

Student flick
at Bijou
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Financial concerns force LTD reductions

A forecasted budget shortfall affects local bus schedules.

Jason Nelson
Staff Writer

Lane Transit District recently announced plans to cut service throughout the Eugene-Springfield area, including two routes that would directly affect the Lane Community College main campus.

The routes in question are 81, LCC/Harris, and 85, LCC/Springfield. LCC/Pearl would reduce the number of trips to the main campus, from five or six trips per hour to only four. The route would begin utilizing LTD's new articulated buses, however, which can accommodate close to 100 riders, as opposed to the current buses' capacity of 75 riders.

LCC/Springfield would cease service after 7:15 p.m. each night. Riders could still catch bus 81 to UO, however, then take route 11 to Springfield.

The cuts come as LTD forecasts a nearly \$2 million budget shortfall over the next three years. In addition to the aforementioned service cuts, LTD expects to also implement various administrative cutbacks, including cuts to wages and benefit packages. LTD hopes it will not have to resort to what happened two years ago, when it was forced to lay-off employees.

LTD makes its revenue largely through a combination of bus fares, use of the buses as mobile billboards and a payroll tax imposed on businesses within the

LTD service district. LTD receives about \$6 for every \$1,000 that a company pays out. So, if a company pays out \$1 million dollars, LTD gets \$6,000 of that. Because of the floundering economy, however, payrolls are down, and so are taxes.

Cuts will be made using what LTD calls a "phased approach". Administrative cuts and initial service cuts will be made in the fall of 2004. If economic conditions do not improve, more significant cuts will be implemented in the fall of 2005.

"We're looking at significant budget shortfalls, so this year [we'll begin] to reduce part of the service and [continue the implementation] next year," said Andy Vobora, LTD Service Planning and Marketing Manager.

This phased approach will give LTD time to adjust their financial situation before they have to prepare a budget for 2005 and 2006. The company is holding onto hope that the economy will improve, in which case future cuts might not be as detrimental to service.

Vobora says he understands the public's frustration with the imposed cuts. "Anytime you make cuts that affect the general public, there is kind of a personal connection," he said.

This is why LTD encourages public input on the proposed cuts. Just last week LTD held a public hearing at their administrative office. Vobora says the turnout wasn't huge, but any input is helpful in determining their final decision.

"We only had four or five people comment on specific routes," said Vob-

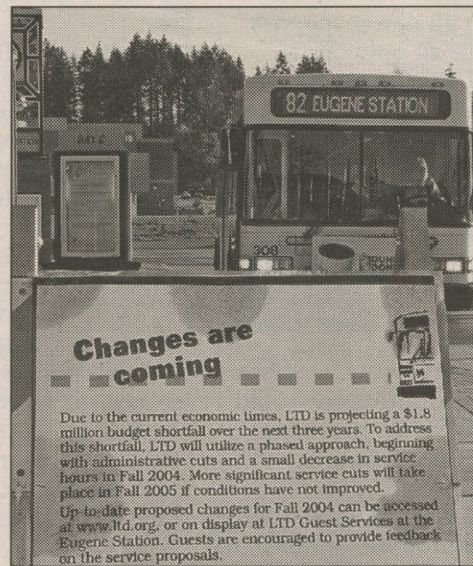


Photo by Megan Wilson

Signs around the LCC bus station inform riders of the potential service reductions. LTD is planning to cut or reduce service throughout Eugene/Springfield, including routes 81, 83 and 85 that run from LCC to Springfield, Pearl and Harris.

ora. "We've gotten most of our feedback through open houses and e-mails. It's really hard to make any overall conclusions, other than people don't want any cuts, but we've got to make some reductions."

"LCC and UO are our most ridden routes," he continued. "We're trying to really maintain those services."

As can be expected, student reaction to the proposed cuts has not been favorable.

"I know the school has nothing to do with the cuts, but it's just the fact that we pay like 15 bucks to ride the bus and they cut our service," said LCC student Amy Wendall. "It's exactly what is happening in schools - we pay more they cut more. I don't understand where the money is going."

LTD passenger Derek Harden feels the same way. "Can our governor do something more to help us out? Does he not hear the news? Hundreds of students rely on a public bus at a certain time, it's insane that [services] have to be cut."

"No way! I had no idea that would happen," said LCC student Pat Martin when informed of the proposal. "I really never thought that a poor economy could effect a bus route." Martin uses the bus regularly to commute to LCC and worries about what these plans will mean to those who rely on LTD for regular transportation.

Some students have already prepared other forms of transportation.

"I found out from the LTD website about the proposal," said student Richard Beck. "A guy in one of my classes lives by me and [we realized that] we come and go at the same time, so if the bus is a problem I have a ride... For the money I pay here, a limo should pick me up in the morning and drive me here."

LTD will hold another public hearing on proposed service reductions on Mar. 17, 6:30 p.m., at the LTD administrative office, 3500 West 17th Avenue. People interested in speaking must be at the office by 6:20 p.m.

Campus to purchase loaned sculpture

Aidan Keuter
Staff Writer

The time has come for LCC to purchase "Conception of Creation." "Conception" is the sculpture of a boy with a tree growing out of his head sitting on an oversized chair that has been on campus since March 2003, located at the southeast corner of building 5.

The work has been on loan to LCC from sculptor Roger Williams since his 2003 show at Hoffman Gallery. Williams, a graduate of the University of Oregon and now a Portland-based artist and custom furniture maker, was initially asking for between \$18,000-20,000 but has agreed to sell his work to the college for \$16,000.

"I feel honored to get the support I am from the school during these hard economic times," said Williams. "I'm glad LCC likes [the piece] enough to buy it and make it a permanent part of campus."

Williams helped install the piece where it currently sits at the South East end of the gymnasium. He said he thinks it looks great there and that it fits really well with its surroundings.

The inspiration for the piece came to Williams during his time working with young children in a Head Start program.

"I was just around these kids and saw them absorbing so much and being creative and growing," he said, adding that learning, creativity, and growing are the themes he hoped to convey with the sculpture.

The piece took about three months or so to complete, Williams said. The tree part of the piece was an actual tree cut into 25 pieces, cast in bronze and then welded together by Williams.

Art instructor Lee Imonen is leading the effort to raise the money for the piece.

"We want to create a more

See **SCULPTURE** page 3

FAT TUESDAY



Photo by Megan Wilson

Blues keyboardist Skip Jones delighted a full cafeteria Feb. 24 to celebrate Fat Tuesday. He was accompanied by bassist Bryon Case, pianist Mofessor and drummer Tony Figoli. Jones' next performance will be Saturday, Feb. 28 at Jo Federico's at 9 p.m., for those who missed him or wish to see him again.

