



"An Evening of Dance" introduces new LCC instructor

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THE TORCH



OCTOBER 14, 1999

VOLUME XXXV, NUMBER 5

LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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LCC follows mother's lead to end school racism

□ Bahati Ansari formed the RFZ program after her two children suffered racial harassment at their school

Morgan Hentrup

Managing Editor

In 1984 a Jefferson Middle School student drew a picture in his history class and gave it to his teacher, who proceeded to hang it on the classroom wall.



Bahati Ansari

The drawing portrayed a Klu Klux Klan member stabbing an African American.

When an African American student in the class asked his teacher to remove the racist drawing, she refused, claiming it portrayed a

part of our nation's history.

The boy's mother, Bahati Ansari, immediately took her two children out of Jefferson, claiming the atmosphere was racist and unsafe for her family. Apparently, this was not the school's first incident involving racism.

Ansari decided it would be the last.

She reviewed the district's rules and regulations regarding racial harassment, only to find no such outline existed. Then, working with the 4J School District, she began to form a racial justice task force to develop a plan for ending racism at Jefferson.

Ansari contacted then-Superintendent Margaret Nichols with her concerns, asking Nichols to write a letter to district personnel expressing agreement with the anti-racism goal.

"She was the first administrator that I had talked to who had sensitivity on the subject," Ansari says.

The next day, the letter had been sent and was already evoking opinions from school board members. Ansari says this was dangerous at the time for students and parents because they were worried that if they spoke up to express personal concerns, they would become targets.

"They didn't know it's okay to be labeled a troublemaker if you're dealing with human rights issues."

Then, on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, another racial incident occurred at Eugene's Churchill High School. The school had its share of racist occurrences in the past but had agreed to sign the anti-racial agreement, with hopes of overcoming the problems. According to Ansari, an African American male student slammed a Caucasian female student against a locker after she called him a "nigger," and police grabbed and handcuffed him.

A school district school board member happened to drive by the school, and walked in right at the time of the incident. Unfortunately, he was unable to apply the racism tactics Ansari and the task force see **RACISM** on page 12

Heroin: a drug to die for

Morgan Hentrup

Managing Editor

Kimberly Wolfe began using heroin when she was 12 years old.

Her best friend's mother, a heroin dealer, introduced her to the drug that she would become well-acquainted with throughout her life.

Afflicted with manic depression and panic disorders, Wolfe says she tried the drug to self-medicate. Heroin immediately became "the only thing that made me feel normal," she says.

Now, at 33, with an 8-year-old daughter and a criminal record, Wolfe is finally clean. But she certainly will never forget her past.

"I have always felt that I've hit several bottoms," she says.

The last one should have killed her. Wolfe began treatment last October.

After going nine months without using and doing well in her methadone program, she ran into some old drug buddies. She relapsed and got high with them one last time. "I wasn't talking to my counselor ... the shame of an addict can be so toxic, it can actually kill you," she says.

Complaining of a stiff neck that wouldn't go away days later, she saw her doctor. Wolfe did not reveal to him she had used, so he diagnosed her with a pulled muscle. A week later, the pain had only become worse.

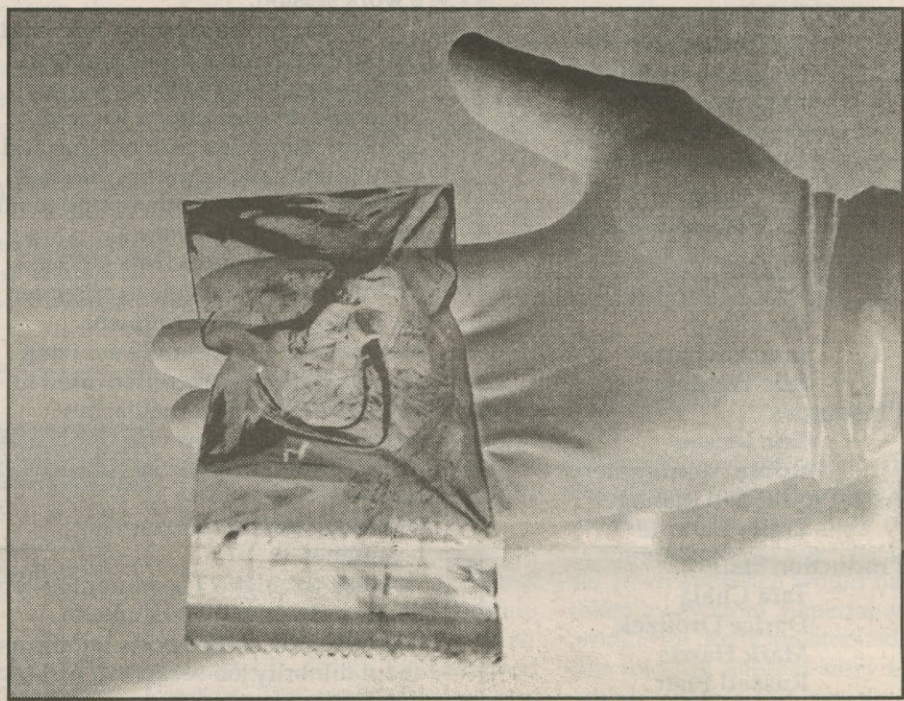


Photo by Sam Karp

Black Tar Heroin taken from the evidence room at Springfield Police Department. Kimberly Wolfe's near-death experience with heroin prompted her to tell her story in order to prevent future deaths.

She decided to see a different doctor, and told him the entire story. This time, the doctor's reaction was wary and negative.

"When you're an addict and go in (to a doctor) complaining of pain, they automatically think you're drug-seeking," she says.

The doctor didn't prescribe any medication for her pain, and it became increasingly unbearable.

On July 13 Wolfe sought out the help of yet another doctor. This one did not

See **HEROIN** page 7

Black employees take a stand: LCC needs diversity

Tonya Alanez

Editor in Chief

BASE sets the pace
"Institutional racism" and "cultural competency," difficult terms to define, dominated the exchange between LCC Board of Education members and eight members of a black employees group at the Oct. 6 LCC Board of Education work session.

The Black American Staff/Faculty, and Employees members made a dynamic entrance into the Board Room, filing in as a team. Mark Harris, BASE chairperson and LCC substance abuse prevention coordinator, looked at each board member as he delivered his 30-minute oration. He remarked candidly on issues of primary concern to BASE, such as hiring, retention and recruiting of African Americans in the classroom, stu-

dents and staff alike.

Stephanie Raglin, TRIO project specialist, listed specific and disturbing examples of racial incidents within LCC classrooms, confided to her by students.

She concluded that "LCC (is) not a friendly place" for students of color.

In conclusion, Harris posed a question: What is the board willing to do to ensure progress and an enduring legacy of change in three interrelated policy areas: Hiring, "Platinum Rule" training (the concept of treating others "better" than you would like to be treated), and student and staff retention activities.

The first to respond, board member Roger Hall, acknowledged with remorse the presence of "institutional racism" at LCC, extending a personal apology to BASE members,

while simultaneously turning the question around and asking, "What can we do?"

Board Chair Robert Ackerman described the BASE presentation as "profound, and essentially correct," leaving him "almost speechless." He went on to acknowledge the "lack of adequate procedures to deal with these problems," a circumstance as "unacceptable in 1999 as much as 1969."

In a penitent tone, he said the college is "almost guilty as charged." He then asked BASE members to initiate a draft, proposing policy changes and suggestions, to be presented at the December board meeting.

An earnest dialogue then ensued among members of BASE, the audience, and the board, addressing topics both specific and general:

•Why is the retention rate of African American students so low?

•Does the college contact departing students to determine why they have left?

•How does LCC follow-up complaints of racism in the classroom?

•Is the current approach adequate?

Racism Free Zone

During the official meeting, which followed on the heels of the lengthy work session, board members voted in favor of a "unanimous endorsement" of the Racism Free Zone program. The RFZ steering committee was represented by Adrian Rodriguez, Lane's diversity coordinator, Lawrence Gillespie, president of the Black Student Union and Choul Wou, ASLCC president.

see **LCC** on page 12

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Increasing the minority slice of the pie

"Institutional racism." What does it mean?

Institution: an established organization or foundation, as one dedicated to education or culture.

Racism: discrimination or prejudiced based on race.

Clearer picture?

Although LCC takes steps to bring about diversity, some members of the community have criticized the college for its shortcomings in hiring minority faculty, especially African Americans, to teach transferable courses.

This was one of the criticisms presented to the LCC Board of Education by members of Black American Staff/Faculty and Employees of Lane Community College. The group of eight openly addressed evidence of campus racism at an Oct. 6 work session.

The college's Personnel Office and Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Offices have "adopted a team approach" in their efforts to recruit and hire minorities. Advertising and recruitment campaigns are the chief methods they use in attempting to fill the campus cultural void.

Personnel Services Director Sue Colvin says the struggle to discover the most effective recruitment methods are a "constantly evolving process." She says recruiters used to rely heavily on print media, but began to wonder how effective this method was. She says the college is now —

- Using Internet recruitment techniques.

- Subscribing to The Minorities Job Bank, an Internet-based bulletin board of sorts, which posts information about minority job-seekers. It will test this method for a one year period.

But members from both the Personnel Office and Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Office agree that face-to-face contacts are the most effective means of soliciting qualified



Commentary by
Tonya Alanez

Editor in Chief

national convention in Portland for The Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in the Sciences.

Ortal says he made some promising contacts, however, he felt that the primary interest served were college and university recruitment of graduate and undergraduate students, as opposed to staff/faculty recruitment.

Despite all of the various strategies to advance diversity in the LCC groups like BASE are asking, "Is there more the college can do?"

