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LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MAY 21, 1998

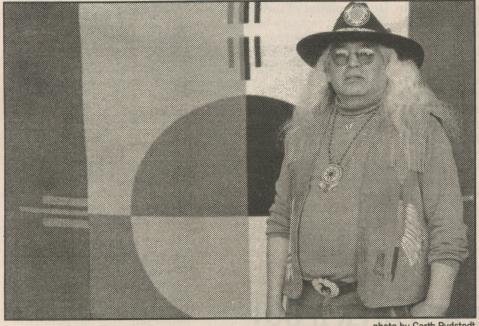


photo by Garth Rydstedt

Frank Merrill, coordinator of LCC's Native American Program, stands in front of the Circle of Life Blanket — a gift for building and extending programs in education for Native American Students.

# Circle of Life Blanket honors Merrill's service

LCC instructor surprised by gift at OIEA conference

> Janice Dresser Staff Writer

Frank Merrill, coordinator of LCC's Native American Program, was given something last month he wasn't expecting.

On April 17, Merrill was going to drum the honoring song at the Oregon Indian Education Association's 23rd annual conference at the University of Oregon. Or so he thought.

At the end of the program, Merrill was presented a Circle of Life Elders Blanket by UO's International Studies assistant professor Rob Proudfoot.

"This blanket is for someone who

builds programs and extends programs throughout the state," announced Proudfoot at the ceremony.

The large square blanket is divided by a four-color grid-black, white, red and yellow. A center circle is evenly divided by the same colors against a tan background. These are the earth's colors and represent the four directions of the earth, Merrill explained.

"This is the Native American way of receiving honor," Merrill said. "The community honors what the person has done. The blanket is an honor between the people for keeping Native American students in school."

Emphasizing community involvement,

see Merrill page 2

# Forgiveness policy may absolve students from past (GPA) sins

Academic Council still refining the policy; a final version may be ready for the 1999/2000 school year

> Sabrina Forkish Staff Writer

Students who attended LCC many years ago and received poor grades may be eligible to get a "fresh start" in a few years. They could then return to the college without factoring in their previous GPA with current grades.

"A 'forgiveness' or 'fresh start' policy is ... an opportunity to not let the grades or GPA that (students) first received hamper them in their current goal," says Academic Council member Mason Davis.

The fresh start would theoretically give a returning student the same opportunities as those who are beginning classes at Lane for the first time, such as when applying to limited enrollment programs. The policy should go into effect within the next two years.

The council, which reviews appeals from students who seek exceptions to campus policies, receives many applications from students wishing to have poor grades from past years dropped from their transcripts, says Davis.

The council recognizes that many students have legitimate reasons for doing poor academic work before, but



photo by Garth Rydstedt



photo by Judy L. Sierra

# Le Grande Voyage

The LCC community said "Sayonara, adios, arrivederci, au revoir, auf Wiedersehen, adieu and ciao" to over 50 retirees at a reception in their honor, May 20 in the cafeteria.

Above, LCC President Jerry Moskus congratulates one of the retirees during the ceremony.

On the left, Jim Greenwood accompanies former English and Foreign Language instructor Linda Danielson as she tickles the fiddle.

see Forgiveness page 3

# Lane's baseball team slides into second consecutive playoff run

Jean Ranney Staff Writer

Lane's baseball team is playoff-bound once again.

The Titans get started in the NWAACC tournament against Green River on May 21 at Yakima Valley Community College in Yakima, Wash. The first pitch is set for 1 p.m.

LCC is embarking on its second straight playoff run, with just a little less preparation than it expected. The Titans were scheduled for a doubleheader against Chemeketa, but that twinbill was lost to the rain. The team

hasn't played since May 15, a 16-4 win over Southwest Oregon CC.

In the meantime, the players are trying to keep their skills sharp.

"Everyone else in the league had a big layoff too, so I think it'll be okay for us,"

first says baseman Tim Dryden. "The pichers were able to rest their arms, and the team got in some practice time."

**NWAACC Tournament** 

May 21st First Round Pairings

Mt. Hood vs Lower Columbia

Green River vs Lane

**Edmonds** vs Walla Walla

Columbia Basin vs Bellevue

The Titans enter the playoffs as a secondseeded team; Mt. Hood finished ahead of them in the Southern Division. LCC was the division winner in 1997.

"I feel confident that we can win even though we're going in as a second seed,"

1:00 pm

4:00 pm

7:00 pm

says Dryden. "We're a good hitting team, and the only way we can lose is if we hurt ourselves."

> Lane has prepared for the

NWAACC battle with as many practices as the weather permits. With the double-elimination tourney now here, the Titans are trying to stay calm.

The sophomores have been here before, they know what to expect," says pitcher Corky Way. "But me? I'm a freshman, and a nervous one at that."

If LCC wins its first-round game, the team will then play May 22 at 8 p.m. against the winner of the Columbia Basin-Bellevue game. A Titan loss sets up a 1 p.m. match against the same game's loser. The NWAACC champion will be decided May 25.

# Jericho House sounds trumpet against substance abuse

Victor Runyan Lead Writer

The house looks like any other building being renovated, but the cat named "Higher Power" gives a hint that something more is happening here ... like healing.

A local organization — which requested anonymity for this article — runs six "transition" houses for people recovering from drug and alcohol abuse; the newest of these is called Jericho. While two are for women and children, the other four — including Jericho House — are for men, says Charles King, president of Jericho House and a student in LCC's Chemical Dependency Counselor Training

"We don't do

anything

'half-way'

here,"

- Charles King

Program.

King says he dislikes another common term for this type of facility - "halfway house."

"We don't do anything 'halfway' here," he maintains.

These homes for people

who are without a stable environ- hol and drug use is much higher. ment to return to after undergoing

"detoxification" and treatment with organizations such as **Buckley House Detox or Serenity** 

Lane. Residents pay rent, buy their own food, and are responsible for their actions, but aren't judged for their pasts, says King.

They are attempting to stay away from risky environments, places where the chance of returning to alco-

Some people come to a house

like Jericho with no particular time frame between treatment and living on their own.

We've had people stay here (in a house) as long as a year and a half," says King.

The houses are self-supporting, and King says residents learn to get control of their lives, because that control — self control is vital to their recovery.

The residents are also helping to remodel the building. When the project is complete, Jericho will house up to 15 people; it currently provides shelter for five. King adds that transition house residents strive to be good tenants - his organization has never lost a lease and good neighbors. Although it doesn't openly announce its presence, King says he is willing to talk to any neighbors who want information about the house and its

As part of the house's opening ceremonies May 19, Sweet Water, an elder of the Menominee tribe, blessed the house. King says he intends to make special efforts to reach out and help members of the First Nations (Native-Americans). Their needs have been underserved, he says, a fact he

see Jericho page 3

# Merrill

## from page 1

Merrill later added, "We are working with families. Education is built by families."

Pam Brooks, newly elected ASLCC president, is grateful for Merrill's help as a scholarship liaison for her.

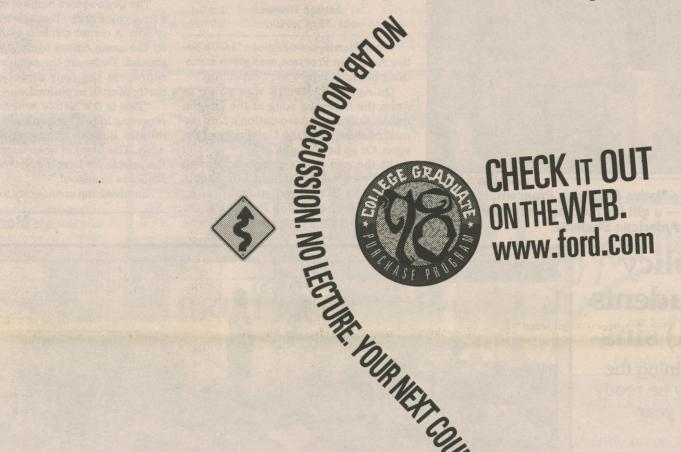
"He advocates for students," she says.

