



**Student work  
hits the stage**  
page 4

**Simply Living**  
page 5

**Titan pitchers  
moving on up**  
page 6



# THE TORCH

Volume XXXVII Number 29

Serving Lane Community College since 1965

Thursday, May 22, 2003

## Racial harassment sparks action

*President assembles a response team to deal with alleged misconduct.*

**Roland Ford**  
Sports Editor

LCC President Mary Spilde wasted no time in responding to the outcry of concern expressed by students, staff and community members surrounding the latest incidents of racial harassment on campus.

Spilde has established, what she called at the May 14 Board of Education meeting, a "small response team" to develop a plan to deal with the kind of conduct that has allegedly surfaced in recent months.

"It is not our job to investigate the recent matters," said director of the women's program Kate Barry, who has been called upon to facilitate the response team. "Our duty is to create a course of action — to assure the community that the college will respond to these types of incidents both quickly and justly."

The team of eight met together on Friday, May 16, and again early this week. Diversity Coordinator Jim Garcia said the meetings have been very focused on the issues that were brought up at the May 13 forum.

"We gathered our notes, assembled all the comments that were made at the forum

and started there," said Garcia. "Then we asked ourselves, 'What process do we currently have and what needs to be done to improve it?'"

"My feeling is that the college needs to do a better job of promoting the resources that are already in place," explained Garcia. "Students and staff need to know where they can turn to when faced with this kind of harassment. If they aren't aware of the resources, they can't use them."

Other team members working with Spilde to confront racial misconduct include: Executive Director of Human Relations Dennis Carr, Assistant Vice President for Instruction Sonya Christian, Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator Mark Harris, Ethnic Studies Coordinator Mike Samano, LCC Education Association President Jim Salt and LCC Employment Federation President Bob Baldwin.

In April, three African American employees were allegedly subjected to racially offensive language. Students have also recently reported finding "White Power" leaflets on their cars which were parked in LCC lots.

"We want to assure the campus that this kind of behavior cannot, and will not be tolerated," said Barry.

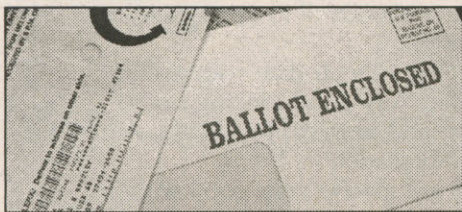
The response team was to draft a plan for the president by late Wednesday morning, May 21 said Barry. Spilde was unavailable for comment on the matter.

## VOICE FROM THE PAST



Photo by Gabe Bradley

KLCC host Claude Offenbacher played Wayne Morse in the premier of the one-man show "American Gadfly: The Story of Wayne Morse," by Portland playwright Charles Deemer. The show was part of the annual Wayne Morse Ice Cream Social at the Morse ranch on Sunday, May 18.



## Voters put incumbents back in office

**Gabe Bradley**  
Managing Editor

By and large, Lane County voters decided not to change horses mid-stream.

Of the five seats open on the LCC Board of Education, voters returned four incumbents to their seats.

Paul Holman defended the Zone 1 seat against challengers Rich Cunningham and Rob Spooner.

The only seat where an incumbent didn't win was the vacant Zone 2 seat. Jay Bozievich beat out Nadia Sindi for the seat.

Larry Romine ran unopposed for his Zone 5 seat.

Roger Hall won out over Marston Morgan for the Zone 6 seat.

Michael Rose recaptured his Zone 7 seat despite the best efforts of Susan Forester and Paul Holvey.

New board members will be officially sworn in at the Board's June meeting.

## ExpressLane almost ready to debut

*Students and staff test-drive the new integrated, web based student services super-program.*

Confusion about LCC's new online registration system ExpressLane isn't Director of enrollment services Helen Garret's main concern.

"What we're worried about is: can we communicate to the students at 4 a.m. when they're in their jammies at home."

Recently, selected students and staff were treated to test runs of the new ExpressLane online registration and financial aid tool, which will become standard by summer term.

The test runs were conducted on the near complete version, and the unprepared participants were challenged to go through a mock registration process using confidential information.

The registration begins when students enter their eight digit "L" number. The "L" number replaces the social security number as a student's primary numerical identification although

social security numbers will still be required information to enroll at the college.

Remember to use an upper case L and get the digits right and you're in. Once inside the system, students will be able to do virtually everything now possible at Students First, besides waiting 45 minutes.

Your new capabilities will include being able to check financial aid status online, register for June 2003 and beyond, add or drop classes, change grading options, view holds, print unofficial transcripts, request official transcripts, program information and

current monetary balance as well as payment options.

The program seems as easy to use as the current system, but instead of each step existing in different kiosks, automated telephone systems, counselor's office and Students First booths, all are available in one handy package.

But wait, there's more. Due to the online nature of the system, a student can have all of these services instantly, at the touch of a button, no matter where they are or what time it is, via the magic of the internet.

The program is straight forward and user friendly for the most part. But like

any program requiring a fairly complex set of inputs, you'll likely spend much of your first time pestering the person sitting next you, who seems to know exactly what they're doing and treats you like a nuisance.

That is why Garret suggests coming to demos planned for next week (see advertisement page 7) in order to see the program in action.

ExpressLane is one module of the larger more complex banner system, "like the rooms of a house," said Garret.

If that sounds confusing, here's an analogy given to participants.

Joe, who sells towels in the LCC cafeteria, recently got a part-time job there as a janitor. Joe wants to improve himself, so he signs up for a class on interpersonal communication and he is eligible for federal student aid.

