigert  
Interim A&E Editor

Kevin Costner's new movie "The Postman," is not what we have come to expect from a director/producer of his stature.

An exaggerated, futuristic look at history, this film's plot just isn't enough to carry the film. Costner's over-inflated epic could fill the big screen in less than half of its three hours.

In a nutshell, here are the lowlights and highlights.

Set in the year 2013, with the world recovering from a devastating holocaust, the unknown vagabond/Postman, played by Costner himself, is supposed to be the hero of the movie. He can only accomplish the savior gig by galvanizing people and challenging the government in charge, the Holnist Army.

A sort of Pony Express is established, with carriers routinely delivering mail from burg to burg. This exchange of ideas and insights

builds opposition to the Holnists which, until the Postman's arrival, pillage the communities.

Supporting actor Larenz Tate does a nice job with his character, Ford Lincoln Mercury, a man determined to fight the army.

The climax of the movie is almost laughable. The great battle consists of The Postman and the general of the Holnist Army played by Will Patton.

On the plus side is great scenery of Eastern Oregon, where the a lot of the movie was filmed, and the fact that the movie was adapted from Oregon author David Brin's book.

Yeah, there's a little slapstick comedy, and yes, a little romance. But not enough to mention.

Simply put, there should be better things someone can do with three hours of their day.

If you must see "The Postman," it's playing at Cinema World (call 342-6536 for times) and Movies 12 (741-1231 for times).



photo by Bobbette Chichmanian

The VLT's second production of its 69th season, "A Bad Year For Tomatoes," is a comedy written by John Patrick and directed by Suzanne Shapiro. Myra Marlowe, (played by Mary Mason, left) escapes the pressures of Hollywood by moving to a small cottage in Vermont. Here, Myra entertains Reba, a neighbor played by Eileen Peterson. The play opens Jan. 9 for 14 performances. Call 344-7751 for showtimes and ticket prices. See a future Torch for a review.

## Cameron's newest film worth every penny

"Oops, did I do that?" said the iceberg to the Titanic

Victor Runyan  
Staff Writer

"Titanic," the newest offering by writer, producer, and director James Cameron, is an epic film well worth watching.

Certainly, it tells the well-known story of Titanic's maiden (and only) voyage from England to America. But "Titanic" centers on a pair of star-crossed lovers who meet on that journey.

Leonardo DiCaprio, as Jack Dawson, and Kate Winslet, as teenage Rose DeWitt Bukater, turn in excellent performances as two lovers caught in the middle of the biggest disaster in civilian maritime history. The supporting cast also turns in good to great performances: Kathy Bates is Mrs. Margaret "Molly" Brown, Frances Fisher is Rose's mother, and Gloria Stuart plays 101-year old Rose.

Their performances cover almost the entire range of human experience from fear and self-sacrifice to cowardice and dog-eat-dog self-preservation. One aspect of the early 20th century illustrated throughout the movie is the vastly different treatment wealthy passengers got compared to that of lower classes: The enforced segregation and unequal treatment was graphically illustrated and continued even into emergencies.

A subplot deals with a mystery about a very valuable jewel believed to be aboard the Titanic when it sailed. It is the quest for this jewel that motivates the fictitious modern treasure-hunters in the movie to dive on the wreck. These dives provide some of the most spectacular and eerie footage in the film. Instead of using special effects to show the Titanic, the filmmakers made several real dives on Titanic's hull to capture this footage.

Viewers considering going to this movie, especially with chil-

dren in tow, may want to consider a few factors. One is the length of the movie — just under three hours with no intermission. Also the movie is rated PG-13 for disaster violence and some nudity (model posing nude for artist). Several scenes involve hundreds of people floating dead in freezing water. Parents should consider the effect of dramatic images on children. And the epic size of the tragedy — 1,500 deaths — may be too much for some.

The single-most stunning part of this movie is visual and sound production. The audience is right on the huge ship as it sails — and — sinks. This movie continues Cameron's fine string of entertaining, big-money productions including the Terminator movies and "Aliens."

Although much has been made of this movie's huge price tag — around \$300 million — the real question facing the movie-goer is, "Is it worth the price of admission — and the seat time?" The answer is a resounding, yes.