"He even let us borrow his car one time," Brooks recalls. "The brakes had gone out on the car we were going to drive. So he gave us his so we could get to Seven Feathers Casino to drum. He goes above and beyond what is required."

He helped Student Mary Godowa by acting as a conduit between her and her Klamath tribe office to get her paperwork completed before an upcoming deadline. Godowa also looks to Merrill as a cultural link.

"Frank tells stories that have a lesson in them from the native perspective," she relates. "I was raised by a white family. The stories are another piece of the puzzle for me.

"I'm thankful we have elders like Frank," Godowa sums up. "They have knowledge and an open heart."



\$400 CASH BONUS toward purchase or lease\*

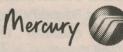


1998 Ford Escort ZXZ

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\*To be eligible, you must graduate with an associate's or bachelor's degree between 10/1/96 and 1/5/99 or be currently enrolled in graduate school. You must purchase or lease your new vehicle between 1/4/98 and 1/5/99. Some customer and vehicle eligibility restrictions apply. See your dealer for details

# **Tericho** from page 2

wants to change.

King says he felt a calling to do more for all addicts, which drew him to LCC's Chemical Dependency Counselor Training Program, where he's a

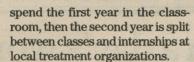
first-year student.

"(Drug addiction) is a very powerful disease," says King, who has also worked at Buckley House Detox. "I've lost count of the number of clients that have died."

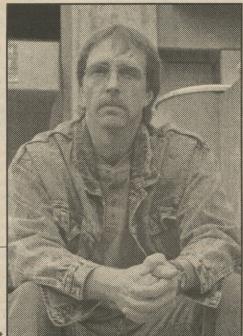
LCC's program is intensive, lasting two years and asking a lot of the 50 students enrolled each fall, says Barbara Thorson, coordinator of the CDCTP. Students

Charles King is a first year Chemical Dependency **Counselor Training** Program student.

photo by Garth Rydsted



The schedule prepares stu-



# Forgiveness from page 1

LCC currently has no way to remove old grades for the students. Yet council members noticed that many four-year schools as well as at least one community college have ways of giving their students new beginnings.

The Academic Council proposed such a policy and sent it to the Faculty Council and then the Instruction and Student Council, both of which approved it. Although there are still some questions that the AC must address before the policy can go into effect, it has decided on a few criteria, says Davis.

 Before a student can apply under the "forgiveness" policy, he/ she must have completed at least 24 credits with a 2.5 grade point average upon returning to LCC. If the student completes an application and LCC gives him/her a fresh start, the college won't drop previous from his/her transcript, but will draw a line on the transcript the old grades from new grades. LCC will apply passing grades above the line towards a student's graduation requirements, but it will not calculate any of the old grades into the student's GPA.

• The process must be student-

initiated, and a student may only apply for a fresh start once.

There are still issues that the AC must address in the coming weeks. One of the more important questions it is pondering is the number of years that a student must have been absent from Lane before he/she would be eligible to apply for a fresh start. Proposed numbers range from two to seven years, says Davis.

Other questions include: What effects will the fresh start policy have on financial aid, and will limited-enrollment programs ignore

The AC will also decide on an official name for the policy and how it will be publicized so that both the students and staff know it is available, Davis says.

"Instructors take grades very seriously, we hope students take them seriously," says Davis. "The idea here is that education has different ways of providing a second chance."

The AC will meet later this month to refine the policy, and if it decides to publish the fresh start policy in the college catalog, it should go into effect in the 1999/ 2000 academic year, says Davis.

dents for certification in the State of Oregon as chemical dependency counselors, a very marketable degree, says Thorson. People with advanced degrees in general counseling sometimes go through the program to make themselves more sought after, she adds.

Thorson points out that the program's students have such good reputations in the professional community that many are offered jobs - often by the organization with which they interned - before they finish the program. This becomes a dilemma for students, who are then torn between attaining their certificate and starting to earn money.

She says many students describe their dedication as a "calling" they had to answer, and discard the notion they are in it "for the money." She also notes that about half the students in her program are recovering from addictions of their own, or have been touched by the disease in other ways, such as watching loved ones battle addiction. Most students in the program tend to be older, averaging in their 30s.

"This is a place where maturity is a benefit," says Thorson.

Jerry Diller, an instructor in the CDCTP, says that transition houses like Jericho and support groups like Alcoholics Anonymous complement but don't replace professional counseling. He says Jericho and AA groups are pragmatic, concentrating on "What do we have to do to keep you sober?"

Counseling, on the other hand. explores the reasons for the addiction and tries to help clients work through their issues, while minimizing relapse potential.

Diller opines that substance abuse has increased in the last few decades. Part of the reason, he believes, is that "Life is harder." He also points out "We're drawn to quick fixes" and "drugs are a very quick way to change moods."

LCC students in need of help for a potential drug or alcohol problem can visit Student Health Services in Center 126 and ask about its Substance Abuse Prevention program.

Students interested in the **CDCTP** should contact Thorson at 747-4501 ext. 2026. Fall enrollment is being determined now.

#### ASLCC ICE CREAM SCOOP

The ASLCC will hold an ice cream social in Bristol Square (outside the cafeteria) June 3 from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. The newly-elected senate will be scooping the ice cream so students can see the faces they elected.

All students are invited for free ice cream and a chat with your NEW senate.

STUDENTS FIRST! UPDATE

A status update will be given on the implementation of Students First! recommendations Friday, May 22 at 11 a.m. in Forum 308. Implementation team leaders for the Students First! Center, advising teams and staff from career and employment services and federal loan processes will share key milestones as well as identify any difficulties they are encountering as they proceed with implimentation. All those interested are welcome to attend. For further information call Rita Grimes at ext. 3004. **AVERAGE STUDENT IS 34 YEARS OLD** 

A new benchmark study shows that the average age of Lane's credit students for fall 1997 \* was 26.7 years old, compared to 28.2 the fall before. Of those, 33.6 percent were 21 years or younger. The average age of noncredit students

was 43.3 years, compared to 40.6 the year before. **WOMEN'S PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP** 

The Women's Program is offering a \$500 scholarship for 1998/99. Applicants much be second year students in 1998-99, be single mothers with financial need and have at least a 3.0 GPA. Application deadline is Friday, June 5.

Applications are available in the Women's Center, Center 213.

For more information call 2353. STUDENT ASSOCIATES NEEDED!

Students are being recruited by the Counseling and Advising Center to be trained to provide services to students.

The associates will help at student and program orientation sessions, aid and encourage students using Lane's phones to register for classes, share knowledge of campus resources and systems with students seeking information, staff the information booth and work the number of hours contracted throughout the school year.

Applications must be completed and turned in by May 29, 1998.

For more information please contact the Career Information Center at ext. 2296.

# The Early Bird Gets the Classes At Western Oregon University

# **Early Bird Transfer Registration**

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday, May 30

Don't pass up this opportunity to register for Western's Fall term classes at the same time as current students.

