



LCC track teams are jumping into the title picture, **page 7**

• Team teaching takes center stage at LCC, **page 2**

• 'Wild Thing' gets one thumb up, **page 7**

## Nichols' success is not open for debate

Forensics coach credits LCC education for putting her back on the right road

John Dreiling  
News Editor

Like power from the sports cars she loves so much, Nancy Nichols is propelled to success by motivation and a drive to better herself and her circumstances.

The LCC forensics coach readily admits "I'm a car fanatic," and the evidence is plastered on her office walls: photo of a Viper here, a shot of the very first Thunderbird there. Heck, she even has a picture of a Hudson, hardly a glamor vehicle, hanging on the wall.



photo by Bobbette Chichmanian

Nancy Nichols

"Since the sixth grade, I've just been fascinated by the automobile," she says. Nichols is in her first year as an LCC instructor, and the college also hired her in February as the Bond Project communications coordinator responsible for relating the college's progress on the \$42.8 million

see **Nichols** page 2

## Spring's popping up all over LCC



photo by Bobbette Chichmanian

These daffodils reach for the sky one early April morn, with the LCC fountains doing their stuff in the background. Next time you see the sun, pay your respects as well.

## Windfall for LCC virtually blows away

Projected \$1 million funding announced at LCC Board meeting was reduced this week

Judy L. Sierra  
Managing Editor

LCC's one-time state funded \$1 million windfall turned out to be only \$200,000. LCC President Jerry Moskus announced at the May 8 Board meeting that the state proposed \$1 million in special funding to LCC due to projected higher property tax revenues.

But this week, Community College Services sent a notice to LCC that Lane's share was much less than originally planned.

Marie Matsen, vice president of College Operations also stated at the board meeting that the college still has \$1 million allocated in the budget from taxes and the tuition increase, which begins fall term, to offset next year's projected deficit.

Carol Beckley, LCC budget analyst, says the college will cut more than \$1.3 million from three main sources: \$600,000 in salary funds

see **Windfall** page 3

## Fat substitute takes its toll on some consumers

LCC student charges snack food caused a day of distress and D.C. organization warns public of potential problems

Some reporters get all the heady jobs, perhaps sent to cover a music festival in the Caribbean. Or wining and dining at the new gourmet restaurant in search of a review on the newspaper's dime.

From the  
Editor's Desk  
by Jack Clifford

On the flip side, writers occasionally have press releases with the phrases "loose stools," "fecal urgency," and "anal leakage" plopped on their desk.

Guess which subject matter this story is going to cover?

Yep, it's a crappy job, but a newspaper should, of course, cover both ends of the spectrum.

A new fad in fat-free snacks allegedly has junk food fanatics across the country feeling those aforementioned ill effects, says a public interest group in Washington, D.C., and at least one LCC student.

Olestra (a cooking oil, not some long-forgotten Greek goddess) goes by the brand name Olean and consumers buying Fat-Free Pringles, Fat-Free Ritz Crackers, Fat-Free Wheat Thins, or WOW! potato chips will come in close contact with the recently approved fat substitute.

LCC student Jim Home and his daughter Molly, who attends Portland State University, suffered adverse "gastrointestinal symptoms" after chowing down on their favorite munchies. Molly called her father to report an illness, which she blamed on WOW! chips.

"I told her 'Molly, I don't think that stuff did it,'" relates Jim, who then went on to prove that father doesn't always know best. "So I went out and I bought — stupid enough — a bag of WOW! potato chips and exactly the same thing happened to me: diarrhea, headache, and then the next day I was fine.

"I'm about the fifth or sixth person in town I know of who has gotten sick from these (chips)."

Olestra was discovered by accident, according to a press release from its maker, Procter and Gamble. In the mid 1960s, P&G scientists were searching for a more easily digestible fat, but stumbled upon "a fat that isn't broken down or digested at all." Simply put, what goes in, always comes out.