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WEEKEND WEATHER

Mostly cloudy,
chance of
showers
47/35



Mostly cloudy,
rain likely
50/38

Coming next week:

Proposed student
fee increase

OPINION

Columnist clarifies controversial column

I think it's about time I say a little something about the uproar incited by my Nov. 13 metrosexual article, an article written as a fun, light-hearted opportunity for a giggle or two – at the expense of no one but maybe oneself. I got that reaction from a lot of people, people who spent a few minutes laughing about all the time spent shopping or the mega bucks spent on hair highlights. But oh my gosh, was I surprised when the letters came pouring, more like pounding in.

As it turned out, there were a number of people who thought my article was insulting. Mostly members of the QSA, these people made it very clear that they weren't happy with me for my supposed "gay bashing" or the editorial staff of the Torch for taking part in printing it.

It's been made clear that there are people who think the Torch isn't the place to voice opinions different than those

dictated by political correctness.

That's an unfortunate attitude. I and the rest of the Torch editorial staff see the Torch and all newspapers as a forum for all opinions to be voiced, whether conservative, liberal or something else entirely. That's why we publish the letters we receive. We don't limit the types of opinions we publish based

on whether or not the majority of LCC's population would agree or not, we encourage and embrace differing opinions.

Frankly, I'm still a little disappointed in the number of letters we receive. Where are the PETA letters? Where are the anti-Barbie, feminist letters? And for crying out loud, where are the "why Ralph Nader should run for president" letters?



**WAVING
A WHITE
FLAG**

Liz Mayfield
Managing Editor

Though the metro article wasn't the first to spark anti-Liz letters, it was certainly the first to spark an entire campus group to take action against me.

I, though a little discom-bobulated over this controversy I apparently caused, was and still am pleased to print every letter, whether my character is being attacked, or my resignation is demanded. That is a part of my

job – to print what people have to say, no matter who likes or doesn't like it. And that goes for all people, not just the ones with political correctness on their side. That said, let's move on.

Even after a long time, the letters never died down. After President Mary Spilde's guest commentary in the Feb. 5 Torch, I believe I finally understood why the QSA was upset and why I was being labeled as

a "gay basher" when I wasn't even writing about gay people. Spilde mentioned the part in my letter about guys wearing pink nail polish being beaten up, and how much that was upsetting people.

I reread my article and I do see how that would really offend some people. I never stated that it wasn't okay to beat up guys who wore pink nail polish, probably because I figured that it's a given.

Of course it's not okay to beat up a guy for wearing nail polish or for any reason – whether straight or gay. And to include an act of violence, something many gay people have even had to experience, within a light-hearted article was very careless on my part.

It isn't a stretch for someone to assume I was making light of a very serious situation. Though completely inadvertent, it was still offensive and I'm very sorry for that.

Though it certainly wouldn't surprise me to receive them, I

hope not to attract new letters touting insincerity on my part, because I am sincere. I truly am sorry that I offended people by making light of any unfortunate situation.

However, I am not sorry if anyone is simply offended by my opinion that I like my men a just a little rough around the edges – but not too rough. We all have opinions and surprise, surprise, they are often different.

On that note, I don't regret writing the article. I still believe it was good for kicks. I do, however, regret my comments about beating guys up. I didn't mean it the way it was taken, but nonetheless, it was taken badly, and I do believe in this situation that it's my fault.

I don't believe it would be right for me to be prideful and hope the situation blows over without apologizing to the people hurt by my thoughtlessness. The world is already too full of junk like that for me to add to it.

Everyone should pay fees to maintain lots, bus service including faculty, students

In the Feb. 19 issue of The Torch, there was an article about some teachers at LCC who are taking classes to further their education. These teachers are upset because although their tuition is waived, they still have to pay some of the indirect fees associated with being a student. The main fee being disputed in the article is the transportation fee. I don't understand some of the reasoning in the arguments presented.

First of all, I don't understand exactly why the teachers are getting their tuition waived. The claim is that they are "furthering their education." Isn't that the premise behind going to college? Isn't that why we are all here? I don't think that there are too many students attending LCC just because they have a surplus of money and have nothing better to do with their time. We are all here to better ourselves.

Secondly, if a teacher is attending a class, aren't they taking a seat from a potential paying student? They're still using the school's facilities, such as computers, printers, paper, parking lots etc. The maintenance and upkeep of these facilities cost money, hence the reasoning behind the fees. I don't really care who is using it, but if you are using it, shouldn't you have to pay, too?

Lastly, referring directly to the transportation fee, shouldn't everyone have to pay the transportation fee? Teachers and

students alike use the parking lots. I think the real problem is what the transportation fee is going towards. Personally, I would do anything within my means not to ride the bus. I realize this is my own choice, but why should my transportation fee go towards purchasing bus passes that I do not want or use, instead of the upkeep of the parking lots that I use on a daily basis? I grew up in Roseburg, where there are only a handful of parking spaces in the whole town where you actually have to pay to park.

Having moved to Eugene, I have accepted that there are only a handful of places where you don't have to pay to park. I would gladly pay my \$15 a term to park at LCC if I knew that the fees were going towards keeping the lines freshly painted, paving the gravel lots, or even just filling in the enormous potholes that are causing damage to my vehicle. I think teachers and students both should have to pay the fee as a result of using the school's parking lots.

As a side note, I just wanted to say kudos to The Torch. You guys have been doing an outstanding job of presenting well-written articles about issues that are important to students. A lot of the material within the paper doesn't really interest me, but there is usually one good article about a concern that I, as well as other students, have about the conditions at LCC. Thank you; keep up the good work!

GUEST COMMENTARY

Casey M. Bartlett
Business student

Work out to stay healthy

Always listen to classical music and eat ten more Hershey bars.

Drive your own car all day long through the 50 states. Stop for gas and go to the store. Always have good driving skills. AIG Auto always has very good driving skills too.

Working out is a good thing to do. Buy your lunch and eat it in the Torch office, then study or work. Stay healthy and work out more. Get in good shape.

Women work out by kickboxing and eating healthy food.

It's the new world and the 21st Century, and college changes. It will change a lot more next year. Time changes and the world changes a lot more. In the next 30 years, everybody will work on computers and have paper work to do.

Turn on the radio and hear "read my lips, no new taxes."

Don't forget to pay income tax.

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



**MACK
WORLD**

John Mackwood
Columnist

WANTED:
opinionated,
articulate
people!

The Torch wants to know how you feel on just about everything. Send your letters to the editor or guest commentaries. Don't delay, express your opinion today!