A day-long program with the transfer student in mind: Group advising with Western's faculty \@ Orientation advising

Students must be admitted to Western by Friday, May 22. Invitations will only be sent to students admitted by this deadline. For more information call (503) 838-8211

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THE TORCH

747-4501 ext 2014

#### SPRING TERM

May 25 is Memorial Day, meaning no classes. Bask in the sun, drink in the blue skies, take a dip in your fave watering hole, or just sleep all day.

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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.

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

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# Lesson learned all in a day's worth of work

Several weeks ago, I was struck by the idea to write an article about a worker in the LCC cafeteria, one of the 15 who comprise the Specialized Employee Services crew. I wanted to feature, in particular, Renae Buckham.

It would be a story about a developmentally-disabled worker who now has pride in her work - that would certainly be a dramatic

angle, I thought. My strategy was to first interview Renae, talk with

her supervisors, then maybe "shadow" her in the kitchen, taking notes while she carried out her daily duties. The theme seemed obvious to me: Renae Buckham has risen above limitations caused by her disability, and she embodies the struggle and perserverance of all developmentallydisabled persons.

The story was going to be one of human challenge, human dignity and respect for fellow human beings.

Except that initial step didn't go as well as I had hoped.

Renae is a very sweet woman, to be sure. But our question-and-answer session was, well to be honest, plain. She responded to my inquiries mostly with simple answers: "I work at LCC because I like it here and I like getting paid," she said to one. "I like my friends. They help me stock napkins and bus tables," was

I enjoyed sitting down and talking with Renae; it wasn't awkward since I've worked at a group home for a year, where I helped supervise eight developmentallydisabled adults. Renae's situation was not new to me.

In fact, I first met her about two years during a bowling outing for clients from several group homes in the community. She bowled quite well that day, and told me during our interview that she recently rolled a score of 102, with a few spares and strikes.

From the Editor's Desk by Jack Clifford

My dilemma was that she didn't use enough descriptive and "profound" language to carry the story, as we say in journalism.

I turned to one of Renae's supervisors, SES Vocational Trainer Kim Hayes, hoping to refocus the angle. Our discussion focused mainly on the myriad community changes which furthered the cause for disabled persons.

"Tragedies and problems that occur from poverty of environment that happen to the normal population happen to this population too," said Hayes, who has worked for 20 years in social services. "When I started in this field, people with disabilities didn't have access to the community, to jobs or recreation or much of anything past 'special ed' in schools."

But, the increase of LTD's route service began to open up more opportunities, said Hayes, and when all buses became wheelchair-accessible about nine years ago, the disabled had the vehicles necessary for community integration.

"Renae could've been sitting in an institution somewhere, but instead, she takes the bus every day to work and she works in a community of people, a whole wide variety of people," Hayes empha-

"She's learning so many social skills by interacting with those people, making a

paycheck, making choices about what happens to money. You can't teach that in a classroom, you get experience with that by living it."

The meeting with Hayes was informative, but it still seemed as if something was missing. Where was that great statement about battling adversity, the one about the long road taken by Renae to reach this place, the one which would sum up my angle on human dignity?

I went back and reread the quotes from my interview with Renae.

She likes to play games, and Candyland is her favorite. She puts together puzzles and enjoys Word Searches. She takes a P.E. class three days a week, and she's learning to ride a bike. She lifts weights and likes working out on the crosscountry ski machine. Her 26th birthday was April 25, and the celebration included a hot fudge sundae. Her opinion on students is that "They're messy, because they drop food on the ground and they don't pick it up."

All very endearing insights, but writer's block continued and "story avoidance" set in: maybe I could just ignore the whole thing. But, the situation nagged at me. It has to be written, because I told Renae I'd do it. Besides, I thought, it's important so others — those in the non-disabled community — show respect to Renae and her co-workers.

Just as I sat down at the computer to force the writing process, a bolt of inspiration smashed the wall between my common sense and my fingers waiting to strike the keys. What a dope I had been!

This story isn't about me shaping

see Renae page 5

## ito Felipe:

"I'm on the staff so I'm glad it's for everyone. I am a bus person for the past three years so it's a very nice idea."

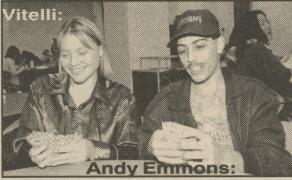
HARIJENE ENIK

Nate Barr: "I think it's cool — I ride the bus a lot. I don't think it's been fair to pay normal



#### **Jennifer** "When my car

breaks down it's nice to have the bus to ride from Cottage Grove. That's now money for extra classes!"



"I'm pretty dependent on the bus. I live in Springfield, so it's going to be a lot cheaper."

What do you think of the new subsidized

bus pass deal between LCC and LTD: \$29 per term?



#### René Moat:

"It's about time! I've been waiting for three years and I buy passes every term."

# Renae from page 4

Renae into someone other than who she is. She has worked at LCC for three years because she likes her friends and she likes to get paid for the job. Sounds familiar.

Renae is a wonderful human being, and I enjoy dropping in on her while she's eating lunch or working, just to say hi. The earlier ideas about human challenge and human dignity apply to Renae because she's human, not because she's disabled. I respect her, as should you, because she's sincere, she's funny, she's a hard worker, and she's a

Thankfully, that sentiment is becoming more widespread.

'We had to convince people all the time that we should be

in the community, we should be allowed to use the city buses, we should be allowed to participate in the Eugene Parks and Recreation (programs), we should be a part of the working population, regardless of our skill level," says Hayes.

"There should be something for everybody and we had to lobby so hard for that. We don't have to make a case for what

Renae hams it up for the camera

we're doing now. Society has changed a lot."

So have I in the last few hours, thanks to Renae.

# **Campus Ministry** isn't a preachy thing **Janice Dresser** Staff Writer

In a recent student survey by LCC's Campus Ministry, 14 of 18 respondents were aware of the ministry, yet only five had ever

used its services. Campus Ministry provided the surveys to visitors who stopped by its table in the cafeteria on Religious Diversity Day April 15. The ministry's purpose was to determine stu-

dent needs in order to tailor future programs and to find out how many students are even aware that LCC has a campus minis-

Respondents expressed the most interest in discussion groups and Bible studies among nine ministry services listed. Twelve said they were interested in participating in a Campus Ministry group or club. Six of these 12, as well as six of the nine respondents interested in discusgroups, identified themselves as non-Christian, yet wanting to socialize inde-

pendent of their religious orien-

"A buddy to call

you so you know

someone cares.'

- Katie Tucker

Student Katie Tucker, one of four respondents who didn't know LCC has a Campus Ministry, indicated an interest in support groups from the ministry services list.

"College is hectic," says Tucker. "I would like a small group buddy system, like a study buddy. A buddy to call you so you know someone cares.'

Tucker also says Campus Ministry needs to "advertise more"

and suggests The Torch as a source. She thinks bulletin board notices are ineffective.

"No one knows about it," declares Tucker.

Campus

minister James Sanders echoes Tucker's observation.

"We're a well-kept secret,"

Philosophy major David Carlyle expressed an interest in Bible studies on the survey, and wonders how his philosophy studies "would play out with my Christian beliefs."

"What the Campus Ministry could do is engage the non-believers," Carlyle suggests.

#### **ASLCC THANKS YOU**

The newly-elected ASLCC Student Government members would like to thank all who participated by voting in the May 11-13 student body elections.

We would like to encourage all students to stay informed of the issues and what's going on in our educational community as well as our local area by reading The Torch, and taking notice of bulletin board postings. Taking a few moments of your time to fill out a survey, or drop an idea or concern into a suggestion box is taking the important step to voice your opinion. We want to know what students want to see happening, or not happening on our campus. We pride ourselves on doing what is best for our students collectively.