For the first time ever at LCC Joe, who is a vendor, employee, student and financial aid applicant, will have all of his information stored on a single administrative system called the Banner system.

"The Banner system is like one sandbox and we're all in it together," said Garret.

She said the different roles people perform on campus are going to be incorporated into different subgroups of the "sandbox."

### News Analysis

**Derek J. Olson**  
News Editor

# Boy becomes man in democratic rite of passage

Gabe Bradley  
Managing Editor

I turned 18 a couple of months ago. Sad as it may sound, one of the first "grown-up" things I did was to register for Selective Service. After that, I registered to vote.

I am one boring hombre, eh?

But at last the big day of my first election as a proud, voting member of my community arrived. Even though it was all local offices and there wasn't the glitz, glamour and media attention of a bunch of big, mud-slinging campaigns, I was determined to make the most of my first voting experience.

I was voting for the LCC Board of Education — the organization that makes policy decisions for the school I go to. Surely this is an important decision, I thought. I snagged a copy

of the voting guide to the LCC Board of Education that the Torch had put out and read through it.

I assessed my values and policy leanings and tried to glean from their statements in the voting guide, which candidates would advance my vision of the college's best interests.

I circled my choices in the voting guide and set to work on the punch card. It was then that I realized that Florida isn't so dumb after all.

I punched through the little chad and thought it went through. I double-checked, only to discover that it was still holding on by three corners. I punched it again. Still holding on by two corners. I punched it again and it stuck its tongue out at me, grabbed on by all four corners again and called me a "putz." This frustrated me. I punched again and again. Finally, after an epic battle, I showed that defiant little piece of card-stock

who was boss and I was on to the next candidate.

Finally, I finished the punch card, read through the 18 pages of instructions on sealing my ballot and left for the elections office.

My girlfriend came with me to take a picture of my first voting experience.

By the way, I meant to tell you earlier, but I never got around to it — I've been known to procrastinate on things like this.

With only ten minutes till the polls close, I hit the accelerator.

"Out of the way!" I wailed at other cars. "Democracy coming through! Give me liberty or give me death!"

With seconds to spare, I slid my ballot into the drop box and breathed a sigh of relief. Whew. I exercised my civic responsibility for the first time ever and boy did it feel good. Next stop, jury duty.



Photo by  
Sara Beck

Gabe Bradley can feel the testosterone welling up in him as he votes for the very first time. With this rite of passage under his belt, Gabe is looking forward to jury duty.

## Letters to the Editor

### End victimizing language

In the article, "President confronts racial harassment" (Torch, May 15th), the cases of harassment are cited as being "directed at the victim." The idea of victimization is what author Bell Hooks calls, "dangerously disempowering." She points to the fact that the acceptance of victimhood among minorities only further reinforces "white supremacist capitalist patriarchal society" by once again placing white America in a superior position — that of caretaker. The refusal of the claim to, and the use of victimhood, within discussions of racism, is an essential part of ending racism and racist practices.

"Some people experience it (racism) so much that they become insensitive to it." This quote from, "BSU celebrates Malcolm X day" (Torch, May 15th) could not be anymore false. How does one become desensitized to a system designed to create and perpetuate inequality and oppression dealt with by minorities daily? By claiming that minorities "become insensitive" to racism, their struggles, both past and present are trivialized. It suggests that they have given in, acquiesced to the white institution, when in reality they are internalizing their rage, not becoming desensitized to the cause of it. An understanding that dealing with racism is a constant struggle — one that drains a person emotionally, physically and psychologically; that it never stops hurting; that

insensitivity is not a realistic option; must be reached. That minorities can "become insensitive" to racism and racist practices is erroneous and must end now! This is a very real epidemic, affecting very real people every day.

Speak out against the institution. Don't sit idly as the oppressive juggernaut that is the United States tramples minorities, women and many other people. Realization and acceptance of, and continuous resistance to racism and racist practices, along with self and community education and a refusal to accept the evil ways of the "white supremacist capitalist patriarchal society" are keys to moving towards a more harmonious, compassionate, egalitarian society. Buck the system, celebrate diversity, and make a difference!

John Martin  
LCC student

### Tuition could rise even more

On Dec. 9, 2002, the City of Eugene passed Ordinance 20273. The ordinance is a fee for transportation and NO ONE is exempt from this fee. LCC Downtown will have to pay the fee, which means more tuition and more taxes.

There is a petition for Eugene registered voters to sign to repeal this ordinance at Eugene Wendy's, Dari-Marts and Little "Y" Markets.

Earl W. Walton  
former LCC student

### Natural beauty all around

It could just be the rain, but I suspect the groundskeepers have had a lot to do with it: the flowers and general grounds around LCC have been more beautiful over the past month than I ever recall. I'd just like to say thanks to the folks who plan and do this work. The tulips and daffodils earlier, and now the many iris, and the herbs east of the Center Building—along with all the bushes, all beautiful and many fragrances as well—have added even more pleasure to the joy of being at Lane.

Also, yesterday afternoon painters were scattered about in front of the Arts building and several musicians sat in front of Performing Arts — all creating even more beauty around the campus. Thanks to them, too!

Times are tough, but these things make us smile.

Jeff Harrison  
English instructor

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, phone number and address. The editor in chief reserves the right to edit letters and commentaries for length, grammar, spelling, libel, invasion of privacy and appropriate language.

## Mackworld

### SHADOWS ON THE WALL

See your own shadow. Wall light is on in the bedroom. Ask your shadow. Go take a walk. Turn off the light in the darkroom.

