



Carver adds culture
to LCC page 4

Lady Titans bounce
back page 7



VOLUME XL, NUMBER 11

THE TORCH

LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2006

LCC submerged



PHOTO BY JAMES HOLK

The Southbound off-ramp to LCC was closed Tuesday, Jan. 17 as Gonyea Rd. was closed to incoming traffic due to high floodwaters from the nearby creeks and ponds. LTD busses and all other vehicles were forced to use the east entrance causing congestion and delays.

Board eyes budget

*President discusses deficit;
enrollment shortfall blamed*

PEGGY GREEN
NEWS EDITOR

Due to projected budget deficits for 2005-06 LCC is anticipating cutbacks. A tuition increase is also pending. Specific cutbacks had not been determined at the time of the LCC Board of Education meeting Wednesday night, Jan. 18. Tuition will be increasing by \$2.50 per credit hour for residents.

Budget shortfalls are such that LCC will have to reduce planned expenditures in the current year, according to the minutes of the LCC Board of Education for Dec. 14, 2005. The budget for Spring term will be balanced this term.

By the end of June, the budget for 2006-07 will be finalized.

The college tried to take care of its budget deficits by first increasing revenue, which means increasing enrollment. LCC didn't reach its target of a four percent enrollment increase for Fall term. The good news is that unlike the last few years, enrollment didn't decrease. It stayed flat. President Mary Spilde reported that enrollment for other community colleges in the state is down, not flat, so "some things have worked, just not enough."

The enrollment statistics for Winter term will be available in about two weeks.

The state's funding formula, which is in part based on enrollment, has not worked for LCC yet, although Spilde projects that in the long run, it will.

The school's strategy to deal with the budget deficit is two-fold: work on the revenue side first and make budget cuts second.

On the revenue side, the college will

continue to try to increase enrollment, and will consider some local options for funding, which could take away money from local schools. Spilde must put LCC first, but doesn't want "to impact the pipeline of students coming in." Getting the students through the K-12 process is a priority.

She has asked her staff to prepare an analysis for a local option of funding.

With regards to budget cuts, there were no specifics determined, but the college is looking at cost containment. Sustainability and energy management are examples. "We must change how we're doing things," Spilde said.

Spilde has already asked people to look at the operations and work processes: how to make technology work for the college and how to make it less labor intensive. While admitting that labor is a big cost, Spilde said the college's commitment was not to "take the state's budget problems out of the hides of our employees."

In November, preliminary projections for the deficits were made. At that time the projected deficits were \$1.6 million for the 2006-07 academic year and \$5 million for 2007-08. Spilde sent out a letter to staff that stated it was "clear that the projections did not accurately estimate all the expenditures, primarily because not all vacant positions were captured in the preliminary projections."

Because of the miscalculation, the deficit will be "significantly larger than previously thought," Spilde said in the letter.

According to Spilde, the projected deficit for 2006-07 is closer to \$3.6 million after the miscalculation was corrected.

Spilde will meet with all faculty and staff in two open meetings on Jan. 24 to discuss and outline the budget situation. Meetings are set for 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. in Building 17, Forum.

Jobs remain stable; experts provide tips

*Centers offer help
to students in long
range planning for
careers*

MORGAN SKY
FOR THE TORCH

This is the second of three stories in succession following Eugene's local economy.

Regardless of a person's goals or interests, education pays off in the long run.

According to both the Workforce Network and the Career and Employment Services, medicine and computers are still the largest growing fields to consider when planning a future.

More and more businesses are looking for multi-skilled workers and fewer businesses are hiring lower-skilled workers at livable wages.

Career and Employment adviser Jackie Bryson said to "arm yourself" when getting ready to enter the work field.



Breaking Down Lane
County's Economy

Eugene/Springfield Labor Trends reported in its November issue that the nation, as of September, had a raw economic indicator rate of 4.8 percent for unemployment. Oregon decreased from 6.5 percent in raw unemployment rates in August to 5.7 percent by September.

Oregon's unemployment rate was at 5.9 percent in April 2001 and since that time Oregon has not been below 6.1 percent.

Although Oregon's economy

has increased annually approximately 3 percent during the previous two years it remains below the national average.

There was a higher than average job increase apparent last September in the transportation and utility fields: construction, leisure and hospitality sectors in Oregon. Yet the below-average shift in natural resources, governmental, health and

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Sports	p. 6-7	Blowing Smoke	p. 12

Weekend Weather Forecast

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
46/40, good chance of rain	47/37, good chance of rain	47/35, partially cloudy

The Torch has been awarded first place in the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association's General Excellence category for community college weeklies for 2004 & 2005.

THE TORCH

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

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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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What is democracy?

The US Supreme Court rejected the Bush administration's attempt to abolish Oregon's assisted suicide law on Tuesday. To many, this case was not about the morality of assisted suicide.

