



Lane Community College Since 1965

[www.lanec.edu/torch/index.html](http://www.lanec.edu/torch/index.html)

## Revised plan embraces ethnic, social minorities

□ *Mission not impossible: Unique cultural backgrounds encouraged on campus*

C.L. Muntwyler

Staff Writer

One way to see progress in LCC's diversity effort is to read an LCC posting for a current job opening.

**Minimum Qualifications:** *Bilingual proficiency and experience or training in multi-cultural, multi-racial and international environments is desirable.*

**Essential Functions (sought):** *Work productively with students and staff of diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds, with eight examples, including older students and students of color.*

And across the very top of the notice in bold capital letters, it reads: *Minority, women, persons with disabilities, bilingual proficiency and/or multicultural experience are strongly encouraged to apply.*

Not perfect syntax, but the message is clear.

Jim Garcia has been LCC's diversity coordinator for just three months, but already he has a pet theme.

"Look at our mission statement," he likes to say. "We're supposed to be 'a caring environment' here."

Garcia oversees the Diversity Plan update process, and is chair of LCC's Diversity Team, which consists of 25 faculty and staff members, plus one student representative. Their job is to hammer out a more inclusive approach at LCC. More inclusive means teaching, hiring and supporting people from all races, genders, ages, abilities, backgrounds, learning styles and life styles. The committee names are listed on the Diversity Plan web page: [www.lanec.edu/presoffc/committee/diversity.htm](http://www.lanec.edu/presoffc/committee/diversity.htm)

LCC's original diversity plan went into effect in 1995, and was "pretty basic," says Garcia. It focused on just four ethnic communities, and gen-

see **DIVERSITY** on page 10

## SNOW CULTURE



PHOTO BY DANIEL BERALDO

Left to Right: Boarders Kazumi Aoki, Munehira Takada, and Kozo Hiriyama, all three from Japan, have been riding at Willamette Pass for the last 4 years. Hiriyama is looking forward to the next International Student Community Ski day which will be February 24. Tickets must be reserved by February 16.

## World peace on the Willamette ski slopes

□ *LCC's International students warm to friendship in the snow*

Daniel Beraldo

For the Torch

Early on the morning of Jan. 27, 47 eager LCC students, faculty and staff members loaded a chartered bus and set off for Willamette Pass as part of the International Student Community programs Ski Day.

Eleven countries were represented during the trip: Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, Denmark, the United States, Mexico, Taiwan, Korea, Hong Kong, Germany, Japan and China.

"I thought it was a good opportunity to meet new friends," said art major Mune

see **SKI DAY** on page 12

## Warning: Do not breathe dust

Andrea Larsen

News Editor

LCC's jewelry program should be breathing easier in the new building they share with welding technologies on the eastern side of campus, but there's a trace of something menacing in the air.

Literally.

Jewelry Instructor Dan White, who conducts weekly classes for more than 100 students, says that some students are in class for up to three hours at a time, breathing silica-laden dust.

"There have been some students that have complained," says White.

The dust is created from the compounds used in the sandblasters and polishing machines. These should be connected to duct work that would vacuum out the siliceous dust and particulate, "but they're not," says White.

The equipment was not put in the designated space, according to the architect's plans, making hook-up difficult, says Superintendent of Facilities Mike Ruiz.

Machine operators inhale the musty air, worrying that it could cause health problems including silicosis, a disease of the lungs caused by continued inhalation of siliceous dust. Symptoms can include fibrosis (formation of excessively fibrous tissue as in reparative or reactive process) and chronic shortness of breath.

"One will probably do you in faster than the other," says White.

The rouge compound, used for the polishing machine, and white diamond for the sandblaster, both contain silica, says White. Silica is a crystalline compound often found in quartz, sand, flint, agate and many other minerals. It is used in the making of concrete, glass and jewelry.

The package label reads: "May be irritating to eyes, skin and lungs. DO NOT breathe dust."

"I've been seeing a specialist about sinus headaches," says Lynn Wysocky, jewelry assistant. She says her doctor believes this is related to the working environment in the jewelry lab.

After having an MRI, White was diagnosed as having a cyst in his sinus.

White says he talked to Ruiz, last term regarding the connection of the air ducting to the equipment.

"I had the impression that they were going to take some action on this," says White, after making repeated requests to Campus Services to have the ducts connected. No changes have been made. "After I'm dead and gone, it's not gonna help me."

"We asked many, many times after we got moved in here," says Wysocky.

Ruiz says that when the Welding Technology Building was designed, the architect worked closely with the jewelry

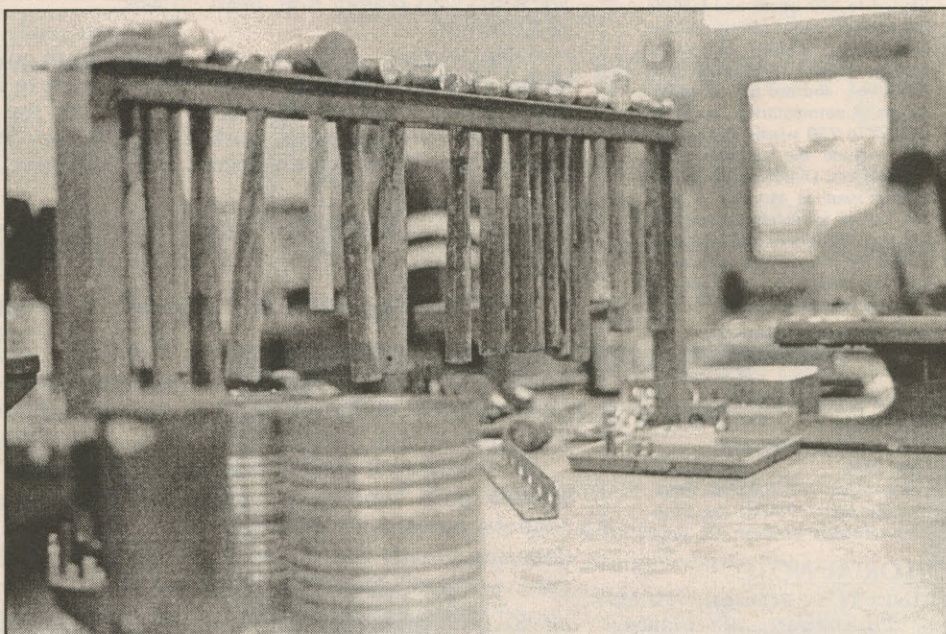


PHOTO BY KIRA DAVIS

Students and staff working in the new jewelry lab must inhale silica-laden air due to the absence of functional ventilation ducts.

program addressing their needs. However, when the jewelry program moved in, equipment was placed elsewhere.

Some of the heavy equipment is in the wrong place, explains Ruiz.

The issue now is finding the time to move the equipment into position under the ducts to facilitate hook-up. If major reworking of the building design plan is

required, the challenge will be finding funding to complete the job, says Ruiz.

"We [Facilities Management and Planning] just haven't had the time to schedule someone up there to get the work done," says Ruiz, although he assures students and staff that his work crews have every intention of solving the problem and asks for patience.



## the Torch

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Kinsey Kaylor

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

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 the length, grammar, spelling, libel, invasion of privacy and appropriate language.

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## EDITORIAL NOTE:

Lauretta DeForge, lead reporter, compares Bill Clinton and George Bush in the Jan. 25 issue of the Torch. Her piece is a commentary, not a news article. The opinion in her work is exclusively hers and does not represent that of the Torch staff as a whole.

This is true for all commentaries unless specifically indicated as editorial opinion.

Skye MacIvor  
Managing Editor

## The history lesson may have to be cancelled — NOT!

Tim Biggs

Editor

Have you ever done something innocently, and realized with a hard jolt that it didn't turn out that way at all?

I received a phone call one Thursday after an issue of the Torch appeared. The gentle voice on the other end asked a question that seemed stupid at first blush.

"In the paper you ran a story on the history of the college. Is there any truth to it — at all?" the woman asked. "I certainly hope not, because it's not funny!"

I might've downplayed the issue and made light of her question if she hadn't been so polite, but there was another reason as well. Someone else had asked nearly the same question in an unrelated incident and mentioned that the column was entirely believable.

"Wasn't that something? How'd you guys ever find that stuff out?" she said. She was honestly surprised when I informed her that it was all "fabricated from whole cloth," as the saying goes.

I was surprised, too, that two intelligent women thought that the story was true. I realized something, something that just slipped by.

Even though it appeared under the heading of "Humor Column," on a page labelled "Humor," (and located under a comic strip), we never made it clear that there was nothing factual — that we know of — in the story.

I didn't take some things into consideration.

There are people out there who truly want to believe that the government is capable of

doing things like hiding facts that could be dangerous.

Is this true, too? Who knows?

Kinsey Kaylor, the writer in question, spoke of a "prison" on the future grounds of the campus. A device known as the "electric sofa"

was developed and used to

punish

wrongdo-

ers. It sped

up the

process because

it was capable of electro-

cutting three prisoners at once. Then the bodies of those unfortunate souls were buried out in the area beneath the new child care facilities.

Eew. Gross.

The soft voice on the phone said, "Can you imagine how those of us who have kids out there feel?"

Well, yeah. I have a son of my own. I know I would want to know if there are bones up and walking around, or that they aren't swimming in the college's water supply, leaving musty trails for the rest of us to drink.

I'd want to know that the sounds he heard when I was a little late to pick him up aren't the frightening sounds of the ghosts of these damned souls.

But I don't believe in ghosts. If I did, I certainly wouldn't live in my current abode, which sits poised at the edges of the cemetery in Pleasant Hill.

Besides, there is a reason that bodies are buried six feet in the earth.

Due to the fact that all of it — casket and human body — decays and decomposes, there is the very real possibility of contamination in the water supplies, says Alice Bolivar of Musgrove Family mortuary. (Also, it's very

difficult for dead people to dig out of six feet of earth. Five-and-a-half, maybe ...)

Okay, good point to the soft-voice. But there are other things to look at.

I'm not sure if anyone remembers this campus before those new buildings were erected, but I do. To level that area, well over six feet would've been removed, and no bodies were found, nor parts, nor bones.

Nothing.

If there had been, the Torch staff, of which I was a staff member, would've covered the events. The Register-Guard, and the Oregonian, as well as every news station in the region and the nation would've been here, sticking microphones into bereaved faces and generally making a nuisance of themselves.