Eat a hot bowl of chili. Too much powder. Boys don't try this at home. It's always very good to eat out. Too hot to go out to Mexican restaurants.



John Mackwood  
Columnist

Don't pick up the phone call. It's always very hot. Wait for it to cool down. There's a lot more paperwork to do to stay in the Torch paper and I have one

GED class at Goodwill in Springfield in the morning.

Go out on a lunch date with the new ambassador. Very good looking body, believable, and very happy always. Also the old ambassador.

Movies are always very good with popcorn. Welcome to the dark side. Special friendship and arthritis are very good. The coffee shop always has good drinks. Always very busy.

Editor's note: John Mackwood is a special needs student at Goodwill in Springfield. John writes his column with the help of a Torch editor.

**1001 WAYS TO RECYCLE  
THE TORCH**  
IDEA #984  
Make a paper mache' project with a friend.

## THE TORCH

The official student-managed newspaper of Lane Community College is published every Thursday

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# Grounds project brings native plants to campus

*Some staff members complain that the project looks too ungroomed.*

**Sarah Cagle**  
for the Torch

The grounds surrounding the Science/Math Building are a little out of the ordinary.

With Ponderosa pine and maple leaves, clover and lupine scattered through native grasses, the grounds lack the manicured look that some LCC staff members prefer.

"A complaint was made that it looked too weedy and ungroomed," he says.

In fact, it wasn't just one complaint,

but instead a group of college employees that sent several emails to the college's groundskeeper Frank Grengacz, who says, "They felt that it looked like a 'vacant parking lot.' But it will improve each year as plants and trees mature."

It's the result of a project begun in the fall of 2001, after the construction of the new building, states Gail Baker, biology instructor and faculty adviser for the grounds project. The idea was to create a semi-natural habitat to attract a variety of animals, birds and insects that are not commonly seen around the campus.

For example, science instructor Bert Pooth says the project provides bio-diversification that may entice the likes of the Lesser Goldfinch, a small, yellowish bird that has not been seen in the area. But he acknowledges that some staff members aren't happy with

the grounds' current appearance.

Baker refers to the project as "a work in progress" that will take from eight to 10 years before it begins to look grown and lush. "It's a restoration project to introduce as many native plants as possible," she says. "It is all-inclusive."

Grengacz agrees. "The purpose of landscaping in an academic setting is to include everyone," which it's doing by including students and staff — through class activities as well as group events. Recently, the Native American Student Association planted camas flowers. But he acknowledges that "there will still be people who don't like it."

Baker, however, hopes that people will put it into perspective. One place to start is to look at the cost-savings of the project.

She says that the space around the

Math/Science Building will be more cost-effective than a traditional lawn, that semi-natural landscaping is mowed infrequently (mostly spring and summer), as compared to constant mowing required by a lawn. The groundskeepers won't water the grounds at all. So the savings is in fuel, water and human resources.

Baker says the project also has an obvious educational function. She plans to make as much information available as possible — there are signs up throughout the grounds that indicate the plant life and the purpose of the landscaping. There are also quarterly sessions to inform both students and staff alike about the project.

And she hopes that when people see the progress made within the first five to 10 years, they will see dramatic changes and even come to enjoy the concept.

## Lane student will represent Oregon at national diesel competition

**Crystal Fithen**  
For the Torch

Being a diesel mechanics major doesn't always mean driving 18 wheel trucks and coming home with oil- and grease-covered hands; it's more than that. It's a dream, a goal, one that Lane is helping to make a reality.

For the fourth consecutive year, an LCC student took first in state for the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America Diesel competition, held April 5 in Salem.

"He was clearly the top competitor up there," VICA instructor Steve Webb said of the recipient, Ryan Sederlin.

The 74th annual event involved 18 students from five Oregon community colleges competing for top place. The first place winner from each state is invited to attend the national competition held in Kansas City, Mo., June 22-28, and will battle 70 other students across the U.S.

This will mark the second time Sederlin placed first in state; in 2001, he received the honor after competing at the high school level.

"It's what I'm good at," said Sederlin, a six year member of VICA.

Last year, Oregon sent LCC student Andrew Collier to nationals, who earned 12th place. This year, Sederlin will be representing Oregon, with the possibility of achieving his dreams.

"I'm hoping to place high enough at nationals to get recognition on corporate

levels," Sederlin said. "It's kind of like a scout at a baseball game; top companies go to see who's the best."

Webb, who will travel with Sederlin to Missouri, already has high hopes for him.

"He's real natural at what he does. He'll bring a lot to the competition because of his background in this area."

The competition will take participants through 17 areas of study, including engine precision measuring, electronic engine, electrical lighting, transmission and failure diagnostics, vehicle inspections, hydraulic stations, liquid measurements and a series of interviews conducted by judges.

Since fall, LCC students have been given the opportunity to meet at 6 a.m. twice a week to develop their skills in events like those in the competition.

Last year, the LCC Diesel Lab was granted \$79,000 from the Carl Perkins Award fund, to help purchase many pieces of practice equipment that are displayed at both state and national events.

"They're not just reading out of the text book; students can actually see, feel and work with (the equipment)," Webb said.

With recent budget cuts, funding for the trip has become harder to get than in previous years. But local companies are showing their support, including Heisler Corp., which pledged to fund the trip from Missouri to Oregon.