## CALENDAR

**LCC Events**—Faculty Music Concert Jan. 27 at 8pm Christine Mirabella and Betsy Parker present music for two pianists. LCC presents the play "Gold Dust," a mining camp musical Feb. 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, and 28 at 8pm and Feb. 22 at 2 pm. By Jon Jory and Jim Wann. Directed by Eileen Kearney. Winter Ensemble Concerts Mar. 1, 3, 5, 7, 10, and 12 at 8 pm from symphonic, to jazz to chamber orchestra. Classical Cuisine Dinner Feb. 12 at 6 pm. Northwest corner of the cafeteria \$16.50. Order tickets by mail: LCC Classical Cuisine, 4000 E. 30th Avenue Eugene, OR 97405.

**Contra Dance** at Kelly School, 850 Howard Avenue, Jan. 10 at 8pm (instructions at 7:30) Eugene. Mary Devlin calling with music by Moondog. Cost \$4.50 - \$5.50. For more information 686-2053.

**The Very Little Theater** presents "A Bad Year for Tomatoes." Opens Jan. 9 for 14 performances. The evening performances start at 8:15 on Jan. 9-10, 15-17, 22-24, and 29-31. There will be Sunday matinees at 2pm on Jan. 11, 18, and 25. For information call the box office 344-7751.

**WOW Hall Events** — Jan. 9 The Vipers, Boogie Chillin', and Deb Cleveland perform the blues at 9 pm.

\$5 at the door. Jan. 10 the Secret Show at 8:30 pm. \$5—\$9 sliding scale. Jan. 11 Laura Love Band performs Afro-Celtic at 7 pm. \$12.50 advanced or \$14.50 at the door. Jan. 15 Floater, heavy rock, at 8:30 pm. \$8 advanced or \$10 at the door. Jan. 20 Gold Finger at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$10 (does not include service charge). For more information, call 687-2746.

**OU Event** Jan. 9—Feb. 6 Art Center hosts Faculty Show. Opening reception takes place from 7—9 pm Jan. 9. There is a suggested \$2 donation. Hours are M - F 9am - 5pm and Saturday 12 noon - 5 pm. For more information 345-1571.

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## Men's basketball team hits the road for early wins

**Titans post 11-4 record with NWAACC season on tap**

**Donald Smalley**  
Sports Editor

The official nickname for Lane Community College is the "Titans", but the name "Road Warriors" would be more applicable to this year's men's basketball team.

LCC has posted an impressive 11-4 record heading into the conference season, despite hosting only two games.

Head Coach Jim Boutin is impressed with the performance of his team thus far — it's probably one of the best squads in his seven years at Lane, he says.

"Our goal is to win the conference and go to the NWAACC championships."

Over the winter break the Titans competed in three separate tournaments, winning one, and placing second and third in the others.

Lane grabbed the championship trophy at a tournament in

Bellevue, Wash. Dec. 12-14.

Oddly enough, the competition seemed to get easier as the tournament progressed. The Titans defeated Tacoma 67-59. They then beat Bellevue 81-69 in the semi-finals and Everett 96-83 in the championship. Freshmen Dan Carter and Andrew Brogden were named tournament all-stars.

At the Cross-Over Tournament at Green River Community College in Washington Dec. 18-20, the Titans managed to reach the finals by defeating Centralia 63-60, and Big Bend 96-52, but fell to Skagit Valley 71-64, giving them second place. Carter and Brogden

were once again named all-stars, as was sophomore Jason Meyer.

In the Mt. Hood Classic in Portland Dec. 27-29, the Titans wound up with a third place finish. They managed to defeat Clark 92-72, but Highline set the

team back with a 72-66 defeat. LCC then came back with a vengeance by hammering Skagit Valley 81-53.

Once again Carter was named an all-star, along with sophomore guard Kevin McMann.

Although the tournaments are indicative of success, the Titans are more than ready to begin their quest to win the Southern Conference.

"It's nice to get the kids back in school and get them on schedules," Boutin says.

He plans to stick to the same formula that has gained the Titans 11 wins: tough defense and patience on offense.

"We have a lot of firepower," adds Boutin. "We have good shoot-

ers and we are getting the ball to those shooters. We are shooting almost 50 percent as a team from the field and that's because we understand the offense well and we take good shots."

Carter, a North Medford

graduate, has made his presence known in the early going by posting an average of 19.1 points per game.

By grabbing 9.5 rebounds per game, he's also a force to be reckoned with for opposing teams.

Brogden is proving that Oregon City produces quality men players as well as quality women players.

He is currently averaging 15.3 points per game and almost five boards a contest.

The Titans open up the conference schedule — where

else? — on the road. First, they face the Portland Panthers Jan. 7, then the Mt. Hood Saints Jan. 10.