It took the Food and Drug Administration almost 30 years to approve olestra, with the stamp coming in January of 1996. However, the federal agency required all goods containing the oil to carry a warning label which reads: "This product contains olestra. Olestra may cause abdominal cramping and loose

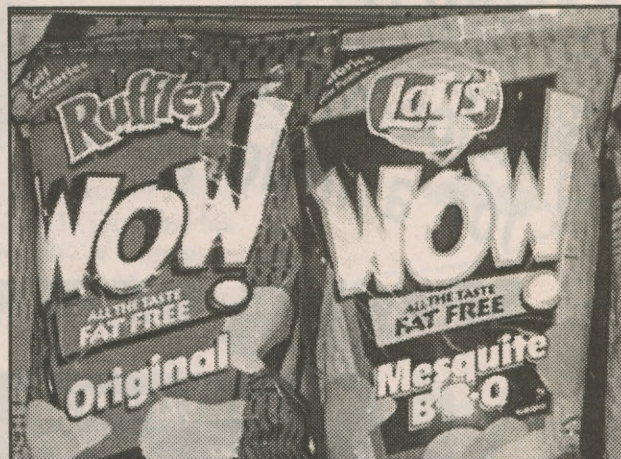


photo by Jack Clifford

WOW! chips aren't passing the final test.

stools. Olestra inhibits the absorption of some vitamins and other nutrients. Vitamins A, D, E and K have been added."

Frito-Lay, which makes WOW! chips, nevertheless unleashed its newest prod-

see **Olestra** page 2







## Olestra from page 1

uct on the Pacific Northwest and Northern California this year after it seemingly passed the taste test in four U.S. markets: Indianapolis, Cedar Rapids (Iowa), Grand Junction (Colo.), and Eau Claire (Wisc.) In a press release announcing the Feb. 10 introduction of Olean, Frito-Lay trumpeted its arrival.

"The 'no fat-no taste era' is over in snacking," reads the statement. "Everywhere WOW! chips have been available consumers have told us they taste every bit as good as original Lay's, Ruffles and Doritos."

It's not the taste part that concerns the Center for Science in the Public Interest organization based in D.C. In fact, spokespeople for CSPI have been fervently denouncing olestra, alleging that the substance inhibits the body's absorption of carotenoids, which are fat-soluble nutrients found in fresh fruits and vegetables and may help protect people from heart disease and cancer.

"From a public health perspective, it's crazy to allow into the food supply an additive that will almost certainly cause an enormous amount of pain and discomfort," said Mark Brown, CSPI's director of toxicology said in a recent phone interview from the group's office.

He added that to him the larger concern is the cartenoid loss, although CSPI

has been mostly focusing its educational efforts on the "gastrointestinal problems."

Procter & Gamble releases make the claim that "Olean is the most thoroughly researched food ingredient ever...Eating too much of any food may cause stomach upset. Olean is a replacement for fat, not common sense."

Home purchased his bag of WOW! chips at a local Safeway grocery store. A spokesperson for the company, when asked if enough negative feedback would flush WOW! chips from its shelves, said customers always drive that decision.

"If you pull a product, you run the risk of becoming the censor," said Brigitte Flanagan, Safeway's public affairs director, in a phone interview from corporate headquarters in Wilsonville. "We say 'The consumer votes every day with their shopping dollar.' If it's not selling, we need the shelf space for other products."

One person who won't be buying any more WOW! chips is Home.

"We're always talking about organic things in this world," he says, "and now here we are putting more chemically-based stuff in our body to supposedly try to gain in our lifetime a couple of ounces of less fat."

"My daughter and I both like potato chips, but we don't like WOW! potato chips anymore."

## Windfall from page 1

saved when faculty members retired, \$375,000 cut from maintenance repairs and improvement and \$400,000 in a college-wide budget tightening process.

Also at the meeting, LCC's Board of Education voted to maintain status quo, accepting President Jerry Moskus' rejection of the latest LTD group pass proposal.

Moskus said he believes the college is closer to implementing a group pass program, but could not recommend the current concept which would add \$8.90 to each credit student's fee.