## Volunteers wanted to dig through garbage

*Recyclers hope the big pile of trash will grab student attention.*

**Gabe Bradley**  
Managing Editor

Those with sensitive noses may want to stay out of Bristol Square on Wednesday, May 28, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Volunteers for OSPIRG and the LCC Recycling Center will pile almost 2,000 pounds — a literal ton — of garbage in the courtyard, and spend four hours sorting through it in order to help formulate future recycling strategies.

"It's a really great visual," said Recycling Coordinator Jennifer Hayward. "It's just a ton of garbage."

Taking into account every trash can, waste paper basket and dumpster on campus, LCC sends almost a ton of garbage to the landfill every day, said Hayward.

The annual "Trash-Out" is an attempt to alert students to the issue of recycling in a creative way as well as to gather useful information about the effectiveness of certain recycling strategies.

The giant trash pile will consist of all the trash generated on campus during the previous day, May 27.

"I think it makes people think about what they throw

away when they see all that garbage," said Hayward.

After sorting the garbage, the volunteers will record data about what types of waste end up in the trash and recycle the materials that can be recycled.

"Last year we pulled out 90 pounds of recyclables and recycled them," said Hayward.

The Recycling Center uses the information gleaned from the Trash-Out to devise new recycling programs. The information from last year's Trash-Out was used to help devise the composting program that will be implemented at Lane next year.

Volunteers are still needed for this event. To volunteer or for more information, contact Hayward at 463-5594.

## Graduating Students!!

*Clip the coupon below and give one to your favorite Lane staff person.*



Dear \_\_\_\_\_

Please join my family and friends as we  
celebrate my Graduation

Saturday, June 14, 4:00 p.m. at the  
Lane County Fairgrounds

From \_\_\_\_\_

# Thanks to the students, the shows will go on

*Despite budget cuts, Lane Theatre students have crafted a solid year's worth of performances.*

**Graham Coslett**  
A & E Editor

"Spring Inspiration," two programs of student written short plays that are being performed in the Blue Door Theatre over the next three days, is a testament to the drive and resourcefulness of Lane students in the face of uncertainty about funding for the Theatre Arts Department.

The plays are the efforts of two student groups formed in response to recent threats to funding for Lane Performing Arts, in particular to Theatre Arts. A play-writing group formed out of a class in the subject offered in the fall, and has continued to meet.

Most of the plays being performed in this weekend's performances were written in the class or in the play-writing group. The Student Productions group was formed late last year as a means to produce plays independent of the faculty and when funding has been cut.

The Student Productions group was formed by former LCC student Anton Ray, who has since left for duty with the Oregon National Guard. His



Photo by Sean Hoffman

*Allysa (left, played by Kelly Kern-Craft) tries to reason with Kerri (Valerya Zeleny) in this scene from "On the Rocks," written and directed by Cathie Strecker.*

role as president of the group has been assumed by Lisa Marie Wingburmuhle. The group's initial funding was in the form of a small gift from the ASLCC, which they have supplemented by such means as soliciting donations for their performances, selling snacks at the performances and fundraising. The sets (which have tended to the minimal) are constructed by scrounging and getting materials wherever the group can. "We borrow, we raid, we beg," says Marc Carpenter, a member of the group. So far, by being careful about what they expend funds on, the group has come out ahead financially.

Carpenter, who wrote three of the plays being performed this weekend, says the group

has been a real success. "Because of Student Productions, we've put on more productions this year than we have in several years." Recent shows staged include Colin Gray's "The Creation of the World as We Know It" and "Blue Door at Four." In early June another set of plays written by Carpenter will be performed.

In the future, the group hopes to involve other students in the Lane Music, Dance and Theatre Arts Department. "We are kind of hoping to expand and bring in other arts elements," says Carpenter.

The play "Revolt of the Prom Queens," by Emily Payne, can claim that sometimes over-used description of "award-winning." Through one

of her teachers at LCC, Payne heard of a competition for art and literature held by an organization called the League for Innovation in the Community College, an "international organization dedicated to catalyzing the community college movement." (More information on the League is available at [www.league.org](http://www.league.org).) She learned recently that her play won first-place for its region, and she expects to find out in early June if she placed nationally. "I've been running out and checking the mail for the last four or five days and nothing (yet)," said Payne.

The 11 plays are divided into two programs to be performed over three nights. The A-program, which can be seen Saturday night, consists of five plays. "Killing the Muse," written and directed by Anne Kern, is the comedic story of a writer trying to find inspiration. "Mind over Matter," written and directed by Carpenter, depicts the inner thoughts of the teen-age male over the course of an evening. "Henry's Gift," a drama written and directed by Bee Ziegler, is the story of a widower caring for his mentally disabled daughter. "Take a Chance on Me," also written and directed by Kern, tells of people's expectations when answering personal ads. Finally, "On the Rocks," written and directed by Cathie Strecker, tells the story of a divorcee bar owner who recently learned his ex-wife is homosexual, and the colorful characters who tend his bar.

The B-program, which can be seen on Thursday and

Saturday evenings, starts with "The Play," written by Colin Gray and directed by Sarah Wollin, the story of an author looking to writers of the past to overcome writer's block. "Gotta Get a Message to You," written by Kern and directed by Jef Robertson and Josh Vargas, tells of a man who comes home to find his wife packing to go to Norway to talk to Keiko's trainers. "Nod," written by Carpenter and directed by Sparky Roberts, is a drama depicting Cain meeting Lilith in Nod, the land of the damned. "Why Not," written by Matt Toomb and directed by Ryan Shoop, weaves a love quadrangle between three characters and a mutual non-featured friend. "Afterglo," written by Carpenter and directed by Wingburmuhle, is the story of a teen who has recently lost his virginity. Closing is Payne's play "Revolt of the Prom Queens," also directed by her, which is the story of two girls; one goes to prom with a friend, and the other with a blind date.