When I examined the "LCC 1997-98 Profile," which provides statistics on enrollment, student intent and outcomes, student and staff characteristics, finance and so on, the bar graphs and pie charts which categorize staff by ethnicity status reveal that the minority slice of the pie at Lane Community College is slim indeed.

In an ethnicity status breakdown of 1998 fall staff members, 91 percent were caucasian non-Hispanic and 9 percent represented African American, Hispanic, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian or Pacific Islander — all combined. And those are the numbers for the entire "staff" population which includes contracted faculty, part-time credit faculty, contracted classified, administrators, and management support positions.

The numbers would undoubtedly decrease if the category were narrowed to include one, specific minority group, with duties as exact as teaching college

applicants.

Therefore, the college is reallocating funds from print media campaigns to one-on-one contacts at recruitment fairs and professional meetings. For example, last month Director of Affirmative Action Jose

Ortal attended a

transferable courses. In 1998, the number of African American staff members stood at 12 out of 1,075 employees. While it is reassuring to see that the number of African American staff members has doubled since 1995 (from six to 12), it hardly fills the void.

The primary problem facing LCC employee recruiters is the lack of competitive wages in this part of the country. While the LCC salaries are in line with other community colleges in the area, the fact remains that this region has a lower salary base than colleges nationwide.

It is also difficult to convince staff of color to come to a predominantly white school in a mostly white community.

So, what else can this college do?

At UO, recruitment functions are not the sole responsibility of the Personnel or Affirmative Action Offices. The university encourages faculty members to use colleague connections at other universities in order to recruit minority graduate students who are prepared for the job market.

UO Director of Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Kenneth Lehrman says the strategies that work best to recruit minority faculty include involvement and commitment of the UO faculty.

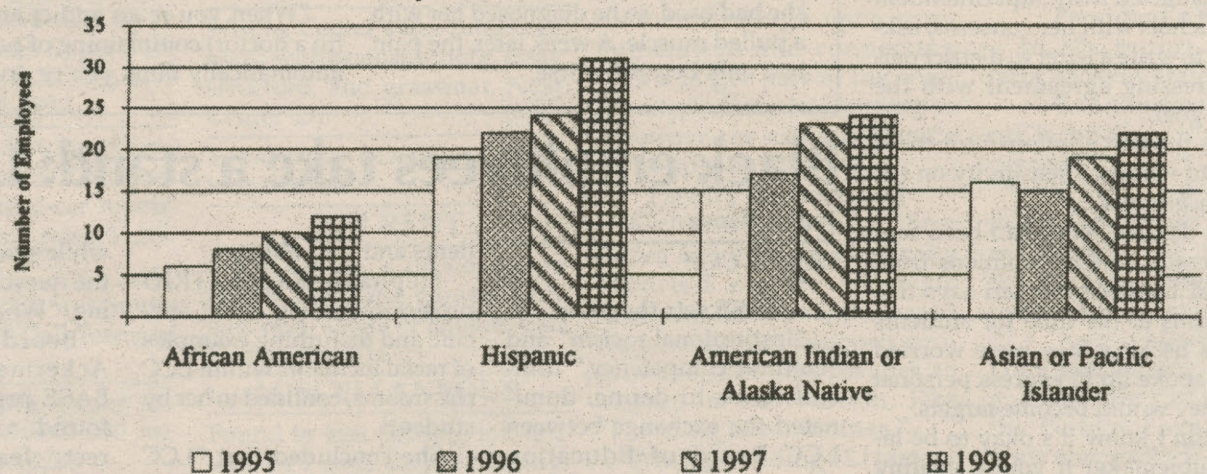
"Affirmative action doesn't really work well unless there is a commitment all the way down the line, throughout the fabric of the institution," he says.

So perhaps LCC can adopt this practice.

In fact, wouldn't it be a form of "institutional racism" if Lane's faculty assumes that recruitment of a diverse teaching staff is the sole responsibility of the Personnel and Affirmative Action Offices?

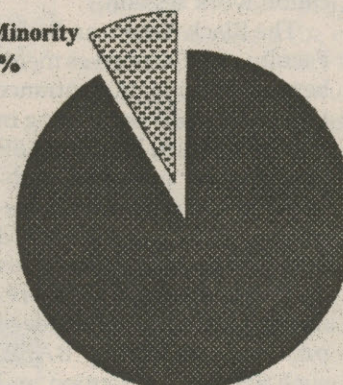
If instructors are not part of the solution then they are in effect contributing to the problem.

LCC Staff Ethnicity Statistics -- Minorities



Total staff includes:
contracted faculty,
part-time credit faculty,
contracted classified,
administrators, and
management support.

Total Minority
9%



LCC Staff
Fall 1998

Caucasian Non-Hispanic
91%

Graphic information provided by
LCC Institutional Research, Assessment & Planning

Domestic Violence: Don't be a silent witness

As I bustled through the cafeteria on Thursday morning, 11 red, wooden female figures shot out at me.

I stopped dead in my tracks. Cold chills rushed up my arms. I stared at the wooden, faceless women. It felt as if they stared back.

The Silent Witness Exhibit is in honor of Oregon women who were victims of domestic violence. Womenspace is hosting the exhibit for the entire month of October to support Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

One of the blood-red cutouts, a 19-year-old, suffered gunshot wounds ... another, 38, was stabbed to death ... and what was perhaps the most poignant figure had no face, no name, and no details.

She is the woman who didn't report the abuse, who didn't prosecute, who couldn't escape her fear. Fear is the embodiment of domestic violence. It makes women feel trapped.

One student standing behind me in line at the

Commentary by
Celeste Burns

For the Torch

trapped in the anonymous blood-red victim.

I hugged her, because I saw a piece of myself locked in the wooden figure as well.

I skipped psychology class and we had coffee. Her children live with her mother. They're safer there. She works from home, and has recently found the strength to leave her house. The fear of him ... perhaps watching ... somewhere ... paralyzes her.

She called Womenspace. She needed help. They introduced her to the Transitions Program here at Lane. Through Lane and the women she met in the program, she's regaining her life.

And her kids? She can't mention them without her eyes tearing.

espresso cart was equally stunned. It was as if she had been caught looking in the mirror and had found the truth of her reflection

I couldn't help but wonder why no children are represented in the Silent Witness Exhibit. But a spokesperson from Womenspace told me children's artwork is on display at the WOW Hall. The show runs the whole month of October.

According to the National Domestic Violence web site, half of the homicides involving children are caused by domestic violence.

Show your support by attending Peacehealth's National Domestic Violence Screening Awareness Day at Sacred Heart, today, Oct. 14.

Or on Sunday, Oct. 17, attend an oral presentation by Rev. Danna Hastings on domestic violence. For time and information call 747-3921.

I know you're busy. Balancing work, school, and family is no easy task. But by simply viewing the exhibits, you're acknowledging the existence of this abuse.

And that's the first step in the right direction.

Measure 20-25: Community safety through income tax surcharge

Meaghan Bull

Staff Writer

One measure on the upcoming Nov. 2 ballot is catching heat from several Eugene activists.

Measure 20-25 proposes to make Lane County communities safer by funding prevention, intervention and enforcement, and by addressing gaps in the current safety system.

"This measure is a coordinated approach to make Lane County communities safer," says Myra Wall, spokesperson for measure 20-25. "People can come together and plan together in their own community."

The No on Measure 20-25 Political Action Committee opposes the \$150 million income tax surcharge measure, saying it "places a disproportionate priority on funding the punishment industry at the expense of social programs," according to the PAC's position paper.

If voters approve Measure 20-25, the county will assess an 8 percent surcharge on state personal and corporate income and excise taxes beginning Jan. 1, 2000. The measure could potentially raise more than \$150 million before its end in 2006.

The proposed Charter Amendment states that 55 percent of the funds would be used county-wide to fund crime and child abuse prevention, police and law enforcement, prosecution, parole and probation, treatment and training services, corrections, custody, and support services. Forty-five percent of the funds would be used through revenue sharing for local services consistent with the measure's focus and would be distributed according to population.

Opponents say the measure is poorly balanced, giving a total of \$1,587,226 a year towards helping at-risk youth and \$16,473,459 a year to the punishment industry.

"More jails won't solve our social problems," says Cheryl Reinhart, PAC treasurer and co-owner of the successful Sweet Life Patisserie cake shop in Eugene's Whiteaker neighborhood. "I live in the Whiteaker area and I see kids with drug problems and girls turning to prostitution. We need to provide safe beds and help for these kids."

The Pulse of LCC



Stephen Venneman - Broadcast and Visual Design

"I would probably chalk it up to his own personal ignorance and ignore any other comment he made."



Silas Mentzer - Forestry

"I probably wouldn't if it weren't directly related to me. They are students here and they are paying your bills here. What are their goals as a teacher making those kind of remarks."



Sara Ward - General Studies

"It would make me think less of him as a person. I would keep that in mind when I thought of him."



Vimukthi Weeratunga - Biology

"Totally against it, you would report it."

If one of your instructors were to make a racist comment, how would you respond?

LGBTQA comes out with rainbow colors flying

Gloria Biersdorff

Staff Writer

The large, rainbow colored flag had fallen again onto the cafeteria floor. Anita Stelling, an ally of Lane's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender group, rose once more from her seat behind the LGBTQA informational table and secured with duct tape the bold banner representing sexual diversity.

It was after noon on Oct. 1, National Coming Out Day. Stelling, a member of Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, had been answering questions and distributing PFLAG newsletters in Lane's cafeteria since 9 a.m.

"Students have been coming by, picking up pamphlets for parents, family, brothers, sisters. There have been a few faculty members, not many," said Stelling, a lesbian who became active in PFLAG a year ago.

To Stelling's left, spanning the length of two tables, sat a cheerful row of allies and LGBTQA members. Susan Matthews, the group's adviser, laughed with a visiting instructor. Several students chatted to her left. One handed out iced molasses cookies embossed with pink frosting triangles.