According to Boutin, the Saints are the toughest obstacle



photo by Nathan Ulrich

**The LCC men's team practices before the beginning of 1998. The team doesn't play at home until Jan. 14.**

to overcome in order to win the conference.

The "Road Warriors" finally get a home game Jan. 14, when the Linn-Benton Roadrunners come to town.

## Can LCC's winning ways hold up in the NWAACC?

**Shooting guard Rachel Koroush out for the season**

**Donald Smalley**  
Sports Editor

The Lane Community College women's basketball team is not living up to expectations.

Instead, the team is surpassing all expectations.

The Titans have posted a non-league record of 8-5 as they head into the conference schedule. LCC only finished 7-16 a year ago, so the win total is up by one already.

"We are very pleased with the performance of the players," Assistant Coach Rodger Bates says. "I think we have surprised some people that didn't expect us to give them good ball games."

The pre-season schedule was no cakewalk, though. The Titans

matched up against teams that are among the elite in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges.

Although the team couldn't scratch out victories against Spokane or Wenatchee Valley, both favored to win their respective conferences, LCC played them tough. The women are hopeful of finishing in the top four of the Southern Conference and making the playoffs.

That's a daunting task, however. The Southern Conference is always the toughest in women's basketball, says Bates. To make the situation tougher, LCC currently has only eight eligible players.

Sophomore guard Rachel Koroush tore her anterior cruciate ligament in her right knee against Clark Community College, sidelining her for the season. Lane hopes Koroush receives a medical redshirt year so she'll be able to play as a Ti-

tan next season.

Also, fellow backcourt partner Amy Werner is questionable due to academic problems. Her eligibility will be sorted out soon, says Bates.

"Losing Rachel will hurt because of her leadership on the floor and her perimeter shooting," Bates adds. "But the team has pulled together and some others are getting more minutes and doing a good job."

LCC had to build up its victory total mostly on the road. Only three of 13 games have been at home. The squad enters league play on a two-game losing streak with defeats at Wenatchee, 75-68, and Centralia 60-45, but Bates insists that losing those two games, especially against Centralia, is not indictative of this team's talent level.

"We defeated Centralia by 18 points at home a week earlier and we were very road weary.

After travelling 400 miles, we played Wenatchee tough and then 250 more miles to Centralia. Our legs just were not there in the second half."

Freshman LeAnn Swedberg has been a dominating force on the inside. The former North Eugene Highlander is averaging just under 16 points a game and 6.7 rebounds.

"She works hard," says Bates. "She understands the offense and has the ability to play on the inside at the post

position and she can play outside on the perimeter." The coaching staff is impressed with Swedberg's ability to drive to the basket as well as her defensive play.

The Titans will see how they match up with the best the Southern Conference has to offer when they open up on the road with the Portland Panthers Jan. 7, and the Saints of Mt. Hood Jan. 10. The squad will have its first league home game against Linn-Benton Jan. 14.

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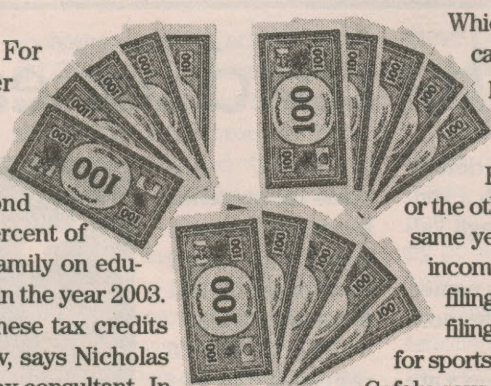


## Hope: Students need to start planning now

*continued from page 1*  
percent credit on the second \$1000. For a total potential credit of \$1500 per student.

The Lifetime Learning Credit gives tax credit for any taxpayer paying educational expenses beyond high school. This is limited to 20 percent of the first \$5000 spent by the entire family on education. The limit goes up to \$10,000 in the year 2003.

To properly take advantage of these tax credits students need to start planning now, says Nicholas Cefalu, enrolled agent and licensed tax consultant. In order to claim expenses on your taxes you need to be able to prove them. The way to do that says Cefalu is to keep proof of payment. Both that it's been given and received.



Which means keeping the receipt and the canceled check, credit card billing, or other proof of payment by a specific person. If you pay for an expense in cash make sure the receipt is marked "cash."

However, he says, you can only claim one or the other of these two credits, not both in the same year. The tax credit phases out as one's income increases above \$40,000 for a person filing a single return, and \$80,000 for a couple filing a joint return. Also the law excludes fees for sports, hobbies, and student activities.