The Torch can be reached by email at torch@lanecc.edu or by phone at 463-5655.

THE TORCH

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

Submission Guidelines

Letters to the editor should be limited to 250 words. Commentaries should be limited to 750 words. Please include the author's name, phone number and address (address and phone number are for verification purposes only and are not for publication). The editor in chief reserves the right to edit letters and commentaries for length, grammar, spelling, libel, invasion of privacy and appropriate language.

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Contact Us

Editor in Chief 463-5655
Newsroom 463-5881
Production 463-5109
Advertising 463-5654
E-mail: torch@lanecc.edu
Mail: The LCC Torch,
Bldg. 18 Rm. 218
4000 E. 30th Ave.
Eugene, OR 97405

News

LCC experiments with online course evaluations

Low response rates indicate the program needs improvement.

By Sasha Forsyth
Staff Writer

Students at LCC now have the option of completing online course evaluations for many of their classes. But effectiveness is uncertain because fall term's response rate was so low.

Of all students polled, a mere 11 percent responded using the online evaluations compared to the average response rate of 70 percent seen with the traditional paper evaluations.

"As important as these evaluations are to the teachers here at Lane, this kind of response rate is unusable," said Mason Davis, who works in the Academic Learning Skills Department at LCC.

The evaluations were implemented late fall term as an experiment conducted by LCC administration using a new software program called Banner, which students have seen in the form of the Express Lane program.

"We didn't inform teachers until very late in the term that some of them would be required to tell their students about the online procedures, which is why we got such a low response rate, so no electronic data was used for evaluation purposes," Davis said.

Seeing success rates of 70 percent and higher with the electronic method at other community colleges, LCC administration decided to implement

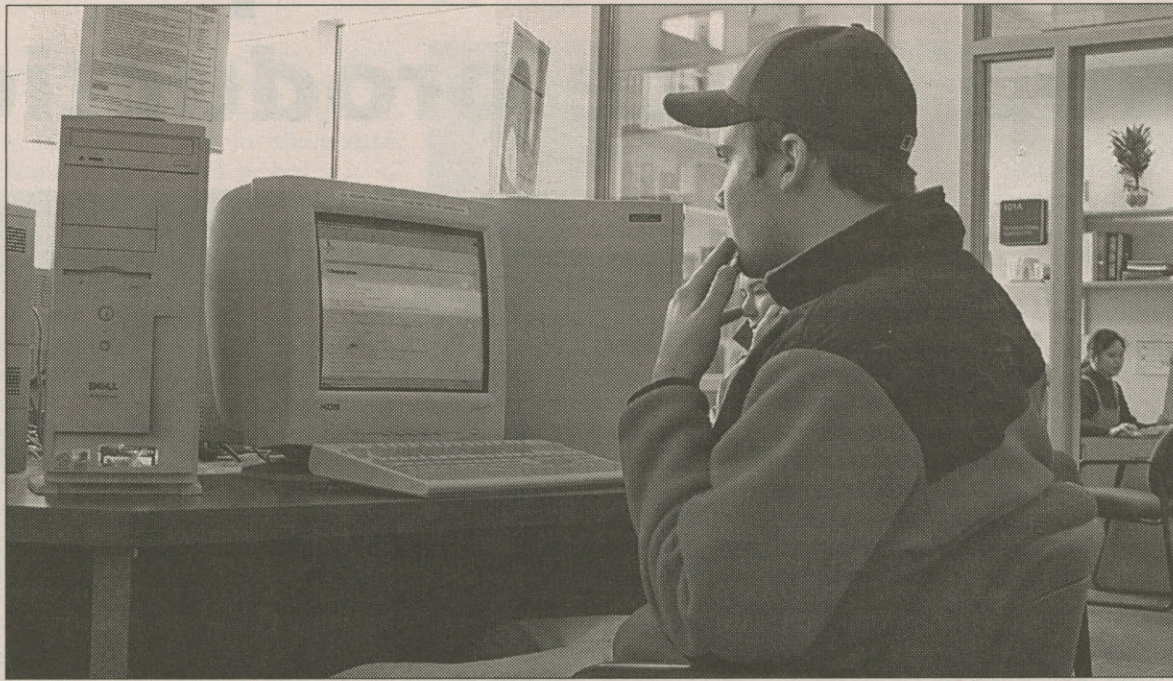


Photo by Megan Wilson

LCC students will be able to evaluate their courses online through Express Lane from Feb 29 to Mar 20. After a low turn out last term, the LCC administration hopes for a better success rate this term. When questioned, student Jesse Treon wasn't sure if he would fill his out when the time came.

the electronic evaluations for all professors who have passed their probationary period.

In the past, staff have had to type every student response before they were given back to professors in order to abide with the college's rules concerning confidentiality.

With electronic evaluations, the amount of labor by office staff is cut in half because responses are already typed. In addition, students may complete the evaluations at their own discretion, which may or may not increase the overall response rates.

"It seems to me that most students won't go out of their way to complete an evaluation unless they had a really good

or bad experience," said Sheila Broderick, who teaches four courses at LCC.

Students aware of the experiment have mixed reviews from fall term.

"The one teacher that mentioned the online evaluations did it too late so I didn't complete any online evaluations, but even if I had been told in time, I wouldn't do them; I had a serious problem with the teacher," said Mary Beth Sumner.

"The online evaluations were okay but I didn't like them because the program didn't work on my computer so I had to go out of my way and complete them at school," said Patrick Thomas.

The importance of student

evaluations is all too clear to faculty, which is why a committee including the office of instruction and institutional research, has been formed with the intention of addressing short-term improvements (including more clear and simple instructions for both students and staff) to improve the effectiveness of the online evaluations.

"LCC will continue the trial period through spring term using new methods that will hopefully increase the response rate," Davis said.

LCC will continue using traditional scantron methods for probationary teachers and keep the online method open for all other teachers until the online methods prove effective.

SCULPTURE from page 1

user-friendly space on campus because the architecture on campus is so stark," he said. "We're trying to make an effort to activate some of those spaces a little more and make them more engaging to people."

Although Williams has not given LCC a firm date as to when he'd like to see the sale completed, Imonen hopes to have to all the money by the end of spring term. That way the dedication for "Conception of Creation" can correspond with the dedication of another sculpture being built by a site-specific sculpture class during the spring. That piece, inspired by a trip Imonen took to Japan this summer, will be built of wood and is going to be placed in Moskus Square.

Two donors have given their support to the plans for purchasing "Conception," pledging about two thirds of the money needed. LCC will raise the remaining \$6,000.