"The proposed fee would mean that most of our students would pay, each time they register, a (total) mandatory fee of \$34.15," Moskus pointed out.

"The college must keep foremost its mission 'to provide

affordable education' and that goal should not be overlooked in the face of financial exigency," he continued.

LCC has attempted to negotiate a group bus pass system with LTD for at least eight years.

The board unanimously directed the Lane-LTD staff committee to present another proposal at the May 13 board meeting.

Yet, the board approved ASLCC's proposal for a May ballot measure, asking students to increase the student activity fee by \$1.13 for membership in the Oregon Student Association.

If students vote for the membership in the OSA lobbying group for four-year schools, LCC will be the first two-year college member in the Oregon chapter, but there are other community colleges rep-

resented in the parent group, the National Student Association.

ASLCC would still retain its membership in CCOSAC, the existing equivalent group for two-year schools.

In other board agenda:

•Pat Riggs-Henson, board member representing Springfield-zone 3 - for nine years announced she had arrived at the "heart-wrenching" decision to resign from the board effective July 1 in light of her recent election as executive secretary-treasurer of the Lane County Labor Council.

Elected in 1989, Riggs-Henson is the second longest-serving member of the board, after Jim Pitney.

•The board postponed negotiations to extend the president's contract to the May board meeting due to remaining "language issues."

## Eye on the Community

### ANNUAL HUNGER CLEAN-UP!

The 14th Annual Hunger and Homelessness cleanup is on Sat. April 18. It's a one-day community service work-a-thon.

Show your school and community spirit! Sign up to participate and help local shelters or pledge donations!

For more information contact OSPIRG at ext. 2166 and ask for Odessa.

### CONDOLENCES :

**Don Cronin**, a 29 year employee of LCC passed away during surgery on Friday, March 27. Don worked as a custodian at the downtown Center.

Donations for Don's wife and children may be sent to Campus Services.

**Ruth Coffman**, nursing instructor in Family and Health Careers for 13 years, died Saturday, April 4. She retired just two weeks earlier.

Remembrances should be directed to the nursing program student fund through the LCC foundation.

### LAMB AND WAY EARN AWARDS

**Debra Lamb**, Community Learning Centers Manager and Continuing Education Coordinator, was recently hon-

ored as Community College Educator of the Year by the Oregon Community Education Association.

The award is presented to a community college educator for outstanding professional achievement in the field of community education.

**Bob Way**, director of Cooperative Education, is this year's recipient of the Dean Herman Schneider Award from the Cooperative Education Association.

The award is CEA's top award and recognizes outstanding achievement in the field of cooperative education.

### GARDEN HONORS KITCHEL

Plans are under way for a memorial garden to honor Patty Kitchel, a long-time Bookstore employee who passed away Jan. 14. Plans include a white Chinese Dogwood tree, flowers, and a bronze plaque.

An 8 by 13 foot flower bed between the Science and Electronics Buildings has been selected as the sight of the garden. A dedication ceremony will be announced at a later date. Donations are welcome.

Anyone wishing to contribute may contact Margaret Pederson at ext. 2680

## Moskus elected to national CC board

From Staff Reports

President Jerry Moskus has been elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of the American Association of Community Colleges. He is one of 15 community college presidents on the board elected by their peers nationwide. AACC is the leading organization for community colleges with 1,039 member colleges. The organization's role is to advocate and serve as a re-

source for community colleges. AACC was headed from 1981-91 by Dr. Dale Parnell, founding president of Lane. Long-time Lane president Eldon G. Schafer served on the AACC board in the early 1980s. "The vote is evidence of Lane's very positive national reputation," Moskus said when informed of his election. "I will have the opportunity to advocate for the needs and interests of Oregon community colleges."

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# Opinion & Editorial

JACK CLIFFORD, EDITOR IN CHIEF

THE TORCH

747-4501 ext 2014

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

The Torch, the official student-managed newspaper of Lane Community College, is published every Thursday.