"Just Out," the Portland-based "IN publication for the OUT population" lay on the table next to an opened package of Oreos. Its cover page read, "Brave Steps-Cracking open the



Photo by Sam Karp

LGBTQA members, Rick Miller and Cheryl Rivers, find camaraderie and support with the group.

closet door, finding a route to wholeness."

That headline could serve as the synopsis of LGBTQA's mission, according to Matthews, who believes many on Lane's campus are still afraid to go public with their sexual orientation. "At least 10 percent of the population is lesbian or gay—at least," Matthews claims.

Crystal Grosser, a bright-eyed, purple-haired 20-year-old lesbian student, left off manning the cookie display to talk of her experience as a new member of the LGBTQA.

"Susan is awesome. I can talk to her about anything," Grosser said. "When I came to Lane 10

months ago, I didn't have any friends ... I see support. I've made a lot of friends in this group."

Grosser was raised by "extremely conservative grandparents" in Manteka, Cal. "You would never see groups like this there," she said. "My friend got a pumpkin thrown at her by a group of jocks, yelling 'faggot, queer, get out of our town!' The pumpkin they threw broke her leg."

The bigotry displayed in Manteka did not follow Grosser north, she says. On rare occasions while walking downtown, she has been called names like "queer" and "dyke."

To the contrary, Grosser said she recently received an assignment hand-out in her speech class that referred to a man and his boyfriend. "It was great. The teacher was acknowledging that we exist," Grosser said.

Class content which reflects awareness of alternate lifestyles is one of several reforms the LGBTQA seeks. Matthews has instigated a letter-writing campaign to President Moskus and the college vice presidents which addresses this issue.

Other expressed needs include a list of Gay-friendly classes, funds for LGBT speakers, flyers, and copying costs. Their letters also expressed the need for a welcoming campus environment, reflected through recognition in campus publications like the annual catalog, term schedules, student planners and the LCC web page.

LCC provides free tutoring service for students

Mack Singleton

Staff Writer

A student is heard saying, "I'm lost. What is the difference between accounting and bookkeeping?" A helpful accounting tutor answers, "You're not lost, you're in the right place."

It's just another day in the rewarding job of an LCC tutor. Many of the tutors attend classes at Lane and others don't, but they all work hard to assist students. Each tutor has gone through training courses designed around communication skills and developing tutorial styles of their own.

There are 15 free drop-in centers on campus, including two new services. Some of the subjects include Basic Reading, Writing, Math, Business, Computer Information Tech., English as a Second Language, Music Lab, Science Resource Room, Social Science-Psychology and The Women's Center. There will be an orange flyer circulating with all locations and times the tutors will be available in each department.

"Free tutoring happens all over campus," says Liz Coleman, tutorial coordinator. "Many students feel tutoring is a stigma, that if they go to a tutor there is something wrong with them, or they aren't smart enough. I encourage all students to try the tutors. If they have a bad experience the first time, try again. Some of the tutors are new and are just learning."

Coleman also emphasizes, "Don't wait too long, it's better to get started now using

the tutor centers before they get too crowded. Otherwise, what happens is, about the fourth week of the term, midterms are coming up, students are behind, and they freak-out because the student centers are packed. They waited too long and don't know any of the tutors who might work best with them."

This year there are two new tutoring services being offered at LCC. The Black Student Union, located in the Center Building basement, will have a writing tutor with a Masters degree in writing, and a math tutor on Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for African American students who would prefer going to the BSU. A two-hour per week position for an African American math tutor, though not necessarily a student, is also available at the BSU. Contact Lawrence Gillespie at ext. 2043 for more information.

Another new tutorial available this year is for International Students and students who speak English as a second language, located in front of Room 414 of the Center Building.

"We see this program as encompassing all students who are studying English as a second language that can give students to access to writing, grammar, some basic math and study skills," says Coleman.

Tutors can be found Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m., Wednesdays from noon to 3 p.m., Thursdays from 3 to 4:30 p.m., and Fridays from 10 a.m. to noon.

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A Ballot Measure Forum
Noon — Oct. 19 in the cafeteria

Political group plans anti-WTO demonstration

Gloria Biersdorff

Staff Writer

The talk of a particular crowd at High Street Cafe on Oct. 5 was not the typical, nicotine-and-ale-fueled hyperbole that warms the atmosphere there on any given night.

Members of "The Unnamed Political Group," founded last spring by LCC student Aaron Grieser, met at the cafe for the first time this school year. Grieser had arranged tables near the fireplace, hoping for a turn out that would fill all the seats.

By 7:45 p.m. the group of 10 began moving from the now-cramped quarters of the fireside room toward the damp, smoky back deck. Two dry picnic tables against the wall quickly filled with students and community activists.

The evening's guest speaker, Gayle Landt, settled in a chair just under the awning, beside two LCC political instructors from Lane, Steve Candee and Stan Taylor.

And people kept coming. Two, then two more trickled down the steps and stood or sat, hunched forward to catch Landt's comments on conflict resolution.

"You may want to be in jail, you may not want to be in jail," she was saying. "My work of mediation involves finding the principles that are powerful and binding, that will help groups that were alienated from each other—completely stuck—to find their way through it."

Landt, Director of the Eugene based Conflict Resolution Cen-

ter, was addressing this group's objective to demonstrate against the World Trade Organization during its summit meeting in Seattle at the end of November. But not everyone present knew that the discussion would immediately hone in on effective ways to combat the WTO's efforts to expand the North American Free Trade Agreement into the entire western hemisphere.

It would also eliminate all non-tariff trade barriers on timber construction world-wide, thereby increasing global deforestation by three percent annually.

Not everyone knew what the WTO was, exactly.

But that was okay. By the meeting's end those who had been in the dark were enlightened, if not regarding the WTO, then regarding human relations and conflict.

Landt's speech was imbued with conviction and passion, rich in metaphor and the exhortations toward inner harmony that resonate in the teachings of India's great pacifist, the late Mahatma Gandhi.

"What happens to your creativity, your courage and reason, when there is psychological or physical coercion or violence happening? If we choose the non-violent route, we move significant energy to a higher cen-

ter of the brain, where creativity lies," Landt said.

She continued, "I think anger is an antiseptic. It takes more discipline to refuse to make enemies, to hang in there and hash through a myriad of options. It's a lot like childbirth. You have to get through this messy, gray area. When you hang in there, a lot keeps falling away, falling away. The means are the ends in the making."

Arne McLean, a member of LCC's student senate and OSPIRG, was one of those not privy to the issues surrounding the WTO when he attended the meeting. He had come for the first time on Grieser's suggestion, and left the meeting with the desire to travel to Seattle with the group to demonstrate against corporate globalization and dominance.

McLean said he appreciated Landt's emphasis on community, and the concept that we are all in this together, ultimately.

"The people empowering the WTO are people, too, wanting to be happy like we do," McLean said.

Taylor spoke after the discussion with like objectivity and equanimity. His views on the WTO have been formed by years of close study. He acknowledged that there must be

"Opening up people to the benefits of activism, whether you're winning or not, makes you feel alive. It beats apathy."

— Aaron Grieser



Photo by Sam Karp

Aaron Grieser (center), discusses political issues with 20 people at the High Street Brewery on Oct. 5.

members of the WTO who are as concerned as outside dissenters are over the unchecked power of the organization.

"But they are so entrenched, by now," said Taylor, that nothing short of massive grassroots opposition to the global trade system will succeed in halting the system's trend toward corporate gain at the high price of human suffering and environmental desecration.

"The WTO is owned by a handful of corporations interested in promoting free trade. When someone talks about free trade they think 'freedom.' There is the implied threat that if you don't allow this to go on, it will be something felt in your pocket book, and others will disparage you," says Taylor.

"The process of corporate globalization is not sustainable. Less than 400 people have the wealth equal to the bottom 40

percent of the world's population. Under the Free Trade system 20 percent of the population controls 83 percent of the wealth," says Taylor, whose credentials on this subject include a Doctorate in Political Science and a Masters in International Law.

Taylor said he believed the numbers protesting in Seattle will reach 40,000, due to a coalition among unlikely forces. Labor unions have felt the sting of the WTO's policies, and will probably demonstrate in Washington 30,000 strong.

Activists will make up the second largest group, then conservative republicans.

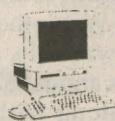
"There is a grassroots democracy operating in this country," Taylor says. "if we created this (trade system) through a court decision, it can be revoked by a court decision."

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Your choice \$103.32 PER MO.

90 Dodge Spirit 4dr.	(B9081)
88 Nissan Sentra	(B9033)
87 Dodge D50 4/4	(B1666)
86 Plymouth Voyager	(9060B)
89 Pontiac Le Mans	(BP450)

\$300 cash or trade 12% APR 24 MO. OAC

\$2495

Your choice \$106.11 PER MO.

89 Dodge D50 4/4	(B9089K)
95 Suzuki Swift	(B1483)
84 Chev S10 Blazer	(6158P)
89 Ford Taurus Wgn	(B1634)
90 Chrysler Le Baron 2dr	(B9017)

\$300 cash or trade 12% APR 36 MO. OAC

\$3495

Your choice \$110.47 PER MO.

90 Ford Crown Victoria	(B9031)
85 Ford F 150 4/4 Truck	(BP858)
88 Dodge Grand Caravan	(BP183A)
89 Honda CRX	(484BP)
90 Buick Century	(BP220)

\$300 cash or trade 12% APR 48 MO. OAC

\$4495

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Multi-talented student leader sets goals for upcoming year

Tonya Alanez

Editor in Chief

When I asked student-body Vice President Susan Whitmore where she was born, she answered, "Beverly Hills."