Wingburmuhle is the production manager, and Anthony Harlan is stage manager. Skip Hubbard is the technical director; sound and light are by Bryan Vaughn and Natsuko Hirano, respectively. Patrick Torelle is acting as staff adviser to the students.

"Spring Inspiration" happens May 22, 23, and 24 in the Blue Door Theatre. There is a suggested donation of \$5 for one evening's performance, or \$7 for both programs over two nights. Tickets are available only at the door.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR

### THURSDAY, MAY 22

Women's Program Brown Bag Talk happens from noon to 1 p.m. in The Women's Center, Room 202, Building 1. "Just what is up with Hormones?" - Debora Landforce, MS, a consultant on the concerns of women in mid-life, will address how the balance of our hormones affects the quality of our lives. An overall review of hormonal cyclicity will be given as well as specifics for working with your healthcare provider to get what you need to protect your long-term vitality.

Student Showcase #1 happens at 1 p.m. in the Performance Hall, Building 6. Lane student soloists and small ensembles show their talents. Free!

"Spring Inspiration," student written and directed plays in the Blue Door Theatre, starting at 8 p.m. Plays include "The Play," "Gotta Get a Message to You," "Nod," "Why Not," "Afterglo" and "Revolt of the Prom Queens." There is a suggested donation of \$5 for one evening or \$7 for both programs.

### FRIDAY, MAY 23

Women's Center Video Series continues with "From Danger to Dignity - A Fight for Safe Abortion." This Emmy award winning video weaves together two parallel stories: the evolution of underground networks which helped women find safe abortions outside the law, and the intensive efforts by activists and legislators

who dedicated themselves to legalizing abortion. For more information call Diane Vincent at 463-5352.

"Spring Inspiration," student written and directed plays in the Blue Door Theatre, starting at 8 p.m. Plays include "Killing the Muse," "Mind Over Matter," "Henry's Gift," "Take a Chance on Me," and "On the Rocks." There is a suggested donation of \$5 for one evening or \$7 for both programs.

### SATURDAY, MAY 24

The Queer Straight Alliance and ASLCC are sponsoring a Queer Rollerskating Party from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Skate World, 3188 Gateway Loop in Springfield. There is a suggested donation of \$3.50. All ages are welcome. For more information call 463-5331.

"Spring Inspiration" continues. Program for this evening is identical to May 22.

### THURSDAY, MAY 29

"In This Time," dances by LCC dance instructor Bonnie Simoa, starts at 8 p.m. in the Performance Hall, Building 6. Features Simoa, the Lane Dance Co., Barbara Myrick on piano and Yvonne Hsueh on violin. Cost is \$10 for adults and \$8 for students. For more information call 463-5202.

### FRIDAY, MAY 30

First Annual Native American Student Association 18 and over Men's Basketball Tournament begins. Teams

consist of 10 players or 9 players and a coach. Entry fee is \$200 (cash or money order). For more information, call Devery Saluskin or Frank Sanchez at 463-3235 or Frank Merrill at 463-5238.

"In This Time." See May 29.

### SATURDAY, MAY 31

First Annual NASA 18 and over Men's Basketball Tournament continues. See May 30. "In This Time." See May 29.

### SUNDAY, JUNE 1

First Annual NASA 18 and over Men's Basketball Tournament continues. See May 30.

### ONGOING

LCC Graduating Graphic Design Show 2003 runs through June 11 in the Art Department Gallery, Building 11. Hours are 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., Mon. through Thu., and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fri.

Meeting of the Black Student Union every Tue. and Fri. from 12 to 1:30 p.m. in Room 246, Building 19. Please note the change in the days of the meetings. Everyone is welcome. For more information call 463-5043.

Meeting of the Native American Student Association every Tue. and Wed. from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the Multi-Cultural Center, Building 1. All are welcome. For more information call 463-3235.

## How I got one step closer to fame and fortune

*Making it through the Real World auditions alive and fully clothed.*

Column By  
**Derek J. Olson**

Fresh young faces with stylish messy hair and deep penetrating gazes turned toward me as I was led through the door. A flimsy yellow paper VIP press pass dangled from my neck and glowed in the dark corridor. It was obvious by the sexy stares and posing glances flashing my way, some people thought I was with the crew.

It was Saturday, May 17, and I had just entered the Wild Duck for the MTV Real World auditions. People kept looking toward me as some sort of authority. I could tell by their needy expressions that they had been simply corralled in here without direction, like a bunch of fashion slave gladiators about to be pushed into combat.

"Next group!" I heard from the back corner of the dark room. "One, two, three ... ten" counted out a commanding voice. A shapeless shadow of people suddenly formed together, then slowly disintegrated as the bright doorway swallowed individuals.

They had gone to a better place now, presumably to be stripped naked and scrutinized against a six-packed, Abercrombie label of approval, modern image standard we all must live up to.

I walked around the room and noticed some diversity in the crowd. They represented the spectrum from plain looking, mildly attractive, to "I'll never have to work a day in my



Photo by Sherry Whitmore

*About 1,000 people showed up at the Wild Duck for informal auditions, in groups of 10, for MTV's The Real World.*

life."

I spoke with one of the coordinators and she said I would have to wait about two hours to audition, but I pulled out my VIP trump card and skipped to the front of the line (suckers). She said they were taking groups of ten, but I would be an eleventh.