Nothing. Not a peep.

In the second installment of his column, Kaylor spoke of anthrax, a substance known to make living people sleep very soundly and never wake up. He mentioned that the college was used as a weapons testing site during the World War II, and anthrax was something the government was trying to develop.

The soft-voice said she "hoped it wasn't true. Maybe that could be part of the water troubles."

Um, I don't think so.

The water troubles are from galvanized pipes that supply water to the heating units on the campus. They stem from minute traces of an element called "nitrite," not anthrax.

I realize that many of us know the name of the bacteria, but few may know what anthrax really does, or what it is.

Anthrax is "an infectious disease of warm-blooded animals transmissible to humans especially by the handling of infected products, as in wool, and characterized by ... ulcerating nodules or by lesions in the lungs." [Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary]

This is NOT funny, she told me. She's right.

But I found it rather unfortunate that

see **HISTORY** on page

## Lane's dirty history revealed — despite controversy

Kinsey Kaylor

Humorist

## Part III

In 1963, five years before LCC was established, a report published by Rural University Statistics Oregon Bureau of Educational Research identified the need for a community college in Lane County.

"We needed to get people learned," said Jeremy Ron, head of RUSOBER.

"The logging industry was dying and unemployment was skyrocketing. We needed to get people learned in other work skills." Ron teamed with then

Gov. Kickharder to pass a \$9.9 million construction

bond to convert the retired chemical warfare lab/prison/cemetery, located at 4000 E. 30th Ave., into the new campus.

The extra 30 trillion acres needed for the campus were donated by Bucky "Buba" Lasik.

"I was really conducted," says Lasik. "Darn government wouldn't allow me to log my land. But, if I donated the land to the government, they logged them trees and then gave me the profits."

Boy-howdy, what a surprise."

Construction began in January of 1967 and classes began in September 1968.

Dank Green was in the first class to graduate from Lane Community College in 1970. He now runs the Ralph Nader for President, Eugene office.

"Living in Ohio was a total drag," he said. "I hated shaving and showering so I cruised out here in '67. I was hoping I wouldn't have to deal with 'the man' and could live in my VW bus in peace, everybody else was doing it," recalls Green.

"Like, man, after two days I realized that living in my car totally sucked, but I still didn't want to work. So I like, went to LCC and lived off financial aid. It was sweet!"

Green wanted to be a writer but Ohio only had white & blue collar jobs available. In frustration he moved to Eugene to learn to write.

LCC currently has over 50,000 students and is ranked among 10 of best community colleges in the nation. Some of the smartest people walk through LCC halls. In fact some can recognize a humor column just by the 20pt heading that reads 'Humor Column' above the article.

Humor Column

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## DeForge opinion not shared

I would like to express my opinion towards your "lead reporter's" (Lauretta DeForge) commentary printed in the Jan. 25 edition of the Torch.

It concerns me greatly that this unadulterated trash would be printed in the school's newspaper. Furthermore, it saddens me greatly that no matter what the case, partisan views like the above mentioned will poison the future of our great Nation.

The entire student body does not feel the same views as your reporter, and I would like your paper to express equal time to the fact as such. Thank you for reading my comments.

Naomi J. Johnson  
Eugene, Ore.

## Shine endorsed for LCC's Board

I have been associated with LCC for 20 years and know what remarkable people run for positions on the LCC Board of Education. When it comes to supporting the LCC mission, the students, and the educators at Lane, no candidate could surpass the energetic Dennis Shine. If you want to be represented by someone with a keen intellect who knows and understands education issues, by someone who has a long history of commitment to the college and his community, elect Dennis Shine to represent you on the LCC Board!

Libby Page  
Eugene, Ore.

## Torch ad is inflammatory

I was shocked and disturbed by the "anti-abortion" insert in the Jan. 18 issue

of the Torch. As a newspaper you have the power and responsibility when choosing to run ads. Word in print becomes advocacy. That is what I interpreted by your running of that slick propaganda ad. When I addressed you personally I was told it was a freedom of speech/press issue. Don't you worry about libel, not printing the truth? What you decide to print whether in story or advertising has an enormous impact. Would you choose pornographic advertising in a school newspaper? This is an equally inflammatory issue.

The right to abortion is currently under attack from the new presidential administration. I am choosing to read and watch news coverage that is more open to full coverage. I smell out the slant first and frankly the Torch is beginning to stink

Toby Finkelstein  
LCC training and  
employment consultant



## Lane writer wins national contest

□ *Denali Associate editor also previously honored with local awards*

Asta Stapp

For the Torch

Ratina Wallner was one of five second-place winners in a national writing contest advertised and sponsored a year ago by Harper Collins Perennial in New Yorker magazine, entitled "Have you read a classic lately?"

The title of the contest wasn't what caught Wallners' fancy. Pictured next to the contest title was a book that she had read in high school. The book was "The Bell Jar" by Sylvia Plath, about a woman who descends into madness.

Wallner, living in a suburb of Minneapolis at the time, explains she was envious of the "starving, mad artist in New York" life portrayed in the book. At the time, Wallner thought if she wanted to write she needed more life experience, and thought of going crazy as kind of glamorous.

Wallner tried everything to snap the delicate cord that held her to reality. She drank heavily and used psychedelic drugs to alter her perceptions. She ran away from her troubled home numerous times, throwing herself out in the world. She took risks and did not care what happened. She hitch-hiked and traveled, wanting to escape the female model, to break the mold.

Wallner grew up reading books such as "Tom Sawyer" and "Huck Finn;" there were no girl adventure models. "The Bell Jar" was the first book she had read that showed what happened when a woman stepped outside the norm. "It might not have been good," Wallner explains, but she desired adventure.

Wallner envied the heroine in the book for her life in an institution. It left her free from the responsibility of making her own choices, something Wallner had



PHOTO BY MOLLY

President of LCC's Writers Club Retina Walker was one of five second-place finalists in a National Writing contest sponsored by Harper Collins Perennial in the New Yorker magazine.

never experienced. The character could've just given up. Wallner was never able to go that far; she was never able to give up.

Her "crazy days" ended when she became pregnant with her first child.

With "The Bell Jar" having such an impact on her in high school, Wallner was inspired to write her essay on it. She sent in her 350-word essay to the contest and awaited the June announcement proclaiming the winners.

June came and no word was sent. Wallner wrote a letter requesting the contest results,

again she heard nothing. She thought, "Oh well, big corporation. My letter just got lost in the shuffle."

Wallner forgot about the contest until December, when she received news that she was the lucky winner of a library, containing 43 Harper Collins Perennial books, including "The Bell Jar."

With a preference for personal essays and social commentary, Wallner is also a winner here at LCC.

She won first place for her essay "Passing the Torch," in the Lane League for Innovations

contest. She placed second in the Writers Club contest "Imagination," with an essay titled "Fearless Fantastic Feminism."

With prize-winning essays like these, it wasn't surprising to hear Wallner explain, "I'd like to be a columnist who is a combination of Irma Bombeck, Dorothy Parker

and Gloria Steinem."

Wallner is also president of the LCC Writers Club and editorial associate editor of LCC's literary magazine Denali. If you would like some of Wallners prize-winning talent to rub off on your work, she can be found tutoring in the LCC writing lab on the 4th floor of the Center Building.

## Funding alters Women's Day at LCC

Noah Tinker

Staff Reporter

Women's Day at LCC has been cancelled this year due to lack of funding for the Women's Program, which has showcased the event for the past 11 years.

However, a similar event, the Women's Information Technology Conference, will be held on LCC's main campus Saturday, April 21. The conference will be accompanied by similar events aimed at promoting enlarged career aspirations from high school junior and seniors.

"For the moment the plan is to keep offering the 'Women Starting College' workshops and see how that works, and to focus recruitment efforts on more non-traditional kinds of careers for women," shared Women's Program Director Kate Barry.

"We lost some funding for Women's Day." Barry went on to discuss the reasons for the change. "We offered it in an abbreviated version, shorter than we normally do and that wasn't very effective," she states. "Although we've had steady numbers of attendees at Women's Day, they've been stabilizing between 150 and 200 women for several years now. We really talked it through a lot in program planning meetings last spring and made the decision then."

"It was a great opportunity for women to come to the campus in a non-threatening way," commented Science Instructor Stacey Kiser, who has worked in a booth at Women's Day for the past three years. There were also special aspects. "We had mothers and daughters coming, and it gave us an opportunity to talk to both about taking science classes," said Kiser.

Brandi Frye, a 22-year-old freshman at LCC, came to her first Women's Day last year with a friend. She discussed Women's Day's impact on her. "It

helped me get into an alternative program, a non-traditional field."

Program Advisor Donna "La Rosa" Rose is in charge of the new conference and offers her view for it. "It will be exactly the same as Women's Day, but it will be targeting women who are interested in various aspects of information technology," she said.

The main targets of the conference are high school students, college students and women returning to college to receive training or retraining for their career.

Rose elaborated on the purpose of the new conference. "What we're hoping to do is let women know what kind of jobs and careers are available in the information and technology field — electronics, things having to do with multimedia in addition to the more technical aspects of the computer field."

"Women's Day was a more general information place," stated Patsy Raney, a professor in Women's Studies, who compared Women's Day with the new Women's Information Technology Conference. She added, "I think what it offered was a one-stop information center."

However, the new conference will be more specified. "It's clearly more focused," she said. "I think it's going to serve a much clearer purpose."

Frye added her hopes for the new conference. "I'm hoping maybe it'll help females see there are other job opportunities out there."

"I just think sometimes you have to look at what you do and say 'Is this the most effective thing that we could do?'" said Barry.

A planning committee is scheduled to meet Wednesday, Feb. 7, for those who wish to aid the new conference. For more information, contact Rose at 747-4501, extension 2722.

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# Teaching English the plain old-fashioned way—with friends

Tim Biggs

Editor in Chief

They appear from nowhere, two middle-aged gentlemen, speaking intently, dressed in similar fashion — backpacks filled with books clinging tightly to narrow jacket-clad shoulders, ballcaps resting jauntily upon wide brows.

One glance at their faces reveals much, much more.

Kaoru Shibata is from Japan, a student from the land of the rising sun. His face conveys the eager friendliness of his homeland, his thick black hair perched comfortably atop his head.

His companion, Ron Shatto, is an American student. They are roughly the same height; they stand across a table strewn with homework and left-over lunch. Shatto offers his new friend a pair of spectacles.