The high court's ruling against the propositions made by former Attorney General John Ashcroft proved the solidity of Oregon's Death with Dignity Act, which was passed by voters in 1994 and reaffirmed in 1997.

Ashcroft justified his actions by calling into question the term "legitimate medical purpose" as stated in the Controlled Substances Act. So, who determines what a legitimate medical purpose is? Should it be the person in charge? Or does it fall under the jurisdiction of the people of the United States? Given the democratic tendencies our country has, you'd think it would be

the latter.

I know the United States cannot literally be considered a democracy and would fall under the technical title of a democratic republic, but public officials shouldn't undermine the decisions made by the people he's supposed to represent.

Like many conservative political figures, Ashcroft is against assisted suicide. So really he was undermining decisions made by people who disagree with him. Taking that into consideration, he's just a sore loser.

After the court's decision was announced, Oregon Senator Gordon Smith (R), an opponent of assisted suicide, stated that he would not support a bill that blocked the

practice as he did in the past since it was now "passed law."

He also went on record saying that despite his personal opinion on the matter, the law has proven itself in state and federal courts, justifying Oregonians' decision.

Hood River representative Greg Walden (R) has also said that he opposes assisted suicide but will not lobby against a law Oregon voters have twice passed.

At least our local government officials are accepting the decisions of the people

instead of imposing their personal beliefs on those they represent in hopes of reviving a dying career under the guise of protecting the nation's moral integrity.



COMMENTARY

Eder Campuzano
Managing Editor

What happens to our student fees?

Recently, I got my hands on a copy of the ASLCC operations handbook. This blue, 96 page handbook contains all the factual information on that mystical college association that I could ever dream of possessing.

The first thing I am floored by is how fast \$42.75 adds up when you collect it from each and every student on campus. Based on ASLCC's own estimates of 8,000 students enrolled per term, we're talking about \$342,000 per term, \$1,368,000 per year! That's a lot of money for an organization whom most of the student body has no clue what they provide in return. That's all about to change.

I asked LCC student Tory Dolzadell what he thinks ASLCC does for the student body. Here's his response: "What they basically do is keep anything from getting

done. They say they are doing things to help reduce the cost of textbooks and stuff, but they just pretend. They keep the status quo of the college services from being touched, and they sabotage our efforts to address any of the real issues of how we're being ripped off by the school."

He added, "They should sponsor a mandatory survey of all students about the cafeteria costs, about the bookstore

board then acting like they got something done."

Dolzadell is right when it comes to those resolutions. It seems like the ASLCC spends the entire year writing a few resolutions in an attempt to fix certain problems. But a resolution is just an official stance on a certain topic, which the ASLCC government agrees on. They touted one of their greatest achievements as a solution to the high cost of textbooks.

The "ASLCC Resolution in Support of Affordable Textbooks" is a two-page resolution that includes

facts and figures about how the costs of textbooks are inflated with the sole intent of gouging students. I think all of that is true, but students already know that. What did ASLCC do about it? They submitted a list of

practices in which they hope all college textbook publishers would adopt. That's all they can do, is ask. ASLCC has no power to do anything about the cost of textbooks.

A vision comes to mind of a little kid tugging on the pant leg of a corporate official. "Excuse me sir, but could you maybe keep the cost of books down?" Then the big guy kicks the little kid off his leg and says, "Go away!"

I talked to Michelle Wazner, communications director for ASLCC, and she informed me that they did in fact forward a copy of the resolution to the Association of American Publishers, President Mary Spilde, The Torch and OSPIRG. Wazner also said that OSPIRG was involved in that resolution. A representative from OSPIRG was not available for comment.

See ASLCC page 5

COMMENTARY

Chris Flaherty
Columnist



and about the school in general. They need to start making sure that the school does what the students want and stop pretending to do something about it by writing up phony resolutions and putting them up on the bulletin

Letters to the Editor

Objections raised on restaurant review

If you don't think racism is a big problem in Lane County here it is, right on your campus, in your school of "higher education."

"A woman with an un-Japanese accent took our order. If I am going for a certain kind of ethnic food, I want to be served by members of that particular ethnicity, where a gaijin like myself can tell the difference. There were several examples of this problem and it irked me through the entirety of the meal."

Hey, Mr. Woock, I am white and I serve Vietnamese food. So does my sister.

"Despite being prepared by folks who phylogenically resembled me far more than anyone preparing sushi rolls should, the rolls were excellent." Randy Woock wrote that.

Lesson #1: What shade the chef's skin appears to be will not make sushi taste better. So why did it surprise Mr. Woock, the A&E Editor for the Torch, that sushi made by a white person would taste good? Look up the definition of racism and

it might give you a clue.