I squinted my eyes and adjusted them back to the light. We walked single file into the restaurant where two other groups were sitting around a table chatting casually, destroying my previous expectation of lights, cameras and skin.

We were introduced to Layna, a pleasant and attractive woman who would be our judge and executioner. We were each given a brief amount of time to introduce ourselves and answer one question from Layna.

I went first. She asked me about my proudest moment, and I said it was a few weeks ago when I met

Tony Hawk and ran around Willamalane skatepark taking photos of him and the other Birdhouse skaters.

Then I ranted about often using my schmoozing reporter skills to get press passes to all kinds of events. I casually discussed meeting Bill Clinton and drinking until the wee hours of the morning with Pulitzer Prize winning writer Tom Hallman Jr.

I spoke so fluidly that I even surprised myself. The others at the table were incredibly receptive, or maybe they felt it was in their best interest to seem so.

I spent the remainder of the meeting nodding my head in feigned interest to the competitors, while mentally whipping myself for what I felt was a stupid answer. Then it ended.

We all stood up and Layna

SEE FAME PAGE 7

## NOTES FROM VIETNAM

I'm back in Saigon from Nha Trang. There's so much to tell that I feel like my head is going to explode.

Nha Trang was a beautiful, relaxed beach town that was touristy but not in-your-face obnoxious, let's corral you into a huge polluting bus with the other fellow traveling lemmings type of deal. I was still traveling with Jon, a friend I made on the bus, who was also in Da Lat.

We decided to visit the Cham ruins that have been around since 7 A.D.

The Cham people, who practice a religion that has roots in both Hinduism and Buddhism, are historically from India but have been living in Vietnam for centuries. It just so happened that the quiet stroll around the ruins we envisioned was not to be. Instead, we arrived amidst a huge celebration teeming with people for the Cham new year.

A group of the Chams, in long white robes and turbans with red tassels, invited us to sit with them. Some unidentifiable vodka-like drink was passed around, of which I took a tear-jerking swig. But I skipped the boiled lamb that had already been searing my nostrils with a foul, nauseating stench.

We took a break from the festival to wallow in some therapeutic mud a mile away, but came back to see women and children dancing while balancing a head piece resembling a tiered wedding cake. The head pieces were tied to their heads and lit on fire. Then they kicked their legs behind them, quite ballet-like, kicking the burning pieces of the wedding cake hat onto the ground where two guys armed with paper fans dove about to put out the flaming pieces, while skillfully avoiding the other jumping dancers, who flailed around with swords in both hands. I was mesmerized. Chams know how to get down.

Nha Trang was also the place of our boat excursion where we had the novel experience of partaking in a "floating bar" — bobbing around a warm turquoise blue cove in inner tubes around the nucleus of the guitarist/captain/cook and barman in a leopard print Speedo, who dispersed endless refills of Da Lat's super-almost-sickeningly-sweet-but-cheap mulberry wine. It was then, in a berry-sweet and salt water infused intoxication, that I met two Americans, one who happened to be from Eugene, Ore. Itty bitty world we have here, huh?

I said goodbye to Jon and left Nha Trang for Bon Me Thout on a tiny bus where we were packed like sardines, with a ratio of three small children to every adult on the bus. I arrived Sunday and investigated my plans about getting into the Central Highlands to visit my family.

Everything was closed and I decided to heed to the advice that I had gotten from various Viets and postponed my trip until I got some more information and the government's blessing to venture into their politically-sensitive battlegrounds. In the mean time, I did "the tourist thang" and visited Bon Don and Yon Don, an Ede village and a safari adventure place, respectively. Unfortunately, it was too touristy for my liking and I had to split the moment I felt I was being herded like sheep with the other foreigners. The highlight of the day was learning how to ride a motorbike.

*H'rina DeTroy is an LCC student teaching English in Vietnam as part of Lane's International Co-operative Education program.*

## RIDE SHARING MAY BE THE ANSWER TO PARKING WOES

In 1972, LCC student Mike Ruiz, now LCC's Director of Facilities Management, hopped into a car at the ride share enclosure at the foot of the west parking lot on Gonyea Road. Although he was just looking for a ride, he met his future wife, Jeanne.

"She picked me up in her little blue VW, and we didn't have much to say to each other for awhile," recalls Mike. But they soon connected, and ended up traveling to California in the same little bug shortly thereafter. And the rest is history — they've been hitched now for 26 years.

Back then, the ride share enclosure was fondly called "The Thumb Shack," says Ruiz. "It had a big picture of a thumb on it. It was very common to see four or five people waiting there for rides leaving campus, and on 30th Ave., across from Harris School, hitching rides to campus."

Ruiz recalls the shack being created because "so many students were hitching rides, and they wanted a shelter to protect them while they waited, especially in winter." The more sturdy ride share shelter that

stands today was put up around 1978.

Hearing the sweet history of this shelter, placed with consideration and community spirit in mind, I feel sad when I see it today standing forlorn and partially hidden by the sweeping branch of a tall evergreen.

I wonder if we could reclaim its use to lessen the parking problem on campus. Often cars searching for a space bear but a single occupant. How much nicer it would be, I think,

for people to have company.

Those who ride environmentally friendly LTD buses can visit with others,

rest or study while in transit, but the bus is not an option for everyone. Borrowing a ride from a fellow student or co-worker could be a feasible transportation alternative for some.