Imonen says the ceramics department will hold a bowl sale Spring term, in which student-made bowls along with a voucher for soup from the culinary department are sold in the cafeteria. A similar event held Fall term raised about \$2,000 for the LCC Long House project.

With help from the LCC Foundation, Imonen also plans to send postcards to Lane County residents asking for donations to help buy the sculpture.

Imonen hopes the rest, if needed, will come from LCC students. A donation table will probably be set up in the cafeteria during Spring term.

People with questions, ideas, or those who want to help can contact Imonen in the art department, Building 11, Room 111 or by calling him at 463-5412.



"Conception of Creation" by Portland artist Roger Williams will be purchased by LCC for \$16,000.

Photo by Sean Hoffman

LTD

Fall 2004 Proposed Service Reductions

▪ **11:40 p.m.** Weekday departures from Eugene Station - Reduction in last hour of weekday service, resulting in elimination of all 11:40 p.m. trips.

▪ **6 a.m.** Weekday departures from Eugene Station - Move first departure time to 6:30 a.m.

▪ **Breeze** - Eliminate Saturday service.

▪ **8x Thurston Station** - Delete 6:14 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. trips.

▪ **11 Thurston** - Eliminate portion of weekday trip traveling to Eugene Station, leaving from Springfield Station at 10:44 p.m.

▪ **12 Gateway** - Reduce service to one trip an hour after 7:40 p.m. departure from Eugene Station on weekdays.

▪ **13 Centennial** - Reduce weekday service to one trip an hour after 7:30 p.m. departure from Springfield Station.

▪ **18 Mohawk/Fairview** - No longer serve Rambling Drive portion of route.

▪ **19 Fairview/Mohawk** - No longer serve Rambling Drive portion of route.

▪ **36 West 18th Avenue** - Eliminate Eugene Station to/from UO portion.

▪ **55 River Road Connector** - Reduce Saturday service.

▪ **60 Cal Young** - Reduce route.

▪ **64 Sheldon Plaza/The Register-Guard** - Reduce how often trips run on this route throughout the day.

▪ **68 VRC/Green Acres** - Eliminate route.

▪ **77 UO/Eugene Station** - Eliminate route.

▪ **79 UO/Gateway** - Reduce service to one trip an hour after the 6 p.m. departure from UO.

▪ **82 LCC/Pearl** - Implement articulated buses with larger capacity; reduce the number of trips.

▪ **85 LCC/Springfield** - Discontinue service after 7:15 p.m. Service between LCC and Springfield available on 81 LCC/Harris, with a transfer to/from route 11 Thurston at UO Station.

Information courtesy of ltd.org

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

LCC students, alumni participate in hip-hop dance production

Churchill High School hosts a performance to inspire introspection.

Melissa Vandever
A&E Editor

This weekend many LCC students and alumni will take part in the largest hip-hop dance production of the year, "Break Down."

After many months of rehearsal, the seven choreographers and 60 dancers involved will get to show off their routines in two performances in the Churchill High School Auditorium on Feb. 27 and 28 at 7 p.m.

The performance is a benefit for the Turn Around School, an alternative school shared by the Eugene and Springfield school districts, which helps troubled students. Tickets are on sale now at Face the Music and are \$10 for adults and \$7 for children 12 and under.

"I'm very excited to be a part of this performance," said "Break Down" dancer and LCC international student Kana Takei, "It's also good that the profits will go to charity."

According to the mission statement the goal of the production is "breaking down the barriers of hip hop culture

imposed by mainstream media while expressing the soul through dynamic movement. Through dance we unify race, religion, culture and gender into one body of positive creativity."

On their web site, the "Break Down" coordinators explain that the pieces are about the journey of life everyone makes:

"During the course of our journey we will experience periods of confusion, pain, loss and break through. It is during these times of 'break down' that we begin to examine who we are and what really defines us. We will then discover areas in our lives that need to be broken down to include walls, barriers, hindrances, that make it difficult for us to reach our full potential. This year's performance is a representation of these stages of breakdown and how the expression of music and dance will influence our journey into, during and out of our breakdown."

There are three themes of this performance, or stages of break down: domination, determination and deliverance.

The first section: Domination represents oppression, darkness, racism, greed, self-esteem, abusive relationships, doubt, fear and loss. The pieces in this section were choreographed by Lisa Gilliam and LCC students Billy Nelson and Allison Franco.

The second section: Determination,



Photo by Megan Wilson

LCC student Allison Franco runs through the piece she choreographed with her dancers during a lighting check rehearsal for the Feb. 27 and 28 performances of "Break Down" at the Churchill High School Auditorium.

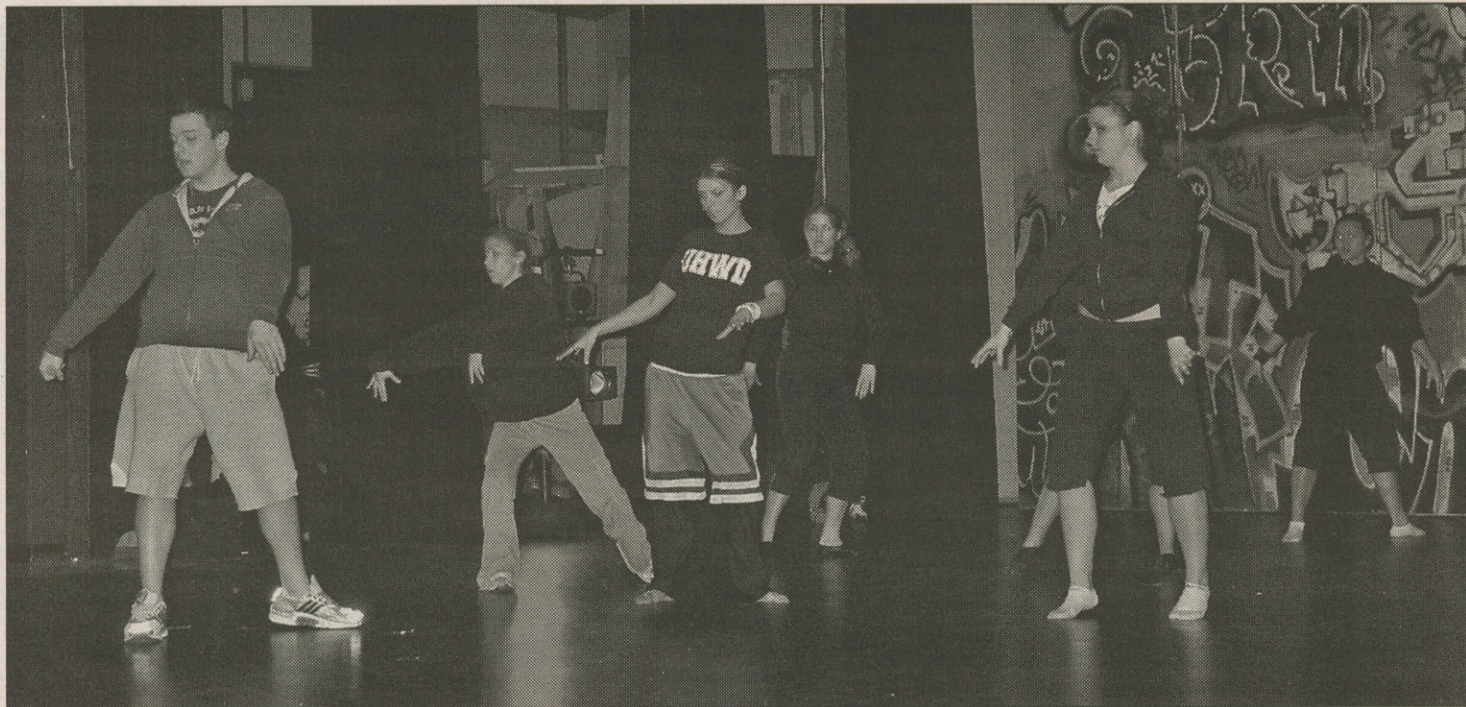
represents perseverance, strength, soul searching and seeking advice and was choreographed by Michelle Wright and CJ Mickens.