However each individual student is a part of that. Please don't think "I'm only one person. How does my vote count or matter?" because it does, each and every voice matters to us. We are here to listen and to help if we can, and even if we cannot we may be able to find someone who indeed can. We will do our best to inform and represent you fairly and accurately.

Pam Brooks would like to thank her partner Adam Young and her children, Brave Bear and Shanowa for their support and encouragement. Jeff Stott would like to thank his wife Tracy Stott, and their children J.J., Colby, Barrett, and Auburn. Ronda Green would like to thank the Women's Center and Mike Warren for their support. Flame Stewart would like to thank out running mates and fellow students for their confidence and support. The Progressive slate would like to thank our senators, Stephanie Waguespack, Geri Schweigert, and Larry Cox for

all their efforts at the table getting out the vote.

We would also like to thank The Torch for their skill and presentation of the candidates. We look forward to a successful and productive year.

Thank you all

- ASLCC Student Government

#### **DON'T BLAME IMMIGRANTS**

Well, the environmentalists are immigrantbashing again. The Eugene Weekly published letters stating that undocumented workers are not only a threat to our environment, but are an economic burden as well. Bullshit!

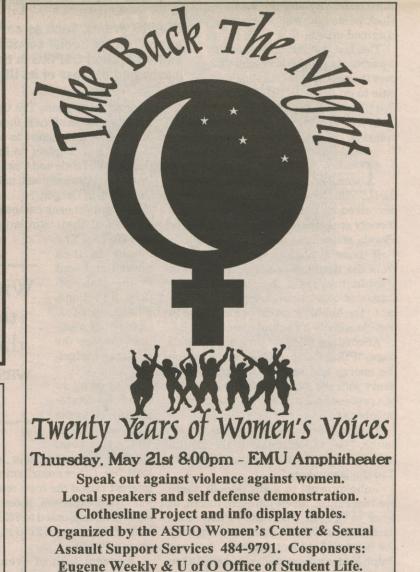
Undocumented workers are only eligible for two federal programs — W.I.C. and Medicaid. The federal government estimates the total yearly costs of providing such services to be about \$3.24 billion a year. The same federal government estimates that undocumented workers pay about \$7 billion in federal taxes, such as income taxes and social security taxes. This costbenefit ratio shows the U.S. gets about \$2 in tax revenue for every \$1 in services. They are a benefit, mot an economic burden.

The U.S. has only 6 percent of the world's population, yet we use 30 percent of world's resources. If you are concerned about the burden on the environment, don't bash immigrants. Get rid of some of the Starbucks yuppies and vote out of office such people as Steve Cornacchia, the Chair of the Lane County Board of Commissioners and other members of the board, none of whom - except Pete Sorenson - ever met a developer they didn't like.

- Dennis Shine







# On the Offensive

OSPIRG lost its UO chapter, fracturing the entire organization. Now, the group is beginning the process of regaining a stronghold in the student activist arena.

Report by Jack Clifford

The OSPIRG meeting is in full swing when a reporter steps in to observe the proceedings. About 15 eager LCC student volunteers are brainstorming ideas for the fast-approaching April 18 Hunger Cleanup, an annual nationwide project sponsored in part by the activist group.

Split into two separate crews, each one is trying to come up with a theme to distinguish it from the many others which will attend the day-long "work-a-thon" to clean up parts of the Eugene community and raise money to battle world hunger and homelessness.

The more vocal of the two groups decides it will draw different meats, vegetables and fruits on individuals' cheeks and call themselves "The Food Group." One person suggests that everyone should wear similar clothing to show more solidarity and the attire—black pants and white T-shirts—is agreed upon.

This last suggestion strikes the reporter as ironic: It seems that over the past several months, very little to do with OSPIRG has been that plain and simple.

In fact, the gray area seems to be increasing.

Twenty-one state PIRGs are listed on the U.S.PIRG Internet site. States not always perceived as pushing the environment-friendly envelope, such as New Jersey or Florida, share these links with Oregon.

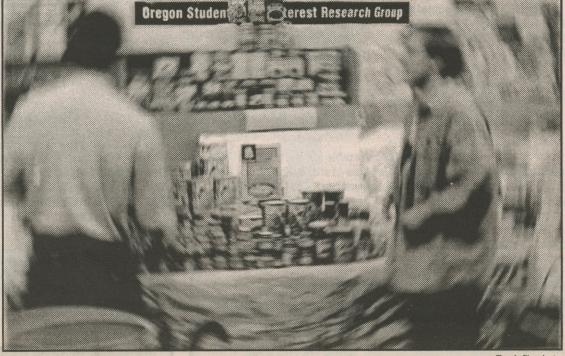
If those 21 are the spokes sprouting from the national headquarter's hub in Washington, D.C., the student PIRGs formed at college campuses must be similar to the bubble-gum cards kids place in bicycle wheels for sound effects.

According to literature on the web page, "PIRG Campus Chapters combine the energy and idealism of college students with the experience and expertise of a professional staff to promote the public interest."

That statement seems to say, in essence, "Let the students make all the noise; we'll harness the activity and take it to the lawmakers."

Unbeknownst to many people, there are two PIRGs, albeit joined in forces, at work in Oregon. The state's PIRG roots date back to 1971, an era that is arguably the height of student activism. A young Ralph Nader rallied students at the UO to band together and fight productively for change in the political system. According to most reports, UO students voted-in the nation's first PIRG.

A split in the two acronyms came in 1983. The Oregon *State* PIRG has its offices in Portland and directs the majority of its efforts at lobbying the legislature to meet its



lorch file photo

OSPIRG events, such as canned food drives, have established the organization as a force on the social service and political landscape. Controversy and turmoil has swirled around OSPIRG in the past year however, with financial accountabilty issues and the loss of its UO chapter dominating newspaper headlines.

With OSPIRG, I can get

the skills to do some-

thing about it and that

was really empowering."

- Merriah Fairchild

environmental goals. The Oregon Student PIRG — with an office in the same Portland building — is designed as an educational tool and has chapters on four state campuses: LCC, Lewis and Clark College, Portland State University and, until recently, the University of Oregon.

Students at each campus pay a certain portion of their student fees to fund

OSPIRG. The money is then pooled and sent to the state offices in Portland, where professional staff members oversee the resource budgeting.

According to financial statements filed by the student PIRG in 1997, the total

student contributions amounted to \$205,789. Other contributions, sales, and interest raised the total revenue to \$227, 017. Total expenses, listed on that same statement, amounted to \$231,117, with the bulk of the money, \$213,116, spent on program services.

A recent turn of events at the UO threatens the organization's budget.

In late April, 53 percent of the 2,355 students voting in UO student government elections rejected a measure that would have continued the common funding method. Each UO student was required to pay \$8.64 per year in support, for a total of \$147,000 annually. OSPIRG

spokespeople claim the dissolution will not have any immediate impact on other campus chapters, which employ similar funding structures.

Parriah Fairchild seems to be a typical student PIRG member.

She is LCC's chapter chair, a job with

multiple duties that keeps her busy from morning to night. At the end of a difficult day fighting the corporate world's egregious —in addition ways. attending classes and serving as an LCC student ambassador—she is tired, yet remains tireless in her activism. That

quality dropped her squarely in the OSPIRG

"I traveled for a year, I was going to college and I still didn't have a clue what I wanted to do," says the sophomore majoring in political science.

"When I started getting involved (with OSPIRG), all of sudden lights just started going on and I started to think about what's happening in this world. With OSPIRG, I can get the skills to do something about it and that was really empowering."