She quickly corrected my initial stereotype with additional detail. "This was a total fluke. The Beverly Hills Hospital was the one closest to Hollywood."

Whitmore describes her Los Angeles childhood as "interesting," a mild adjective to apply to the unique circumstances of her youth. She was raised by her mother, a Hollywood Boulevard psychic and pagan, who Whitmore describes as "very intelligent and very spiritual, but not very realistic."

The youngest of four children, Whitmore says she enjoyed a lot of freedom as a child, without many restrictions. "My mother was very supportive of whatever I wanted to do. She taught me to use my own judgment."

Whitmore journeyed to Oregon the summer of her 15th year with two objectives in mind, a visit with her brother in Corvallis and a visit to the Country Fair. Two weeks into the scheduled visit, Whitmore's mother called with news — she was moving to Florida. Whitmore had the option of joining her mother in Florida or staying in Oregon. She opted for Oregon.

"I didn't know quite how hard it was going to be," says Whitmore, who had to support herself rather than return to high school. She did not find her early departure from school to be a regretful disappointment, since she found the high school atmosphere "too immature," and felt as though she was not getting anything out of it anyway. She first worked at Dairy Queen and then a Chinese restaurant. At the "Far East Kitchen," her responsibilities grew. She was manager by 18.

Whitmore says besides working, she also "played around a long time." Now, at 21, she reflects positively on those free-form years as a time for "a lot of personal development." She says she needed the freedom and play before committing to school. "Now I'm charged up for it and doing well."

While working at the "Far East Kitchen" Whitmore met her future husband, Najam Haq, an OSU graduate student. Whitmore, who regards her role as



Photo by Kale Houppermans

ASLCC Vice President Susan Whitmore's unique upbringing has contributed to her creative, yet responsible, personality.

wife first and foremost, will celebrate her second wedding anniversary this winter.

"He's an amazing guy," she says of her husband, who is Pakistani and speaks three languages. The son of a foreign service doctor, Haq spent most of his youth in Malaysia and Nigeria, where he graduated from college with a degree in computer science and physics. He is now taking graduate level classes in computer programming at UO.

"I have a lot of different sides," says Whitmore. As an ASLCC officer, student, newlywed, and musician, her daily juggle takes a good deal of coordination and prioritization.

She's currently majoring in social science, with strong interests in international studies and political science. "I lean towards the political side of international studies," she says.

Her educational path could branch in a number of different directions. She expresses an interest in law, but noncommittally says, "I don't know how far that is going to go. I'll take a couple of classes and see."

She is considering music as a minor. And, despite the fact that she takes individual piano lessons at LCC and plays French horn in the college's symphonic band, she's not satisfied with the time she

devotes to music.

"What suffers the most is the musical part of me," she says.

Yet, her musical activities don't end there. She also performs with the local, reggae band, More Time, playing conga drums and hand percussion, while also singing back-up vocals. More Time has opened shows for respected, reggae veterans, such as Isreal Vibrations, The Abyssinians and Toots & the Maytals.

Whitmore fondly recalls the day she met ASLCC President Choul Wou one year ago, a significant precursor to the events that would lead to election as vice president.

"We clicked," she says and within a brief period of time they forged a friendship that would evolve into a partnership. "We just work well together and share a lot of the same interests," says Whitmore.

Recognizing the strength in their compatibility, Wou and Whitmore decided to run for student body president and vice president. Their diligent campaigning efforts (40 intense hours of active voter recruitment concentrated in three days) paid off, earning the pair a victory, with 463 out of 627 votes.

As the 1999-00 school year gets underway, Vice President Whitmore assesses her

Up-Close with Susan Whitmore

Q: What's your favorite subject?

A: Current international events and politics. It's not something taught in a class, it's something I get through student government.

Q: What's your favorite discussion topic?

A: How our society is moving and ways we can change it.

Q: Future aspirations?

A: I definitely want to study abroad and I want to speak a couple of different languages.

Q: If you could travel anywhere in the world where would you go?

A: The South American continent... I've never been out of the country besides Tijuana and Canada.

Q: What is your primary goal as vice president?

A: The committee for Constitution and Bylaws revisions. There are conflicts and contradictions between the two documents. The Bylaws should be in sync with the Constitution. (There) can't be a solid structure without a solid base to put your foot on.

Q: What are some of the student concerns you hear most often?

A: Number one is the LTD FastPass, a lot of students couldn't attend (LCC) without it. Ongoing complaints about food service prices, we've tried and we can't really change it. Lately students have been complaining about security, bookstore prices and parking.

newest role, a portion of which she interprets as an "advocate of the people." With student and budget concerns, election rules, and Constitution and Bylaw revision committees on her agenda, it's a busy year ahead.

Her strategy for success is all incumbent on "basic organization." She sets goals for herself term-by-term, and writes them down. She then takes a methodical, step-by-step approach to achieve those goals.

However, she adds with a smile, "My method always has room for improvement."

Scholarship winner succeeds in and out of class

Rob Bernasconi

Staff Writer

For Douglas Foster, who is studying computer science at LCC while currently running his own river raft supply rental business, hard work paid off and continues to do so.

Foster, a first year student at LCC, was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship from the Jeld-Wen Foundation for his outstanding academic record and his positive school-related activities.

"I was as involved with my school as much as I could be," says Foster, a 1999 graduate of Springfield High School. He dedicated much of his time to the industrial arts and computer science departments of his school — not to mention the four years he played the baritone saxophone in the band and marching band.

Although a lot of Foster's school life was dedicated to academics, he was also involved in several extracurricular activities. One of those was his involvement in the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America, where he was a participant in



Douglas Foster

a leadership group that competed in an academic jeopardy game called "Quiz Bowl." From 1997-1998, he and his teammates took their project to the state championships and won first place.

Foster's innovation and effort were apparent also in his contributions to the cre-

ation of Springfield High's first Electric Car Club. Building an electric car took Foster and his club members three years and \$3,500, which they received either from donations or paid out of their own pockets. This "great experience," as he recalled it, rewarded itself at completion by placing eighth and 11th in the Portland Electron Races, giving a sense of pride to all who were involved.

Foster received his scholarship in June of this year from a Jeld-Wen representative at his senior breakfast, where he was called up to the stage. Although he was intimidated by the experience, Foster says he was appreciative and gave much praise to the non-profit foundation. The local branch of Jeld-Wen is the Northwest Pellet Mill in Brownsville, which sets aside money for its annual \$2,000 scholarship donation along with two \$500 scholarships, to be awarded to three outstanding students.

"All the people at Jeld-Wen are incredible to be so giving to so many kids," says Foster, who says his scholarship is renewable based on the progress he makes each year.



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HEROIN from page 1

dismiss her, but instead he ran several tests to determine the source of her pain.

"He looked at me and said, 'You're a very sick girl.'" Wolfe was immediately transported to OHSU in Portland in critical condition. She was not expected to make it alive to the hospital.

Due to how it is transported and produced, black tar heroin is often found mixed with many other substances, from horse manure to shoe polish to human semen. The bacteria from these unknown elements had attacked Wolfe's spine and was eating away at the vertebrae in her neck. "I had no idea anything like this could ever happen," Wolfe says. She was told she would be a quadriplegic for life.

Miraculously, a new procedure from Switzerland was able to save Wolfe's spine. During her two-week hospital stay, she had to be monitored to prevent her injecting drugs into her IV.

"My neurosurgeon said I defied all laws of medicine," she says. "He said I should be dead. I definitely have a reason to be here now."

What happened to Wolfe was extremely rare, but not unheard of. Five documented cases in Oregon have been due to bacteria found in heroin. Wolfe was unique in that she made it out untouched — almost.

Today, she faces the reality of partial paralysis. The C-3 and C-8 vertebrae in her neck are slowly fusing together, and will eventually prevent left to right movement of her head, limiting range of motion throughout her entire body.

Wolfe suffers paralysis in her left hand, and is afflicted with drop-foot syndrome, which causes her to drag one foot behind her when she walks. Wolfe's daughter has been living with her grandmother, who has custody of

the child at Wolfe's request.

Her close call with death has motivated Wolfe to educate others on just one more danger of using heroin.

She speaks during group therapy sessions at a Eugene methadone clinic, where she is still a patient, and was recently asked to make a presentation for kids at Looking Glass Youth and Family Services treatment center.

"It was my wake-up call," Wolfe says. "I am scared to death (of using heroin). It's like playing Russian Roulette with your life."

"I feel a lot better about myself today. I still have shame, but it's going to help me."

...

Heroin deaths in Lane County are rising steeply. A recent study revealed that from Jan. 1 to June 30 of this year, 19 deaths occurred due to heroin overdoses. Last year, there were 33 deaths attributed to heroin. This study does not include deaths resulting from infection, as in Wolfe's case, or from septic shock — when an abscess that forms from shooting-up releases bacterial infection into the system. Mixing with other substances, especially alcohol, increases the risk of overdosing, say methadone counselors.

In addition, most addicts won't seek out medical attention when they get sick, have an abscess or other illnesses because of the shame they feel and past discrimination they've experienced from being heroin addicts, says local methadone counselor Lesley Harrington.

"One of the reasons people don't seek out treatment is their anticipation of being treated like low-life scum. If they do want to get help their fear is either they will be rejected, condemned, or hurt."