The third section: Deliverance was

choreographed by Tasha Bentubo and LCC alum Lindsey McMahon, and represents release, freedom, independence, energy, joy, inner beauty and unity.

The "Break Down" performance also includes performances by Ta Da Productions, Zapp, Southside Kids hip-hop and UO dance team Michael Kay and CJ Mickens.

"Break Down" is a Northwest Beat production and is also sponsored by KEZI, Comcast and Willamette net.



LCC student and choreographer Billy Nelson and his dancers practice their routine in preparation for the final performance, the proceeds of which will help support the Turn Around School, an alternative school shared by the Eugene and Springfield School districts, which helps troubled students.

Photo by Megan Wilson

Find the Titan Logo

Hidden somewhere in this week's Torch is another Titan logo, (like this one). Find it and receive a FREE can of pop from your SRC.

STUDENT RESOURCE CENTER

Located in the Student's First Building, 2nd floor
AND in the Center Building, 2nd floor

Now offering Snack Packs!

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Comes with coffee and your choice of beverage or yogurt and a bagel or muffin.

\$2.00 Afternoon Snack Pack

Comes with a can of pop, bag of chips, and your choice of a burrito, hot pocket, chimichanga, or cup-o-noodle soup.

Are you a student or staff member at LCC who has served in the Peace Corps? If so, we'd love to talk to you regarding an upcoming feature article in the Torch. Please contact News Editor Travis Roderick at 463-5657.

News Briefs

The library has one group study room available for student use. Another is scheduled to open shortly. The rooms, which contain tables, chairs and a whiteboard, may be used by groups of two to five students for work on class projects. Reservations may be made at the circulation counter or by calling 463-5273. For more information, or to view photos of the rooms, visit the latest issue of Inkings, the library's online newsletter, at <http://lanecc.edu/library/inkings/news.htm>.

The Ecology Club wants to increase student involvement. Join the club Saturday, Feb. 28 at 11 a.m. for LCC trail maintenance. Help get rid of invasive species and clean the trail for spring. Meet at the rock outside the science building. On Tuesday, Mar. 2, at 1 p.m., the Ecology Club will walk to check out creating a new trail in the back, forested property of LCC. Meet in front of Room 117 in the Science building. For more information contact Emily Hambley, president of the Ecology Club, at 514-0691 or 465-4781.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Student film to be shown at Bijou

Melissa Vandever
A&E editor

"Chez la Sanchez," a short film by LCC students Ryan Shoop and Tyler Benjamin has made it on the local big screen. Their film is scheduled to play before "Ichy the Killer" this weekend at the Bijou Art Cinema in Eugene.

"The film is about the idea of losing a relationship and not being able to cope with it properly," says Shoop, the film's writer. "There is this guy who's in a relationship and doesn't have a full reality check of what's really happening and when he gets crushed he's crazy."

"In a nutshell, the main character is proposing to his girlfriend and she says no. Then it fast forwards to the future where he's getting drilled by his lawyer because he just did all this crazy stuff, and we (the audience) don't really know what he did. For the next eight minutes, we find out what he did and its shocking, appalling, very disturbing stuff – stuff that no sane person would ever do," said Benjamin who directed the film. "Being rejected by his girlfriend basically pushed him over the edge and he just became insane."

So what's the inspiration for this twisted film?

"I thought it would be funny to write a story about a guy who snorts pixie sticks," said Shoop.

He says the film originally began with a scene of the lawyer trying to help his friend, this crazy man who doesn't want to be helped, but as they began shooting, they decided there needed to be some background, some explanation for why he was this way and to show that he wasn't always this way.

"We thought it was important to show that he wasn't always crazy," said Shoop, "It's interesting though because he's not that sane to start with and sometimes people miss that."

It took Shoop and Benjamin about one week to make the film, which is about 10 minutes long. The film, a project for video production class, was made

in the last two weeks before it was due. They shot for about five hours each day for three days, and then edited for 17 hours straight.

"It's a deep, well done film about a guy who goes through a lot of things," said Theresa Hughes, Shoop and Benjamin's instructor. "All of the people involved in the film are from LCC, including a crew from class and three actors from the Performing Arts Department."

"That's guerilla filmmaking right there," says Shoop. "We wanna make a movie, here's your script, you have the weekend, come back and let's do this."

As for future plans, Shoop and Benjamin (Dead Dog Productions)

are planning to make another film guerilla-style over the weekend. "Perplexed" will be a sequel to their last film and star several LCC performing arts students including David Thaler and Spencer Mawhar. They are also planning two longer pieces, a comedy called "Why Not?" which they have already cast and plan to shoot in the spring, and a film noir movie "Mishap" they have planned for the end of spring, have not yet cast for it.

"Why Not? is a screen adaptation of a play that was shown here last spring," said Shoop.

Benjamin and Shoop were both involved in the arts before they began making films together.

