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THE TORCH



APRIL 20, 2000

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LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Photo by Sam Karp

Interim ASLCC Treasurer Arne McLean looks on as OSPIRG chapter chair Sam Terpstra empties a container of Tuesday's trash in order to look for recyclables. The Recycling Department organized the "trash audit" to reveal the amount of recyclable material that is thrown away on a daily basis.

Earth Day all around the globe

□ *Environmental education has changed the way we see the earth and our relationship to it.*

*In honor of Earth Day 2000
LCC furthers the learning process*

O. Gabriel Avila-Mooney

News Editor

Piles of trash on the lawn, cars and bikes everywhere, people roaming hither and yon. Sound like a school trip to the dump? No! It's Earth Day at LCC. April 19 begins the 30th anniversary celebration of the first "environmental teach-in."

LCC is the first to kick off local ceremonies — ranging from speakers and representatives from Eugene bicycle shops to seminars conducted by EWEB on various topics in the great realm of sustainable living. LCC Food Service provided a vegetarian taco-salad to feed the body as well as the mind.

The community, state, country and world are soon to follow.

Most festivities, from Washington DC. to downtown Eugene, are scheduled for April 22, when people across the nation will be celebrating and educating one another on local and global environmental issues.

Earth Fair 2000 in Washington D.C., with Leonardo DiCaprio as chairman, will feature musical greats such as James Taylor, Carole King, Clint Black, Third Eye Blind, Keb' Mo' and more. It will also feature hundreds of exhibits illustrating ways to create an environmentally sustainable society, from organic gardening to use of public transportation.

Earth Day in Eugene is some of the same and more. The UO is holding an environmental teach-in, which will include street theatre, direct action training, concerts, earth run and more. From there

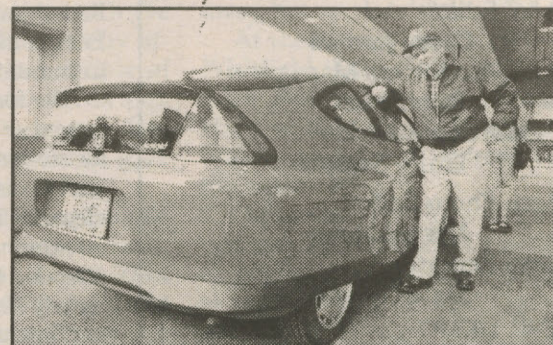


Photo by Sam Karp

During LCC Earth Day activities on April 19, Walter Hartauer displays his hybrid Honda Insight, which uses both an electric motor and a gas engine to reduce emissions and increase gas mileage. The \$21,000 car gets 70 mpg.

you can catch a free ride downtown for Eugene's Earth Day 2000 Environmental Fair with Lane Transit District. LTD is offering free bus service April 22 for anyone and to everywhere that LTD travels. Downtown there will be a procession of all species, entertainment, speakers and a junk art show from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The success of the first Earth Day, celebrated in 1970, led directly to the US Congress passage of the Clean Air and Water Act and creation of the Environmental Protection Agency.

"Environmental progress since that first Earth Day has been notable indeed," says former Senator Gaylord Nelson, creator of the first Earth Day. According to a recent study by the National Center for Public Policy Research, the quality of land air and water has improved dramatically.

• Air Quality: The nation's air quality index shows that air quality in the U.S. has improved 42 percent since 1980 due to significant decreases in the levels of the six major air pollutants: carbon monoxide (CO); ozone or smog (O3); particu-

see Earth day on page 12

ASLCC seeks to register 600 new voters

Timothy L Biggs

Staff Writer

On your mark... Get set... Vote!

It's time to gear up for the national slug-fest between the Princes of the Parties.

Even at LCC, the national "Get out the Vote" campaign is giving voters the opportunity to ... well, vote.

"We're trying to increase the representation of voting people in the age group from 18 to 35," says ASLCC Senator Brandon Kilgore, who is heading the LCC "Get Out the Vote."

ASLCC Treasurer Arne McLean adds, "If they don't vote, they're

voting against their own interests here at the school."

"And the deadline is April 25. Students are under-represented in healthcare issues and tax cuts,"

Kilgore says. The school is going to lose a lot of money if these issues pass, he says, referring to the Oregon Health Plan and the tax cut proposed by anti-tax activist Bill Sizemore.

"If the Sizemore Initiative passes, LCC will lose \$6 million in funding in the middle of winter," says ASLCC President Choul Wou.

"Who's elected is very important to the college," she says. "We're trying to repeal Measure 11, also."

Measure 11 was passed by voters in fall 1994 and went into effect in 1995.

The measure requires mandatory sentences of between six and 25 years for first-time offenders of 16 specific crimes. It also requires that juveniles be tried as adults for these categories of crime. Fifteen to 17 year-old offenders can draw

longer sentences than were allowed before Measure 11 passed.

Voter registration cards are still available in the Center Building at the Student Resource Center, just south of the kiosk on the second floor. The SRC will mail them free of charge.

But Kilgore says the ASLCC is exploring other ways to bring voters out of hiding.

"We went to the Book Exchange, Students' First! and other areas. Stacks of registration cards disappeared, and I'm sure some people registered and sent them in. But our goal is 600 new registered voters by the cut-off date, which is April 25, 2000, for the primaries. The last day for

the general election is Oct. 17."

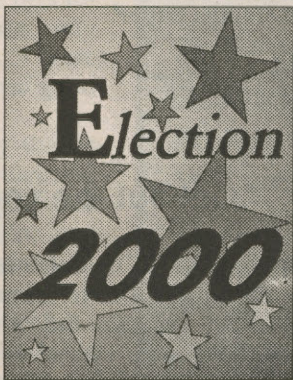
At this time, Kilgore says 150 new voters have registered through ASLCC efforts.

"We're trying to get the school administration to send out registration cards," he says. Another suggestion is to offer voter registration materials to every student who updates an ID card.

But Kilgore says that some of the voters seem apathetic.

"They're frustrated. The suicide bill was passed twice, yet is still held up in court. They feel like (their votes) don't seem to matter."

"I understand just how they feel," says Wou. "It's easy to feel frustrated and intimidated."





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

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

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Education: It's a give-and-take relationship

Individual learning styles are as varied as shoe sizes, and sometimes it's hard to find the right fit.

And on April 14, a rare exchange took place between and among students and faculty in an effort to identify and recognize the classroom methods which work best.

The ASLCC, in conjunction with the Strategic Learning Initiative — a faculty-led partnership with Lane administrators, focusing on improved and innovative learning situations at the college — sponsored a student/faculty forum titled, "Changing the Architecture of Education: Redesigning the Learning Environment at Lane Community College."

The four-hour forum served as a meeting ground for students and college staff to discuss and identify the key elements inherent in positive learning environments. A dozen or so students attended the forum, along with approximately 30 staff (primarily SLI members and instructors from the English, Foreign Language and Speech Department).

"The main hope here today is to begin a dialogue, with hopes to continue and expand, on how to improve learning environments, particularly for students," said Bob Barber, SLI member and Computer Information Technology instructor.

Reiterating Barber's sentiments, SLI Co-Chair and Vice President of Instruction and Student Services Mary Spilde said, now that faculty have been widely engaged in SLI, the current goal is to "broaden the net and bring students into the initiative."

Three questions served as the framework for separate student and faculty breakout groups.

- What makes a good learning environment?
- What styles of teaching and

learning are important in and outside of the classroom, including distance learning and on-line classes?

- How can student-to-student learning be enhanced and made an explicit part of the learning environment at Lane?

So, first here's a brief report.

Student Responses

Students had dozens of ideas:

The general class environment must be comfortable — desk sizes, temperature, lighting.

Instructors must realize and understand diversity of the students — left-handed, older, younger, disabled, race, socio-economic backgrounds, etc.

Teachers should be flexible — recognize

that everyone is different with varied learning styles — and accept the idea that some students are unable to adapt to certain styles.

Tables need to face each other to facilitate classroom discussion; it is unproductive to sit in rows facing the instructor.

LCC should include teaching style with class description in the college catalog.

Instructors need to be equipped with tactics to intercept, mediate and create a safe environment for all parties involved.

The college should demand that instructors take diversity training, renewable every three years.

Critical thinking skills are best developed when working with other students.

Instructors of sequence courses should communicate with each other to improve continuity.

Allow students to create websites, listing their student evaluations of instructors.

50-minute sessions don't work for

the majority of classes, especially for discussions.

Instructors should compile and provide phone lists of classmates.

Educators need to apply topics to relevant and current issues.

It makes a huge difference when the instructor is actually excited about the subject matter and really enjoys being there.

Instructors need to build "community" in the classroom, facilitating student relationships in the beginning of the term.

Instructors should not read aloud to a class, it's draining and exhausting.

We should sit in circles and let students answer each other's questions rather than "one-source dissemination of information."

When the instructor's approach isn't working, he/she should have an alternate plan to turn to — the instructor's "Bag of Tricks."

Lecturing sucks.

Most everyone agrees that Distance Learning is not an ideal way to learn, it is missing the key component of human interaction. However, it is important that distance learning be available for some, but on the flip-side, all classes offered on-line or as tele-courses must also be offered in a classroom setting.

Faculty Responses

Instructors and students should listen to each other without distractions.

Everyone shall respect and honor diversity.

Students need to engage in active, versus passive learning.

There should be a school-wide opportunity for students to have a say in what they learn, how they learn it, and when to learn it.

More students should participate on all task forces, including administration. It's the students' money.