"When they're treating abscesses, a lot of doctors won't use

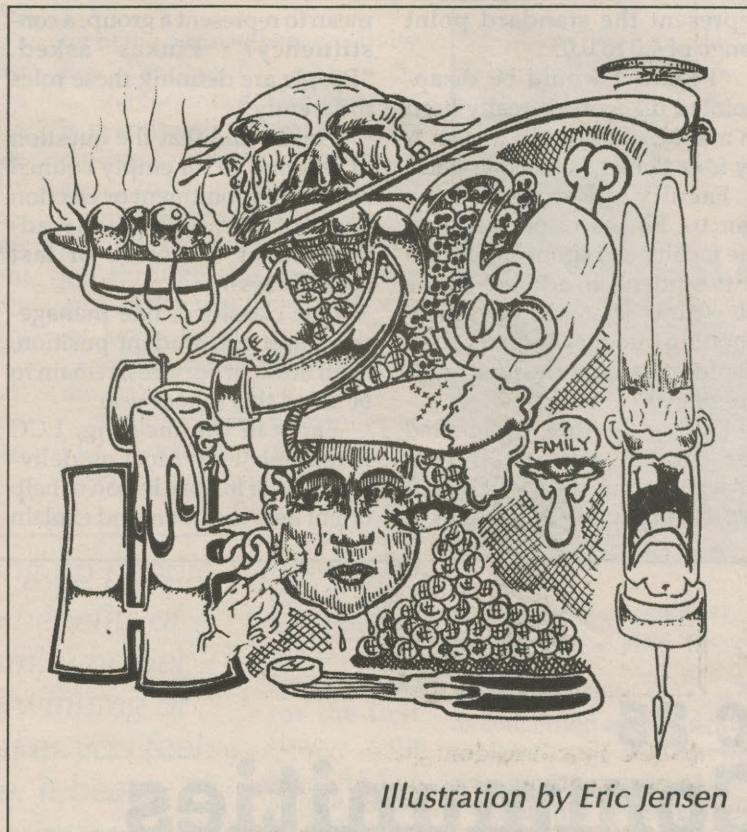


Illustration by Eric Jensen

anesthetics, saying things like, 'I want this to hurt you so you'll remember it.'"

Heroin deaths are also increasing in Lane County because use is increasing.

"Eugene has always been known to have pure, good heroin that's cheap. A lot of kids are getting into it, and they feel they can't get addicted because they're smoking it," Harrington says.

Wolfe says, "I think they're developing too many ways to use it all. It's not safe, no matter how you use it. That one time can kill you."

As Wolfe's experience has proven, contamination of heroin during transport — in many cases, through the rear ends of animals — and how it is made is resulting in even more serious consequences that most first-time users have never heard about.

An individual may try heroin for the first time for an infinite number of reasons, from recreational use to self-medication to escape from pain.

"Generally, using begins as a psychological outlet — to avoid reality and reduce stress," says methadone counselor Kip Walker. "But because heroin is so addictive, it quickly becomes a physiological addiction, due to some psychological dysfunction."

"Heroin is a painkiller," Harrington says. "People use heroin because it is effective in masking pain, both physical and emotional. Heroin users don't deal with life, past abuses, traumas, losses, grief, because it numbs it and it makes them feel better. For a lot of people who start using drugs at a young age, that's how they learn to cope, or

not to cope."

Cross-addiction is also very common, when an individual progresses into heroin use through using other drugs.

"Most people do start with drinking or with smoking pot," Harrington says. "Thirty years ago they said pot is not a 'gateway drug,' but it has proven to be."

Walker says, "Many people have been chemically addicted for years, find heroin, and that's the cat's meow. The high that's obtained — there's nothing else like it."

Those who work with addicts say there is never a perfect recovery rate once a person becomes addicted to heroin; relapse risks are high and largely circumstantial. However, the longer the individual takes methadone, the greater the chance will be of a more long-term recovery. Harrington says, "Methadone gives the person the time out from 'chasing the bag' and having to stay well to learn how to develop life skills and learn to walk again. It takes awhile to learn how to do life with out using: do relationships, feel good about yourself, develop a sense of self."

"Heroin addicts have gotten a bad name because of what the drug has reduced them to doing: makes them steal, reduces them to prostitution. It turns them into something society is afraid of. But society doesn't have to be afraid of heroin addicts."

Wolfe will continue to visit her clinic and take methadone to control her addiction, with hopes that she will eventually overcome her past mistakes and begin her life again, including regaining custody of her daughter. "I never wanted to bring that kind of lifestyle around her ... She needs me, and I need to be well for her."

\$58,000 milling machine troublesome for LCC

□ The Mechanical Technology's Department purchased the machine last Spring, only to find it wasn't up to state and county codes

Travis Ritter

Staff Writer

Students may finally turn on a new \$58,000 milling machine this week in the Mechanical Technologies Department.

They'll be using the computerized machine, which is as big as a minivan, to custom-make machine parts for special projects.

The Fryer Computer Numerical Control Milling Machine, which the division bought in April of 1998, has had its share of troubles.

LCC purchased the milling machine with money from the Carl D. Perkins Vocation Education and Work Force Improvement Grant.

But Division Chair Thomas Wiedeman says, "After we re-

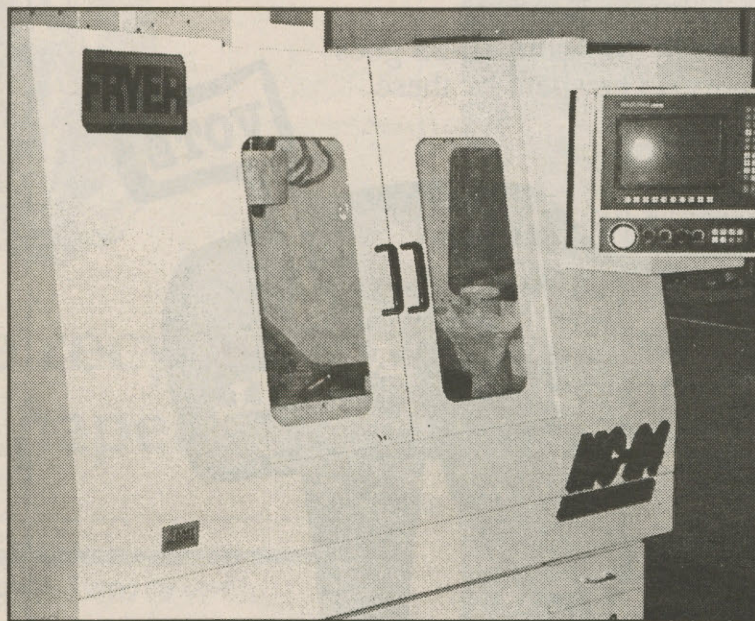


Photo by Eric Waldow

LCC Mechanical Technology's milling machine finally gets used after many hurdles.

ceived the machine last spring, we found that it hadn't been approved by state inspectors."

So, Wiedeman hired an independent inspector, TÜV Rheinland, to take a look at the

unit. Oregon is the only state in the union that conducts electrical inspections of items used in schools, says Wiedeman.

He says Fryer did not tell the college about the state and

county codes necessary for LCC to pass inspections. It also did not include the necessary parts needed for the machine to pass — such as name plates and locks on the doors of the machine which the state requires in an educational environment.

"All the repairs to the machine that were required have been taken care of," says Wiedeman. "The software and Programmable Logic Controller had to be reprogrammed, so everything should check out."

Doug Weiss, LCC industrial specialist and electrical technician who worked on the special milling system, had to install light sensors on the door that will shut down the machine if the door opens accidentally. He also installed additional fuses.

"This is a heavy duty machine, and could seriously hurt someone if they put their arm in it while it's running," said Weiss.

A county inspector will review the CNC milling machine this week to complete the inspection, says Wiedeman.

NEWSWIRE

Fireworks: A Japanese Film

At 8 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 15, the UO Cultural Forum will show "Fireworks" at 180 PLC (on UO campus at corner of 14th and Kincaid). The film is in Japanese with English subtitles and lasts 103 minutes. The cost is \$2 for UO students or \$3 for the general public.

Newport Coast Conference

Saturday Oct. 16 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition is sponsoring a Coast Conference. The conference will cost \$10 for members and \$14 for non-members. (It includes lunch.) There will be lectures, committee tables, book signing and poster viewings. For more information call Susan Krein at (541) 765-2212 or Phillip Johnson at (503) 238-4450.

College Council opening session addressed representation, grading

Gloria Biersdorff

Staff Writer

Student concern over the new grading policy was among the topics of discussion at the Oct. 5 College Council meeting, prompted by student representative Lawrence Gillespie.

Toward the meeting's end Gillespie commented that many students were voicing their concerns over the policy, which allows incremental grade points ranging from 4.3 (A+) to 0.7 (D-). LCC instructors have the option of using the new system or giving straight letter grades that

represent the standard point range of 4.0 to 0.0.

"I know I would be disappointed if I worked really hard in math class, say, but lost an A by four points," Gillespie said.

Faculty Representative Tamara Pinkas responded that the faculty can sponsor a forum with students to address all the questions that are currently flooding into the Students First! Center regarding the new grading policy.

During the time designated for council reports, Pinkas raised the question of council representation. "What does it

mean to represent a group, a constituency?" Pinkas asked. "People are defining these roles differently."

Pinkas said that the question of whether to fill empty council seats by appointment or election had not been adequately addressed at the close of last spring's session.

One classified, one management and one student position, all in Student Services, remain to be filled this school year.

Early in the meeting, LCC President Jerry Moskus delivered a brief history lesson to help orient new members and explain

this year's presence of not one, but three vice presidents on the council, which historically has seated none.

"The group was organized to advise the president, as representatives of faculty, students, etc. The consensus among the council was that vice presidents might dominate the proceedings and create an imbalance, so they were left out," Moskus said.

Unfortunately, said Moskus, the council found it suffered from information deprivation without the V.P.s' input.

"Since this council operates by consensus typically, and not

by vote, we've gotten away from worrying about imbalance."

Marie Matsen is the vice president for College Operations. The Vice President for Instruction is Larry Warford, and Mary Spilde is the Vice President for Instruction and Student Services.