News stories are concise reports intended to be as fair as possible. Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the paper's Editorial Board.

Letters to the Editor should be limited to 250 words and include the author's name, phone number and address (address and phone number are for verification purposes only and are not for publication). Commentaries should be limited to 750 words and should also include the author's name and address. Deadline for the following issue is Monday, 5 p.m. The Editor in Chief reserves the right to edit letters and commentaries for length, grammar, spelling, libel, invasion of privacy and appropriate language.

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## Another year, another day to rant

So, the Tax Man cometh, and the Tax Man tooketh away.

Just three days after the Easter Bunny showered us with goodies, that snake-in-the-grass, a.k.a. the Internal Revenue Service, slid in and took a bit more of our nest egg. (I'm not certain how much of a chunk the IRS took out of my meager income, since the results of

my figuring were not available at our printing deadline of 8 p.m., tax day.) Maybe it was my imagination, but it seemed this year as if more people were stressed as April 15 neared. In addition, my conversations with others about taxes almost always included the words, "Haven't done them yet," "I owe money," and others that I'd rather not print here. Hint: The past tense of one word rhymes "deduct."

Other stories about weird stuff happening with taxpayers have also emerged.

Did you hear about the guy in Boston who's in trouble due to a mistake made by either his bank or the IRS? Graham Knowland sent in a check for the \$2,600 he owed; the IRS received it and deposited the money into a bank. But, according to the IRS, Knowland's bank then paid it out to someone else.

The IRS is charging him with tax evasion, and holding him responsible for shaking out the mess, even though Knowland has the cancelled check to prove his case. The IRS says too bad, so he's basically "deduct."

Unfortunately, not all the situations have that same shake-your-head-in-amusement feel to them. Some are downright scary and frustrating.

An article in the April 15 edition of The Register-Guard outlines some

tactics the IRS uses to find tax cheats. Apparently the agency pays informants to turn in their bosses, their

neighbors, former spouses, and just Joe Average if the snitch gets the itch. Excuse me, are we in prison here?

As you may remember, the IRS took quite a beating several months ago when taxpayers told accounts of intimidation, harassment, and just general rudeness to the Senate Finance Committee. The agency hung its head in mock shame while committee members did their best to sound stern and punitive.

Congress plans more rounds of hearings in the nation's capital at the end of this month, but don't look for much to change. Why? Because those investigating most likely aren't the hardest hit by the tax system in this country.

Turning the focus back home, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a tax watchdog group in Washington, D.C., just released a report which ranked the 42 states that impose income taxes on residents. The state of Oregon owns the 10th highest tax on poverty-level families of four for 1997. In 1996, Oregon was fifth, so at least there's a little improvement, but once again those who can least afford it are suffering

## COMMENTARY

by Jack Clifford  
Editor

**Taxes. Don't they just make you want to say @#\$%&@?**

under the biggest burden.

All in all, the government estimated that 124 million taxpayers would file individual income tax returns this year, resulting in about \$1.3 trillion paid to the IRS. But, as of April 8, the IRS had received only about half of those.

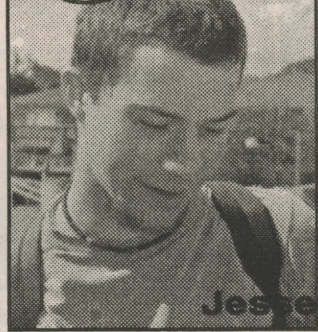
No doubt, thousands of slackers rushed to their post offices late on the night of April 15 to get the necessary postmark. It's good to know there are others who waited until the last day, hour, minute, second.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have to finish figuring out how much I'm going to get "deduct."

## Think About It!



**Charolette Keller:**  
"What's the difference between vampires and the IRS?"



"Taxes are sucking me dry."