Teachers need to create dialogue with

see **EDUCATION** on page 12

Letters to the Editor

Free with purchase and other bureaucratic oxymorons

Visit the restrooms at LCC, and you'll notice that the college is changing toilet paper dispensers.

I don't know when Apple started making dispensers, but my daughters and the administrators love the pretty colors.

The college fell for the oldest trick in the book. A college employee who was installing the dispensers told me that the dispensers were "free" when you buy the paper.

The paper is also cheaper even though smaller rolls would seem more costly to produce.

Not only is it obvious that the paper prices will go up, but "free with purchase" ignores the fact that the school has to pay someone to install these gaudy monstrosities.

But administrators saved money on installation by giving custodians power tools? Apparently they told them to install the dispensers randomly, either too close to the bowls, or directly in the path of the stall doors.

I bring this up because the same administration that endorses the college's

Earth Day celebration also spends thousands on wasteful projects like this.

If students went down to LCC's Excess Property Office east of the Campus Safety office, they might see a dumpster filled with furniture and computers — all carefully destroyed so that individuals can't profit from LCC's waste.

How many of you students could use a computer? When I asked the maintenance guy about the old dispensers, he told me there was nothing wrong with them, while assuring they would be reused. Where? He didn't know.

I just may take a walk down by Excess Property, my daughters are starting to use a lot of toilet paper!

James Whittaker
LCC student

Get out the vote

Last month LCC students met with Gov. John Kitzhaber to discuss our imminent budget crisis and other student issues. He made it very clear that if students don't vote they can expect no increased funding.

With only 6 percent of people aged 18-35 voting, we have a big task ahead of us

— considering that almost half of LCC's 40,000 students are in this age bracket.

I recently met with Secretary of State Bill Bradbury to discuss ways of getting out the vote and the Voter Registration Act. Governor Kitzhaber and Secretary of State Bradbury have both offered their support in our efforts.

ASLCC, the student government, is planning on registering students, creating a database of names and phone numbers, and then calling students to remind them to vote during the elections.

Student government can't conduct a "Get Out the Vote" campaign alone. It is essential to this college's viability that students get out and vote. This is especially pertinent, not only because it is important who is elected to the legislature, but because of a "certain tax cut" measure that could devastate this institution and all of Oregon Education. We (students, staff, and faculty) need to address this issue and work in collaboration to educate, register, and remind students. Otherwise, we may be facing a \$6 million budget cut next winter term. A campus dialogue around voting needs to be raised.

Choul R. Wou
ASLCC President

Who the hell's got control of my Census?

□ The U.S. Census was used to incarcerate Japanese citizen's in WWII... but that could never happen again?!

Hello Citizen,
As we're sure you're aware, this year you have been chosen to participate in the mathematical wonder known as the United States Census. What Luck!

Now, don't be afraid, the Census may be a bit confusing, illogical, and wholly unnecessary, but with these easy steps any half-wit could figure it out, which by our calculations gives you a fairly sporting chance.

This year is an exciting one down here at the Bureau. For the first time we will conduct the Census through the wonderfully efficient and reliable U.S. Postal Service. This, combined with our millions of low-paid, under-qualified, and un-trained door-to-door Census Enumerator should provide us with the most

accuratest Census population count ever.

Not that the last Census

wasn't accurate; our count of the good people of our great country exactly matched the total population - of course with the exception of the "blue people" of the Appalachians, and the dreaded dwarf-albinos of rural Walla Walla - according to the last decennial Census statistics.

This Census should prove to be the easiest and most reliable of them all, as long as you follow some easily forgettable, archaically written and unnecessary directions given later in the release.

But first, we'd like to set the record straight. We know all of you, most notably our dearest citizens and triumphs of democracy bunkered down

in Northern Idaho and Western Montana, have heard some frightening, and we assure you, mostly inaccurate rumors about the mis-use of Census data.

Here to set the record straight is a list compiled by our glorious leader (let his arithmetic always ring true) Kenneth Prewitt, director Bureau of the Census.

- Your census information is for Census use only. It is collected to provide your state with the federal aid it deserves — not to allow the supreme elite rulers of the illuminati the knowledge to further pacify you into a state of blissful apathy.

- Your information would never be sold to any gardening mailing lists, phone solicitors, or pornographic websites without the consent of you, the first party and signer of the legal binding contract known as our country's Census.

- We ask you such questions as "How much government cheese do you eat per week?" and "Do you or your fat stepmother consider a bag of

Doritos to be a meal?" strictly for entertainment value.

- Questions you may find to be a bit personal, such as — "How often do you fancy a good rodgering?" or "When feeling a bit randy do you solicit a good rodgering from the local entrepreneurs or do you curl up like a sally and watch the last few episodes of 'Friends'?" — are strictly designed to provoke an emotional response allowing us to decipher whether or not you have been assimilated into the "pod collective" or are in fact still breathing, but dead.

- This information would never, ever, ever, except in very, extremely rare cases be used to organize and train an elite force used to suppress civil disobedience of an ethnic minority population or anarchist group living in a valley.

- And yes, if you fill out Latino, Hispanic, Chicano, Mestizo or Tan-Easily in the first part, you are then considered to be white in the next part, compared to everybody else. I had a hard time with that one myself.

- No, it is not true, as all the pansy, whitelipped Democricans say, that a random sampling of respective populations would in fact be more accurate. In fact it would be completely disastrous. Do you have any idea the ramifications of an accurate Census? Some of those "free-thinking" states out West might actually get the funding to put their "crazy ideas" into action. Let us not discuss this silly notion, and embrace the glorious bureaucracy that brought us Velcro and Cheeze Wiz.

Maybe in 2010 we'll consider another option, something that would better facilitate the counting of the new settlers on Mars and be compatible with the ease of teleportation. But until that glorious day, let us not speak of this again.

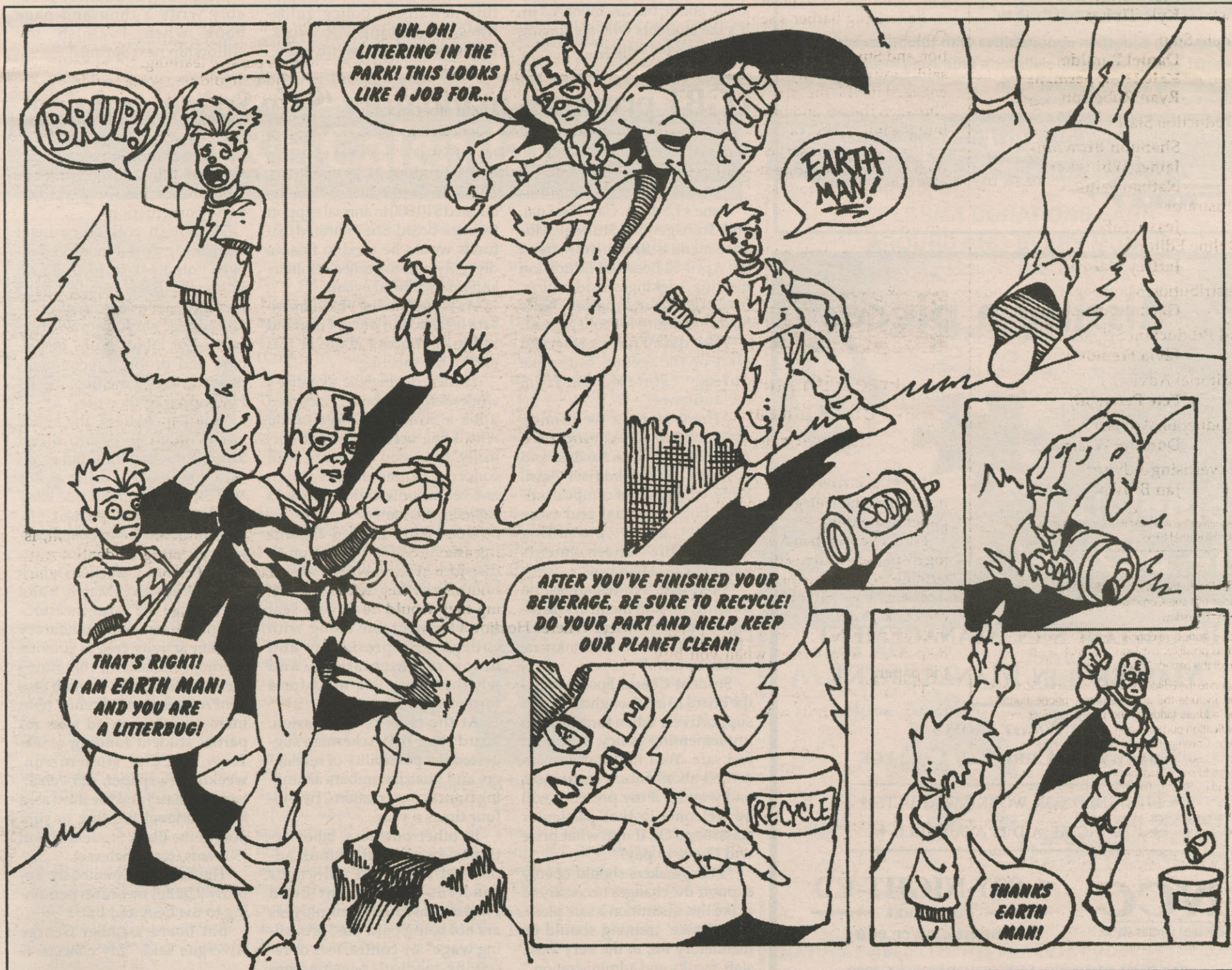
So, lucky Citizen, enjoy this Census year, stand up and be counted. Just follow those easy steps plainly listed above and everything will be fine. Breathe, relax, don't worry. We has it all under Our control.