Shibata smiles and places them gingerly upon his nose. His face suddenly runs through a gamut of contortions — some interested, others apparently filled with pain — as he attempts to merely gaze through the bifocals.

His attempts bring laughter and lightness to the surroundings.

They are part of a conversational English program on LCC's campus that started last fall, and blossomed like a sakura tree, spreading cheer and friendship around the campus. The program pairs American students with international students who want to learn more about the language and the land they now reside in.

The program began small with 20 pairs last fall term, says Student Ambassador Megumi Nontani. She says that there are now 34 pairs in all, and there are more American speakers who are looking for partners.



PHOTO BY SERITH HINELINE

Ember Livingston and Junko Watamabe talk over tea in the cafeteria. They learn about each others cultures while becoming friends in LCC's conversational English program.

This is "a good thing," she says, and Mary Jo Erickson, student adviser, for the International Student Community program, agrees.

"We send the students [Nontani, ChongWen Hu and Emma Nielsen, student peer coordinators] to classes to recruit. The class visits are what gets it," she says.

Shatto says that one these class sessions drew him in.

"I was always interested in this, but I didn't know how to

approach them," he says. "I wanted to strike up a lasting friendship. When they came to the class, I went that day and signed up. They partnered me up with two students.

"I spent time in the Air Force in Japan and Korea," he says. "My wife is [Japanese-American], and may have family over there. I saw this program also as a way to meet my own family."

He saw it as a way to pay back some of the kindnesses that he was shown while in Asia, he says.

"Especially Japan. All I had to do was look lost and there were people all around me who were there to help me find my way."

Shibata called him, and the first meeting was set. They have met twice since then. "I like the time I spend with Kaoru and Thomas, (another partner) who is from Taiwan," he says.

Some partnerships have lasted into this term, says Nontani.

"They often become friends," she says, "and continue on. They don't always stay in touch with

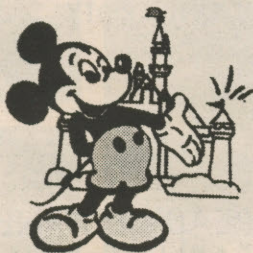
the program." She smiles gently, and continues. "This is our purpose, not only conversation, but friendship."

"When you have the desire to see [your partner] without a set time," says Shatto, "then you know it's friendship."

There have been a few pairings that didn't work, Nontani says. American students seem to be very busy, to work a lot. Most students try to meet at least once

see CONVERSATION on page 11

## Guess Who's Recruiting On Campus?



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## New vista proposed for students interested in studying abroad

Faith Kolb

Staff Writer

Son Le Thi has worked in the LCC Finance Department only a few weeks, yet she has been very busy proposing a new foreign exchange opportunity for students to go to Vietnam.

Le Thi says, "Students [would] spend two weeks with a host family, helping the family in some way." English tutoring would be one option, and helping out in the home would be another choice. Business or accounting majors would have the opportunity to explore living and working in Vietnam in their chosen field.

The first proposed trip would be to Ho Chi Min City, formerly Saigon, a large metropolis in the south, inhabited by approximately seven million people.

Le Thi says, "Food, behavior and culture would be [the] major focus of the program."

The goal is to see how lifestyles differ and compare to life in America, specifically the culture of Eugene.

Five slots would be available on the first trip. Right now, the program is in the planning stages. The first hurdle is accreditation,

then submission of a formal written prospectus to the academic board. If the board approves it, she says that the trip could take place as early as this summer. Currently, Le Thi is unsure which college department will house the venture.

Students would travel around the foreign city via the city bus, as well as by "cyclo" — a modern form of rickshaw, a bicycle with an attached conveyance used to carry passengers.

Le Thi is from Ho Chi Min City, where she met her husband of ten years, Jake Dudell. She also has a son, Jason, who is nine. Le Thi and Dudell worked for Holt International Children's Services, assisting United States families' adoptions of Vietnamese children for five years before coming to live here in Eugene. Dudell now works for St. Vincent De Paul's, taking American students to Vietnam.

Denise Douty, an associate of arts Oregon transfer major at LCC, says, "I think it would be an exciting, interesting opportunity. I mean, can you imagine a more foreign culture? I bet it would be even more fun for someone who already knows the language.

Finally, a vacation to write home about; travel, foreign food, and college credit."

The idea for the program stems from the work that Le Thi and her husband have accomplished with high school students during the past four years. The high school students get a chance to go to Vietnam or Thailand and earn the volunteer credit necessary for graduation by doing au pair/nanny work. Le Thi says college credit hours could be earned by taking the two-week trip. She will find out this week at her proposal meeting just how that would work.

The cost of the program would run in the neighborhood of \$3,000, covering airfare, food and lodging. It allows students to monitor elementary, secondary or post-secondary school students depending upon language ability and preference. Le Thi stated that it takes about a year of living in Vietnam to pick up the language for a novice, although her husband learned it faster than that.

A current, valid passport would be required to obtain the necessary visa. For more information, contact Le Thi at extension 2516.



# Taiko: the Spirit of Japan resounds loudly

□ *The drums resonate, calling the faithful in rhythmic chanting perceived spiritually by all present. Though the language isn't English, the song is understood.*

Review by Tim Biggs/ Kei Matsumoto  
Editor/ Staff Writer

The Taiko voice a universal call of honor among friends, a call not heard, but experienced.

Several drums stand on the floor beneath us in the Hult Center's Silva Concert Hall lobby. Ranging in diameters of 12 inches to two feet, they shake the foundations with their speech. Their ancient voices bounce from walls of glass, soak into the carpeted floor, sing into the rafters, and become one with the structure that houses the people. The drums speak of a connection between the living and the honored departed ancestors who even now seem to throng to the powerful thrumming.

"There is something very spiritual in Taiko," says Carol Youngquist, one of the Japanese members of Eugene Taiko. "This is universal. Every culture has this."

The local troupe Eugene Taiko will perform at the Asian Festival on Feb. 17 and 18. It consists of "people who love to do Taiko," as one of the members claims. The members set the tone and tempo for the evening's celebration. Men and women, both Asian and non-Asian, move among the instruments, switching places with a synchronous grace that combines dance with thudding rhythms.

The oaken drums themselves, made from recycled wine casks and rawhide, are handmade. They appear to house a great deal of energy, waiting to explode. Tuned with a car jack, the rawhide heads are nailed into place with ornate brass brads.

They are quite beautiful. "We practice the Matsuri or festival, form of Taiko," says Aimee Yogi, one of Eugene Taiko's founders.

Taiko was introduced to America in the mid '60s in San Francisco, and the Eugene group debuted in 1990 at the Asian Festival.

"A group of us sat down in 1989 and thought, 'Hey, we don't

have any music to represent us,'" Yogi says. "We decided to start a Taiko group, and we try to add something new each year."

"Part of the enjoyment of Taiko is the visual — and that's 90 percent of the experience," she states with a broad smile. "Wait 'til you experience Kodo! They're wonderful!"

"Kodo" is a Japanese word meaning "The child of the beat." We have arrived to see the 16-member group, and it is all the n a m e implies — and more.

As the large curtain rises, Kodo begins with a five-beat, which contains two distinct downbeats and three upbeats. Powerful rhythmic utterances sweep the capacity crowd from the comfortable seats, propelling us into regions of sight and sound at once exuberant and manic. The sheer mass of the controlled cacophony threatens to engulf us all.

Suddenly, as rapidly as it comes upon us, the piece, entitled "Mikazuki-no-yoru," or "Night of the Crescent Moon," is in the past. Yet before its rhythms fade completely, a young woman in a traditional kimono dances sinuously to the beat of a single ornate drum.

The dance and the drum tell the story of a young man and woman who meet and begin the dance of their lives together. We had never thought of a drum in the sense of a mating ritual, its gentle tones almost caressing in simplicity, yet complex in its natural communication. Two play at the single drum — one at each

end

The drum tells the passionate story of two young lovers and their voices sing in a sweet call-and-response. The control they exert on the sticks leaves us breathless. Glancing blows to the rawhide are served with enough force to break an arm, while others seem to caress the skin.

The drums sit in different positions, some impossible to believe. Western drummers set up pretty much parallel to the ground. It is easier to play forcefully in a downward motion.

But Taiko drummers don't. They just grab a bigger set of sticks called bachi and try to drive the drum into the floor, or the air, holding it with feet encased in tabi, socks with one toe. They lie on the floor below the drum and swing up at it. An impossible feat witnessed by thousands.

A n d accuracy. The skin heads of the drums have a small 3 to 4 inch spot in

the center of them. This is caused by the repeated striking of the huge bachi.

The controlled wildness of the celebration is a percussionist's dream.

For the first time, we hear drums as music. We hear the thunderous pounding of a typhoon on the roof of house, the sonorous power of a lone cicada.

In one selection the drums again call to the venerated ancients. Their call is echoed, and soon preceded by a tam, or gong, which sets the beat. The crowd is hushed, enthralled.

Another gentle piece is played on bamboo nestled in hardwood mangers, and the sounds of open fifths sing below the trilling of flutes in a point/counter-point style.

The obvious climax is the "O-

"The two men seem to be knocking upon the doors of heaven itself as they coax and wring every nuance from the huge beast, their sound so tightly together that air molecules couldn't slip between the beats."

Daiko," a 4-foot drum weighing 800 pounds that stoically, mockingly withstands the rigors of two athletes — for that is what they are — who attack it.

One man keeps a steady rhythm at one end while another, a soloist whose very stance bespeaks great determination, furiously drives the two inch diameter bachi into the responsive black head. His emotional ferocity is punctuated by grunts and exertive sounds that roll over the breathless onlookers. There is no sound but the voice of O-Daiko.

The two men seem to be knocking upon the doors of heaven itself as they coax and wring every nuance from the huge beast, their sound so tightly together that air molecules couldn't slip between the beats.

"He was amazing," says Nancy Cedarleaf-Grey, of Florence, when asked about the 50 year-old drummer who hurled himself at O-Daiko.

Sky Grey, 13, taps out a facsimile of the final rhythms on his leg. "I like 'em!" he blurts enthusiastically.

Kumiko Vanderbush, a teacher at Eugene's Yujin Gakuen Japanese Immersion School, is touched by the power she observed. "Everything was so wonderful! It's like picking an entree from the menu at a favorite restaurant. I loved everything," she says.