Fairchild and other OSPIRG members deliver that gospel to students during twice-yearly recruitment drives. She can offer them a chance to work on an array of projects that the organization pegged on its agenda for 1998: strengthening the Endangered Species Act, recycling awareness, and the Pesticides Action Campaign.

"Because we made Endangered Species our national campaign, it's well-known that that's the only reason we still have that act, that it hasn't been voted out — yet," she says. "It's scary that you hold on to victories like that. It's like 'Oh, they haven't killed it yet.' But that's still really significant."

OSPIRG also offers internships for academic credit in Portland and Washington, D.C., where students can work on such issues as voter registration and education, environmental action, and consumer protection.

Each term brings an initial rush of enthusiasm and an increase in the organization's numbers, says Fairchild. However, students may sign up with the organization in good faith and have fire in their eyes, but they don't always follow through on

those promises.

"What bothers me the most is when people aren't honest with you about what they can do," states Fairchild. "They say 'Oh yeah, I can do all those things' and they can't do anything. I wish they would just tell me they can't."

Her feelings on her own involvement settle into the gray area, and aren't swayed by just the wins and losses.

"If I was just doing it for the progress we made on the issues, I think that could be incredibly frustrating. It's true, you're out organizing all the time, and the victories can be very, very small. What makes up for that is that it goes beyond the issues, it goes into just activism in general.

"That's probably what motivates me more than anything at those times when you're like 'Is this doing anything?""

Now, Fairchild and her peers have to deal with perhaps the biggest loss of all, the UO chapter. While some OSPIRG representatives and supporters blame conservatives for the loss, opponents allege that OSPIRG's refusal to fully open its books for public scrutiny played the biggest role in the group's ouster.

Nearly everyone agrees that the surprise elections results create a huge hole in the local student activism landscape.

During the past year, OSPIRG has been in the center of a storm perhaps not foreseen by the group's founders.

In late October of 1997, *Torch* reporter John Dreiling requested copies of

see OSPIRG page 7

# OSPIRG from page 6

OSPIRG's full financial statements. Campus representatives showed him the organization's budget, which detailed how the group planned to spend the money collected through student fees. But Dreiling insisted on seeing records showing how OSPIRG actually spent the money.

Dreiling claimed that he had a right to see the documents since, as an LCC student, he paid the fee and was, therefore an OSPIRG member. The group disagreed, pointing out that only certain members of OSPIRG had access to the records.

The dispute reached a crescendo in the early part of this year when OSPIRG first said it would allow him access to the documents, but then denied the chance one day later. That string of events prompted local television station KEZI to report on the controversy.

Dreiling then used his right under the Oregon Public Records Law to acquire several documents from the State Attorney General's office. After weeks of discussion, Dreiling went to Portland where OSPIRG allowed full access — in fact, any student with an interest is now welcome, says the organization.

On May 5, another round of bad publicity hit. Statewide newspapers reported on two separate lawsuits filed by UO and LCC students in 1995 against OSPIRG. At issue then was the mandatory student fee, a fact the students claimed violates their First Amendment free speech rights.

Both cases were thrown out by the U.S. District Court in Eugene in 1996, but lawyers for the students are asking the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco to overturn that decision. No ruling has been announced as of May 20.

Maybe the biggest blow of all to the organization, however, is losing its UO chapter in last month's vote. Several UO stu-

dents who voted to de-fund OSPIRG pointed to the financial accountability issue as reasons. They also voiced a general concern that the group may be receiving too much money for its work.

Jonathan Collegio, a UO student who led the opposition against OSPIRG, says he believes that student fees should fund student activities, a category that doesn't include OSPIRG, in his opinion. He formed a group called the Honesty Campaign to spread his beliefs.

"I support everything OSPIRG does on campus, and I even volunteered for Streamwalk," he told *The Torch* on April 22, a day when UO students went to the polls. "But, you look on their promotion papers and if you look at their accomplishments, 'Collected 3,000 postcards and sent them to the nation's leaders.' That doesn't cost 150 grand. 'Removed debris from local waterways.' None of the things on this

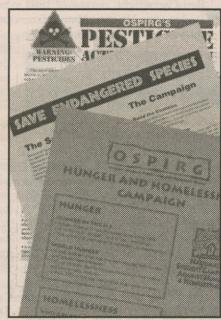
list, in total, cost more than, my guess, ten grand."

However, Collegio's alleged campaigning tactics were the impetus behind several grievances filed after the UO election. ASUO Elections Board workers accused him and his followers of using a megaphone to announce their views, an election violation. Also, two students claim polling booth attendants urged students to vote against OSPIRG.

The UO's Constitution Court released its report May 17, after hearing testimony May 13 and 14. The court ruled that, although the incidents were disturbing, a new election is not warranted, meaning the results stand.

None of this matters concludes at least one OSPIRG representative.

"The vote at the University of Oregon is no one's fault but ours," says Maureen Kirk, OSPIRG's state executive director. "OSPIRG has a long history in this state and our story is an important one. We needed to do a better job of communicating that our organization is worth the funding."



OSPIRG tackles several projects in a year, drawing students in with the possibility of internships.

Kirk graduated from the UO in 1985 and was involved with OSPIRG during her college years. She says that opponents to the group miss the big picture, and tend to paint the campus PIRG as an institution, instead of a "grassroots, scrappy organization." She also expresses confidence in the kinds of challenges OSPIRG takes on.

"People come out for Streamwalks and Hunger Clean-Ups because they're important, but also fun things to do," she says. "But they don't see the dayto-day work we do. They don't see the efforts we take to keep the Willamette River at the appropriate level for clean water."

For some, the differences between the OSPIRG supporters and bashers are based in perceptions. Steve Candee, an LCC political science instructor, has been the campus chapter's adviser since 1991, its inaugural year.

"Among those students OSPIRG tends to attract — not ex-

clusively, but the majority of them
— are people who would be referred to as "counter-culture," he says. "There's a certain look that some of those people have, the long hair, the tie-dye, so there's those kinds of associations.

"These people have a very strong environmental outlook and are also concerned about consumer rip-offs or fraud," he continues. "They are interested in service-oriented work with the poor, the homeless, the hungry.

"So it taps into a larger 'environmental versus business' or 'evironmental versus timber' conflict, and OSPIRG obviously is perceived as an opponent of those hard-core economic development folks."

So what's next for OSPIRG?
Kirk maintains that talks she has had with students and Oregon residents show there is overhwhelming support in the group's corner. The issues are sometimes distorted by certain student groups and members of the media, she admits. Pointing to the UO vote, she adds, "Any reasonable

person would have been confused because (voters) didn't get all of the information."

In 1999, students at LCC, who must each pay \$2.25 per term to fund OSPIRG, will have an opportunity to vote on a similar ballot measure. In May of 1996, the last time students voted on OSPIRG's funding at the college, 78 percent of those 730 students who voted marked "yes."

The issue is not black-andwhite though, even to apparent supporters.

"I think we need to keep OSPIRG here on campus because they educate us on environmental issues, recycling issues, renters rights and other issues," says Mike Emmons, an ASLCC senator for the 1998-99 school year. "But they need to keep doors open for students and answer their concerns about fees and accountability."

Kirk recognizes the importance of that statement.

"For its own sake, the chapter at Lane has to assess the priorities of students and clarify the questions students might have,"

For now though, OSPIRG will chug along and those involved will savor the wins that make up for any losses. Fairchild recalls the Hunger Clean-Up and the positive emotions it generated for her.