Sincerely,
US Department of the Senses



Commentary by
O. Gabriel Avila-Mooney

News Editor



Newly elected Emerald editor credits success to LCC

Gloria Biersdorff
Managing Editor

"Working as editor of *The Torch* was the greatest training ground for me. I think you learn more in (the community college) environment — it's almost like being in kindergarten. That's where you learn to play nice, to take naps, eat right, not hit your friends. That's where you learn everything in life. It translates."

For Jack Clifford, A & E editor for UO's *Oregon Daily Emerald* and former editor of *The Torch*, his community college training has translated into the prestigious position of editor in chief for the 2000-01 school year at UO's nationally acclaimed newspaper.

Clifford learned on April 12 that he had been selected over two other *Emerald* staff editors for the four-term head position.

He is the fourth *Torch* editor to become editor of ODE. Jim Gregory, Kathy Monje and Alice Wheeler also served both newspapers as editors in chief.

Clifford chalks up his victory against two highly competent candidates, Jessica Blanchard, former editor at Mount Hood College, and Eric Pfeiffer, current freelance editor at ODE, to the experience he gained working on *The Torch* Staff from fall of '96 to spring of '98.

He held almost every editorial position that exists at *The Torch* during his two-year stint — sports editor, A & E editor and finally, editor in chief.

"Pete (Peterson, editorial advisor of *The Torch*) was an incredible inspiration to me. I've never had anyone like Pete who would critique my writing, give constructive criticism, and praise my

writing. Pete helped me to silence the demon that says, 'You suck,' or at least quiet it."

In the 11 years he worked as production manager and writer for Tallahassee, Florida's *Flambeau* — which means "Torch" in French — Clifford says he never received the kind of coaching he was given during his two-year apprenticeship on *The Torch* staff. Not only did the experience teach him how to craft words more skillfully, says Clifford, but it instilled in him the confidence that he could steer an entire crew of creative, "egocentric" individuals week after week toward the end goal of producing a worthwhile publication.

Managing the ODE's staff is a challenge Clifford says he looks forward to. He hopes to build on editor Laura Cadiz' mission to widen the newspaper's scope so that it encompasses national issues more often.

"Because we are right on campus, we tend to get sucked into just covering campus issues. But there's a bigger world out there that students should not only know about, but are involved in. It's the students who are forcing those national issues."



Photo by Sam Karp

Former *Torch* editor Jack Clifford won the position as next year's editor in chief of UO's *Oregon Daily Emerald*.

Clifford admits that it will be difficult for him to defer his writing for this year — typically the chief editor's position involves little or no writing.

"I'll be responsible for setting newsroom policy guidelines, and doing P.R. work. When (not if) we write some-

thing that provokes controversy, I have to be the one to take responsibility.

"But I love to write. You know how it is. It courses through our bodies. I'll probably write a thousand-page book when I finish my editorship next spring."

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LGBT proposes mandatory 'Safe Space' training

Tonya Alanez
Editor in Chief

Lane's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Student Alliance made a strong showing at the April 12 Board of Education meeting, seeking consideration, funding and mandatory "Safe Space" training for college staff.

They didn't have a reserved place on the agenda, but spoke during "statements from the audience."

"There is not a welcoming environment here," said LCC Affirmative Action Analyst and volunteer LGBT adviser April Kane, citing lack of campus support, both financial and emotional, and prevailing homophobic environments within LCC classrooms.

There are "No resources, no funding, no staff members (serving as paid advisers)," she said. "LGBT students don't know where to turn."

Student Cheryl Foster urged the board to act thoughtfully and supportively when forming and implementing policy. "I should feel safe. Yet I find myself concerned about future instructors and wonder if my presence will be welcome in that particular classroom. Or, if not, what price will I have to pay?"

"Policymakers should openly support the changes necessary to make this institution a safe place. 'Safe Space' training should be mandatory for, at the very least, staff, faculty and administration."

Contrasting UO's LGBT fund-

ing of \$10,000 per term to LCC's LGBT funding of \$50 per year, LGBT Treasurer Esther Bain requested \$10,000 in annual support from the board. She indicated that funds would be used to finance diversity and tolerance seminars and multicultural events.

As is customary, board members listened but did not respond to the comments made at this part of the meeting.

Earlier, during the evening's work session, the board embarked upon a Strategic Conversation with Lane managers, who formally addressed the board with concerns of underappreciation and confusion about their role in shared governance.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for resolution of disputes at the lowest possible levels, whether or not managers feel a need to have a seat at the board table along with college vice presidents and union representatives, and whether there is a need for a formal appeals process.

At the close of the session, board chair Bob Ackerman suggested the possibility of managers and board members arranging future conversations, two-to-four times a year.

In other business, labor activists from local unions addressed the board with their concerns that current Bond Project construction employees are not being paid the "prevailing wage" by contractors or receiving medical/pension benefits. They said some employ-

ees did not receive payment for their final two-three weeks of labor until a lien was placed on bond construction.

Although college counsel advised against it, board members voted 6-1 to form an ad hoc committee among board members, labor representatives and college employees with expertise in labor issues to discuss and propose recommendations. Board member Roger Hall opposed the vote.

In other matters, the board voted unanimously to direct \$304,000 toward the purchase of future student housing at 764 Mill St. in Springfield (see story in this publication, page 6).

Additionally, the board considered proposed ballot measures for ASLCC elections which will take place on May 8, 9 and 10. Each of the three measures sought to increase mandatory student activity fees to provide funding: one asks for continuing membership in the Oregon Student Association (18 cents/term increase), the second asks for partial student funding of *The Torch*, LCC's student-run, weekly newspaper, (25 cents/term increase) and the third asks for additional funding in support of the Black Student Union (50 cents/term increase).

The board unanimously approved ballot measures pertaining to the OSA and BSU.

But board member George Alvergue said, "My concern is

see **LGBT** on page 12

Native American Student Association seeks to widen the circle

Gloria Biersdorff

Managing Editor

A young white man stood in the doorway of Native American Program Coordinator Frank Merrill's office, addressing student work-study secretary Cecelia Craig.

"When is Frank's drumming class?" asked student Trenton Wolfskill.

"Monday nights, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the cafeteria. Anyone is welcome," Craig replied.

Wolfskill said he would definitely attend, expressing gratitude and enthusiasm at the prospect of finally learning this Native American tradition that has interested him for years.

He is one of many "outside the circle," as Craig describes non-Native Americans, who seek to gain greater insight into the ways of her people.

And then there are those Native American students who know they are supposed to belong in the First People's Ring, but are floundering in their sense of identity, Craig says.

It is for this reason that Craig, a 44-year-old multi-media major from the Klamath Modoc Yahooskin Snake Band Tribe, is working diligently to re-ignite the Native American Student Association at LCC.

"We had a two-hour meeting (April 14). It was our second meeting of the last five or six years. About 15 students attended. It made me feel wonderful, to have so many students involved, and to get as much done as we did," Craig says.

Agenda items for the meeting included reiterating the need for solidarity of support for the Longhouse project, a vision that has long been on Merrill's priority list, but short on funds that would make the Native American cultural haven a reality.

"We all need to unite together and show those on this college campus what we're made of. We also need to come together so that we may help Frank make this Longhouse more than just a dream ... let's make it a reality. The (LCC Board of Education) needs to see an active association of our native students, and we need to start showing that we care," wrote Craig in her support letter to potential NASA members.

Craig's reference to the Longhouse follows on the heels of the February 9 Board of Education meeting, during which close to 50 supporters of the Longhouse project crowded into LCC's Boardroom, seeking clarity of commitment to the project from Lane's administration.

Merrill first brought the Longhouse concept to the Board in March of 1993. Since that date

the project has been quagmired, due to confusion regarding whether the Longhouse should be included in the list of Bond projects, whether the college would provide funding in addition to a site (\$250,000 was ultimately earmarked for the project), and just where the location for the facility should be, says Merrill.

The future of the learning and gathering place for Native Americans and the larger community is looking much brighter, says Merrill.

"We have a lot of proposals going out, and we're receiving a lot of letters of support. It's good that the school has finally taken initiative to help make this a reality."

With regard to NASA, Merrill stresses that he has been doing all he can to keep the organization going, in spite of the efforts he must expend to nurture the Longhouse vision toward fruition.

"Ultimately it's the students who have to invest the time and energy into keeping their group alive. Some are naturally organizers, some are not. Now we have Cecelia, who is taking initiative to draw people in, and guide them."

Helping students find a sense of belonging on Lane's campus is another primary objective of Craig's as she seeks to re-activate NASA. According to Craig, a common theme runs among both Native American students, and those from other cultures, who traverse Lane's campus — the theme of lostness.

"These students feel they're out there dangling in the wind, with no clear direction. Since I've been working here in Frank's office (beginning in September, '99), so many students have come here, seeking belonging."

Craig says the prevalent practice of the U.S. government in the '60's and '70's of taking Native American children from parents who were deemed unfit due to alcoholism or other factors, and giving them up to white families, created a vast vacuum of cultural identity for the adopted children as they sought to make their way in "white" society.

"Even people almost my age are looking for their heritage, trying to trace it back. We have many community Natives who come to LCC seeking help in finding their tribal connection. Frank has a lot of hands-on experience with this."