Shawn Chambliss, former LCC student and now an instructor at the Pioneer Youth Corps Military Academy, says he was "hypnotized, and then they hit you with some funky beats. It was great."

One of his students, 11-year-old Sydney Maximin, is an old hand at Taiko. He has played drums before, but now "I want to play the cymbals!" he says, the gleam in his eye rivaling the glare from the brassy instruments he refers to.

Kelly Hesch is enthralled. "I've seen bit and pieces," she says, "but this was my first time! Unbelievable!"

Her husband, Alan, smiles. "I keep wondering what it would be like if these guys showed up at the Saturday Market!"

We do, too.

## Ceili: Traditional Irish folk dance visits once a month

Lauretta DeForge

Lead Reporter

"Ceili [pronounced kay-lee] dancing really feeds my soul," says Sheila Powers, Irish dance instructor at LCC, "and helps me remember my heritage." Powers began Irish step-dancing when she was 8 years old. But after she married, she completely stopped dancing.

After her 20-year marriage broke up, her father told her, "You always were a lovely dancer. Why don't you go back to that?" So she did.

There are three kinds of Irish dancing," says Powers. "There is step-dancing made popular by the River Dance company. There is set dancing that is more intricate and ceili dancing that is more fun and easier to learn."

A ceili is a group of musicians and dancers getting together for the enjoyment of Irish music. "A ceili originally started in Ireland at the crossroads," said Powers. Where two large roads came together was "where the musicians would gather, and then the dancers

would join in.

"Ceili dancing is great for mixing," says Powers. "No partner is necessary. You will start dancing with one group and five minutes later you will be with another group. By the time the evening is over, you will have met everyone on the dance floor."

At the monthly ceili at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 166 East 13th (at the corner of 13th and Pearl Streets), Friday, Feb. 2, an evening of Irish ceili dancing with callers Bruce Kenny and Powers will commence. The event will start at 8 p.m., with a \$5 charge for students and seniors, and \$6 for adults.

"It's a warm and wonderful event," she says. Chairs are set around around the perimeter of the room, where small groups of people are talking. Most of the people are gathered in the center of the floor, rhythmically bobbing up and down to the lilting cadences of live Irish music, which could be a reel, a jig, or a hornpipe. It makes no difference; everyone is here for fun and good times. All ages are welcome.

Sharon Rodgers, Power's friend, whom she

has known for a long time, often plays accordion. Rodgers takes charge of finding the musicians for her ceilis. Sometimes other musicians drop in to jam with whoever is playing.

Each ceili here in Eugene has different instrumentalists. Sometimes Linda Danielson "fiddles" around, and Chico Schwall plays with a variety of unusual European instruments.

Powers comes from a family that is half-Irish and half-American. Her parents met in Ireland during World War II. Walking down the street one night, her father asked some attractive Irish women where he could go for the evening to have a good time. All of the women ignored him, except for Powers' mother, who threw over her shoulder that she would be at the ceili that night at a specific address.

Powers' father arrived at the ceili and monopolized her mother's time, even though she was really interested in another man. She finally decided to go out with him; they were married and later emigrated to the U.S.

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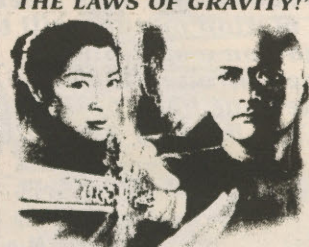
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# Titan Women leave winning streak on road

Mary Jones-Tucker  
Sports Editor

The Titan women, now 12-8 overall; 2-3 season, must have left their winning ways on the road.

When they returned home Wednesday Jan. 24 to play Linn-Benton Community College's Roadrunners, the team gave it their best shot, but just didn't hit the basket.

Head Coach Greg Sheley said he was frustrated with the team's 98-74 loss to their NWACC rival Linn-Benton.

The Titans hit only 36 percent — 26 out of 72 — of their shots from the field, Lane made only 50 percent — 18 of 36 — free

throws.

With 18 points Heidi Gilbert, starting guard for the Titans had the leading shots in the game.

Summer Wright starting guard, led Linn-Benton (14-5 league 3-2 season) to victory with seven three-point shots, giving her a 48 percent shooting average for the night. This also gave her a career high score of 33 points. LCC lost in rebounds by five, but managed to get five more turnovers with 25. LCC had 16 steals over LBCC's 12.

Jenny Pippa, starting guard, suffered a serious right knee injury and was carried off the floor and transported to a hospital.

She may be out for the remainder of the season.



PHOTOS BY DANIEL BERALDO

**Above:** Amber Thomas, a 5'10" freshman post, and forward Ashlyn Terry battle the boards with a lone LBCC defender.

**Left:** Freshman guard Heidi Gilbert dribbles the perimeter searching for an open teammate while darting Linn-Benton Roadrunner Linzi Strohm.



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## Titans Dominate!



PHOTO BY CAROL SHREWSBERRY

Guard Conor Kerlin from Mt. View High School in Bend, Ore. looks to set up the Titan offense against Linn-Bentons defenders.

## Titan's leave Linn-Benton Roadrunners scrambling in the dust

Mary Jones-Tucker  
Sports Editor

The Titan men advanced to a 4-1 NWACC season, Jan. 24, when they swept past the Linn-Benton Roadrunners, 76-47.

The Titans are now in a three-way tie for first place in the league.

The score was 58-36 with nine minutes to play, and while LBCC fought hard to close the gap, it was to no avail. The Titans won what

seemed to be an easy victory on their home court.

Dave Brautigam recorded his second double-double of the season when he scored 22 points and grabbed 12 rebounds for the Titans.

Brian Peterson, a starting wing, added 16 points and five rebounds.

Sultan Fitas, at starting wing-high post, sunk 12 points in the first 12 minutes before twisting his ankle. He was out for the remainder of the game.

## Super Bowl yawn-fest leaves fans icy cold

Sports commentary by Trevor Dillard

For the Torch

We are spoiled sports fans.

We always want bigger and better things, never being satisfied. Last year's Super Bowl was no exception. The St. Louis Rams and the Titans (Tennessee that is), gave us a great game that was one arm's length short of overtime.

So when this season rolled around, we all expected the Rams to throw up 50 points a game and see scores that would make us think we were watching college basketball. What happened? Turns out that none of that mattered this year.

The NFL decided to flip the calendar backwards and bring that football concept back that everyone forgot, I think its called defense. Back to the old 13-7 slugfests in places called Soldier Field. Back to the days when a touchdown meant something. Back when a 100-yard rusher was a weekly milestone, not an expectation.

So I started asking around whether or not people would actually watch Baltimore and the New York Giants in this years Super Bowl, and the reactions weren't all that shocking to me. I think some people would have rather watched oatmeal cook than watch Sunday's game.

But this is the Super Bowl, it's an event, not just a game. It's not every day that you see Aerosmith and NSync sing together, poorly, I might add. Eighty percent of the people who watch the game would rather see the commercials than actually watch football. It finally hit me at halftime: defense can be fun to watch. Sometimes, a great block or a hit that will make you cringe at home can be just as exciting as an 80 yard run.

Even though Baltimore won 34-7, this was the most defensive minded Super Bowl I've ever seen. Now for those of you who are thinking that Baltimore scored 34 points, let me remind you that there were only two offensive touchdowns in the whole game. There were 21 punts, six more than any other Super Bowl.

New York didn't even get one offensive score, its only score was a 96-yard punt return for a touchdown. We saw three touchdowns in 36 seconds, as well as an interception and two kickoff returns. None were on offense.

I, for one, am already excited about next year, and maybe we won't have to wait very long. After all, Vince McMahon's XFL is starting Feb. 3. It could even be more hard hitting and more exciting than the Super Bowl.

But don't hold your breath.

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# Apparitions, poltergeists, hauntings — it's hard to sleep

Andrea Larsen

Lead Reporter

Ever since I was a little girl, they've been there. Trying to say it was all a dream became harder as the years passed. I wish I could say I'm dreaming. But I'm being watched. I see them. I sense them, these ghosts that inhabit my home and my life.

It's been easy for people who've heard my story to try and attribute the unusual occurrences to stress, lack of sleep, even a deteriorated mental state or excessive drug use. I wish it was something therapy could fix.

I've never used drugs, I may not get enough sleep all the time and frequently do experience stress, but I'd hardly say I have a deteriorated mental state.

The latest incident began as a whisper in the dark, someone spoke my name close to my ear, not ominously, but clearly wanting my attention. I awoke with a start, and had the distinct feeling I was being watched, evaluated. I told myself I was imagining it.

For months though, that feeling deep in my gut; a feeling of dread and uneasiness, stayed with me. When I slept at night, showered, or even when I held my son at night, reading bedtime stories he so loves, I felt that we were not alone, though nothing happened. At least for a while.

Then, just before this past Christmas, strange occurrences came to be part of my daily life. It was then I started my journey into parapsychology, the psychology of psychic phenomena.

I consulted "Parapsychology: The Controversial Science," by Richard S. Broughton, who categorizes three types of paranormal phenomena: poltergeists and the two seemingly similar hauntings and apparitions or ghosts.

Broughton says hauntings usually center around certain locations or places and may be experienced by different people at various intervals. There is often an unobserved displacement of objects (like my dishes being taken out of the cupboard), a variety of noises, such as

thumps, bumps, rappings, footsteps (the sound of someone shuffling across my brand-new carpet). Things break, doors open and close (my doors slam closed for no apparent reason, or open as soon as I shut out the lights), latches work themselves; and often the sound of human voices (whispers), a distant groan or crying. They love to make my lights turn off as I sit up late at night reading.

Occasionally you see apparitions in hauntings. I've seen them before, but these were elusive, only making their presence known with noises and actions. Once in a while, though, I'd see them, peering around corners at me, curious, but cautious.

Apparitions are the appearance of a person (living) who is not present or the surviving aspect (the soul, spirit, or consciousness) of a dead individual, serving as a catalyst for the phenomena, also called the disincarnate-entity theory, says Broughton.

Broughton describes a crisis apparition as a hallucination brought on by telepathic contact with a person in crisis. It is often a one-time occurrence, unlike my repeated occurrences.

He defines a "recurrent localized apparition" as something various people see at different times in roughly the same vicinity. A "collective apparition" is seen by several people simultaneously.