"It's real high when you're out there planting broccoli in a garden and a organizer comes up to you and says, 'We had 150 people show up this morning and we raised \$1,500,'" she says. "And the numbers come in and you're planting that broccoli and it's all worth it. Five months of knocking on Student Senate doors, saying 'Come on, guys, let's go. Get organized.' It's all worth it.

"It's living for those high moments, because most of it is the grind, but it pays off for sure."

# OSPIRG forum focuses on renter's rights issues

Amy Wightman For The Torch

Have you ever had problems with your landlord? Because many students do, OSPIRG is hosting a Renter's Rights and Responsibilities Forum May 28.

Topics will include such issues as security deposits, evictions, repairs, and the Oregon Landlord Tenant Act. There will also be an open question and answer time after speakers have finished their remarks.

The forum will be held from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in the boardroom of the Administration Building. Guest speakers include OSPIRG consumer advocate John Valley, and ASLCC attorney Marc Friedman.

The idea for the forum originated when OSPIRG realized that Friedman spends a significant amount of time answering questions, and helping students who find themselves in undesirable rental situations. Many students are moving this time of year, and there

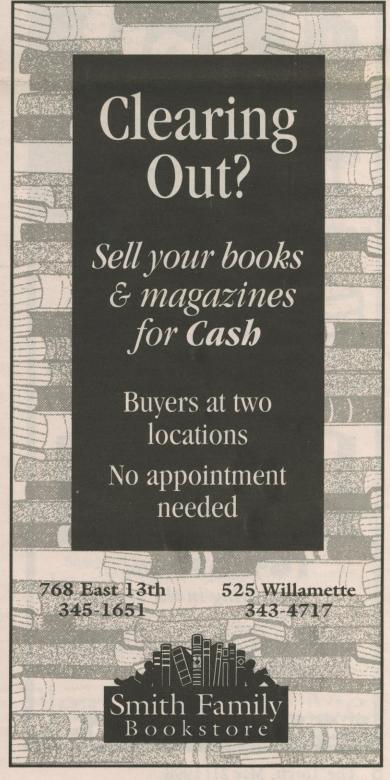
is a need for increased awareness and education about these issues, says Merriah Fairchild, state board chair for OSPIRG.

The goal of the forum, states Fairchild, is "education people so we can prevent so many of these situations for students."

Some of the most commonly asked questions include: What responsibilities does the landlord have to keep a rental unit in good condition? What are the tenant's rights if the landlord fails to refund a security deposit? Can my landlord "drop by" at any time?

Another way to obtain this information is to purchase a copy of OSPIRG's "Renter's Handbook." OSPIRG has been publishing this book since 1973; cost is \$4, or \$3 for students.

For more information on the book or the forum, call OSPIRG at ext. 2166 or stop by its office in the Center Building basement.



# Arts & Entertainment

SHARI HARBARGER, A&E EDITOR

THE TORCH

747-4501 ext 2014

# Practice makes perfect



Lane Community College's Performing Arts Department presents "Dance in the Blue Door," a student-choreographed dance concert, on June 5 and 6 at 7:30 p.m. Above, Mona Jones and Nahoko Sawa tune-up for the show. For more information, call the LCC Ticket Office at 726-2202.

# Dinner mystery theatre is a real killer for audiences

Shari Harbarger
A&E Editor

Greed. Revenge. Catfights. Murder. Whiskey-barbecued ribs.

Need I say more? Well, okay, since you asked...

Gunsmoke: Discipline Comes to Dodge is an interactive dinner mystery theatre, put on by Over the Top Productions and performed at the Grill Restaurant in Springfield's DoubleTree Hotel.

David B. Atkinson's original play is based on the classic 1960s and 70s television shows *Gunsmoke* and *Bonanza*, with a dash of *Blazing Saddles* thrown in for fun. Katina Paxino, armed with experience in both acting and comedy improvisation, directs the production, and John Crider provides the music.

All the restaurant is a stage for the actors, who mingle freely with the audience and ask for assistance in figuring out "whodunit" to Ben Cartwright, mayor of 1892 Dodge City. Marshal Matt Dillon (played by Don Nau) takes on the mayoral role, vowing to find the killer. He's in a tentative relationship with Miss Kitty (Mary Mason), forthright proprietress of the Long Branch Saloon.

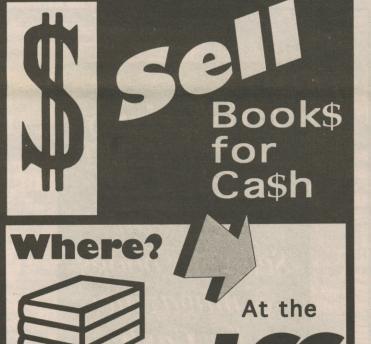
Virtually every other sentence from her painted lips is a slam against Audra von Payne (Cher Cramer), the competitive (and naughty) Bavarian madam of the Longer Branch Saloon. Doc Adams (John Elliott), town surgeon and chronic lush, hits upon both ladies in the course of the play. However, the good doctor finds time between passes to razz Dillon's comical sidekick Festus (Andrew Ross), earnest pursuer of truth.

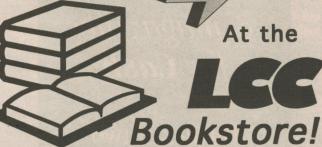
The plot thickens as Audra and Doc are also murdered during the evening. The audience is alternately grilled like a bunch of criminals and beseeched for help by Dillon (via slips of paper listing suspects' names). The cast gives prizes are given to both the best and worst dining-table detectives of the performance.

Although the admission is a little spendy for the average student (\$30 per person), the cost is justifiable because of the interactive fun and the outstanding dinner offered by the DoubleTree Grill Restaurant (salad, choice of entree, and dessert).

The cast members are talented, energetic actors, and their playful sense of humor is infectious. Producer Cheri Atkinson is optimistic about the total run of this play, believing it to be even better than Over the Top's first murder mystery Until Death Do Wa Part

So if it's within your budget, "get a clue" and call the DoubleTree Hotel at 726-8181 for tickets. For more information about *Gunsmoke: Discipline Comes to Dodge* or Over the Top Productions, please call Cheri Atkinson at 744-2787.





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**Cast members** John Elliott (front), Mary Mason (left), Don Nau (center), **Cher Gramer** (right), Andrew Ross (back) mingle freely with the audienc during performances at the **Grill Restaurant in** Springfield's **Double Tree** Hotel.

photo courtesy of Over the Top Productions





LCC NEWSCENE

News and features live from the LCC Main Campus Tues. @ 4:30

LCC TODAY

INTERVIEWS WITH STAFF & STUDENTS Tues. & Thurs. @ 4:45

Tune in as Media Arts & Technology Students Bring Lane to You on TCI Cable Channel 97

# Arts & Entertainment

# Filmmakers evoke powerful responses with their film

Ryan Abraham For The Torch

A hard-hitting, heartfelt documentary film about eight women with breast cancer searching for the causes for their condition brought tears and laughter to an audience of mostly women May 16 in LCC's Performance Hall.

The directing team of Allie Light and Irving Saraf held a free screening of "Rachel's Daughters: Searching for the Causes of the Breast Cancer," and a discussion afterward to "raise the awareness" of the issues.

The film focuses on eight women with breast cancer who live in San Francisco. The women traveled around the country and interviewed top scientists about the possible causes of their illnesses, especially looking at environmental connec-

The film shows in great detail the pain and sense of helplessness the women experience. One of the interviewers, Carla Dalton, says, "I have just integrated this horrible epidemic into my life. Sometimes my heart feels like a graveyard."