In spite of her full plate of courses, Craig says she is most interested in nurturing the fledgling NASA community at LCC. Her devotion to her people was manifest at December's powwow in the gymnasium, during which she spent from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

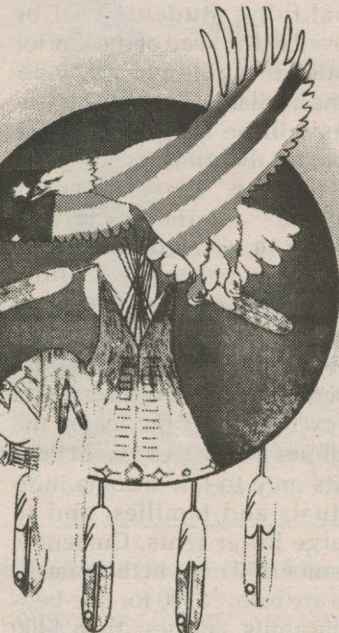


Illustration courtesy of Aaron Wright

cooking turkeys and other food-stuffs for the supper crowd that exceeded 600.

"I made sure the students around me got a break, but I never took one," Craig says.

This kind of devotion is evident in Craig's letter.

"We need you. Let's all unite together, so we may build an organization we can say we're proud to be a part of. It will help in keeping our heritage alive and well here at Lane. So please come and join your brothers and sisters, and form an Active Native Student Association."

Contest, graduation deadlines approaching

Lauretta DeForge

Staff Writer

The deadlines for the LCC Keynote Speaker Contest and various graduation requirements are quickly approaching.

The graduation date for Adult High School, ABSE, and GED students this year is May 31, at 7:30 p.m. The ceremonies for College/Credit/Certificate students will be Thursday, June 1, at 7:30 p.m. Both ceremonies will be held in the Performance Hall at the Lane County Convention Center and Fairgrounds. All graduates will be sent further information around May 18.

LCC is offering \$100 to a student who can compose and deliver an engaging and thoughtful commencement address to students and guests this May. The keynote address will reflect on (1) Recognition of time, work, and energy students have shown in completing their degrees, (2) offer inspiration to students regarding future employment prospects and demonstrate the value of education in reaching their goals, (3) show examples of success achieved through the speaker's experiences at Lane, (4) recognize the contribution of staff, family, and friends in helping students succeed.

Tina Jaquez, Administrative Specialist, Student Activities,

Center 202B, says contestants must first deliver a hard copy of the speech to her, followed by a delivery of the speech to Jaquez and a panel of three judges. The deadline for the contest is May 1, at 5 p.m. For further questions about the contest or graduation requirements, contact Jaquez at ext. 2336.

Other deadlines are approaching beside the contest: • Degree application deadline is May 5. Applications can be obtained at Student Records and must be accompanied by a \$15 check. • The time for ordering announcements at the bookstore is here. Announcements will sell for 75 cents each or 10 for \$6.95. Name cards will be 20 for \$4.95. Thank-you cards will be 45 cents each or 10 for \$3.95. • Caps and gowns

will sell for \$15.95 starting May 22 at the bookstore. They will come in all sizes and all you have to do is come buy one. No ordering is necessary, says Twila

Lovaas, Student Accounts, at the bookstore. If you have any further questions about announcements, or caps and gowns, you may contact her at ext. 2873.



Illustration by Jessie Holk

Casino style

Customer Appreciation Day

in the Bookstore

Wednesday, May 3

Play roulette from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Enter drawings to win:

- Electronic dart game
- Sony AM-FM CD player
- Electronic monopoly

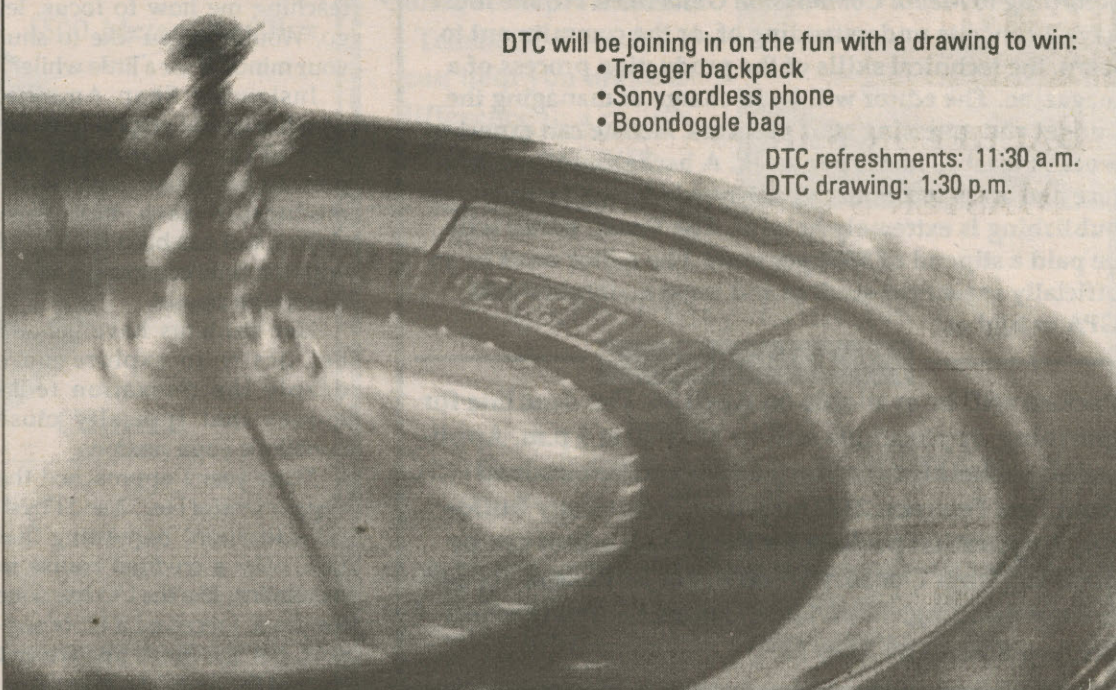
Refreshments: 1:30 p.m.
Drawing: 2:00 p.m.

Win Prizes & Discounts!

DTC will be joining in on the fun with a drawing to win:

- Traeger backpack
- Sony cordless phone
- Boondoggle bag

DTC refreshments: 11:30 a.m.
DTC drawing: 1:30 p.m.



Student housing program takes another step forward

Dale Deason

Lead Reporter

LCC's Board of Education, meeting on April 12, took one more step toward helping some of its students find affordable housing. The Board's action added nine low-income units in Springfield to the 38 units in Eugene already under negotiation with local housing agencies.

LCC, however, is not going to become a landlord.

"We don't have the expertise," says Mary Spilde, LCC's vice-

president for Instruction and Student Services. "Lane's mission is education, not housing."

Instead, the college is writing contracts with three agencies that own and operate low-income housing in the Eugene-Springfield area. The Housing Authority and Community Services Agency, the Metropolitan Affordable Housing Corporation, and St. Vincent de Paul will reserve 47 one and two-bedroom apartments for use by LCC students.

Normally there are long wait-

ing lists for these units. LCC is using its money to purchase "priority use" of the apartments. Qualifying students will be moved to the head of the line for renting the units when they become available. No existing tenants will be evicted to make room for the students.

However, "The units usually become available pretty quickly," says Amanda Saul of St. Vincent de Paul.

Low-income housing units are in facilities that have received low interest loans from (usually) a governmental source. In exchange for the loans, the facilities must agree to rent their units only to low-income individuals and families, and to charge lower rents. Currently, the monthly rents in these facilities are below \$300 for one-bedroom units, and less than \$400 for two bedrooms.

Financing for LCC's program comes from a 1992 legal action in which two developers were convicted of mishandling federal housing loans and sent to jail. They were also required to pay a \$10.5 million settlement to the state of Oregon. The settlement money was earmarked for affordable student housing. The funds did not become available to LCC until 1998 when Spilde began working to design an affordable housing program for students.

LCC's share of the settlement was \$1.9 million. That money has earned another \$300,000 in



Photo by Sam Karp

Lane is working with agencies to develop affordable student housing, including nine units at 764 Mill St. in Springfield.

interest over the years, and Lane now has \$2.2 million to spend. None of the college's regular operational money will be used for the program.

Subject to final approval by the Board of Education, the college plans to make one-time, lump sum payments to the three agencies in exchange for designating the 47 units for use by LCC students. The contracts will total \$1.7 million. The remaining \$500,000 will be used to provide rent subsidies to students living in regular housing.

The college is working on contracts with St. Vincent de Paul that will reserve 10 two-bedroom units in Bagley Downs at 19th and Amazon, and 14 units in a soon-to-be-built "mid-rise" building at 11th and Oak

in Eugene. The mid-rise building will contain studio, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom apartments, and is slated for completion by December 2001. The two contracts will total \$885,000.

Agreements worth \$515,000 with the Housing Authority and Community Services Agency will secure eight units at Village Oaks Apartments and six units at Firwood Apartments, both on west 18th in Eugene.

Nine units at 764 Mill St. in Springfield will be secured by a \$300,000 contract with the Metropolitan Affordable Housing Corporation.

The contracts between LCC and the agencies will be subject to the approval of the state attorney general's office.