It is likely that these occurrences in my home are recurrent localized apparitions, since myself and my son are the only

ones who've seen them, though not at the same time. But overnight guests have been victim to the noises and abruptness of their actions.

Broughton says these apparitions are thought to be felt by people with super ESP (extra sensory perception) who then "infect" the location with the memory of the encounter. It can then be sensed by others who are keen to ESP.

A recurrent apparition often engages in the same specific behavior each time it is observed. It rarely interacts with, or acknowledges, its observers. For example: it paces the same hallway, rocks in the same chair and basically minds its own business.

I have to say that this theory is inconsistent with my experiences; there's a randomness to what I see and acknowledge. I never know what will happen. It's different and more intense each time.

Broughton says apparitions and hauntings can continue for years or decades.

Poltergeists, which means "noisy spirit" in German, are the most severe phenomena.

Broughton thinks poltergeists are the product of a living individual, often a young person under psychological stress who produces the phenomena through recurrent spontaneous psychokinesis.

Psychokinesis is the ability to move objects using nothing but mental powers.

I dreamt once that I was able to do this. I dreamt I was angry with someone and in the dream

the minute my eyes made contact with theirs, they flew backwards against the wall, as if they'd been thrown, although I hadn't touched them. When I awoke, I fully expected that I could use that power. I felt it coursing through my limbs.

According to Broughton, the living individual that this phenomena centers around is called the "focus" or "agent" of the poltergeist. The agent experiences external manifestations of repressed anger, hostility triggered by stress and often directed toward itself. When the agent is present the phenomena often occurs, then ceases when they are absent from the location although it has been speculated that it follows them to new locations. This phenomena lasts anywhere from a few weeks to a few months and often ends when the stress is removed.

Broughton says poltergeists cause loud noises like bangs, thuds, crashes, rappings and object movements that are often observed by onlookers. Poltergeist activity is more violent than that of a haunting. Objects are seen in mid-air, defying the laws of gravity, making movements not typical of projectiles at high rates of speed. Small fires and puddles of unexplainable water have been reported. Also, attacks on people leaving torn clothing, bites, scratches and pinches.

It is not believed, however, that the intention of the poltergeist is to cause harm. Apparitions

see **GHOSTS** on page 10

## Hot water still tainted

Gloria Biersdorff

Features Editor

Nearly a month after the problem was first discovered, campus hot water continues to fail potability standards, says LCC Environmental Specialist Jennifer Hayward.

In a Jan. 22 memo sent to LCC employees, Hayward urged people to "please continue to avoid drinking or cooking with hot water on the main campus until you have received further notice."

She stressed that test results still indicate higher-than-acceptable levels of sodium nitrite in the water.

"We are continuing to work on correcting the problem. We will notify you when it is corrected, and when test results show nitrites below levels of concern," she concluded.

Analysts tested the hot water for the third time on Jan. 24, and found levels of sodium nitrite ranging from 2.0 parts per million to 3.2 ppm, says Facilities Management Superintendent Mike Ruiz.

"For consumption, the acceptable level is considered to be 1.0 ppm," says Ruiz, who emphasizes that people can still use hot water for showers, hand-washing and dish-washing without concern.

Regarding the 190-degree

"insta-hot" water faucets, Hayward underscored in her Jan. 22 memo that all of these faucets are now supplied by cold water. This amends an earlier memo declaring the Administration Building "insta-hot" faucets unsafe.

The apparent causes of the elevated nitrite levels, says Ruiz, are pinhole leaks in pipes running from a boiler to the system that heats water in a heat exchanger for LCC's domestic hot water supply. These leaks allow an anti-corrosive chemical product called Formula 12L, used to maintain the galvanized steel boilers, to infiltrate the hot water system.

Ruiz says that the tell-tale sign of nitrites in the system was an odor emitting from hot water taps. "It was a rubber smell, kind of like deep sea diving equipment," he says.

Complaints began to flow into his office Jan. 9, Ruiz says. A water analysis the following day revealed nitrite levels at 2.7 ppm — 1.7 ppm higher than the maximum contaminant goal set by Oregon's Occupational, Safety and Health Administration.

"It will take us a while to replace these hot water exchangers," says Ruiz, who estimates the cost to overhaul the system at roughly \$60,000.

For further information, contact Hayward at ext. 2594.

## Don't be alarmed: This is only a test

Kei Matsumoto

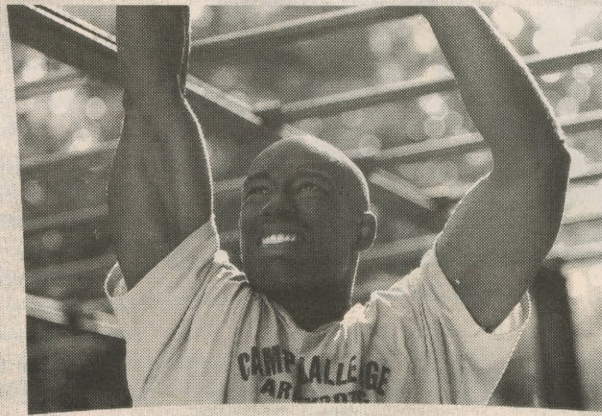
Staff Writer

"We did a dry run, which is a fire alarm test to make sure new fire alarm systems will work together with all buildings," says Communication Specialist Nancy Nichols, Bond Project.

The fire alarm test was conducted at the newly remodeled Health Tech Building on Tuesday, Jan. 30 around 1:30 p.m. It was to test the new fire alarm system to see if it would work in conjunction with other systems.

"There will be two or three more tests of alarm systems before March. We are upgrading the system, so in case of emergencies, we will be able to pin-point the exact location," says Lead Carpenter Lynn Atkins, Bond Project. "Every time a section of building is completed, we are required by state law to test the new alarm system."

"In a couple of weeks, we will have a fire alarm test done by the Fire Marshall, which is a lengthy and extensive test to make sure alarm systems will work fine," says Atkins.



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## Music Events

### Feb. 1 —

Grammy Award-winning guitar master **Eric Johnson** will play at The WOW Hall, while touring his new release **"Live and Beyond"** with drummer Bill Maddox and bassist Chris Maresh, collectively known as Alien Love Child. Guitar Player Magazine gave Johnson "Best Overall Guitarist Award for Best Rock Instrumental" five years in a row. **The Derek Trucks Band**, led by 21-year-old guitarist Derek Trucks, opens the evening. Since playing his first gig at age 11, Trucks has performed with Bob Dylan, Buddy Guy, Willie Nelson, John Lee Hooker, Phish and many more. DTB blends many styles from blues, jazz and rock, to Latin and eastern Indian music to its show. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and show time is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$22.50 in advance and \$25 at the door.



**JEFF HEALEY BAND**

door when accompanied by parent or adult guardian; five and under, no charge.) For more information, call 687-2746.

### Feb. 4 —

Fresh off the American tour of King Crimson, touch guitarist **Trey Gunn** and his band return to The WOW Hall. From classical piano, his musical abilities have grown to encompass electric bass, electric and acoustic guitars, keyboards and now, touch guitar. A unique instrument with eight strings that is tapped and has the range of a

piano. The band features works from its last four releases. The sound is fusion music that challenges every preconceived notion about music with a large variety of percussion to round out the sound. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Show time is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

### Feb. 5 —

Lovelight Concerts is proud to welcome a CD release party for **The Jeff Healey Band**, with **The Shannon Fayth Band**, at the Sheldon High School Auditorium.

Healey's band has returned the Northwest are a steady climb to fame. The band has recorded many releases showcasing a style of playing the guitar — flat on his lap — that

Healey has patented, and has become the trademark of his performance. Since 1988, their music has been used for movie

soundtracks, played with the big bands and are now one in their own right. Show time is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$21.50, available at Fastixx, CD World, EMU Box Office and Mountain Jam. For more information: MMEYER@efn.org.

### Feb. 7 —

UO campus radio KWVA and The WOW Hall welcomes **Southern Culture** on

**the Skids** (SCOTS) for an evening of roots rock along with special guests **The Amazing Crowns** and **The Danged**. SCOTS is touring its seventh full-length album, **Liquored Up and Lacquered Down**, a mix of rock-eting rhythm and blues-fueled workouts and country and western-tinged weepers. **Amazing Crowns** plays punk rockabilly and was named 1998's best Live Act by the Boston Phoenix and received four Boston Music Awards. Eugene's **The Danged** play a houserockin' mix of blues, punk rockabilly. Doors open at 8 p.m. Show time is 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door.

## Theater/Arts

### Feb. 1-8 —

The Art Department Gallery at LCC is showcasing "Duality as a Whole," oil and watercolor paintings by **Satoko**, one of LCC's art instructors. The Gallery hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

### Feb. 1-4 —

The classic Shakespearean comedy of mistaken identities **"The Comedy of Errors"** (preview) will be performed at the Soreng Theatre, in the Hult Center at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12, \$14 and \$20. For more information, call the Hult Center Box Office at 682-5000.

### Feb. 1-3 —

The Very Little Theater presents **"The Murder Room,"** a whodunit that spoofs British murder mysteries. Agatha Christie and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (Sherlock Holmes) are among the authors the play pokes fun at. With special effects and sounds to tantalize the audience, this engagement promises to delight playgoers. Show time is 8:15 p.m. Tickets are \$12. For more information, call 344-7751.

### Feb. 1-4 —

The Lord Leebrick Theater has **"Cloud 9,"** by Playwright Caryl Churchill. This provocative and amusing study of colonialism and sexual politics mocks the world, employing racial and gender cross-casting to make

its points. Set in Victorian Africa and England, "It's a play about people wanting to achieve that state of serenity and joy in their lives," says Director Corey Pearlstein. Show time is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$11 and \$15.

### Feb. 1-4 —

Irish playwright Brian Friel's Tony Award-winning play **"Dancing at**

**Lughnasa"** will be featured at the Robinson Theatre, on UO campus. Show time is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 general; \$8 for seniors, UO faculty/staff, non-UO students and \$5 for UO students. For more information,

call 346-4364 or 346-4191.