"I started out writing when I took

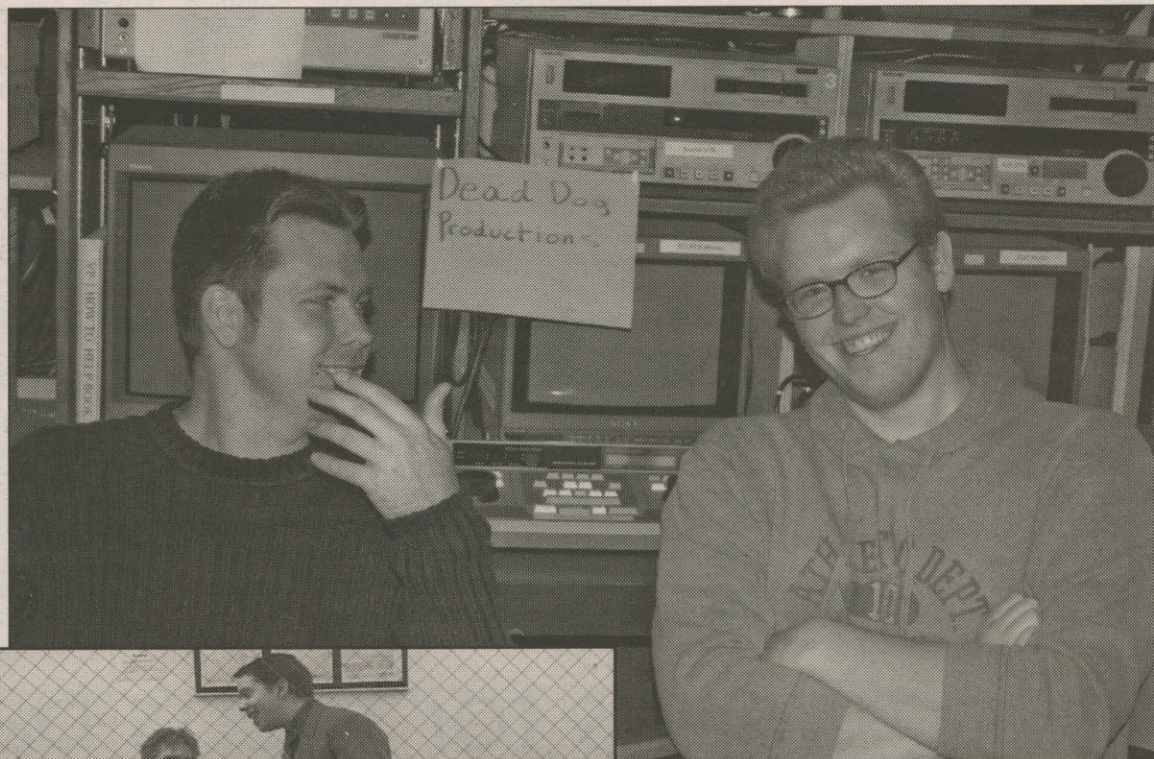


Photo by Travis Roderick

"Chez la Sanchez" a short film by LCC student filmmakers Ryan Shoop and Tyler Benjamin will be playing at the Bijou this weekend before "Ichy the Killer" and March 4 at 8 p.m. on CTV. The film follows the main character's decent into insanity after his girlfriend rejects his marriage proposal.



Photo courtesy of Dead Dog Productions

Intro to Playwriting last year. I was also involved with the theatre department I wrote a play and acted a little bit," says Shoop. "This year we hooked up and I started writing screenplays."

Benjamin had been making films for about a year and went through a few writers, when he met up with Shoop through a film class.

"I'm kind of a glory hog and I wanted this movie to be show to as many people as possible. We entered it in the Movie Gallery Film Festival, and submitted it to CTV where it will be shown on Mar. 4 at 8 p.m.," said Benjamin. "With the Bijou,

I thought, 'what's stopping them from showing one of our films', maybe before a feature?"

So he called the Bijou, they watched the film and agreed to show it Feb. 27 – Mar. 4, opening for "Ichy the Killer".

The Bijou is located at 492 East 13th Ave. in Eugene, 686-2458. Admission is \$4 for all shows before 6 p.m. On Sunday-Wednesday admission is \$5 after 6 p.m. and \$3 after 11 p.m. Thursday-Saturday admission is \$7 after 6 p.m. and \$4 after 11 p.m.

For more information on Benjamin and Shoop's future films, e-mail deaddogprod@yahoo.com.

A&E Calendar

February 26

Corridos from the Chicano Movement by Jim Garcia: Oral history through song honors those who have struggled on behalf of the community and highlighting significant events and issues impacting the Mexican American people. 10-11:30 a.m. in the Art Gallery, Building 11. For more information contact Ellen Cantor at 463-5749.

Carnival Sudo Americano del Sabor (South American Carnival of Flavors): the winter term classical cuisine dinner will begin at 6 p.m. in Building 19, Konnie Conference Room. The dinner is put on by Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management students. Tickets are \$35 each. For more information contact the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management Program office at 463-3503.

February 27

Multicultural Center Videos: Videos about American Indian issues will be shown from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Building 1, Room 201. For more information contact Susan Matthews at 463-3245.

ASLCC multicultural videos:

This series of films dealing with multicultural and political issues continues, this time with "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" at 11 a.m. in Building 1, room 206. For more information, contact Kapone Summerfield at 463-5332.

Allies Workshop: Chicora Martin, director of the University of Oregon Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Educational and Support Services Program, will present an Allies Workshop to reduce homophobia and heterosexism, create an atmosphere of understanding and acceptance for all members of the campus community and address issues of sexual orientation and gender identity. The workshop will run from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Building 16, Room 211. For more information contact Jim Garcia, at 463-5852 or garciaj@lanecc.edu.

"Biculturalism and Acculturation Among Latinos": The video will be shown at 12 p.m. in the Women's Center, Building 1, Room 202. For more information contact Jill Bradley at 463-5298.

March 3

"I'm the One I Want": A video

March 4

Symphonic Band Concert: The LCC band plays with middle school honor bands at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Building. Suggested donation is \$4-6. For more information contact Myrna Seifert at 463-5161.

Ongoing

Woodcuts Exhibit: Woodcuts by Susan Lowdermilk, Tallmadge Doyle and Ken Paul are on display at the Hult Center's Jacob's Gallery from now until Feb. 28. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and during all Hult Center performances. For more information contact Susan Lowdermilk at 463-5413, e-mail jgallery@teleport.com or visit www.lanearts.org/jacobsgallery.

The Laramie Project: Begins at 6 p.m. in the Performing Arts Building on Feb. 27, 28 and 29. For more information contact Myrna Seifert at 463-5161.

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SPORTS

Titans end up #2 seed in hoop tourney

The Titans lose to Umpqua, defeat Clackamas to end regular basketball season.

Shawn Miller
Sports Editor

The regular season is over and the Titans are advancing to the NWAACC tournament as the number two seed from the Southern region.