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Editorship**

Torch Editor

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Denali Editor

The editor of Denali selects and manages the 2000-01 student staff, organizes the production schedule, and has the final word on all matters concerning the magazine according to Media Commission Guidelines. He/she must have a concrete understanding of, or the commitment to learn, the technical skills of the production process of a magazine. The editor will be in charge of managing the budget and assessing staff progress. He/she can expect to work at least 20 hours per week. A background in literature and art is recommended. Knowledge of desktop publishing is extremely helpful. The Denali editor will be paid a stipend of \$500 per term. The editor must be an officially registered student and must maintain a 2.00 GPA or higher.

Application Packets

Packets will be available on April 26. The deadline for returning applications will be May 10 at 5 p.m. Application packets for the Torch editor can be obtained from Pete Peterson 217 Industrial Technology Building. Application packets for the Denali editor can be obtained from Dorothy Wearne, 214 Industrial Technology Building. The Media Commission will select the new editors on May 25.

New meditation class teaches the art of stillness

Gloria Biersdorff

Managing Editor

"It's a form of medication," says LCC's Presidential Assistant Tracy Simms of the meditation class she attends, which meets every Tuesday evening from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in P.E. 239.

"My life can be very hectic. It can be difficult to quiet my mind — it's often most active in the middle of the night, when I wake up for sometimes four hours at a time. This class is teaching me how to focus, let go. Wouldn't you like to shut your mind off for a little while?"

Instructor Shan Ambika, who has taught yoga at Lane for over 10 years, says that in the past she has tried to incorporate meditation into her yoga classes, but has been frustrated with the time constraints in the 50-minute classes.

Her students have echoed her desire to explore more deeply the relaxation techniques that typically close Ambika's yoga sessions.

"Last year I approached the department (of Health and Physical Education) requesting that LCC offer a credited course in meditation, like the UO has done for years. I received a lot of support, but the funds just weren't there at the time," Ambika says.

Finally, prior to spring term, Ambika was given the go-ahead to teach her new P.E. 170 course in the art of "mindfulness" for one credit. The roster exceeded 30 the first day of class, says Ambika.

"People tend to think of meditation as stress management, but it's much deeper than that. It can break conditions of the mind that perhaps you're not pleased with. It is so invaluable for calming, concentrating, and gaining insights into one's self, and reality."

Simms, who is auditing the class, believes that if she were one of the participants taking the course for credit, it would probably be one of the most valuable credits a student could invest in.

"I already feel this is an important part of my life. What Shan is trying to expose us to is all different types of meditation — Eastern, American. Of course, the American version is called, 'Instant Relaxation Technique,'" Simms wryly notes.

However, she admits that even "meditation quickies" are highly effective in calming the clamor in her head.

"Last week we focused on the senses. We learned alternate nostril breathing — it can be done, really!"

"And we worked with taste. Each student was handed a raisin.

You can imagine, at 8 p.m., when you haven't had dinner, how a single raisin in the mouth tastes — the texture, the explosion of flavors.

"Then we listened to a bell reverberate for 60 seconds. We listened until the sound was completely gone. It was wonderful."

Ambika divides the class time into two parts — lecture, and meditation. Don Metzler, an instructional specialist in Early Childhood Development at Lane who is also enrolled, says the "lecture" time often consists of group interaction.

"You meet a really concerned, caring group of people in this class. They're all there to better themselves. It's a proven fact that meditation lowers blood pressure and stress response," he says.

Metzler, who has studied Qi Gong through Lane's Continuing Education program, notes that meditation is part of both China's and India's medical system.

"It makes sense. It's a whole new system that people in the U.S. need to know about. We probably need it more than others. We're probably one of the most stressful societies, a 'big input' society. This class makes you aware of how much stuff is coursing through your mind. In this class, I'm stepping back and being aware of it."

Lynx photo-timing system helps set LCC's track apart

Jim Brougher

Staff Writer

As a result of a trade-out, LCC has had its own state-of-the-art electronic photo finish device for the track since the fall of 1998, and is just now finishing up the installation process.

"The system is physically hard-wired to the starting pistol, which plugs into whichever start box (the race requires) so the firing of the pistol starts the timer," says Recreational and Club Sports Director Christy Davids. He explains that previously, races had to be timed by hand-held electronic stop watches which were far less accurate.

In August of 1998 LCC held men's and women's cross country races which were part of the World Masters Games, (which hold to the same format as the Olympics, except that anyone over thirty can enter, says Davids) hosted in Portland. As payment for the use of the facilities, Davids negotiated to have Northwest Event Management, the managers of the Games, buy LCC a Lynx electronic photo finish device for the track.

LCC received the equipment in the fall of 1998 and by the 1999 track season it was operational, thanks mainly to Davids who persuaded area contractors to donate their time doing such work as surveying.

But it was yet to be permanently installed. Now, save for a few fairly minor upgrades, the Athletic Department will finish the work on the system as soon as the weather is dry enough to bury the cable that runs around the inside of the LCC track.

"We are still looking for some other donations," says Physical Education Division Chair, Patrick Lanning. "(For example) a more stable support structure underneath the camera."

Previously, LCC had to rent a Lynx system and pay an operator

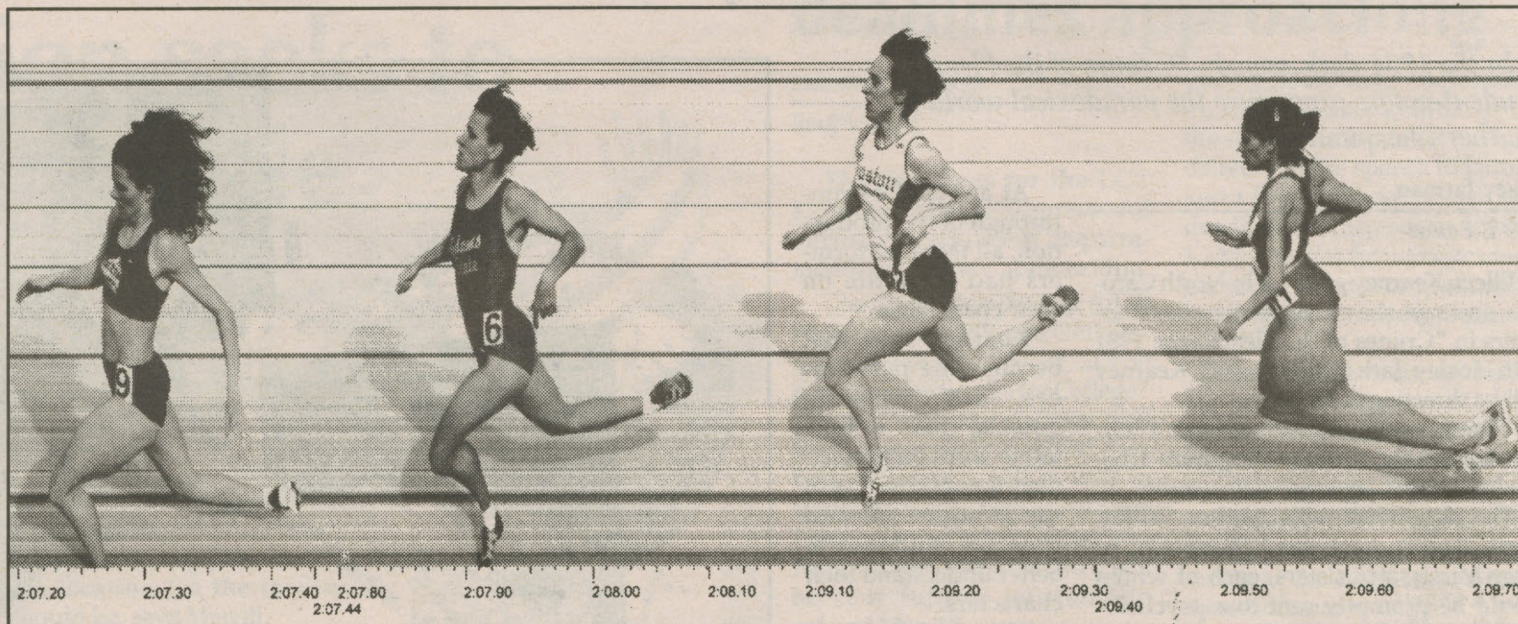


Photo courtesy of Lynx System Developers

This system takes one-inch wide pictures at a rate of 4000 frames per second. This image is made from a composite of these pictures.

from the UO approximately \$300 every time it was used, "which was still a very reasonable price," says Davids, but was also quite a costly hassle to have to go through for every important race.

Without its use, times would not be recognized by any regional/national/international sanctioning bodies, says Davids. If someone were to break a national record on the LCC track there was one other thing needed: a rail two inches high all the way around the inside perimeter of the track. This would ensure no runner could gain a time advantage by running inside the track at all.

"The rail would have cost around \$6,000 but we made an arrangement with Nils Norman Construction Company and got it for \$1500," says Davids.

The Lynx system is unlike the old "photo-finish" which used a system called Acu-Track, which takes a single picture of the racers crossing the finish line. With the Lynx, once the race has started, the camera begins taking approximately one-inch wide pictures at a rate of up to 4000 frames per second. As the

runners cross the line Lynx takes photographs — one inch at a time — until all of the runners have finished.

It is like taking a composite panorama, but one in which the scenery runs by and the camera stands still. In the end, what is left is what looks like a single picture, but is actually made up of the thousands of slices of time that the camera has captured, stacked end-to-end, from right to left.

The "picture" can be seen on the screen of the computer which is connected to the camera, and when the computer's mouse cursor is trained on the composite picture of a runner, it shows the exact time he/she crossed the line. It can then also be printed out.

Nearly all aspects of the timing system have been donated, says Davids, save for a few accessories. It would have cost well over \$12,000 "that the Athletic Department doesn't have."