### Feb. 1-9 —

The Maude Kerns Art Center presents **"Fibers X Five,"** showcasing the work of fiber artists. The new year will flourish with an exhibit that's innovative. Pieces were selected from a national pool of submissions. Susan Christensen of Alaska uses mixed media and collage techniques; Oregon artist Nanette Davis-Shaklho literally sculpts with fabric; Lorin Fields of North Carolina uses a variety of surface design techniques, including dyeing and color discharge; Marilyn Robert, a Eugene-based

artist and teacher at the UO, uses indigo-dyed silk woven panels to create special fabric installations for the exhibit. Arizona artist Kathyanne White hand-dyes fabric and sews it onto canvas, transforming the fabric into textile assemblages that allude to both landscape and human form. The Gallery hours are from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, when there are dis-

plays. The opening reception will be on Friday, Jan. 12, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. A \$2 donation requested. For more information, call 345-1571.

## Free

### Feb. 3 —

Every Friday night is **Eclectic Open Mic** at The Buzz Coffeehouse, ground floor EMU building from 9 p.m. to midnight. Patrick Dodd, Eugene's premier folk artist, hosts the event. All musicians are welcome to sign up at The Break, next door to the Buzz. For more information, call Jessica Brittsan, programming coordinator at 346-3725.

### Feb. 5 —

All poets, big and small, are welcome to join in a celebration of the human voice and the human soul at the **Monday Open Poetry Nights** in the Buzz Coffeehouse starting at 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. Sign up at The Break next door, or for more information, call 346-3725.

**Mack Singleton**  
A&E Editor

### Feb. 1 —

South Eugene High School will feature **The Emerald City Jazz Kings**, dedicating a night of music to jazz-great Cole Porter, known for his two million copy seller, "Begin the Beguine." The prolific composer had more musical training than most of the other songwriters of his era and EMJK will perform favorites that have become imbedded in the American psyche over the last 60 years. Show time is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 to \$22 and are available through the Oregon Festival of American Music box office at 687-6526.

### Feb. 2 —

The WOW Hall features **Ford II: Atmosphere**, **Eyedeas** playing an evening of Hip-Hop. Doors open at 8 p.m. Show time is 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

### Feb. 3 —

KRVM and The WOW Hall proudly welcome the annual **Bob Marley Birthday Celebration**, with **Boom Shaka** back to lead the celebration for the third year. The band has released four CD's, the most recent "Rebel Lion" on the Shanachie label. They have shared the stage with James Brown, George Clinton, Burning Spear, Aswad and War. Doors open at 9 p.m. Show time is 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. All ages are welcome (6 to 11-year-olds half-price at the



**BOOM SHAKA**



**SOUTHERN CULTURE**



# Flashing fists, fantastic fights — 'Crouching Dragon' delivers

Nick Davis

A&E Reporter

"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," directed by Ang Lee, appears to be another predictable action romp through ancient and somewhat mythical China.

Fortunately, Lee is the director of the Academy Award winning comedy/drama "Sense and Sensibility." Apparently this deception is what he was after.

Lee's latest effort is an epic tale of romance, nobility, and at times inner struggle that can grip us all.

Starring Chow Yun-Fat ("Anna and the King") as Li Mu Bai, and Michelle Yeoh ("Tomorrow Never Dies") as Shu Lien, the film and its title further lead us to believe it will be a mindless action film full of martial arts mayhem.

If you are a fan of mayhem, do not be disappointed. The film delivers, with more than a few fantastic fight scenes. Choreographer Yuen Wo Ping (director of "Drunken Master" and choreographer for "The Matrix") continues to astound action fans. The dramatic fights staged in locations ranging from a martial arts studio to bamboo tree tops will leave many wondering, how'd they do that?

However, the dazzling action sequences pale in comparison to the film's complex plot. "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" has at least three interwoven story lines.

- One: Li Mu Bai (Chow Yun Fat) is an aging fighter who wishes only to give up his world of conflict for Shu Lien (Michelle Yeoh). Unfortunately, he is bound by his oath to avenge his master's murder.

- Two: A sword belonging to Li Mu Bai has been stolen. Shu Lien must retrieve it. An unexpected twist develops when the identity of the sword's thief is revealed.

- Three: Jen Yu, the daughter of a Chinese governor, is being forced to marry. She longs for

freedom and the return of a lost love. Foolishly, she believes that Shu Lien is a product of the life she longs for.

Story three brings me to this week's scene stealer. Zhang Ziyi's portrayal of Jen Yu is incredible. Like Michelle Yeoh, Ziyi has the beauty, martial arts ability and acting talent to fit well into the genre. Fans of Yeoh will rejoice that there is another out there as talented as she.

The only distraction in the film is the subtitles. But as you are drawn into the story, you will find that the language barrier becomes less of a problem.

Basically, the film is great. The fight scenes are better than those in "Charlie's Angels." The mysterious story is almost Shakespeare quality. The musical score sets the mood perfectly. Certainly, people will be winning awards for this film. Anyone looking for a good movie should see it.

## The Stuff:

"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" directed by Ang Lee, starring Chow Yun Fat and Michelle Yeoh, featuring Zhang Ziyi. Opening Feb. 2 at the Bijou.

— **THE BEST STUFF:** It's a powerful action/drama.

— **THE BETTER STUFF:** Though impressive on many levels, Zhang Ziyi's performance is outstanding.

— **THE WORST STUFF:** Subtitles. 119 minutes is long for a movie that I have to read. Still, it's worth it.

— **TRIVIA:** Michelle Yeoh broke her knee while shooting. Yet, she was back on the set in two weeks.

— **RATING:** Four Stars for action. Three and a half stars for drama.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

Michelle Yeoh stars as Shu Lien, a young woman caught in intrigue as she searches for a stolen sword in "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon."

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Compiled by Skye MacIvor

Managing Editor

### Friday, Feb. 2 —

- An open forum for the LCC Board of Education candidates meet from 3:30 to 5 p.m., in Forum Room 308. Sponsored by the Management Steering Committee, ASLCC, LCC Education Association and LCC Employee Federation, the forum features six candidates: Lucille Salmony, running unopposed for Zone 1 serving the western part of the college district; Jason Davies, Dennis Shine and Ralph Wheeler, for Zone 3, serving the greater Springfield area; and Marsten Morgan and Kathleen Shelley for Zone 4, serving the eastern and southern part of Lane's district. Ballots will be mailed to voters on Feb. 26, and are due back by March 13. Election winners will begin four-year terms of volunteer service on July 1.

- The Lane Nature Writer's Group meets from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in Apprenticeship Building Room 216. This is a new club, just ratified by the Student Senate. Faculty, staff and students interested in writing, thinking, talking about "Nature" as well as experiencing Nature are welcome. For more information, contact Jeff Harrison, ext. 2145.

- Free tax help will be available beginning Feb. 2 and will be offered every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. through April 13. Bring W2 forms. If you have any questions, contact Tina Jaquez in Student Activities, ext. 2336.

### Saturday, Feb. 3 —

- Dorris Ranch Living History Program Guide Susan Morasci presents "Kalapuyas, Trappers, and Settlers: 10,000 Years in the Willamette Valley" from 4 to 5 p.m. She will explore the lives of the Native Americans indigenous to the Willamette Valley for thousands of years and the arrival of explorers, Hudson Bay Company trappers and settlers.

### Wednesday, Feb. 7 —

- Candace Gossen, architect,

builder and educator, discusses straw bale, earth sheltered and hybrid construction projects at the McNail-Riley House, 13th and Jefferson, Eugene, at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Kathy Ging, 342-8461.

### Now through Feb. 9 —

Feb. 9 is the last day to reserve tickets for the winter term Classical Cuisine Dinner, "From the Sand to the Sea: A Moroccan Feast," on Thursday, Feb. 15 at 6 p.m. in the northeast corner of the cafeteria,

first floor Center Building.

The menu:

Appetizer: Batin Jaan Zalud, an eggplant and roasted garlic hummus;

Soup: Harira, a traditional, pungent soup made from lentils, garbanzo beans and lamb;

Breads: Moroccan anise bread and seeded bread;

Sorbet: refreshing lime sorbet;

Entrée: spiced game hen with a pomegranate sauce served with yellow couscous and fava beans of

Fez;

Dessert: traditional honey dipped pastry with coconut custard.

A wine bar will be available and a vegan menu will also be offered. Tickets are \$18.50 per person and all tickets must be purchased in advance. Seating is limited. Make checks payable to LCC-Classical Cuisine Dinner and mail to LCC, BIS-Classical Cuisine Dinner, 4000 East 30th Ave. Eugene, OR 97405.

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## DIVERSITY continued from page 1

der. That was the college's first attempt to address the more "diverse" needs of its community, to make the college more user-friendly for women and non-caucasians.

"It started off small," Garcia says, "but the Diversity Team has been in place five years, and has more stability and confidence. Now they can tackle the other issues."

Part of the process has been redefining the term "diversity." This began under the leadership of Adrian Rodriguez, the previous diversity coordinator.

"What we have to really think about," says Garcia, "is [that] the way things have traditionally been done on college campuses [has] not included diverse learning styles, life experiences or diverse cultural views."

But LCC is trying to address models and mindsets.

"For instance, not all communities that comprise Lane County speak English," Garcia says. He

stresses that part of the learning opportunity at LCC is dealing with attitudes and assumptions.

"The issue is not the student who only speaks Spanish," he points out. The problem is the operation of the college depending on one language and one world view.

"Is that how to be 'a caring community?'" he asks.

Garcia says the good news is that LCC is moving on several fronts to become more inclusive. Lane was chosen to participate in the Vanguard Learning Project, a consortium of 12 community colleges in a cooperative change process. According to their web site, the purpose of the project is "to become catalysts for other educational institutions around the world as they share models and practices to transform community colleges into more learning-centered institutions." (See: [www.league.org/league/projects/lcp/updates.htm](http://www.league.org/league/projects/lcp/updates.htm))

LCC was selected, out of 82 applicants, because it's "an example of

innovation," Garcia says.

"We're becoming a learning-centered college," he explains, and diversity is part of that mandate. "It bodes well for the success of the diversity plan, when it's not an isolated endeavor."

The new plan has expanded the original five components to 14:

Recruitment and retention; training and development; lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues; disability issues; accessibility and accommodation; curriculum; gender equity issues; language competency; cross-cultural competence; community outreach and networking; leadership and commitment; campus climate; social class issues; and international students.

Each component has a facilitator who researches his/her field to identify outstanding practices at other colleges, and such information as other diversity initiatives. LCC's College Council has already put some initiatives in place. Students

can find out about these, and also read the college's mission statement, at the site for the Strategic Plan Initiative [www.lanec.edu/research/strplan/strplan.htm](http://www.lanec.edu/research/strplan/strplan.htm).