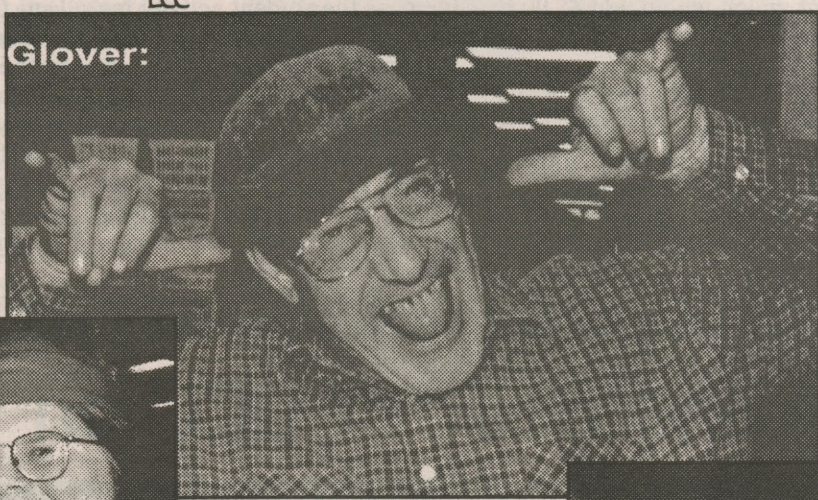
**Ben Mussel:**

"I missed Marine Biology because I'm exhausted from doing taxes!"

**Jesse Steinman:**

**William Glover:**

"I don't have anything to say about them people."



**Elena Hochbaum:**

"I won't look this happy the day after tax day."



Do you have  
a face you'd like  
to make to celebrate the  
end of tax season?





## Career Fair brings job peddlers to LCC students

**Janice Dresser**  
Staff Writer

Fifty-five businesses briefly turned the cafeteria into a bank manager's version of the Saturday Market when they convened April 8 for the annual Career Fair sponsored by the LCC Job Placement Office.

At this market however, the vendors were giving, not taking. What they were giving was a chance for students to interact with experts in particular job fields and to explore non-traditional employment.

Springfield's Shorewood Packaging, where specialty packaging for food, cosmetics, and

computer software is produced and shipped, had a representative in attendance looking for traditional employee qualities.

"Employees must be team players who can work under pressure," said Adele Hughes, employee trainer for Shorewood. She added that applicants should have an eye for color clarity.

"They can't be color-blind. They're tested for that."

Most companies at the Career Fair were searching for more than temporary employees.

Johnson Crushers International looks for the long-term potential in an applicant and performs extensive in-house training, said a JCI recruiter. The casual atmosphere of the manufacturing and machine shop is carried over into

the office as well, he added. The company has had luck in the past hiring LCC graduates, which makes JCI a regular attendee at the Fair.

A few booths proved that crime can pay, as long as you're on the right side of the law.

Sergeant Linda Marsmaker, a former LCC criminal justice student, is a recruiter for the Multnomah County Sheriff's Department.

"The Sheriff's office hires adults (and we) hire common sense," she said.

Marsmaker listed several areas of study that would be beneficial to a career in law enforcement in addition to criminal justice classes: business, mediation, computer, communications, and psychology.

A few booths away, a man wearing fatigues was talking to Spencer Smith at the Federal Bureau of Prisons set-up. The visitor calmly listened to Smith's enthusiastic speech. Smith, a former military police officer, is currently a correctional officer for the prison in Sheridan, Ore.

"The inmates call me Smitty," he said. "I listen to them. I help them. I tell them they have choices."

He added that a correctional officer position requires a bachelor's degree or three years of work experience.

There were also booths at the fair that gave out information for other area employment resources. Julie Yamane, customer service representative with the Oregon Employment Department, said her office is a good place to shop for a job.

"You don't have to be registered for unemployment benefits with the state in order to use our Job and Career Center," she pointed out.