With two games remaining, the Titans were faced with an optimistic situation: win out and they would at least win a share of the region championship. A road trip to Umpqua Community College (Feb. 18) was the first challenge.

"I think we played a decent game, our shooting percentage was just atrocious," said Head Coach Greg Sheley.

Sheley wasn't kidding. The Titans shot

just over 25 percent from the field in the first-half. The poor shooting combined with a mismatch on rebounds led to the Titans trailing by 13 at halftime.

"We were right there with them, but we missed some easy shots," said Sheley.

The second-half started much like the first. Umpqua kept the lead above 10 as the clock ran down and when the Titans rallied to get back into the game, it was too late. Umpqua defeated the Titans 79-65.

"We still played hard, we just missed some shots and it rattled our confidence," said Sheley.

Despite creating 30 Umpqua turnovers, a lack of rebounding and only making 20-74 field goals crushed the possibility of a first-place Southern region finish.

"They are physical," said sophomore Chelsey Brock. "We were trying our

hardest. I don't know if it was mental, but we had our shut down moments."

Brock led the Titans with 17 points and four assists. Freshman Domonique King scored 16 points and had six steals. Sophomore Kailee Short had a near double-double with 13 points and eight rebounds.

Women's Basketball

"If we'd been able to shoot a higher percentage, I think we would have been closer and with a run, the game would have been tied," said Sheley.

Looking to get the sour taste out of their mouths, the Titans hosted league-leading Clackamas Community College (Feb. 21). The turnaround was evident early on as LCC jumped out to a 36-30 halftime lead.

Solid defensive pressure and boxing

out is what led the Titan charge and halfway through the second-half the lead was up to 10. The game maintained its balance until the three-minute mark. All of a sudden, Clackamas started hitting almost every three they took.

"They were burping up threes at the end and they were going in," said Sheley. "When they are trading three for two points and one point, they were able to quickly get back into the ball game."

As many threes as Clackamas made (11-23), they weren't enough as the Titans ended with an 81-74 victory. Key for the Titans, was a 53-33 edge in rebounding and making 13 of their 20 more free throw attempts than Clackamas.

Short scored a game-high 20 points, with Brock adding 18 with five assists and five steals. Freshman Ashley Sequeira scored 17 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, while King finished with 14 points.

Season ends for men's basketball

Optimistic Titans finish one game out of playoffs after loss to Clackamas.

Shawn Miller
Sports Editor

For the first time in four years, the Titans are not advancing to the NWAACC tournament. Late coaching and player changes put the Titans behind to start the season and when all was said and done, one game separated the Titans from reaching the postseason.

For the final road game of the regular season, the Titans traveled south to Umpqua Community College to avenge a three-point loss earlier this season.

"It was just one of those games where it was ugly for both teams," said Head Coach Ryan Orton.

The game started without one key ingredient: offense. Jump shots after jump shots

clanked off the rim as the shooting percentages were low for both teams at the end of the first-half. The Titans shot 42 percent followed by Umpqua's dismal 31 percent.

"I just told the guys that 'we gotta make enough positive plays to give ourselves a chance,'" said Orton.

As the second-half got underway, the Titans owned a 25-22 lead. The shooting didn't get any better. In fact, it got worse for both teams. The score was never different than a couple of buckets and as the clock wore down, Umpqua relied on an advantage that seemed to work against the Titans. Umpqua out rebounded LCC by 18 boards, 15 of those on the offensive end, which led to 15 second-chance points.

However, in the closing minutes the Titan defense stepped up, boxed out and closed the game holding Umpqua scoreless in the final four minutes. Sophomore Kyle Richards nailed all four free throw at-

tempts in that span to push the Titans to a 48-42 victory.

"We got ourselves in a position with a lead and they [Umpqua] had to foul us at the end," said Orton. "Our defense really held up. We got some big stops at the end."

"Next year we should be one of the best teams in the NWAACC."

—Freshman Blake Krieg

Freshman Blake Krieg scored a game-high 14 points, followed by Richards nine points and three steals. Freshmen Justin Glover and Tyrel Wardle each added seven points.

Next up, the Titans hosted Clackamas Community College in the final regular season game. The Titans lost to the third-ranked team in the Southern region by 24 points on Jan. 24. This contest was much closer.

With a shot at the postseason riding on whether the Titans won or lost, LCC came into the game fired up. The first-half turned into a battle shortly after Clackamas put up a lead. The Titans chipped at the lead and by throwing in several defensive schemes, they were able to go into halftime tied at 31.

"I thought we battled really

well," said Orton. "We mixed it up and threw in some different defenses. I felt good going into halftime."

That feeling was short lived as Clackamas and the Titans put on an offensive showing in the second half. Neither team

played solid defense, however Clackamas seemed to get the key stops when needed and pulled away with a 92-83 victory over the Titans.

"A combination of sending them to the free throw line and not stopping them," were the keys to the loss according to Orton, whose defense ranks third in the NWAACC for points allowed per game.

"They were being very efficient on offense. They got a lot of second opportunities, too."

The key stat of the game is free throws. LCC made 16-23, while Clackamas shot 38 free throws, making 25.

Richards scored a team-high 23 points, shooting 7-11 from the field, including four out of five made three-pointers. Freshman Owen Newman added 19 points and nine rebounds, followed by Glover with 15 points and eight rebounds. Krieg finished with 14 points and six rebounds for the Titans.



Photo By: Vida C. Nelson

Freshman Owen Newman from Cave Junction was the second highest scorer against Clackamas CC with 19 total points. The last game of the season against CCC ended with a final score of 94-83.

"We proved people wrong," said Krieg. "People really didn't have any expectations of us. We put ourselves in a position to be in the postseason with one game left. To us it is a little disappointing [to not reach postseason]."

"Next year we should be one of the best teams in the NWAACC. We have a core group of guys plus a lot of good recruits that are interested."

"We need to find a team leader; someone to step up and take shots when the game is on the line," said Orton.

Titans look for championship run starting with #4 seed Spokane

The Titans advance to NWAACC tourney with optimism.

Shawn Miller
Sports Editor

The Titans are advancing to their third strait NWAACC tournament. This year as the number two seed from the Southern region, the Titans open play in Kennewick, Wash. Friday, Feb. 27 against Spokane Community College.

The Titans played Spokane in the second game of the season, winning 63-52. Head Coach Greg Sheley and the rest of

the Titan women are optimistic heading into their 8 p.m. contest against Spokane.

Women's Basketball

"Historically, they are a good team," said Sheley. "They are a tough-nosed group."

"I think that we are the better team at this particular game. I know it sounds stupid, but if we play defense and execute on offense, we will win."