The scientists in the film pin-

point radiation exposure as perhaps the main cause for breast cancer. Insecticides, such as DDT, used extensively in the early 1960s, are other likely culprits, according to the researchers.

Other possible causes included birth control pill usage and women experiencing childbirth late in life; both contribute to an imbalance in the hormone estrogen.

Saraf and Light say they made this film because their own daughter was diagnosed with the disease

Nancy Evans, who led the postscreening discussion, is a co-producer of "Rachel's Daughters," and also appears in the film. Evans is a former president of Breast Cancer Action; she met the filmmakers in San Francisco.

One audience member raised a question concerning the appropriate age to receive her first mammogram, and the safe dosage during the radiologic procedure.

The trio agreed that before 35 years old, a women's breast tissue is usually too dense. The recommendation is around age 35-40, then one per year after the age of 50.

However, several women in the film were under the age of 30

photo by Rosiland Delligatti/courtesy of Light-Saraf-Evans Productions

The above photograph represents the final scene in "Rachel's Daughters."

when they found out they had breast cancer, a concern for the younger women in the audience. The best approach in these cases is self-examination, looking for curious or odd lumps.

The dosage for any radiologic procedure - x-rays, scans and arteriograms — is 0.3 rads. The speakers all stressed the importance of asking doctors and technicians for this information.

Each person who spoke up during the discussion period thanked the filmmakers for their courage and for providing the wealth of information. For more material about "Rachel's Daughters," call, fax or write to Light-Saraf Films, 264 Arbor St., San Francisco, Calif. 94131, (415) 469-1039 (phone and fax).



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Beginning May 21 and running until June 13, the Lord Leebrick Theatre presents the local premiere of "Arcadia," an existential play that asks the question, "What is truth over time?" The setting of the play vacillates between the year 1809 and the present, flipping back and forth until both eras are on stage simultaneously, allowing the audience to compare each time's version of The Truth. A gala opening for "Arcadia" will be held after the May 22 show; this special event is \$20, which covers the play itself, champagne, hors d'oeuvres, and an opportunity to mingle with the cast. Regular showtimes are 8 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, with a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. (audience participation is encouraged during the matinees). Admission is \$10 on Thursdays and Sundays, and \$14 on Fridays and Saturdays. The Lord Leebrick Theatre is located at 540 Charnelton in Eugene. For more information, please call 465-1506. WOW HALL EVENTS

p.m. prepare to be rocked by The Varicoasters, Los Mex Pistols and Lando Calrissian. The mix of ska, punk, and "south-of-the-border instrumental rock" is sure to blow you

away. \$5 gets you in the door.

May 23! This third CD on Elemental Records, "Angels in the Flesh, Devils in the Bone," is about to be loosed upon the world. It all starts at 8:30 p.m. Get your tickets in advance (strongly recommended) for \$8, or shell out \$10 at the door.

Watch a little, do a little: The Joint is Jumpin' Dance Studio offers free Lindy Hop lessons, followed by contemporary swing a la The New Morty Show. The San Franciscobased band does an original, enjoyably bizarre take on swing, even using the genre for covers on songs by such groups as Metallica and The Sex Pistols. Combine this with the fresh, feet-on experience from your free dance lesson, and you've got yourself a ... uh, memorable evening. Doors open at the Hall at 8 p.m. on May 28; admission is \$6.

Mark the date May 22 on your calendar; then, starting at 9 Come celebrate with Floater at its CD release party on

# Renaissance Room

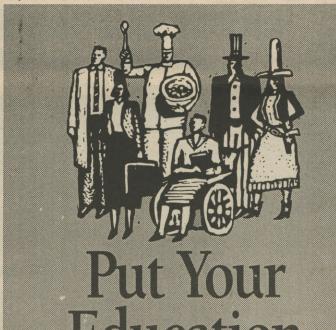
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# Arts & Entertainment

# Drummers keep the beat to break cultural barriers

K. Bishop Staff Writer

A giant blue cartoon whale frolics against a gray wall, basketball hoops wait for a game and the blackboard is empty. A myriad drum beats and rhythms fall across the floor.

This is the gym at Whiteaker School, the setting for a recent re-

during a recent performance.

hearsal of Eugene's dance troupe, Ballet Sangamar.

Master drummer Aliou Diouf, and his students play African beats as two men dance forward, arms stretching back like birds preparing for flight. Women, some dressed in rust and black African prints, others in gym clothes or leotards, dance in sync in a semicircle around them. The dance

may be one of a rite of passage or tell their child the story of their healing.

Diouf, the leader of the troupe, began his drumming career as a child in Senegal when his community decided that his life would be dedicated to the art of drumming and African cultural performance. So now Ballet Sangamar is one of the many activities he pursues in an effort to share his culture. He also sells drums, jewelry, handicrafts and takes Americans on tours of his country.

Diouf's way of perceiving things is a little different, he says. He remembers his father as a seller of poetry, his mother as a seller of grains, and he now considers himself to be a seller of drumming and dancing.

He works with elementary school kids, teaching them about African cultures, and he says with a wide smile, "I help them understand why they are here, what is their purpose."

Historically, the dances and songs he teaches have served as forms of school in his culture, teaching children how to behave, what to do, what not to do. The art forms also teach history. For example, parents may use a song to

grandparent's lives. Every dance and rhythm has a purpose, he says one may be for healing, another may be for working.

The group has provided work- from Diouf, is tall and wooden,

shops with adolescents at offenders' facility, teaching dancing and drumming, giving them a much needed physical outlet, and also giving them a way to learn morals, says Adriane Miller, one of the troupe's dancers.

Ballet Sangamar has performed and held workshops to help celebrate Black History Month at LCC and other colleges, but wishes for even more and different opportunities.

Joshua Edwards, one of Diouf's drumming students, says he appreciates the sense of community the group gives him.

"Everyone contributes to the overall performance," he says. "If you were to study the rhythm, everybody has a different part. All those parts will come together to make the whole, and that feeds into the dancing and the dancing feeds into the drumming. Ali is like the guy in the middle, almost the interpreter."

Edwards' drum, purchased

"Everyone

contributes to

the overall

performance,"

- Joshua Edwards

with hand-carved decorations and a goat skin cover. The quality of African drums is in the wood used to create it, says Edwards. Kad is the preferred choice.

Students help Diouf sell drums and other items

from Senegal at various places, including LCC.

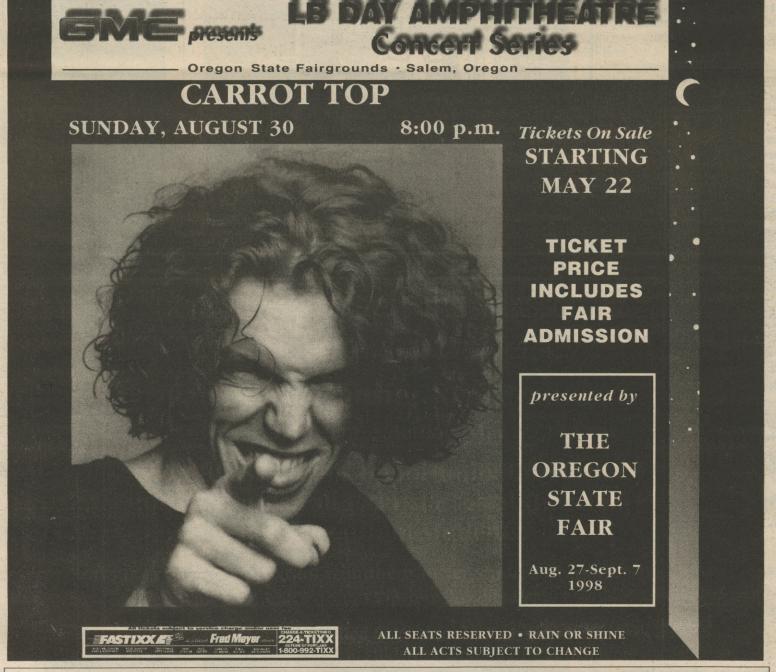
"He has a lot of people come up to him and ask him about drums they already have," explains Miller, adding that Diouf will also offer repair guidance if needed.