Moskus referred as well to the value of union involvement in the council, which also was not allowed years ago.

"You lose valuable input when you leave out unions ... and students," Moskus said.

College Council meetings are open to the public, on the first and third Tuesday of each month from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building.

Other 1999-00 College Council members are: for College Operations, Foodservice Director Joe Luker and classified employee Tasha Drake; for Executive Services, classified employee Adrian Rodriguez, and management employee Tracy Simms; for Instruction, faculty members Michael McDonald and Joan Benz, classified employee Jane Russell, and management employee Shannon Kracht; for Student Services, Women's Program Director Kate Barry.

Measure 20-25 Safer Communities

If approved by voters, during the first fiscal year Measure 20-25 would pay for enforcement programs, address gaps in the community safety system, and address the needs of youth and families.

How Does it Address Gaps in the Community Safety System?

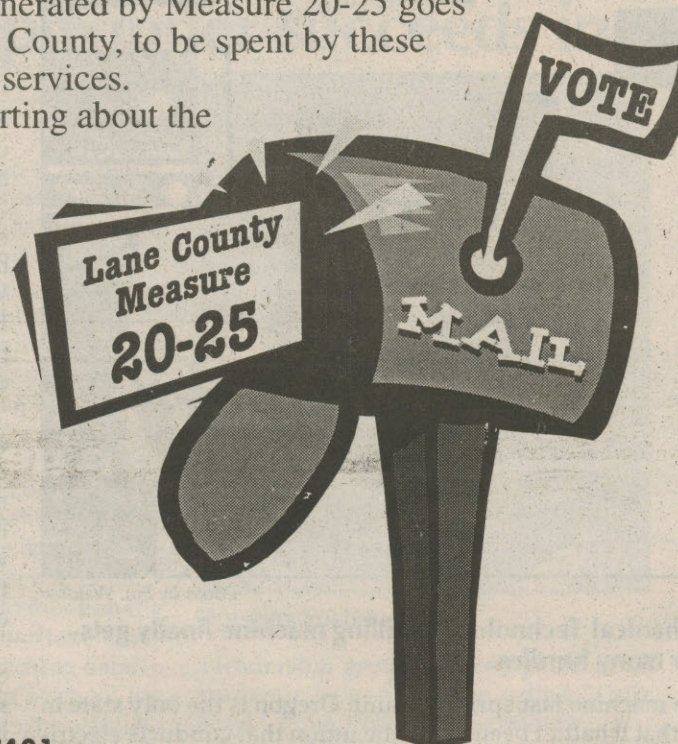
If approved by voters, Measure 20-25 would pay for

- **Area Information Records System (AIRS)** – Replaces 30-year-old computer system used by police, corrections, 911, and municipal courts
- **County Community Safety Programs and Services** – Replaces income lost to Lane County that currently pays for community safety programs in Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's office and Department of Health and Human Services.
- **Revenue Sharing** – 45% of the money generated by Measure 20-25 goes to cities and unincorporated areas of Lane County, to be spent by these areas for community safety programs and services.
- **Evaluation** – Ongoing accountability reporting about the services funded by Measure 20-25)

This would *not* be a tax on your annual income. Measure 20-25, on the November vote-by-mail ballot, proposes an 8% surcharge on state personal and corporate income and excise taxes. It would raise about \$22 million the first year. Know what you're voting on. Get the facts.

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Lane County, 125 East 8th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401



May we pick your brain?

Meaghan Bull

Staff Writer

Ever wish you could play editor and change the LCC class schedule? Well, here's your chance!

The college's Institutional Advancement Office is launching a full-scale review of the current class schedule, asking for student feedback. It will be announcing a review team and timelines soon.

To contact the office with your suggestions using the LCC e-mail system, type in Class Schedule in the Street Talk directory. If you're using any other e-mail systems, use the address: class_schedule@lanecc.edu. If you have further questions, you can contact Institutional Advancement's Public Information Officer, Joan Aschim at 485-5223.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

The OSAA State Cross Country meet will be held at LCC on Nov. 6 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Eldon Schafer entrance on E. 30th Ave. will be closed at this time, but the west entrance will remain open.

Lane Transit District bus service will be as scheduled, but is subject to change during peak hours. For update, please contact the LTD office.

Blazers make changes with title in mind

With the end of October rapidly approaching, it's time to assess the off-season while looking ahead to the upcoming one for Oregon's only major professional sports team, the Portland Trail Blazers.

Last year was a memorable one for Blazer fans, but with a season-ending sweep at the hands of San Antonio, the eventual NBA champs, most of us had a bad taste lingering for months.

Despite reaching the conference finals for the first time since 1992, the Trail Blazers did some considerable retooling this summer.



Commentary by
Chris Brown
Sports Editor

On Aug. 2, the team sent its shooting guard tandem — Isaiah (J.R.) Rider, an extremely talented but troubled player, and Jimmy Jackson — to Atlanta for guards Steve Smith and Ed Gray.

Smith, a 6-8 shooting guard, is regarded as a consummate professional both

on and off of the court and led the Hawks in scoring in each of the last four seasons.

Just hours later, Blazers' President and General Manager Bob Whitsitt announced the re-signing of Jermaine O'Neal, a 21-year-old explosive forward who was coveted by numerous teams, had he opted for free agency. Unfortunately for him, he has been buried on the bench due to Portland's impressive depth. Whitsitt convinced him to return, promising him increased playing time.

"As has been the case since the day we drafted Jermaine, we are very excited about what the future holds for him as a player and a person, and we're delighted that he will continue as a Trail Blazer," Whitsitt explained to the media.

"Jermaine is a gifted, young, athletic player who we have made a multi-year commitment to as we continue toward our goal of putting together a championship roster."

Also on Aug. 2, 14-year veteran Detlef Schrempf signed with Portland. Schrempf, a 6'10" small forward, who is a solid all-around player, spent the past six seasons playing for Seattle.

"We are very happy to cap off our busy day by announcing the signing of Detlef," said Whitsitt. "He is a great veteran player who brings success, experience and leadership to our locker room."

With the additions of Smith and Schrempf to the team, most fans figured the Blazers' wheeling-and-dealing days were done and with a general consensus that Whitsitt had done a terrific job improving the team's primary weaknesses — a go-to shooter — now Smith — and veteran leadership — Smith and Schrempf.

Then, on Oct. 2, Whitsitt pulled off a deal that still has everyone in the National Basketball Association talking. He acquired Scottie Pippen in a six-for-one deal with the Houston Rockets that didn't compromise the "core" of the franchise. Portland retained its top seven players, including emerging stars Rasheed Wallace and Brian Grant.

Of the six players sent packing, Walt Williams, Kelvin Cato, and Stacey Augmon will be missed most but they're

not exactly "world beaters." And Brian Shaw, Carlos Rogers, and Ed Gray likely wouldn't have made the team anyhow.

Pippen has been trying to get himself out of Houston for the past several months. Portland has to pay him for the remaining four seasons of a five-year \$65.2 million contract he signed prior to last season.

Despite the money, he won't be expected to carry the team.

"This team is far more talented, probably, than any team that's been assembled," said Pippen during his first visit with the Portland media, who was then asked if he actually meant any team that's "ever" been assembled. "As far as I can remember. I haven't been around forever ... this is a great fit for me."

Pippen, who has earned six championship rings and was voted one of the 50 greatest players of all-time, is now 34 years of age and not the player he once was. But was voted First-Team All-Defense last year and is capable of playing three positions on the floor.

"If Scottie averages 14, seven rebounds, seven assists and two steals every year for the next four years, perfect!" Whitsitt said. "We'll take that in a heartbeat."

Portland's starting lineup will now feature 5'11" Guard Damon Stoudamire and four players 6'8" or taller.

The Blazers are loaded and they know it. "It reminds me somewhat of a Dream Team," Smith said. "I'm not used to playing with guys who know the game the way this team does."

All these additions look great on paper, but if the egos don't stay in check and one or more key players gets injured for any length of time, it will be all for naught.

Cross country earns a week of rest after Mt. Hood meet

Chris Brown
Sports Editor

Lane's men's and women's Cross Country teams each had impressive performances at the Mt. Hood CC Invitational on Oct. 9.

A 1-2-3 finish by Alisa Rawe, Kim Patton, and Kasha Clark, spurred the Lady Titans to a first place team finish. Mt. Hood finished second.

"The ladies looked really strong throughout the race," beamed Grady O'Connor, head cross country coach. "(They) ran well from top to bottom, one through seven."

The men took second place with runners placing in the fifth, sixth, eighth, ninth, and tenth spots. Mt. Hood, with the top four finishers, took home the men's crown.

"We (the men) looked flat and tired," O'Connor explained. "It was our second consecutive 8k race, whereas before the races were four miles."

The teams get a weekend off, before the last three meets of the year.

"The week off will really help! They've been running now everyday for the past three months and now we can give them some time off," O'Connor added.

"They all have a strong conditioning base, so now we are going to work on their speed heading into the last three races of the year."

The last two of the cross country season are the most important — Southern Region Championships on Oct. 30 and the NWAACC Championships on Nov. 13.

SPORTS SCHEDULE

CROSS COUNTRY

Men's and Women's Cross Country: Off

SOCCER

Men's Soccer:

10/16 @ Southern Oregon University
SOU campus in Ashland, Ore. at 1 p.m.

Women's Soccer:

10/17 @ Lewis & Clark
L&C campus in Portland, at 2 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Women's Volleyball:

10/15 vs. Linn-Benton CC
LCC Gym at 7 p.m.

10/20 vs. Umpqua CC
LCC Gym at 6 p.m.

SPORTS SCORES

CROSS COUNTRY

10/9 at Mt. Hood CC Invitational
in Gresham, Ore.