Although it might sound redundant, playing defense and executing on offense is exactly what it will take for the Titans to win every game. The tournament is a four-day event, with a

double-elimination format.

"The tourney is crazy in the sense that it is four games in four days," said Sheley. "Everything is focused on one game at a time."

"You spend a whole week preparing for one game, then if you get by that one, you have 24 hours to prepare for the next game."

If the Titans defeat Spokane, they will play the winner of Lower Columbia/Everett on the next day at 8 p.m. If they lose to Spokane, they play the Lower Columbia/Everett loser at 10 p.m.


The semifinals are held on Sunday, Feb. 29, with the trophy games on Monday, Mar. 1. The championship is scheduled for 6 p.m.

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Education

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Other

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Looking for HAROLD CHAPMAN. Please telephone Harry Whitson at 688-1076.

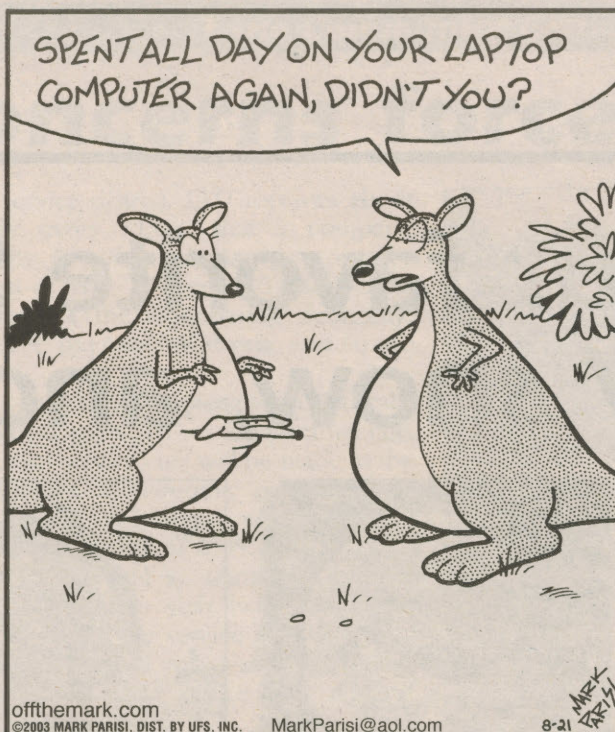
Noah's Survival Tips of the Week:

To avoid an alligator attack, do not swim in areas alligators are known to inhabit.

off the mark

by Mark Parisi

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FOUR RACK TOTAL
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DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 3rd Edition.

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| P ₃ | Y ₄ | G ₂ | M ₃ | I ₁ | E ₁ | S ₁ | RACK 3 = | 73 |
| A ₁ | V ₄ | E ₁ | R ₁ | T ₁ | E ₁ | D ₂ | RACK 4 = | 61 |
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Don't miss the Friends of the Library's Leap Year Magazine Sale! The Magazine Sale will be held at the Downtown Library on Sunday, February 29, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Bascom/Tykeson Room.

This one day sale features gently used magazines donated by Library supporters, now only 25 ¢ each. The room will be filled with thousands of magazines for all interests and ages: cooks, gardeners, decorators, hobbyists, history buffs, travelers, children, teens, and more. Interested in health, wealth, art, news, fashion, literature? There's something for everyone.

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All City parking is free on Sundays.
For more information, call the
Eugene Public Library at 682-5450.

George Dubya's Presidential Pansophy

"Down in Washington they're playing with Social Security like it's some kind of government program!"

"We must all hear the universal call to like your neighbor just like you like to be liked"

Today is the 85th anniversary of Congress' decision to proclaim the Grand Canyon as a national park.

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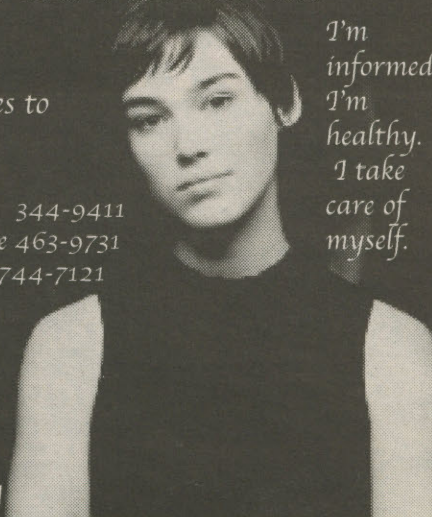
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BACK PAGE

The Pulse

What was your favorite Saturday morning TV show, and why?



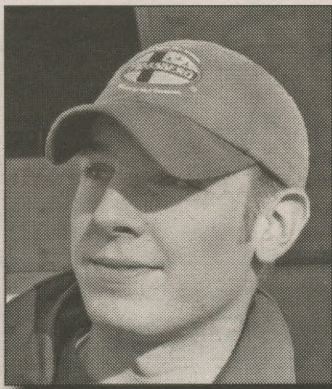
David Bell
Computer Science

If I go way back, I used to watch "Robotech" all the time when that was on. That was WAY back. I liked the constant story going on. It was pitched as a soap opera with giant robots. It's also famous for having one of the worst female characters ever, Lynn Minmei, who was always singing horribly translated, high pitched pop songs.



Courtney Kelly
Undecided

It's not a cartoon so much, it's "Pee Wee's Playhouse." Every week my dad would make pancakes — we all loved it so much! I liked the genie, you know, "Hula -Hula, Muku-Muku," whatever. Ha ha! Pee Wee would ask him a question and he'd give a crazy answer.



Jordan Davis
Criminal Justice

I tried to watch "Scooby-Doo" and "The Smurfs." I'd say Scooby was the best. I just liked Shaggy. I guess I related to him, being a tall skinny kid at that age.



Chris Flaherty
Multimedia Design

Oh, "Transformers." I loved the constant fight between good and evil — the Autobots and the Decepticons. They always had some devious plot and it taught you that if you paid real close attention to who your friends were, it would pretty much be okay.



Emily Joyce
Dance/Spanish

My fave would probably be "The Littles." What were they, squirrels? I think they were mice or something. They lived in the walls of a house and they always had these creative and inventive ways of getting around and doing stuff with random things from the people's house. They were always avoiding the cats — must have been mice.

Compiled by Sean Hoffman, photos by Megan Wilson

THE TORCH

is looking for
writers ■ photographers
artists ■ designers ■ editors

Stop by the Torch in Building 18, Room 218 every Monday at 1:30 for our general staff meeting, which is open to everyone. Or call us at 463-5655 or e-mail us at torch@lanecc.edu.