The timeline for the "entirely updated" diversity plan is "toward the end of May," states Jose Ortal, director of affirmative action/diversity/equal opportunity. With the new document as a base, new practices can go into effect for the 2001-2002 school year.

Garcia describes the plan's potential to enhance the college's credibility.

"This plan will have an institutional impact [on] issues such as recruitment of diverse faculty, and retaining them, and also campus climate," he says.

He compares the process to the way awareness about alter-abled access has grown and developed. "It used to be assumed that all students were able-bodied," he remembers.

But then colleges had to revise their thinking, and make buildings more accessible.

It's the same with other diversity challenges, he says, such as how students respond when they have trouble understanding a classmate from another country. He doesn't spell out what to do, but speaks of having a human approach.

"It's not about being [politically correct]," he says with conviction. "It's about being a better person."

Garcia emphasizes that there doesn't have to be a stigma to either side of the situation. That's the theme of the Vanguard Project, and the emphasis on cultivating a learning-centered campus environment.

"We're becoming a better institution, by creating awareness of diversity issues," he believes.

In other words, honoring diversity is a matter of cultivating a caring environment.

Garcia can be reached at extension 2852.

## GHOST continued from page 7

are usually not present.

In Richard Cavendish's book, "The Powers of Evil" he claims that the feeling of these phenomena is accompanied by a cold sensation (my apartment is always cold, as I sit typing now, my hands are like ice and I can see my breath in the air. I keep my thermostat at 80 degrees). Most are not hostile although those killed by acts of violence, accident or early death should be considered dangerous because they carry unused life energy and resentment, he warns.

He attributes these phenomena to those who immersed themselves in worldly matters or fleshly pleasures; who may have lived selfish lives with underdeveloped spiritual

capacity. They are often still attached to the physical world and drive the living to drugs and insanity.

Communication with these phenomena is a much disputed field.

Broughton mentions using a series of sophisticated rapping codes to communicate with hauntings and apparitions. Cavendish gives no recommendations. He does say, however, that mediums, or clairvoyants, and ouija boards are controlled by demons who impersonate the souls of the dead. They have no bodies of their own and desire to possess the flesh of those who indulge.

Communication with my ghosts has been just talking, as I would talk to a friend, and in

response they invade my dreams. I used ouija, although communicating that way proved to be difficult due to their tendency to play tricks. Ghosts seem amused by our incapability of dealing with the paranormal.

Traditional scientists offer explanations for the unexplained phenomena. Theories like seismic activity or underground water channels that cause a shift in the foundation of a house causing objects to move, or unexplained sounds, can't account for all occurrences.

It is speculated that poltergeists are related to the dissociative state of mind, mild seizure or epileptic-like disturbances in the brain.

I've made plenty of excuses. I've blamed

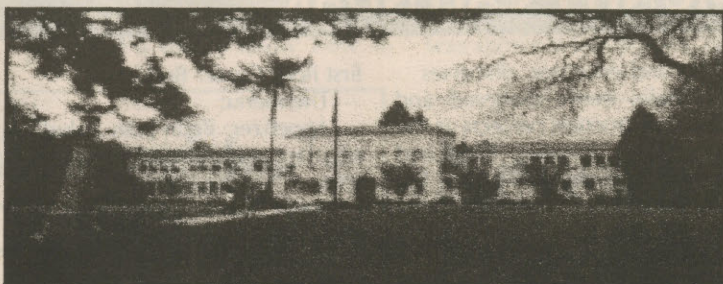
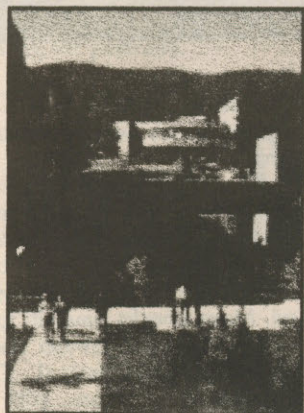
stress, faulty electricity, even my son for some of the occurrences — but he is only four, not yet tall enough to reach kitchen cupboards.

So now? Well, somewhere along the way, they've left. I don't know where they went or why. Maybe it was the incense I burned or the fact that I called a priest for advice. But I felt it, this incredible sense of relief washing over me, like I could feel their hold on me breaking. Every once in a while though, I believe from somewhere they still watch me, waiting for the perfect opportunity to visit again.

Can we truly deny the existence of these phenomena? Are we so conceited to believe we know all there is to know about this universe? You decide. I have, and I'm not crazy.

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# Excessive force issues addressed at commission meeting

Lauretta DeForge

Lead Reporter

"When we go to the dentist, we don't ask for the minimum amount of Novocain," said Steve Swenson, with Special Operations of the Eugene Police Force, before the Eugene Police Commission's "Use of Force Committee" concerning the use of the terminology of "minimal force" as opposed to "reasonable and necessary" force.

The central gist of the meeting was a discussion of semantics, gut reaction and liability. This meeting assembled in response to Eugene's citizens feeling that the police had used more force than necessary in several situations.

"Reasonable and necessary" is the current standard used by the police force, but

some of the committee members were trying to institute the word "minimal" instead, in order to insure that overly-aggressive arrests will not occur.

"Police operations manuals are used by lawyers to bring lawsuits against police officers," said Tim Lane, committee member. "Only issues that can stand up in court should be present in the police manual."

"I would not recommend adding this language (minimal) to the operations manual," Swenson wrote in a memorandum to the committee.

Unnecessary changes would only add to the ability of citizens to bring endless lawsuits against the police department, which would be prohibitively expensive.

Swenson gave the example of a robbery suspect who was recently apprehended at Home Depot. Six store workers pounced

on the "skinny" suspect, who had stolen merchandise in his possession and was also under the influence of drugs. Swenson said that the courts would probably consider this overuse of force because six men were against one "skinny" suspect.

In the end, both committee and police representatives agreed that it would be best to put the "minimal force" terminology as a goal worth striving for in the "General Findings" sections of the police policy book. Items in this section are brought to the attention of the officers, but are not officially police policy, said Swenson.

"Minimal," or "necessary" force will only be determined in hindsight. "Action happens so quickly, the officer doesn't have time for so much determination.

Minimal is not practical," says Ellwood Cushman, who writes the policy for the police department.

Two terms used in the meeting were "sting ring" and "bean bag." According to Swenson, the sting ring is a small grenade that an officer tosses below knee level to explode into many small objects that bruise and sting for crowd dispersal.

The "bean bag" is a shot gun shell containing a small sock full of powdered lead and, when fired at a suspect, it feels like the person has been hit with a fist. This item is for situations like the one this officer encountered: He was patrolling in the park and a man was practicing karate and decided to go practice his karate on the officer. The officer decided to shoot him with a bean bag rather than deal with karate, said Swenson.

## CONVERSATION continued from page 4

a week, though."

Jane Benjamin, a cultural geography instructor, uses the benefits of partnering to offer an extra 20 points to her students, one-third to one-half of whom are international students, to get them to sign up.

"International students are a great source for cultural information," she says. "They share so much." Her classes give students "a better understanding so that we

see each other as individuals and break down cultural barriers, while at the same time, maintaining cultural world views," she states.

"There are benefits, too," she continues. "Students learn to recognize we have a lot in common, especially in the pop culture. We have different traditions, but many things are similar."

Benjamin doesn't have a formal

conversation partner, "but I have a lot of students that I consider partners. I guess I didn't realize it was for faculty, too," she says with a sheepish grin.

The program traces its beginnings almost directly back to a survey taken last spring by students Jun Kameyama and Chisa Nemoto. They polled many of LCC's inhabitants and found that students — both native and inter-

national — wanted to relate to each other, but no one knew how to make the first moves.

Kameyama and Nemoto wrote that "Friendships do not start by themselves, but when they are started, they give us much joy which may grow bigger and bigger." The International Student Community Program is a result of the answers the pair received and collated.

"I want American friends," says Mune Takada, from Japan, who will meet his new partner this week. He's been in the States for two and a half years, but feels that

his "English is pretty bad." He sees the conversation partnership as a way "to learn native English better."

Takada looks forward to his first meeting. "I want to go to an American frat party," he says, smiling. "It's easier to learn American culture in a hurry."

The International Student Community Program sponsors other activities, too. ChongWen Hu, student peer coordinator, will officiate at a Snack and Games Social Hour on Friday, Feb. 9 from 2 to 4 p.m. It's free, and everyone is invited.

## HISTORY from page 2

Kaylor's reference had nothing to do with a heavy metal rock band of the same name.

Perhaps the strangest aspect of this entire affair is this: Kaylor has been writing humor pieces for The Torch since early last term. No one took him seriously. He has never to my knowledge written anything consequential, yet suddenly he finds himself elevated to the status of a full-fledged professional journalist — complete with the credibility, viability, and hate mail, of a conservative columnist!

I tried to think of ways to get the message out that I had made a

mistake — that I had let this unmitigated drivelt out into the world. I should be ashamed, my lower lip quivering with emotion and sorrow for allowing this, this fiendish animal called Kinsey Kaylor loose upon the unsuspecting citizens of Lane Community College.

I should be — but I'm not.

I would want to know if these things took place. Really. But, I would be able to deduce what the "Humor Column" heading was attempting to convey.

Humor. Levity. Silliness. Fun. This is a concept that brings

laughter to a world sorely lacking in frivolity. The general public, most of them, anyway, would also read the story and immediately grasp its implausibility.

I did not account for those who see cover-ups in the shadows, CIA agents in their living rooms and Democrats wherever they go.

Gee. That sounds just like Eugene.

By the way, don't look now, but there's a man in a suit and dark glasses standing over there by the Coke machine — and he's watching you very closely.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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### For Sale

• Meade Saturn Digital 114 mm Reflecting Telescope, 3 lenses = 3x Barlow lens, 6 months old Paid \$499 asking \$300 OBO. Call Travis @ 686-5743

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• AKC Doberman. Well behaved 3 yr. old spayed female. Perfect companion for women or older couple with no other dogs in home. Right home a must/price negotiable. Call 541-933-1232

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• Female College student seeks roommate to share 2 bedroom house. \$315/mo. \$250 deposit. 12th & Monroe. 343-4630

• 1 rm for rent only \$350 per/mo + util. 1 800 216 3177 Ext 503 3741 Voice mail

• River Rd room to rent \$375/mo + utilities, own entrance, female preferred. Call 461-6034

• Room for rent in Alder St. house of 3 students W/D, pets ok. Call Brooke, 685-9031

• Rooms for rent \$250 month, no drugs or alcohol, first last deposit, furnished, 18th & Onyx. Call 431-1113

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• LCC Writers and Artists! Denali winter submission deadline is January 31. Call 747-4501 ext. 2897 for information.