In the early 1970s, LCC students concerned about ecology formed a club called Students for Survival. They advocated for the reduction of oil consumption and air pollution caused by cars and supported hitchhiking. The group provided preprinted 9"x12" signs for students to use to solicit rides — green for Eugene,

pink for Springfield and yellow for LCC. A Transportation Co-op formed to help students and staff develop carpools to share rides to and from campus. In April, 1972, an article in the Register-Guard reported that the Eugene Planning Commission endorsed a UO plan to establish 31 stops along arterial routes in Eugene and Springfield where students could pick up rides to LCC and the UO.

Clearly, environmental degradation caused by cars is still a problem. Students in the classroom, learn about environmental protection, yet daily they and staff pollute en route to school. One could argue that war-torn Iraq is suffering due to oil consumption. LCC has a lack of sufficient parking and our world could only improve with increased community-building.

I wonder if the time has come to resurrect the grassroots concept of ride sharing. Maybe we could even bring back that old thumb!

*Jennifer Gusset is a LCC student seeking to empower community enhancement. She welcomes feedback, and your stories and ideas about random acts of kindness. Reach her at torch@lanecc.edu.*

### Simply Living

Jennifer Gusset  
Columnist

## TWO TITAN PITCHERS HAVE THEIR EYES ON THE BALL

*Grimmer and Smedley will be pitching for the University of Nevada at Reno in the fall.*

**Laura Martyn**  
Staff Writer

Titan Baseball head coach Donny Harrel's eyes glow with pride whenever he talks about his players, but especially when the conversation falls on his one and two pitchers, Troy Grimmer and Dan Smedley.

"They've been such a big part of our success, and it's really neat that they are such good friends, and are going on to compete at the next level," Harrel said.

Grimmer and Smedley have helped lead the Titans to the Southern Division title and in the fall, they'll be pitching for the University of Nevada at Reno. It's a Division One school, and with opponents like Stanford University, they will have exposure on a national level.

Anyone familiar with sports knows that there are far more sad endings than happy ones and both of these pitchers have had to surmount numerous obstacles to play at this level. It's a testament to their talent and determination that they've reached this point.

The impressive thing is that instead of becoming bitter or disenchanted with the sport, they've adopted an easy-come-easy-go attitude that has no doubt contributed to their success this year.

This is their story.

### SMEDLEY

Harrel attempted to recruit Smedley out of High School, but the left-hander was drawn away by the College of Southern Idaho, who offered a better scholarship package.

"There's a lot of competitive fire in Dan," Harrel said. "I think that's what kept him

going when he was in a difficult situation at CSI."

Unfortunately, the coaching staff at the College of Southern Idaho decided that the windup Smedley had used since the Babe Ruth League simply wouldn't do. They changed his arm circle, making it much shorter, in hopes that it would improve his velocity.

It didn't and, Smedley discovered that his new delivery was putting undue stress on his pitching elbow.

Concerned about his health and future, Smedley returned to his old windup, was labeled obstinate, and saw his playing time cut drastically.

At the end of the year he returned to Lane and joined up with Harrel's summer program. After only one bullpen session, Harrel had Smedley back to his proper form.

Ironically, under the guidance of Lane's coaching staff, his velocity has jumped from 77-78 mph to 84-86 mph, a huge increase.

Harrel said that the improvement in speed, combined with the fact that he is a left-hander, has made him a dominating force in the Southern Division. He's also one of the Titans' most consistent starters; he and right-handers Grimmer and Garret Stembridge have all pitched over 60 innings this year.

### GRIMMER

To watch Grimmer pitch with the grace and confidence he has, it would be hard to guess he's relatively new to the position.

Actually, he played third and first base for his first two years of high school, until Rex Putnam pitching coach Jason

Carroll pulled him aside and told him he wasn't going to make any money as a hitter.

Carroll helped fashion Grimmer into a dominating young pitcher and at the end of his senior year, which he still contends was his best, the Saint Louis Cardinals came-a-calling. Grimmer was drafted in the 36th round of the 2000 draft, and it was agreed that he would attend college to hone his skills before starting his professional career.

But in his last pre-season start against the Tacoma Titans, he was hit in the face with a line drive. The blow broke his jaw in five places and put him in the hospital for two weeks. It also ended his agreement with the Cardinals, as the team had only purchased the rights to his contract for one year.

"Talk about determination," Harrel said. "To have your jaw shattered your freshman year and come back to become one of the best right-handers in the NWAACC - that's pretty impressive."

Perhaps that turn of events helped shape him into the pitcher he is today. Such a near-catastrophic injury has ended many a pitcher's career, but Grimmer hasn't shown any lasting affects.

In his first active season, he went 9-2 with a 1.30 ERA, outstanding under any circumstances. But Grimmer has only improved, with a record of 7-2 and a 1.12 ERA this year. He also picked up his first career no hitter against the Clackamas Community College Cougars May 3.

"He really gives you that ninth fielder in a game," Harrel said. "You don't hear too much about pitchers being good athletes, but he is an example of