Like LCC's Career Information Center, the state office, lo-

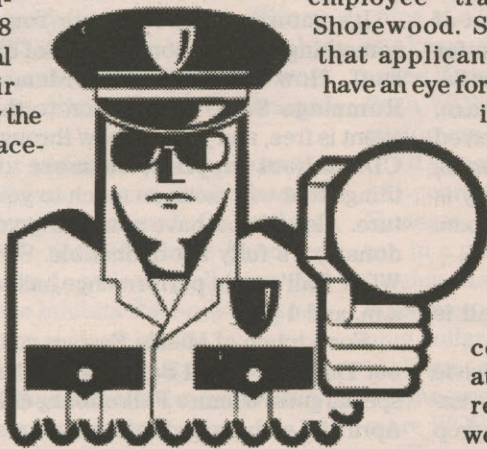
cated at 2510 Oakmont Way in Eugene, offers business journals, labor market information, resumé guides, and apprenticeship information.

The Center also has a job finding workshop class every Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. which Yamane said, "is small, only about eight to 10 people, which is a manageable size."

At least one potential hiree walked away from the Career Fair happy.

As businesses dismantled their booths and packed their free pens and candy, an enthusiastic participant carrying brochures and applications was leaving the cafeteria. She turned to

her friend, motioned to the stack of paperwork in her arms and said, "Isn't this great?"



Expose crime?



Heal the sick?

## Get your kicks from politics

An internship with a local politician could be your ticket to Washington, D.C.

**Gretchen Davis**  
For The Torch

Students with an interest in politics can get an edge when trying to break into the political world.

LCC students are placed as interns, in various political offices in Eugene or Salem, with the help of political science instructor and prelaw coordinator Steve Candee.

Gina Rossini is currently interning at U.S. Congressman Peter DeFazio's office. Her duties include looking at "media clips," searching through magazine, newspaper, and journal articles looking for information about issues that DeFazio is working on, or articles that mention or quote him.

Molly McCarthy and John Schmidt were recently interns at U.S. Senator Ron Wyden's office. They answered phones and took comments from constituents, and then relayed those comments to Sen. Wyden. McCarthy and Schmidt also fax invitations and call businesses regarding town meetings.

These internships seem to open up career opportunities quite frequently. Candee says McCarthy is currently working in Washington D.C. with Sen. Wyden at his main office. Another former intern of Candee's, Melissa Freund, is the assistant director of the Oregon Democratic Party.

Candee says that there are no set requirements as far as experi-

ence or education for a student seeking placement as an intern.

"It's just a foot in the door for people who want to pursue it in terms of their careers," he says. "On the other hand, it's also for people who simply want to get some experience in the area of politics."

Students interested in political

science internships must meet with an LCC coordinator and have registered for the appropriate number of credits on Classline. Interns will be asked to complete journal entries and term evaluations.

For more information contact the Cooperative Education Department at 726-2203.

Check out *The Torch* online  
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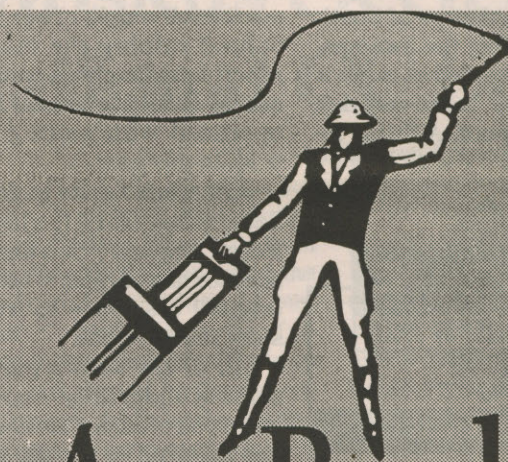
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6 The Torch, April 16, 1998



## Will LCC track teams run away with more titles?

Women's team is on a four-year roll; men's team hopes to get back on track with a championship

Donald Smalley  
Sports Editor

It was just six years ago when Brad Joens was hired to coach the LCC track and field team. The "team" consisted of two women and two men.

That seems so long ago. "The program has come a long ways since then," Joens says. "It has flourished because we got some good kids and some good coaches to work with those kids to bring the program to where it is now."