Cefalu says, students also need to be aware that according to the text of the bill any student convicted of any felony drug offense is not eligible for either of these credit during the tax year he or her is convicted.

## Editor: Torch should provide voice for LCC

*continued from page 1*  
and Clifford applied for the editorship. After interviews and deliberation on Dec. 5, the commission selected Clifford.

He served as sports editor during the 1996-97 school year, and as arts and entertainment editor fall term.

Clifford worked for 11 years at the *Florida Flambeau* in Tallahassee, including production work and reporting. He brings extensive knowledge and experience to his new post.

Last spring he won the Oregon Newspaper Publisher Association's Best in Sports and Best Feature awards for community college newspapers.

He points out that his main goal as editor is to make



photo by Bobbette Chichmanian  
**Clifford settles into his new role as editor**

sure *The Torch* is in tune with the students and other readers, while at the same time is "a learning ground for the staff."

"Since we're a school newspaper run by students, I want the newsroom environment to instill confidence in writers, make them realize their 'nose for news' is on target, and that they are providing a voice for the LCC community."

Pete Peterson, news and editorial adviser, says he was sorry to lose Stroyman as editor in the middle of the year because she was doing a good job and because her departure affects the rhythm of the paper. "But, without a doubt, Clifford will quickly find his own rhythm to lead interesting and fascinating endeavors."

"What excites me is that Jack will add a strong voice to the editorial pages, which has been lacking for a couple years now," he says.

Clifford came to Eugene from Florida in 1996 to attend LCC. "I moved from Florida for the weather," he jokes. "Seriously, the Pacific Northwest seems to be a magnet which attracts vagabonds, refugees and the like, so here I am."

## LTD: van program would serve Florence campus

*continued from page 3*  
all students, whether credit or noncredit students on the main campus, downtown center, Florence, or Cottage Grove Campuses. This plan would provide bus service to all students except for those at the Florence Campus. Armanino says a van program is being investigated for the Florence area.

Armanino says he prefers this plan best because it ties in the other campuses and does not raise the student body fee. "The community would be better served" by this plan because it provides transportation to a wider group of people, says Vobora.

• Option B would increase the student body fee, currently at \$23.25, by \$10. This would only provide bus service to students taking credit classes on the main campus. Armanino says he considers this plan the "last option" in part because ASLCC is considering asking students to raise the student body fee to fund CCOSAC, an association of Oregon community college presidents which works on behalf of students, and to provide free computer usage for main campus credit students.

Armanino says free bus service for students has been considered by the college and various student groups over the past six years.

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A reminder. League for Innovation enteries are due in February. Questions? Contact the English Department

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If you have working knowledge about the Internet and the design of web pages, The Torch is accepting applications for an On-line Editor opening. Call ext. 2014 for information.

## Eye on the community

### SEXUAL ASSAULT SUPPORT SERVICES WINTER VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Resolve to end sexual violence in the New Year. Sexual Assault Support Services invites you to SASS's First Night on Jan. 15. Come and find out how you can use your talents and skills to volunteer and make a positive change in our community. There will be free food and door prizes. Call 484-9791 for more information

### LCC RECEIVES TWO NEW VEHICLES FROM GUARANTY AND CHEVROLET

Guaranty Chevrolet, Pontiac, Oldsmobile and RV and the Chevrolet Motor Division donated a 1997 Chevrolet Astro Van and a 1997 S10 Sportside Pickup to LCC's Automotive Technology Program Jan. 7 at the automotive facility on campus. LCC President Jerry Moskus accepted for the school and Herb Nill presented for Guaranty.

Tom Wiedeman, Advanced Technology Division Chair said, "The quality of our professional technical programs is reliant on the working relationships we have with local businesses. Guaranty is truly a great partner."

### SWEETWATERS HOSTS BENEFIT FOR FOOD FOR LANE COUNTY

Sweetwaters Restaurant is collaborating with Eugene's Hinman Vineyards to present a Winemaker's dinner on Friday, Jan. 16, as a benefit for Food for Lane County. The five-course dinner will feature a selection of Hinman's finest Silvan Ridge wines, each chosen to perfectly complement the exquisite menu planned by Executive Chef Michael Thieme.

The dinner will be served in the Rogue Room overlooking the Willamette River beginning at 7:00 p.m. Sweetwaters is located in the Valley River Inn.

To make reservations for this one of a kind dinner, call (541) 687-0123 or 1-800-543-8266 or e-mail reservations to reserve@valleyriverinn.com.

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