"(The Lynx) allows us to get more people involved here," adds Lanning, since LCC can now host every level of competition up to even Division 1 schools.

Finish Lynx Timing System

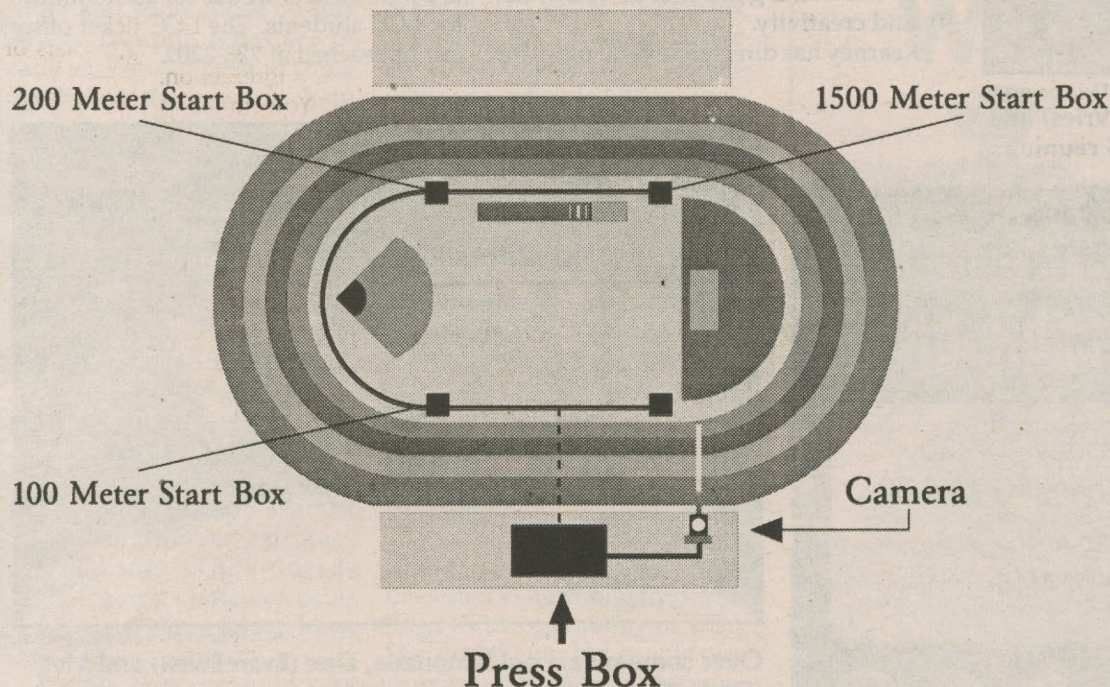


Illustration by Nathan Winkel

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'Crimes' translates dysfunction into humor

□ In the 1981 dark comedy "Crimes of the Heart" student-actors experience the paradoxical world of Southern hospitality

Casey Jarman
A & E Editor

Eileen Kearney grew up in North Carolina, and says she can appreciate the characters in "Crimes of the Heart," the 1981 Beth Henley dark comedy which Kearney will be directing at LCC.

"There is a lot of craziness that's hidden behind the guise of 'Southern Hospitality,'" Kearney says with a smile.

The play, which will open on Friday, April 28, documents the 1974 reunion of three Mississippi sisters, each of whom would be promptly sent to a psychologist and heavily medicated, if their story were set in current day.

The three — Lenny (Mahala DeVries), Meg (Dawn Sharpnack), and Babe (Heather Carter) bring visions of the "Designing Women" television show to mind. "Crimes," however, tells a much more intriguing and rewarding story:

"Crimes of the Heart" laughs in the face of disaster and trauma. The audience will find itself embracing the humor of death and domestic violence as if it were "The Brady Bunch."

Kearney describes the play as "funny, but not funny at all," while still embracing it as wholesome.

"It's about healing family relationships," Kearney says, "a lot of what happens to the people is sad — but in the end, they stick by each other."

At an April 14 run-through of the production, all three performers had a handle on their characters.

Kearney says that because the performers are learning quickly, there is time left to work on perfecting the comic timing of the production, and time for students to better understand their characters.

"These are great roles for student actors," Kearney says, "and they are great characters to psycho-analyze ... the play focuses on character, it is based very much on emotions."

Only after weeks upon weeks of practicing lines and getting into character, which also requires a good grasp of the southern accent, can they begin to work on the subtleties of the play.

"It's not even conscious anymore," DeVries says, "I was at the bus stop once, and this guy asked me what time it was,

and I told him 'It's a quata' past foah.'"

The fourth family member is Chick, a nosy cousin and neighbor played by Kathryn Mainard. Possibly the most eccentric character in the play, Chick can always be depended on to say the wrong thing at the wrong time.

Rounding out the cast are two male characters. Doc (Evan Ewell) is a married man with many crushed hopes and dreams — one of them a relationship with Meg.

The other male performer, Joe Randazzo, plays a young lawyer, Barnet. Without giving away too much, Barnet is motivated by a lifelong vendetta against Babe's husband. This somehow translates into humor.

The whole production takes place in a country home, which is fittingly rustic eye candy designed by Skip Hubbard — and an early look at Sue Surdam Bean's costume work showed a good mix of authenticity and creativity.

Kearney has directed several plays for

LCC, including last year's acclaimed "To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday." She is well-regarded among play-goers, and more importantly, her students.

"She's a wonderful lady," says Carter, "and (also) funny ... I don't think there has been a rehearsal where I haven't laughed."

"She likes us to understand our characters, whether she tells us, uses props, or movies."

"I'm amazed at some of the talent that comes through LCC," Kearney says "I have a great cast, a dynamic cast — and a great crew."

"Crimes of the Heart" starts on April 28 at 8 p.m. followed by a reception downstairs in the Performing Arts Building.

Other performances are scheduled for April 29, May 5, 6, 12, and 13. All shows are at 8 p.m. There will also be a Sunday, May 7 matinee performance at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for LCC students. The LCC ticket office can be reached at 726-2202.



Photo by Kale Houppermans

Meg (Dawn Sharpnack) drags her suicidal sister, Babe (Heather Carter), out of a gas oven in LCC's production of "Crimes of the Heart," which opens at 8 p.m. on April 28 in the Performance Hall. The play will run through May 13.



Photo by Kale Houppermans

Three Mississippi sisters, Babe (Heather Carter), Lenny (Mahala DeVries) and Meg (Dawn Sharpnack) navigate family relationships during a 1974 reunion.

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Tuesday @ 4:45
Thursday @ 4:45



Photo by Kale Houppermans

Over some nice, cool lemonade, Doc (Evan Ewell) and Meg (Dawn Sharpnack) reminisce about days gone by.

Deserving LCC alumni acquire jobs, lab time, gallery space

Three alumni pass on their passion for craft in exchange for studio space

Mack Singleton

Staff Writer

Sculpture, jewelry and ceramic pottery created by LCC studio assistants will be on display in the LCC Art Gallery from April 24 to May 12.

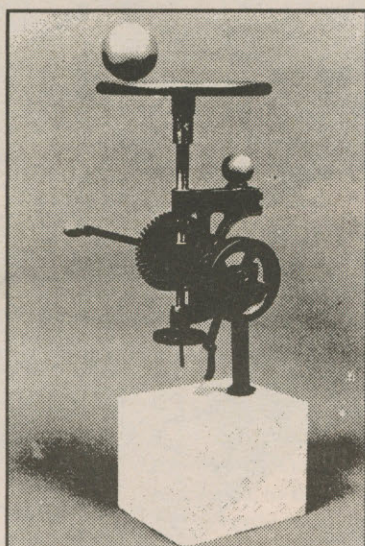
The once-a-year, three-week show will offer a glimpse of the creations of former students, who are now helping current art students with their projects.

Three alumni have earned places on the staff as part-time teaching assistants in each of their preferred art endeavors, and for their effort have the opportunity to use school labs as places to hone their crafts.

Their duties include clean-up maintenance, ordering supplies and helping instructors and students in the studio setting.

Instructor Craig Spilman says, "It's not only a job assisting, but it's getting down to the nitty-gritty of studio set-up and operation. It is also a great educational tool."

Assistant Walter Teichman, who works in the ceramic area says, "It's like having my own



Junko's Time Machine, mixed media

Tony Sondag



Untitled, stoneware

Walter Teichman



"Pendant," turquoise and silver

Lynn Wysocky

personal studio. I have all the personal instruction when I run into a problem. The instructors are a great bunch, and working with the students is great."

Assisting in the new jewelry lab in the Welding Technology building is Lynn Wysocky, who will display her bracelets, pendants, earrings and small silver boxes. She says, that unquestionably, her favorite materials to

work with are silver and semi-precious stones.

"When I get a new stone I sort of look for inspiration for what I want to make. I also have a passion to pass on the knowledge of the craft."

In another part of the art facility is a sculptor who is interested in using objects that he collects — including metal from junk yards. Tony Sondag creates

what he calls "found objects art." He says, "I have been influenced by Pablo Picasso (1881-1973), a French sculptor, and painter and American experimental artist Robert Rauschenberg (1925-present), so when I go into a junk yard I pick out things that spark something in me and gives me an idea for a sculpture."

The gallery hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

It's time for a 3 day weekend! No school Friday, April 28

The college is going to be completely closed for staff inservice. So stay home, and enjoy!