"Dynasty" might be a good way to sum up at least one-half of the squad.

That word has many meanings. It was the title of an ABC night time soap opera in the 1980s. It could mean a family or group that maintains power for several generations.

It certainly describes the LCC women's track and field team's dominance over the last several seasons.

The Titans have won the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges women's track and field championship for four straight years. Title number five is a strong possibility.

"Right now, we are in the top three of the NWAACC," Joens admits. "If we avoid the injury bug, we should stay there and see what happens at the end of the year."

"We have a really good group of women runners," he continues, but adds, "We don't have a lot, so an injury to one could be a big blow to the team."

Sprinters Mariah Williams and Danielle Fleming lead the group of runners. Freshman Erica Harris will also help out on the sprint team.

Monica Van Wegan will lead the middle distance runners and sophomore Jessica Warden will

be featured in the field events. Her specialty is the hammer throw.

But the women will have a tough time owning the spotlight at Lane because the Titan men's team will demand attention as well.

"The men have some good depth," Joens says. "We have less big names, but the team is just as strong as last year's."

If that is the case, the Titans will be contenders to win the NWAACC championship. Last year's squad came within four little points from grabbing the crown.

But both the men's and women's track teams will face some heavy challenges at the

NWAACCs by the likes of Spokane, Clark, Clackamas and last year's men's champion, Mount Hood. Joens says that a team like Highline CC of Seattle, which only competes on the men's

side, could sneak its way up there.

This year's version of the Titan men's team is led by freshman Ben Logan, who competes in the decathlon and pole vault, and fellow freshman Ryun Carver, who runs the 800-meter and 1,500-meter races. The two have already reached Lane's all-



photo by Bobbette Chichmanian

College and high school students gathered at LCC for an Invitational mini-meet April 11. The LCC track and field teams host the Lane Twilight meet April 17.

time list of record times in their short careers.

"Right now, we are just warming up for the NWAACC championships," Joens explains. "We really don't have any dual meets to speak of. Just events to prepare us for the big meet."

For example, the Titans recently competed at a "mini meet" at the UO, which is always special.

"Anytime we get an opportunity to run at Hayward Field, we always jump at the chance," Joens says.

Right now, the program is ready to run away with both the men's and women's first place trophies.

"Any time we get an opportunity to run at Hayward Field, we always jump at the chance."

-Brad Joens

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Telemarketers needed. \$6/hr. + commission. Perfect student job. 4:30-8:30p.m. M-Th. Call Gretchen at 344-1594.

## FOR RENT

Younger open-minded household 30 minutes west of campus has room available. \$235 plus. 710-2423

Room for rent at Gateway area. For female. Call 741-2311 (Edna)

## EVENTS

Graduates! Apply for your degree by May 1 if you wish to have your name printed in the graduation program. Applications are available in Students First. \$15 fee.

## FOR SALE

Ladies size 11-12 short leather jacket. \$100/best offer. Contact Debbie ext. 2410 M-W-F 1-5

Gateway 2,000 Computer 486 w/cdrom and printer. Asking \$450 or o.b.o. Call Sean @349-9238

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Free - Writing Center tutors, available for grammar and writing assistance (near room CEN 460)

Gov't foreclosed homes from penalties on \$1. Delinquent tax, repo's, REO's. Your area. Toll free 1-800-218-9000 ext. H-9420 •

## WANTED

Conversation Partners. Help international classmates improve their English. Information ext. 2165 or Center 414

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## MESSAGES

Randy - The lights were on, but no one was home. Thanks for the jump start. Dorothy

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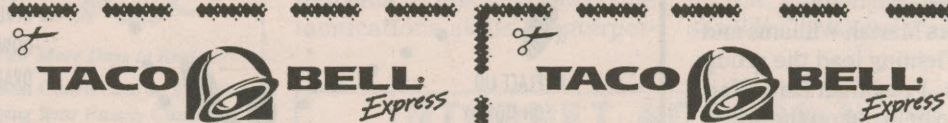
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