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### Events

• Snacks & games Social Hour! All students, faculty & staff invited to join the International Student Program, Feb. 9, 2-4 p.m. NW corner cafeteria.

• All students invited to join the International Student Program skiing and snowboarding, Feb 24, come to CEN 414 to sign up DEADLINE Feb 16

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## Alton Baker Park: Refuge within the city

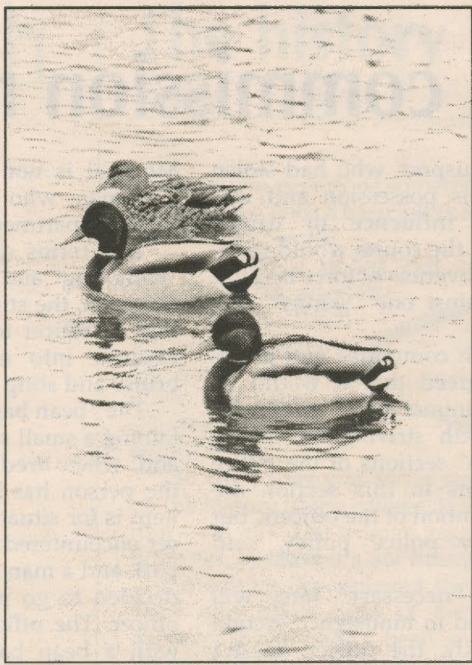


PHOTO BY KIRA DAVIS

Almost any day of the year you'll find someone at the pond in Alton Baker Park feeding the ducks.

Noah Tinker

Staff Writer

You'll find many intriguing sites at Alton Baker Park: joggers, bikers, birds, trees and a strange but non-threatening guy named "Al."

Al says he's a psychic and ex-CIA agent, and, oh yeah also the Angel of Death.

"Back when I burnt Sodom and Gomorrah I destroyed everything, even the germs. All I left were the maggots." Al, as he wishes to be called, says our government is out to kill him.

"I'm tired of being shot in the head — it gets kinda' annoying."

Alton Baker's 402 acres provide more than enough room for outgoing people such as Al, but also for the many citizens of Eugene and Springfield who want to take advantage of nature paths, bike trails and the generally quiet atmosphere. As with most parks, Eugene's Alton Baker, by to Autzen Stadium and nestled next to the Willamette River near the Ferry Street Bridge, has many wide open spaces and places to sit quietly while the hassles of life pass you by. Broken branches, ideal for walking sticks, and leaves litter the ground in between clumps of human sized bushes and lone monolithic art sculptures.

One morning last week local carpenter and part-time triathlete Simon Weber enjoyed an early morning run through the mist along Pre's Trail.

"I run down here three times a week." He said he likes running the four mile trail because it's a good workout and helps prepare him for the five to six races he competes in throughout the year.

Mallard ducks, domestic and Canadian geese and other birds crowd around the man-made lake begging to be fed and eagerly pounce on any dropped morsels. The quiet atmosphere is only momentarily broken by the cries from seagulls gliding overhead or the ripple of water flowing into the Willamette. As with most of Oregon, an overcast and angry-looking sky looms above, teasing the park wanderer with a heavy mist.

The Sebring Rock Garden next to the Ferry Street Bridge offers Alton Baker Park another special aspect. Plants from vastly different lineages pepper the ground in an imitation of high mountain environs around the world.

Nearby is a scale representation of our solar system, with the sun and planets situated on metal spires. The planets and sun have been kept in exactly the same ratios of size and distance from each other, with Pluto almost four

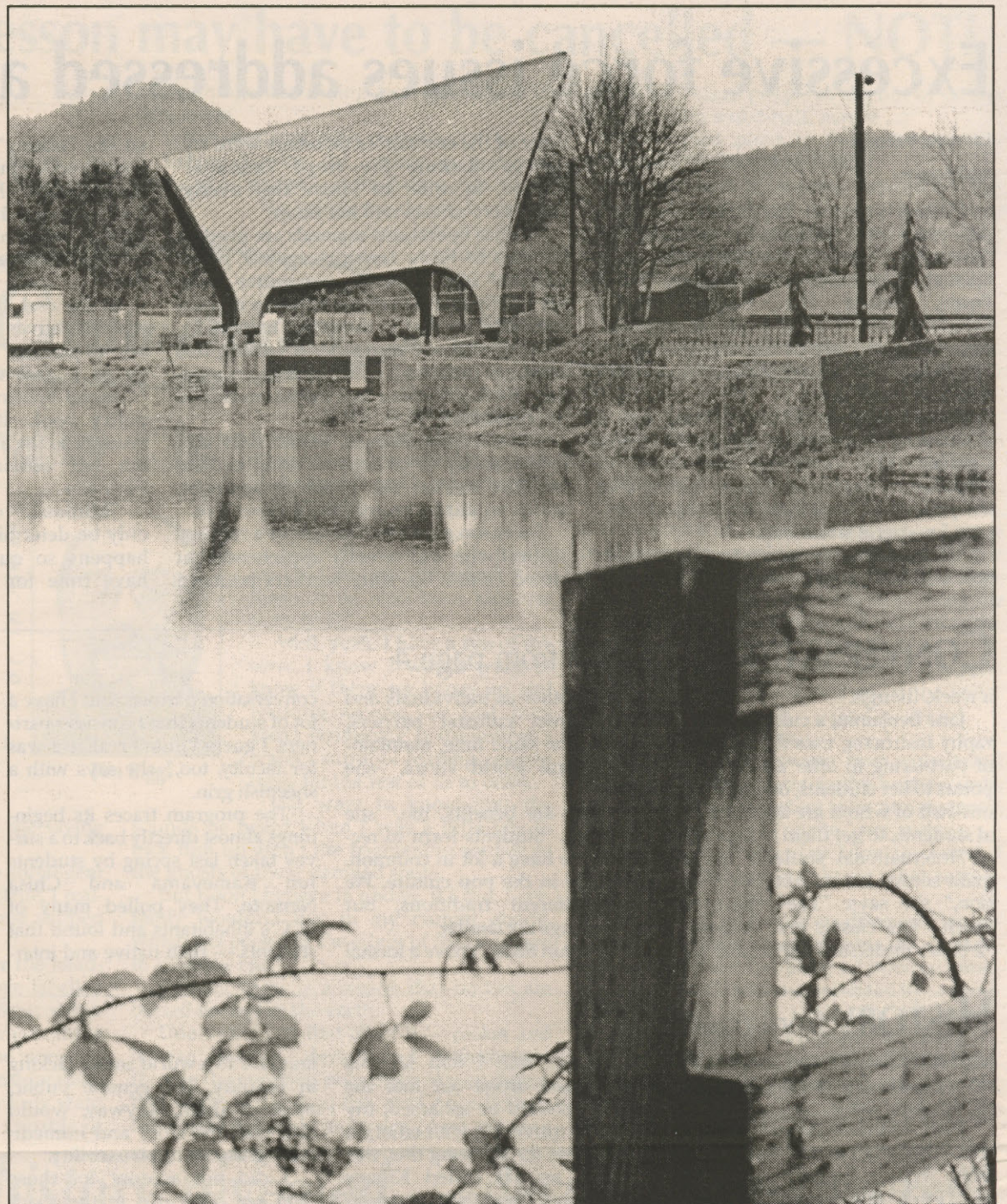


PHOTO BY KIRA DAVIS

Throughout the summer the nearby Cuthbert Amphitheater serves as an aesthetic and casual venue for concerts and theatrical performances.

miles away near Beltline Road and River Avenue along the bike path.

Paths of all kinds criss-cross the park, going up and down gullies, hillsides and delving into tiny forests. Light posts combine with the bark covered trail giving off the impression of walking through an imaginary forest straight out of C.S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia*.

The entire park is a combination of nature and humanity, with

metal sculptures, lamp posts and power lines dotting the landscape next to the trees, bushes and river.

The Cuthbert Amphitheater near the southeastern end of the park is home to concerts in the summer, featuring such acclaimed musicians as Tori Amos who played there a few summers ago and local radio station 104.7 KDUK's 'Duck out of Summer' concert featuring various musical artists. The park is also used for many events and

gatherings. Art in the Vineyard is one such event held annually in the spring.

Weber added, "Every city needs a place where people can recreate; it makes it more livable and nice."

Not to mention more colorful with people like "Al" preaching about "amnesia" and "the real Lord" to keep you company while trying to feed the geese.

"Satan ain't gonna' run me," proclaims Al.



PHOTO BY DANIEL BERALDO

Diamond peak barely sneaks out of the fog-filled valley. Views of towering snow-capped mountains and pristine lakes can be seen from the top of the Summit lift at Willamette Pass.

## SKI DAY continued from page 1

Takada of Kyoto, Japan. "One big reason I came was someone came to my home and picked me up."

The International Student Community offers Ski Day twice during winter term. It is designed for students to meet, socialize and get accustomed to Oregon's crowded lodge and lift lines. Last weekend, they enjoyed skiing, snowboarding and inner tubing.

For rentals, a lift-ticket and a ride to Willamette Pass it cost \$45 for skiing, \$60 for snowboarding. If they owned their own skis, or snow board, the trip cost \$40.

The International Student Community provided a breakfast for the group but recommends students bring their own lunch or money to buy lunch.

"I wanted to experience the atmosphere with international students," said economics major Kzo Hirayama of Kagoshima, Japan. "I want to go

next time."

That will be Feb. 24. Interested American and International students should reserve tickets immediately because the bus tends to fill up. The deadline for reservations is Feb. 16.

"I want more girls to come next time," said Takada. "I can teach them to snowboard for free — but only the girls."

Willamette Pass offers a variety of runs ranging in difficulty. For beginners there is a towing belt, that takes beginners a short way up the mountain.

For mountain riders who have more experience, the summit access to the steep chutes of the backside provide challenges. Beginning and intermediate riders can wander back down to the front side, carving a path through meandering runs.

A sno-park is located directly across the street. There, kids and snow lovers sled and inner tube.