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A&E Calendar



Tony Levin and California Guitar Trio at WOW Hall

Is the fourth week of school bringing you down? Put down your books, pens, and paper, and come on down to the Silva Concert Hall in the Hult Center for Sinbad for some laughs TONIGHT, Apr. 20! It may be a little late to get tickets, but comedy is definitely better than homework. It's worth a shot. Don't confuse Sinbad with "The Thong Song" singer SISQO. Tickets range from \$22-32, and starts at 7 p.m.

Dr. Drew, the beloved doctor from the show *Loveline*, comes to MacArthur Court on Friday, April 21, to help any Eugenians with sexual problems or frustrations. And, you won't get a hefty doctor's bill. Starts at 7 p.m. and

is FREE to students and faculty.

For all eclectic punk rockers: New Wave and Hardcore bands The Janitors, Emphyrean, Playhouse, Preschool Propaganda, and The Ottos gather in The Garage on the corner of 8th and Monroe on Apr. 21. Doors open at 7 p.m. Five bands, Five bucks. That's like a dollar a band. But sorry, you have to pay for all of them!

Looking for some folk-rock, and know any scalpers? Internationally known folk-rock singer Tracy Chapman boogies on over to the Silva Concert Hall on Saturday, April 22. This show is SOLD OUT, but there may be scalpers on hand. Press your luck.

The LCC World Fair is coming! Students who attended Lane last year will remember all the fun that was had when music, food, and events from around the globe made their way to campus. The Fair will be Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, April 24, 25, and 26 at LCC. The Norma Fraser Band will play on Monday, and will be accompa-

nied by further entertainment on the other two event days. Best of all, the world fair is free!

Ska is fun. The Slackers are the best ska band in the country. They come to the WOW Hall to skank, wiggle, and rock 'n roll on Monday, April 24. Eugene's own adorable little ska kids, The Jive Bombers open. Doors open 20:00 military time (8 p.m.) and cost roughly 9 Canadian dollars (7 American bucks). They'll only accept U.S. dollars though.

Northwest hiphop comes to the Wild Duck for the D.B.A. (Bosko, Cool Nutz, Poppa LQ) CD Release Wednesday, April

26. It's ten bucks at the door. Come out and support some local boys making it to the big time! Around 9 p.m.



The Slackers at WOW Hall

Tony Levin and California Guitar Trio move their bass virtuoso sound into the WOW Hall for some, well, bass virtuoso sound. It's on Thursday, April 27, and doors open at 8 p.m. Show is at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance, or \$17 at the door.

Compiled by Travis Ritter

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Solid pitching keeps Titans on top

□ The Titans hold tight to NWAAC title against SWOU with scoring in seven out of nine innings

Jim Brougher

Staff Writer

Thanks to a lovely effort by the Titan pitching staff in its April 11 double-header, Southwestern Oregon University couldn't seem to get men on base, let alone get them into scoring position.

The Titans came away with both victories for the day, bringing them into a first place league record of 5-2 (17-7 overall) for the Southern Conference, with 18 games left in league play.

In the first game, utilizing consistent offense, the Titans scored in seven of the nine innings, for a final score of 13-3. Leading the offensive effort, sophomore Rob Mills homered and drove in four runs. He was assisted by sophomore Kirk Nordness who went 4-5 with two doubles and three RBIs.

SWOU committed relatively few errors, but had trouble keeping up with the Titans' formidable hitting.

Defensively, not as much was needed from the Titans thanks to seven and two-thirds solid innings by freshman right-handed starter Jason Williams. He brought his over-all season record to 4-2. Sophomore right-hander Jesse Welch relieved Williams, two outs into the seventh inning, and closed the game out allowing one run



Photo by Sam Karp

Justin Simmons assisted in pitching an 8-3 win over SWOU with right-hander Kelly Shafer.

in the ninth.

In the second game, again making use of strong pitching and consistent offense, the Titans defeated SWOU 8-3.

Sophomore Nathan Pratt went 2-3 with two doubles and four RBIs, while

freshman Andy Silcox hit a solo homer with an RBI besides. Mills also went 2-3 with two doubles.

Sophomore right-hander, Kellyn Shafer picked up his first win bringing his over-all season record to 1-2.

The Titans are off to a good start in defending their NWAAC title. The next chance to defend the title will be Saturday, April 2, in a double-header at home versus Linn-Benton Community College.

Lane's Titans stride towards the prize

Russel Tiffany

For The Torch

The Lane Titans Track and Field teams are hitting their peak.

The women's team beat two of its three opponents on Saturday, April 15 in the Spokane Invitational at Spokane Falls Community College. The men defeated North Idaho College 89 to 57 and the women won against Spokane Falls Community College, the host team,

86 to 56. The women also beat North Idaho, 88 to 55.

The other team of the four, Whitworth College, proved to be too much for the Titans, winning the overall event. But the Lady Titans gave their all, in the 84 to 79 loss.

The women captured several team and individual honors. Sophomore hurdler Cameo Davis won both the 100m and the 400m high hurdles, while teammate, heptathlete Amy Hill placed first in the high jump,

and the long jump.

Hill also finished second in the 200m dash, and third overall in the 200m. Jennifer Hedges, who has played basketball with Lane for the past two seasons, finished third in the 800m, and Alisa Rawe finished third in the 3,000m run. Heather Phipps won the triple jump for Lane with a jump of 10.6 meters, and Kathy Romoser finished second in the discus, with a throw of 37.15 meters.

The men's team didn't achieve as much individual success as the women's, but that didn't stop it from showing some great talent. Sophomore Evarado Santillan outran the competition in the 800m dash, and Jeff Carman outlasted everyone in the 5,000m. Sam Quady rose to the top in the pole vault for the Titans and former basketball forward Joe Samuels in his first competition of the season finished third in

the discus, and fourth in the shot put.

In relay team races the women finished first in both the 4X100 and the 4X400 meter, and the men finished third overall in the 4X100 meter.

The Titans continue to compete on the road Saturday, April 22 in the Clackamas Open in Oregon City, and then in the annual Oregon Invitational at UO's Hayward Field, on April 29.

Scores & Schedules

Men's Baseball

4/11

Double Header

Lane vs. SW Oregon 13-3, 8-3

4/19

Mount Hood @ Lane 6-7 innings. The score was tied 6-6 on the seventh inning. Mt. Hood scored the winning run in the 12th inning.

Women's Softball

4/18

Double Header

Lane vs. NCC 4-1, 0-15

Upcoming Events

Lane's Track & Field

4/22 Sat. Titans vs. Clackamas @ Oregon City

Men's Titan Baseball

4/22 Sat. Titans vs. Linn-Benton @ Lane, 1:00 pm

4/25 Tues. Titans vs. SWOCC @ Coos Bay, 1:00 pm

Women's Titans Softball

4/22 Sat. Titans vs. Southern Oregon University @ Lane, 1:00

Letter to listeners: 'Even out of the darkest of experiences, something beautiful blooms'

□ A memorial cedar, ringed in forget-me-nots, honors the late Gavin Fox, who succumbed to Lou Gehrig's disease in September, 1999

Deborah Huntley

For The Torch

Gavin Fox of KLCC's "Blues Power" died last September.

And on this April day, on the inside of the old marble mausoleum, chairs were set up for a brief welcome for those attending a spring cedar tree planting in Fox's name. A display of pictures of Fox drew heartfelt attention. A baby cried when the mood became somber.

With a gentle burst of energy Don Hein, KLCC program director, spoke about the honor the young cedar now has that it couldn't have known was coming to it when it was a seedling.

There was a feeling of quiet respect as people exchanged hugs and friendly conversation for two hours while children and adults, one by one, planted forget-me-nots and shoveled soil around the tree to "help it grow straight and tall for all of us and our children to sit and talk under and enjoy a beautiful view of Eugene," Hein said.

Fox was a disk jockey at KLCC for 22 years. While his parents and close friends suffered his loss on a personal level, a whole community of radio fans suffered the loss of a personality known as "The Rooster," when he died at the home of Hein and his wife freelance writer Cynthia Whitfield.

"The minute he told me what his diagnosis was, I told him he was going to have to move in here," said Whitfield last January. "He agreed. Don agreed right away, too. So, that's what we did."

Fox's diagnosis was terminal — it was Lou Gehrig's Disease, which usually takes two to five years to overcome a person. No one knew how long Fox had left to live. It might have been years. But in his case, this disease disabled and killed him in a few short months.

In January, when asked about Fox's personality, Liz Wise, radio host of KLCC's "Fresh Tracks," remembered Fox's active sense of humor. She recalled one day he wrote the message, "Blow it out your ear, Lizzy!" on a yellow sticky and stuck it on the jacket of a CD to surprise Wise when she would be shuffling through a stack of music to play.

"I had corrected him on a song title and so he wrote me that note," said Wise. "A great sense of humor — like his 'weird closet' (for CDs) of strange artists."

"He called me Lizzy," she remembered. "It is hard to put into words ... You wake up one morning and he is gone — six months later."

For KLCC, Fox's dying and



Courtesy of Cynthia Whitfield

During his final months, Gavin Fox, KLCC's "The Rooster," lived with program director Don Hein and his family.

death turned out to be a time of service to a community of listeners in Eugene and Springfield, and all the way to Cottage Grove, Bend, Oakridge, Roseburg, Sisters and in places not on the map. They had grown to love Fox's radio personality. There is no way to calculate the thousands of radio listeners who may have quietly noticed The Rooster slipping away as they listened to KLCC last summer, or those who silently shed a tear while listening to the crack in Wise's voice the day she announced the death of her beloved friend Gavin Fox — over the air.