Women's 5,000 meters

- | | |
|------------------|----------|
| 1. Alisa Rawe | 19:31.40 |
| 2. Kim Patton | 20:36.06 |
| 3. Kasha Clark | 20:57.28 |
| 6. Angela Winter | 22:05.60 |
| 10. Jinny Farrar | 24:55.87 |
| 11. Katie Mock | 25:44.28 |

Men's 5 mile race

LCC Placed 2nd

- | | |
|---------------------|----------|
| 5. Jeff Carmen | 27:39 |
| 6. Brian Crowl | 27:49 |
| 8. Jesse Peterson | 28:15 |
| 9. Adam DeMarzo | 28:28 |
| 10. Cody Lane | 28:47.30 |
| 13. Bob Grand | 29:09 |
| 15. Nathan Griffith | 29:19 |
| 18. Scott Walrod | 29:42 |

VOLLEYBALL

10/6 Lane defeated
Umpqua CC
6-15, 15-13, 15-11, 15-7

10/8-10/9

Cross Over Tourney at
Gray's Harbor College

Lane earned fourth place
with a record of 3-3



The International Student Program

Ice Cream Social

Today Oct. 14th, Thursday

3:00 - 4:30 NW Cafeteria

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& professional photographer
will share a dynamic slide show
about Sri Lanka's culture
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Cross country meet: October 30

Southern Regional
Championships

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twin falls idaho
Nightly 9pm • Sun Mat 3pm

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Bowie's new album could be a waste of Time

□ "Hours" doesn't leave a lasting impression, despite traces of classic Bowie

Brady Wills

For The Torch

After long awaiting the arrival of the new David Bowie album, it has at long last been released.

Most listeners will be happy to find Bowie has dropped out of the electronic/industrial genre, and returned to the art-pop-rock formula he's most loved for. "Hours," as the album is titled, is most reminiscent of the 1980 new wave hit "Ashes to Ashes."

Suprisingly, between the eccentric guitar stylings of Reeves Gabriels and the poetic brilliance of Bowie himself, "Hours" comes together as a suprisingly bland album.

"Thursday's Child," the first single, is somewhat of an exception to the album's overall mediocrity. Reminiscent of his mid '70s "Plastic Soul" sound, Bowie croons through the song with backup singers, a synthesised orchestra, and all the style you'd expect from Bowie himself. The slower groove and Bowie's signature blend of catchy-yet-intelligent lyrics make it a standout among the rest.

Another track, "The pretty things are going to hell," starts off with a killer chord progression and an infectious melody, but dies at a chorus that sounds like some crap from KNRQ.

The standout song on "Hours" is "Seven," a departure to Bowie's earlier days. Its bare-bones instrumentation and simple riff sounds like it came out of "Hunky Dory" (1971), and its catchy lyrics could do well on today's charts.

Unfortunately, "Seven" is one of the few memorable songs on the album.

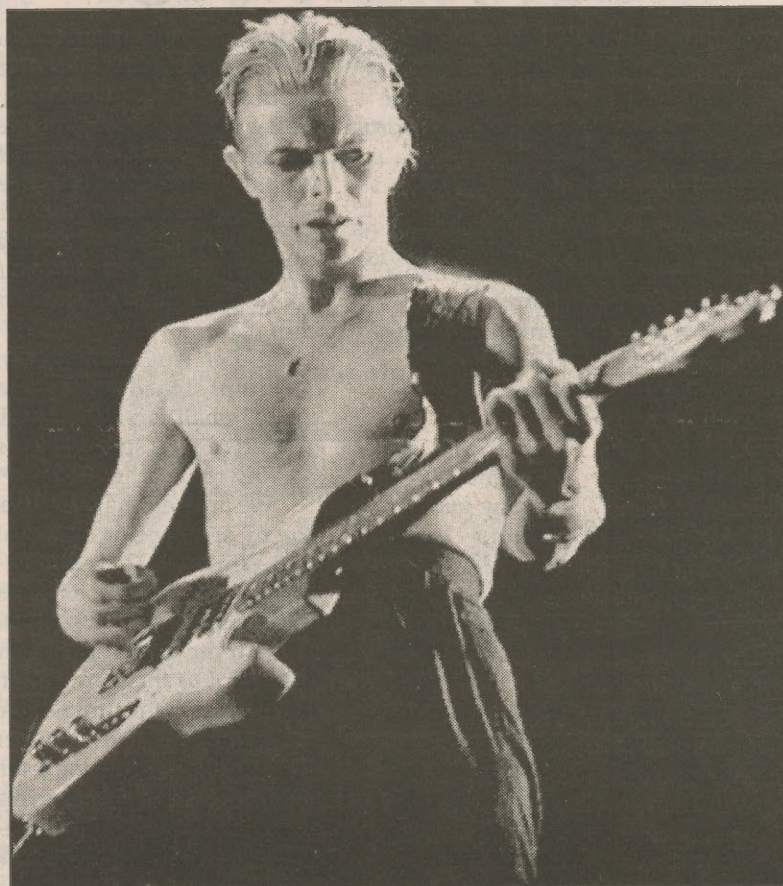
If you are a big Bowie fan, "Hours" is a worthy purchase (though not necessarily recommended).

If you are not a big Bowie fan, "Hours" isn't likely to convert you.

Finally, if you are a Bowie poseur, buy "Changes One," and tell your friends how much you loved the movie "Velvet Goldmine"!

"Thursday's Child," the first single, is somewhat of an exception to the album's overall mediocrity"

— Brady Wills



Internet photo

"Hours" is David Bowie's long-awaited new release.

Conjoined twins find compassion in unlikely rendezvous

Mack Singleton

Staff Writer

If you're looking for a movie that doesn't fit all the Hollywood stereotypes and provides a good story, "Twin Falls Idaho" should fit the bill.

Michael and Mark Polish,

who are real-life twins, direct and star in this wonderful production. As teenagers, Michael wanted to direct and Mark wanted to act. Their eventual collaboration spawned the story line for "Twin Falls Idaho."

In the movie, brothers Blake Falls (Mark) and Francis Falls

(Michael) have their world turned upside down by a prostitute named Penny, played by former model Michele Hicks.

Their first encounter takes place in a run-down motel and becomes a disappointment when Penny, who thinks she is meeting an everyday trick, is startled to find that the young men are in fact conjoined twins. She runs away, but returns to retrieve her purse. The twins offer her some birthday cake, which she eats, and then falls asleep in a chair. When she wakes she finds that one of the twins is sick. Drawn into their dilemma, she calls a doctor

friend. In an attempt to ease her conscience she helps the young men get medicine and food.

Penny's fascination and curiosity leads to friendship, which takes the men by surprise as one of them falls in love with her. She realizes the real problems the young men face in the world and becomes protective, but to no avail.

The movie deals with a mixture of compassion and realism about a subject that is far from an everyday occurrence; it's a touching and provocative theme. As the story progresses, lives become more entwined as characters struggle to come to

grips with their respective situations.

Penny takes the young men to her apartment so they can rest while she keeps an eye on them. Her fascination with the twins leads to affection for Blake, the healthier of the two, and while Francis sleeps she asks Blake, "Do you ever feel lonely?" He responds, "Nobody ever asked us that before; usually they want to know if we have two dicks." Here the realization that the twins lead particularly solitary lives is revealed. Even though they share a common body they are two separate people that most consider freaks.

After Blake falls asleep Francis uneasily explains his affection for his brother to Penny. "Blake is stronger. I share his blood and lungs," says Francis. "He has always said to me, 'we checked in together, we'll check out the same way.'" When Penny expresses sadness at this prospect, Francis reassures her by saying, "There are no endings, the writer just doesn't continue

See TWIN on page 11

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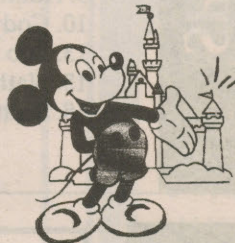
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Location: Oregon State University, Corvallis
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Contact: Jamie Kelsch, at LCC, BU 108D
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'Evening of Dance' to feature Bonnie Simoa



photo courtesy of Raka Loren Mayer

Bonnie Simoa is the newest addition to the Music, Dance, and Theater Department.

Casey Jarman

A & E Editor

While some instructors are honored with a concert when they retire, instructor Bonnie Simoa will enjoy (and participate in) a concert in honor of her addition to the LCC dance program.

On Oct. 14-16, "An Evening of Dance" will be presented at LCC's Blue Door Theatre at 8 p.m. nightly.

"It's been a lot of work," Simoa says of her experience at LCC, "but I wake up excited every morning."

As if teaching five different classes at LCC isn't work enough, Simoa has additionally dedicated weeks of preparation for "An Evening of Dance."

Simoa will perform three pieces, "50's Woman," choreographed by Jeanne-Marie Hughes, "The Angel of the Bell," by Simoa, and "la tout n'est qu'ordre," choreographed to poems by French poet Charles Baudelaire.

"50's Woman" addresses the stereotypical roles of women in the 1950s, and the confines/

limitations of those roles. Its musical score is arranged by Al Sinerco, a friend of Simoa's from Oakland, Cal.

Simoa's travels in Indonesia inspired "The Angel of the Bell." She premiered the piece at the Santa Cruz Dance Gallery in 1997, and the performance was met with great reviews from various critics.

"I am really interested in traveling; I think it helps us to understand what we are doing here," says Simoa. "With 'Angel ...' I really try to reflect the sense of place" (Indonesia).

"la, tout n'est qu'ordre" (here, everything is in order), Simoa describes as "a ravenous approach between two women." The dance duet pairs Simoa with local acclaimed dancer/dance instructor Jacky McCormick.

"It's very luscious and sensual," Simoa says. "There is a lot of Victorian-ism that comes out of the piece."