Diouf's students admit they help him out as much as they can, because they want him to stay in the area and teach them about drumming and African dance.

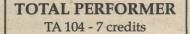
Others interested in Diouf's classes can call 461-5421 for infor-



photo courtesy of Ballet Sangamar Master drummer Aliou Diouf of Eugene's dance troupe, Ballet Sangamar, and his students play African beats









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Main Campus, 4000 E. 30th Ave., Eugene

Join us for the Denali Finale, Wednesday May 27 from 3 - 7 p.m. in the LCC cafeteria. There will be local artists. musicians and actors.

# 'Les Misérables' has a 'Deep Impact'

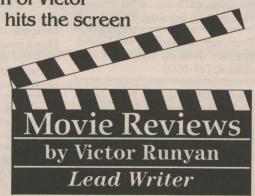
Movie rendition of Victor Hugo's classic hits the screen

Director Billie August's "Les Misérables" gives the audience a touching, and abridged rendition of Victor Hugo's novel, which explores the dangers of mistaking law for justice, and of blindly following

rules without tempering them with mercy.

In this film version, August chose to concentrate on two central stories: Jean Valjean's (played by Liam Neeson) redemption and obsessive pursuit of him by Inspector Javert (Geoffry Rush) Valjean'sjumping parole after serving more then a decade in prison for stealing a few loaves of bread. This focusing reduces the film to two-and-a-half hours instead of the potential length suggested by the novel's1,000 plus pages. The condensation also avoids several structural flaws in the novel, including the absence of the villian for more than 700 pages and the hero for more than 400.

What's left is a compelling story about the struggle of love and mercy with injustice — in the law and society — and obsession. The viewer also gets a gritty, if somewhat cleaned-up view of 19th-century France in the decades leading up to the



July 1832 revolution — the setting for the film's climax.

Uma Thurman turns in an Oscar level performance as Fantine, a woman whose life is destroyed for the crime of having a child out of wedlock, and who is forced into prostition by the thoughtless actions of Valjean in an attempt to protect morals of the women working at his factory.

Production designer Anna Asp ("Fanny and Alexander") and costume designer Gabriella Pescucci ("The Age of Innocence") do an outstanding job of putting the viewer in the time period. They make you feel like "This is how it was to be there. We just set a camera down and filmed it."

This film is an easy-to-watch introduction to an all-time classic, a powerful story that many never get a chance to read and enjoy.

"Les Misérables" is playing at Cinemaworld, 342-6536 and Movies 12, 741-1231. Dramatic film asks the all too possible question "What if...?"

"Deep Impact" asks the question, "How would we react to the news that Earth as we know it is about to be destroyed by a block of dirty ice — a comet — the size of Mount Everest."

Executive Producer Steven Spielberg (Take your pick of previous blockbusters), Producers Richard D. Zanuck ("The Sound of Music") and David Brown ("The Sting") team up with Director Mimi Leder ("The Peacemaker") for this dramatic look at an all too possible "What if ...?"

Helping this high-powered team "get the facts right" are numerous technical advisors including the likes of Carolyn S. Shoemaker and her late husband Eugene. The Shoemakers are a particularly apt choice because of their co-discovery of Shoemaker-Levy 9, the comet which hit Jupiter in pieces, producing explosion clouds the size of the Earth.

The film uses three focuses to bring us the human story. The first pinpoints the co-discover of the fictional comet Wolf-Beidermand, Leo Beiderman (Elijah Wood) and the girl he wants to notice him — Sarah Hotchner (Leelee Sobieski).

The second is Jenny Lerner (Téa Leoni), a network reporter trying to hit the big time with an exposé on a sex scandal involving a "woman" named Ellie. She finds herself in the middle of the biggest story in human history when "Ellie" turns out to be E.L.E. or Extinction Level Event. Much of film shows how the press covers the comet and the U.S. attempts to stop the impending catastrophe.

The third focus centers around the crew of the "Messiah" led by Spurgeon "Fish" Tanner (Robert Duvall), and the group's first attempt to destroy the comet with nuclear weapons, only to split it in two.

The film examines various ideas that have been presented for stopping a comet, including meeting it in space and using nukes; launching pre-existing ICBMs from the ground; and creating "Arks" to preserve some people, animals, and plants to repopulate the Earth.

The film benefits from the camera-work of Dietrich Lohmann, director of photography (who died shortly after principle filming), who presents spectacular shots, including beauty in the middle of tragedy. Production designer Leslie Dilley's sets produce the illusion of being on a comet. Michael Lantieri, special effects supervisor, with Industrial Light and Magic, use special effects carefully to help tell the story and not become the story.

This is a worthy dramatic film on a subject that can easily become camp. However, the filmmakers decided a serious approach is more appropriate. Consider this: The number of scientists looking for these type of Earth-threatening objects is less than the number of people staffing a McDonalds, and they are doing their work with a lot less money than this film cost.

Perhaps the film may inspire some viewers to demand action from our governments — more money and more support — and to stop relying on blind luck.

"Deep Impact" is showing at Movies 12 (741-1231 for info.)



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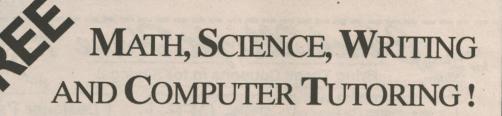
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## **EVENTS**

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The Counseling and Advising department is recruiting students for paid part-time positions as Student Service Associates during the 1998-99 school year. Application packets are available in the Career Center and must be turned in by May 29. Need excellent communication skills, initiative and enthusiam. •

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#### Messages

Someone stole my precalculus book, T1-83 graphing calculator, and my chem book from my black Trager backpack on Mon. 5/11 around 12:30. Please return these items to me, as I am a low income student and have no way to replace these much needed items. Dan Cen 205

Lanol and Adele - The neighbors are appreciating your efforts keeping Stuart quiet. I do, too. DW

Hello to all you people out there.

Only one more issue of The Torch so get your classified ads in now.

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# Some of our favorite bumper stickers:

Forget about World Peace - Visualize using your turn signal. He who laughs last thinks slowest. Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

Out of my mind. Be back in five minutes.

The more people I meet, the more I like my dog. Laugh alone and the world thinks you're an idiot. I get enough exercise pushing my luck.

When you do a good deed, get a receipt - in case heaven is like the IRS. OK, who stopped the payment on my reality check.

I don't suffer from insanity, I enjoy every minute of it. IRS: We've got what it takes to take what you've got.

According to my calculations, the problem doesn't exist. Some people are only alive because it is illegal to kill. Howcan I miss you if you won't go away? Give me abiguity or give me something else. Make it idiot-proof and someone will make a better idiot. Friends help you move. Real friends help you move bodies. Be nice to your kids. They'll choose your nursing home.

There are three kinds of people: those who can count & those who can't. Ever stop to think and forget to start again.

Keep honking ... I'm reloading. Caution: I drive like you do.

If you don't like the news, go out and make some.