Then she says she spent hours on open phone lines to let people respond to his death.

"We did the same for Jerry Garcia when he died," Hein had said last winter. "Downtown Deb (another of KLCC's personalities) got on air and we opened our lines up for three hours, because there is a lot of 'family' connected to Jerry here too. It was unique to our community."

"We did it with the Thurston shooting," he added. "We gave the community a chance to talk to itself. That's the role! Becoming a vehicle for the community to talk to itself in times of crisis or times of grief. I feel real good about that role."

"There is the family that is grieving the loss of that man, and the public that is grieving the loss of The Rooster," said Hein.

"He was a colorful character," added Whitfield. "He had a flair and style especially when he was his 'Rooster' persona. He was an entertainer, a chest-out kind of guy. That was his 'Rooster'.... He wanted to be an actor and this was the way he

got to act."

But she said she knew him as "a sweet, kind and loving person."

Fox never married and preferred to live alone. "He kind of adopted us as his family ... this was his way of having a family without the whole enchilada," Whitfield said. He was a regular and welcome guest around their house for over 13 years, part of their family and like a "second dad" to Brian (21), Diana (13), Logan (8) and especially Jalen (6) who has learning disabilities.

Fox even went on a vacation with them all years ago to "Great America" in California. And, since he loved being with the children, every Wednesday afternoon for the last couple of years, until he got sick, Fox took the children out to eat and then over to his apartment to give Whitfield a break.

"First he was having trouble with his fingers: his left hand, and then up his arm," said Whitfield. "He got so he could barely get up and down the stairs to his apartment. He was falling down then, which was scary — he would be walking with us and, boom — down on the ground."

It was early last June when Fox moved to the small blue cottage-like workshop in their backyard that the family hurriedly fixed up as a temporary private place.

"We got that place together as fast as we could," says

Whitfield. "We wanted to add another room to the back of the house, but we never even got started on that project. He started going down so fast."

"When he moved in he was still walking with a cane — I think that was June 9. By the time he died, Sept. 5, he wasn't moving on his own at all. He was lifted out of bed with a (hospital) lift, a sling thing. We were just getting the Home Health care set up. We could have hooked up with Hospice right away, but we didn't know."

At the same time the Hein-Whitfield family was helping with Fox's intimate needs, Hein said at KLCC it was a drama played out in front of the community.

"When people close to our community die, there is a need to grieve. And there is a need to publicly grieve. And that's our (KLCC's) role," Hein said earlier this year.

Hundreds of people honored the man — and the persona — of Gavin Fox as he was dying. "He was lucky that he was able to go to Alton Baker Park and see 200 people form a circle in his honor and just send off good energy," said Hein. "That really overwhelmed him."

See ROOSTER page 12

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EDUCATION from page 2

students, but students shouldn't discredit teachers' educational backgrounds.

The college needs to improve the physical environment with more space, more air, and desks and chairs we can fit into — incorporate logic into classroom design and limit classroom sizes to accommodate students appropriately.

In on-line classes, the college should create more opportunities for the group to meet with instructor as a class.

Educators must spell out expectations to students.

Instructors should allow time in class for students to meet as groups with set roles on set topics.

Students and faculty embarked on a combined discussion after sharing observations and insights from the breakout groups.

"Part of the learning process is having students expand with learning styles," said faculty in response to student pleas for sensitivity to learning styles. They requested that students not pigeon-hole themselves based upon pre-determined "styles," and urged students to be able to endure discomfort.

"We learn when we are uncomfortable."

SLI member and science instructor Sarah Ulerick summed it up when she said, "Part of the instructional management point-of-view is 'whole class activities.' Let them know they all have different styles,

and I have my styles and present a whole potpourri to students to choose from. It is hard to design different intentional learning styles for everyone — that is more like micromanagement. There is a continuum and comfort levels for everyone. Let's negotiate something that works (for everyone)."

English instructor Michael McDonald added, "I am concerned with what we're doing with the business of different learning styles. Remember, this is a hypothesis that is still being tested. Some of us do well in several areas and styles."

My point-of-view

As I see it, it is a give-and-take relationship. After three years at LCC, I can honestly say I've only had to endure two terms with less-than-satisfying instructors. I give the rest "thumbs up" — 32 in all!

Some classroom approaches definitely appeal to me more than others. Unlike the majority of students at the SLI/ASLCC forum I don't enjoy group projects. I prefer to work at my own pace, neither hindering nor pushing other students with my individual pace.

I find that group projects often turn out like my science lab experience last week — one student in the group clicked with the info and was ready to accelerate, annoyed with the rest of us and our lagging pace,

audibly sighing whenever we wanted to compare answers. It wasn't a good feeling.

And blasphemous as it may sound I actually enjoy lecture sessions and note-taking. But I know that it's a mixed bag and some sessions will strike my fancy more than others. You roll with it and give it your best shot. The same as our instructors do.

In our quest to honor diversity it is imperative to consider not only diversity among students but among instructors as well. We all have our individual styles and there should be a place for us all, if we're just willing to make some accommodations.

What makes LCC stand out as an exceptional college in my mind is the abundance of progressive and personable educators. As the SLI/ASLCC forum came to a close, I looked around the room at all of the sincere and enthusiastic instructors with a slight trace of regret. I felt sorry that this is my final term at LCC and there are so many fine educators with whom I haven't yet had the opportunity to share a term.

My advice to the rest of you: Get involved, the door is wide open. And take advantage of the varying teaching/learning styles LCC instructors have to offer. It isn't like this everywhere.



Photo by Sam Karp

ASLCC senator Lina Aglialoro sorts through the trash heap in the courtyard of the Center Building on Wednesday, April 19. She is separating glass, paper and plastic in an effort to raise awareness about waste reduction.

EARTH DAY from page 1

late matter, or soot; sulfur dioxide, or acid rain (SO₂); lead (Pb); and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂).

- **Water Quality:** Between 1972 and 1992, 98 percent of miles of rivers and streams sustained or improved their quality. During the same period, 96 percent of miles of lakes maintained or improved quality.

- **Hazardous Waste:** Since 1970, land disposal of hazardous waste has declined, both in tons stored a year and in number of landfills. The amount of hazardous waste fell from 2.9 million tons a year in 1985 to 1.3 million tons in 1995. During the same period, the number of active stor-

age facilities fell from 249 to 68.

- **Automobile Emissions:** Between 1970 and 1997, total emissions of the six principle air pollutants decreased 31 percent even though the number of vehicle miles traveled increased 127 percent, the U.S. population increased 31 percent and the gross domestic product increased 114 percent.

Even with the headway made in the last 30 years, there's still a ways to go. Earth Day at Lane and abroad is a wonderful way to celebrate how far we've come in cleaning up the environment, but also to take a moment to consider how far we have to go.

ROOSTER from page 11

In a letter Fox wrote to his KLCC audience - still present on HYPERLINK <http://www.KLCC.org> — he showed both sides of himself, the deeper person Gavin Fox and the playful flashy Rooster. "Even out of the darkest of experiences, something beautiful blooms. For me, it is the affirmation of human generosity, a realization of the splendid depth of loyalty and support of family and friends ... If commodities of most value are family and friends — and I believe they are — then truly I am a wealthy man. Keep It Blue.

Cheers, Roostah"

Now Fox rests among some of Eugene's most famous names, at the Masonic Cemetery; John W. Whiteaker (Oregon's first Governor); T.J. Hendricks — the banker; Eugene and Mary Skinner the first settlers, to name a few. This seems just right for a man with style and heart that was loved by so many.

And the young cedar, too, seems happy to be growing among the blue/purple camas and forget-me-nots on the western slope for generations to come.

LGBT from page 4

what you may have done is open Pandora's Box with one group, then another, asking for money." He suggested that in the future a motion be put out for funding for all diverse groups with ASLCC determining how to divide the funds among the groups.

Vigorous debate ensued in regards to partial student-funding for *The Torch* which is facing a \$5,769 budget cut next year. The 25 cent fee would generate approximately \$6,000 annually, allowing *The Torch* to continue to meet printing, production and operating expenses.

While praising the newspaper, board member Larry Romine disagreed with *The Torch* proposal, recommending that the administration reinstate the *Torch's* budget cut out of the general fund.

But Vice President Spilde ex-

plained that *The Torch* budget cut was one of dozens recommended after a fairly lengthy process. She said that the list of budget cuts were those that would have the least impact on the Student Services group.

The board amended the motion to provide *The Torch* the lost funding out of the board contingency fund for one year only. The motion passed unanimously.

ASLCC President Choul Wou responded to board requests for student input regarding criteria for LCC's future president.

"First, we feel that it is essential that the future president has a demonstrated track record of inclusion of students in campus government. The president ought to make her/himself available to address students' concerns through both student and presi-

dent initiation.

"Second, the future president must believe in student control of student fees.

"Third, ... it is necessary (for the president) to put forth a strong lobbying effort in the next legislature and also to institutionalize voter registration on our campus."

Her final criterion identified a need for the future president to be "in tune with current issues such as LGBT issues, student and staff of color retention issues, cultural competency, and institutional racism and sexism."

Wou also stipulated that the ASLCC would prefer to see the college engage in a national search for the future president and that it is essential for ASLCC to participate in the decision-making process.

Classifieds

15 words free for students and faculty — forms are available in the Center Building lobby

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EVENTS

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OPPORTUNITIES

The Lane Writers Club welcomes Michael McDonald, Thursday, April 20. He will discuss "Writing Mythic Stories."

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