In addition to Simoa's performances, audience members will be treated to an ensemble piece by Jacky McCormick, Hanna Fox and Mimi Dvorson — "Don't Touch that Dial," choreographed by McCormick.

LCC student Quint Ehley will join McCormick in another creation of hers,

"It's been a lot of work, but I wake up excited every morning."

— Bonnie Simoa

"In Body Time."

Each performance will be followed by discussion and a reception.

Simoa's addition to the dance program provides the department of Music, Dance and Theater with two full-time dance instructors, as well as three to four part-time instructors.

Tickets for "An Evening of Dance" are available on a sliding scale, from \$8-\$15, though LCC students may purchase tickets for \$6. The LCC Ticket office can be reached at 726-2202.

Stay tuned for next week's feature on Bonnie Simoa in *The Torch*.

A & E Calendar



Brian Garcia, who plays Flamenco guitar, will be hanging out at The Buzz Coffeehouse at the UO Erb Memorial Union Thursday, Oct. 14. It's free, all-ages, and they have some kick-ass videogames right next door! Starts at 10 p.m.

The Fantasticks, one of the longest-running musicals of all time, will be the opening production of the Very Little Theatre's 71st season. This play is about the fragility of young love. It will start on Friday, Oct. 15. Showtime is at 8:15 p.m. nightly, or 2:00 p.m. Sunday matinees. Tickets are from \$10-\$12. The VLT can be reached at 344-7751.

Tom Waits is all sold-out, but soul-ska heroes The Pietasters are not. On Friday, Oct. 15, at the WOW Hall, people will come from all over the musical spectrum to appreciate the sweet sounds of this AMAZING Washington D.C. group. Spring Heeled Jack are also veterans of the ska scene (RIP), and are still putting

on great shows; they and The Pilfers will open this mutha up. Show starts at 9 p.m. and costs \$8 (well worth the price).

L7 is coming to town! Wednesday, Oct. 20, they will rock the WOW Hall. This band has seen the ups and downs of stardom, and have (dare I say) mellowed a bit with their new album "Slap Happy," expect them to play old favorites and new ones alike. I won't tell you much else about them, because if you like the genre, you know the band. Opening up for them will be The Black Halos, a glam-rock group from Canada. Wow... neat! The show starts at 8:30 p.m. and is \$10 if you get a ticket now, or \$12 at the door.

One more big show at the WOW Hall. Our good friends, Man or Astro-Man?, will invade Eugene on Thursday, Oct. 28. Opening for them, the one man band Bob Log III, and The Causey Way, who Birdstuff, of Man or Astro-Man?, describes as "very branch-Davidian." This show will ROCK! Starts at 8 p.m. and will run you \$8.



TWINS from page 10

the story." A revelation that is better understood as the movie reaches its conclusion.

The production budget of "Twin Falls Idaho" was not monumental. A veteran makeup artist, Gary J. Tunncliffe was recruited to design the conjoined effect. The effect of being conjoined is a little disturbing at first, but becomes irrelevant and unnoticeable as the personalities of the twins develop.

I was delighted by the lack

of Hollywood influences that could have made this film just another "Mask," the story of a facially-disfigured boy. The Tinsel Town approach would have taken away from a special and wonderful predicament making this into just another story line with big names and big money.

The movie ended its run at the Bijou Art Cinema on Oct. 14, but I have no doubt that it will turn up on video in most major video outlets, soon.

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POLITICS from page 5

With regard to the ambitions of the Unnamed Political Group and his own endeavors to challenge the policies of the WTO, Taylor said, "I have a pessimism of the intellect and an optimism of the heart."

Grieser's optimism of heart is manifest in his determination to keep The Unnamed Political Group as informed and broad-minded as possible through bringing in a broad range of teachers who will explore topics from sometimes disparate perspectives.

"I'm trying to help people get a balanced perspective. Debate wouldn't hurt. I want to let people make an intelligent decision about what they believe. If you agree or disagree, at least know why. I'm trusting people's conscience to let them know."

Grieser's underlying motivation for starting the group was to give LCC students the opportunity to take a symbolic stand for what they believe.

"A lot of people feel helpless in the face of globalization. Opening up people to the benefits of activism, whether you're winning or not, makes you feel alive. It beats apathy."

The next meeting's focus will be economics, "All about the raw, real effects of globalization," said Greiser. LCC Economics instructor Phil Martinez will be the speaker.

The Unnamed Political group will meet every other Tuesday. The next meeting will be Oct. 19 at 7:30 p.m. For location and further information please call Aaron Grieser at 683-1376.

RACISM from page 1

developed before law and order took over. Authorities threatened the student with serving time at Skipworth Correctional Facility over the incident, and he eventually left the state entirely with assault charges following behind.

"It wasn't just a school situation. It became a community problem. I think everybody was responsible, so we should all deal with it together," says Ansari.

She took action once again to expand upon her plan, bringing in an expert with three doctorates from Washington, D.C. to train city personnel and council members on how to handle racial harassment situations. She contacted teachers at Jefferson Middle School, inquiring about a "safe" place within the school where students could feel sheltered from verbal abuse and discrimination.

"It makes it a place for everyone to feel safe and comfortable," Ansari says.

Despite how individual teachers felt, Ansari says the kids were all for it. She conducted a two-hour seminar with students at Jefferson on recognizing and preventing racial harassment. The sixth grade class then decided to create their own declaration against racism and displayed it in the front lobby of the school, immediately creating the impression of safety and tolerance for all who entered.

And something else happened to the students. "The teachers saw something

was different about them; they were questioning history (in their classes). The other teachers began to say, 'I want the Racism-Free Zone in my class.'"

The word began to spread even further as Ansari traveled across the country, presenting her ideas to schools and colleges. Spencer Butte Middle School

was the first school to officially dedicate to the Racism-Free Zone Project in 1998, followed closely by Jefferson, then Agnes Scott College in Georgia and an alternative high school in Baltimore, Md.

Ansari sent President Clinton information about Jefferson Middle School's progress with the project. He wrote her back, saying it "sounds like a good model," and requested

more information.

Ansari moved to Baltimore and finished college, but came back to Oregon three months ago, when she was contacted by Jefferson to run their Racism-Free Zone program. "They offered me office space, it's real, I've even got my plaque on the door."

LCC Vice President Mary Spilde met Ansari at a workshop at UO last year and approached her about installing the program at LCC. "She said she wanted to make sure that this happened at LCC," Ansari says.

Since then, students, staff, faculty, and administrators calling themselves the "Racism-Free Zone Steering Com-

mittee" have been working to convert LCC's diverse population into a medium for cultural awareness and a respectful and safe environment.

The ASLCC drafted its own declaration stating its intended goal to provide training programs on conflict resolution regarding race relations and creating a safe campus environment.

"It's going to make a big difference for Oregon, because other colleges will follow the lead. This generation has to carry this on and make it real," Ansari says.

The week of Oct. 18, Racism-Free Zone week at LCC, will be formally observed in the cafeteria Monday through Friday. RFZ training seminars will take place from 1-4 p.m. on Tuesday, and "Safe Space" workshops for the gay community will be held Thursday. Musical guests including Marimba and the Soromundi Lesbian Choir will perform throughout the week.

"Don't be afraid of the word 'racism.' It's out there. We need to look at it as a community," Ansari says.

"Jefferson was a place parents didn't want their kids to go. Now they have waiting lists. If Jefferson has found some answers I think we all need to look at it. You don't have to keep spending government dollars if the answer is right here; it's working."

The next RFZ workshop will be held Thursday, Oct. 21 from 2-5 p.m. in Electronics Annex 103.

RACISM-FREE ZONE TRAINING SEMINARS

1-4 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19 in the cafeteria and
2-5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 21
Electronics Annex 103

"It's going to make a big difference for Oregon, because other colleges will follow the lead. This generation has to carry this on and make it real."

— Bahati Ansari

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LCC STUDENT'S EXHIBIT. Water colors from the summer of 99 in Siena Italy. Now showing at UO La Verne Krause Gallery. Oct. 25 to Oct. 29.

LCC from page 1

The program will provide students and faculty the opportunity to engage in voluntary workshops focusing on "providing greater respect for all individuals by ensuring a safe and participatory environment through open communication and connecting with a larger part of the community," ultimately, aiming to "improve the campus climate for people of color."

Faculty supports SLI

Earlier in the evening, three dozen faculty enthusiastically reported on the Strategic Learning Initiative, the broad framework that supports progressive, new approaches to classroom curriculum, like "Learning Communities."

While providing SLI history and updates, the faculty testified to the enriching experiences thus far attained through the new program.

Summarizing the main goal of the initiative, Vice President of Instruction and Student Services Mary Spilde explained, "(The) idea is to enhance faculty's ability to improve student learning."

The board applauded, both literally and figuratively, the efforts, success and enthusiasm of the faculty, while also asking to hear "one or two of the primary barriers" currently hindering the program.

Learning Communities Coordinator Susan Swan replied that problems due to computer registration, and bureaucratic barriers, present in all organizations, create some of the current obstacles.

President's Report

In his report, President Jerry Moskus stated that:

- Enrollment in Mechanical Technology is down by 12 percent

- The Oct 2. Toast and Roast Fundraiser brought in more than \$20,000 toward the Ed Ragozzino Total Performer Scholarship

- And while the Stafford Loan default rate at LCC is in good standing at 11.4 percent, the Perkins Loan rate of default now exceeds 30 percent.

Miscellaneous Business

In other business, board members voted 4-2 to maintain the proportion of all full-time teaching positions as stated in its "Budget Principles and Criteria for the 2000-20001" budget development process.

The board unanimously voted to allow the administration to negotiate contracts with Lane County Housing Authority and St. Vincent de Paul for use of housing, which will eventually be available to low-income, LCC students at reduced rental rates.

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