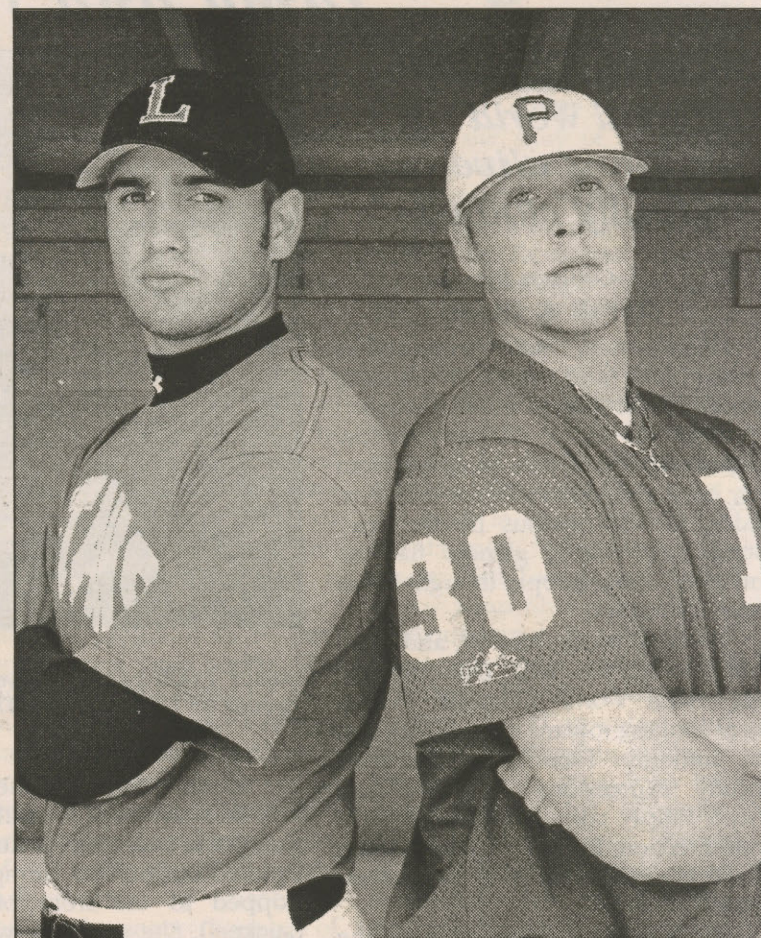


Photo by Sherry Whitmore

Dan Smedley (left) and Troy Grimmer (right) both had outstanding seasons on the mound for Lane. The two friends will be heading for the desert to play ball at the University of Nevada next fall.

one who is. He fields his position really well."

Grimmer sums it up the best saying, "I just automatically know I'm better than the batter, and I'm not going to let him

beat me."

Glad as he is for the opportunity in Nevada, he's still keeping an eye out for the National Draft, which will take place June 4 and 5.

### NWAACC/HORIZON AIR FINAL COACHES' POLL

SCHOOL	VOTES	PVS
1. Edmonds (38-6)	90	1
2. Tacoma (31-7)	62	2
3. Columbia Basin (33-7)	60	3
4. Lane (30-10)	36	4
5. Everett (29-11)	12	6
6. Lower Columbia (30-7)	11	5
7. Mt. Hood (23-17)	3	7
8. Bellevue (29-17)	2	8

### Titan Team Leaders

Pitching		
Wins	Troy Grimmer	7
Strikeouts	Matt Skundrick	55
ERA	Troy Grimmer	1.12
Offense		
Hits	Justin Coffman	43
Runs	Justin Coffman	29
Average	James Compo	.375

### Baseball News

The Titans will face Spokane CC today in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges championship tournament in Pasco, Wash. Spokane is the first team to reach the tournament with a sub .500 league record since 1988. The tournament final will be played on Monday, May 26.

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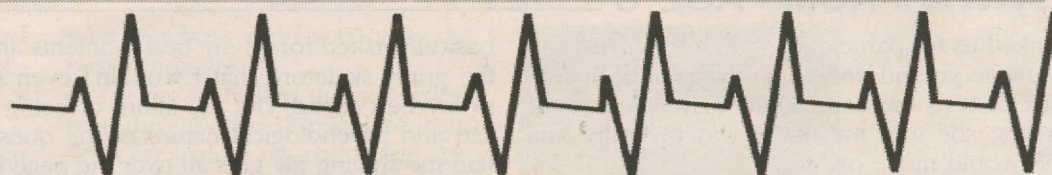
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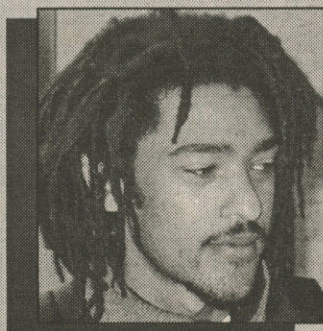
What reality show would you be on and why?



**Margaret Graf**

*Nursing*

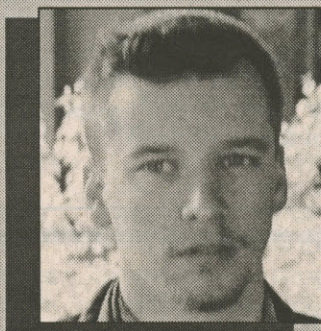
"I don't watch them, but probably one of those dating ones because at least that wouldn't be fruitless."



**Andrew Yoshihara**

*Psychology major*

"The Real World, just to live in a nice house and piss people off. And so I could get a Sprite commercial."



**Klarke Miller**

*Multimedia art major*

"I would say Survivor. It has the least pretension and it deals with nature on every level."



**Meghann Quinn**

*Nuclear physics major*

"I'd be on Trading Spaces, because our apartment is really ghetto and it needs a makeover."



**Jamie Cook**

*Business major*

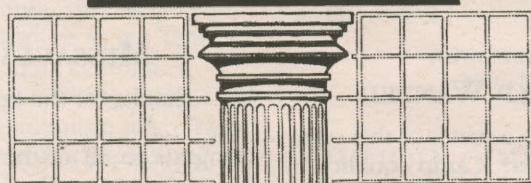
"American Idol, because I want to be a rock star. And I watch it every week."

Compiled by Derek J. Olson  
Photos by Roland Ford

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