Being an LCC student with a journalism background, I was appalled at the degree of ignorance expressed in this article, which in turn reflects on The Torch and LCC itself.

Mr. Woock, as a writer you have a responsibility to your audience and to this school to be producing the best writing material you can. Please stop trashing The Torch and please take an ethnic studies class. Where's the quality control, Editor?

Ellen Stark
LCC Student

Student labels review racist

I really don't know how to begin this letter other than by saying that I can't remember the last time I was so offended by such blatant racism. I was disgusted to read comments made in Randy Woock's review of Sakura restaurant titled, "Japanese cuisine: a dish best served raw" (pg.5) that appeared in The Torch, Thursday, Jan. 12, 2006. Mr. Woock's comments:

"If I'm going for a certain

kind of ethnic food, I want it served to me by members of that particular ethnicity. Or at least people who resemble them enough to where a gaijin like myself can't tell the difference... There were several examples of this "problem" and it irked me right on through the entirety of my meal."

Through his writing, he has successfully commodified and objectified Sakura's waitresses as if they were part of the decor or pieces of furniture and as though they should adhere to some kind of "Oriental" standard as dictated by self-declared "Gaijin" Mr. Woock. The waitresses are not there to fulfill his Caucasian fantasies of a particular race of people serving him.

This backwards notion that ethnicity should be tied up with workplace really is ignorant to say the least. This world does not need more people telling people where they belong and don't belong. I believe the atmosphere of the restaurant is dependent on the quality (speed of service, knowledge of menu, etc.) of the employees, not the color.

Mr. Woock is entitled to his personal preferences to

where people belong, but The Torch, being a socially responsible publication, in the spirit of good journalism, should not print this kind of ignorant, racist, chauvinistic, Eurocentric writing. I find it amazing that this was printed the week before the Dr. Martin Luther King holiday. Mr. Woock describes his comment as "culinary racism" -- I want to clarify that this is just plain old racism.

I expect an immediate apology to be issued by The Torch and recommend Mr. Woock be removed from his position of authority as A&E Editor if the school paper wants to avoid future instances of racial offensiveness.

It is obvious that Mr. Woock is uneducated in the areas of race sensitivity and sociology and appears incapable of writing an intelligent restaurant review without forcing us to endure his self-serving racist comments.

I will be presenting my grievances and this letter to Lane's Multicultural student group and to the LCC Administration.

Dean Van
LCC Student

New Oregon traffic laws focus on pedestrians

Since Jan. 1, laws aimed at pedestrians have changed for crossing access

ARIEL BURKHART
COPY EDITOR

New traffic safety laws for motorists have been in effect since Jan. 1, 2006. If you already know them; good for you. If not, take a second and become familiar with the new Oregon laws.

The new bill, titled SB 591, will let motorists turn

into a signaled lane while a pedestrian is six feet into the adjacent lane. This law changed from the one-lane buffer that required motorists to wait until the pedestrian was all the way across the adjacent lane.

This new law was made because during busy times, especially around school zones, motorists could not turn at intersections.

Just as a clarification, the 'adjacent lane' consists of parking spaces and bicycle lanes. So the pedestrian needs to be inside six feet of any one of those lanes before a motorist can turn.

If motorists are at a cross walk without a signal they must stop and remain stopped for:

- Pedestrians until they have crossed the driver's lane and the adjacent lane.

- Students who are crossing or about to cross a street that had a cross guard.

- Blind and or deaf pedestrians with a cane or guide dog. Motorists may not proceed into their lane until it is absolutely clear of the blind or deaf.

These new laws were created for everyone's safety and convenience. Please drive safely.

LCC Book Consignment Center a good alternative for students

Save a lot of money and find the books you need

JAMES OSBORN
TORCH REPORTER

LCC's Book Consignment center has been around for a while and now is growing into something both greatly financially beneficial and practical to students.

The center is located down the stairs and right across from the bookstore under a large new sign. The way book consigning works is that when a student has a book they would like to sell they bring it to the booth and sign a contract. The student says how much they would like to sell their book for, which is often much more than the LCC Bookstore will buy it back.

Students looking for that textbook can then check with Book Consignment Center and buy that book for often less than what it would be at the bookstore. The Consignment Center takes a nominal 10 percent fee for its part in the transaction.

It's truly a win-win situation for students who are finding the constantly rising cost of books and tuition more and more difficult to deal with.

Roger Gednalske, who has taken charge of the Booth, impresses that in his two years of working there, only one book has been lost and then paid for by him. Roger is dedicated to making the Book Consignment Center all it can be, taking time outside of work at home to make inventories of books and constantly bringing in more bookshelves to house the ever-growing number of books.

A standard Biology 101 book, can be purchased at the Bookstore for \$121.35 new or \$91 used. A student looking to sell puts the book in the Consignment Center at \$85 (which

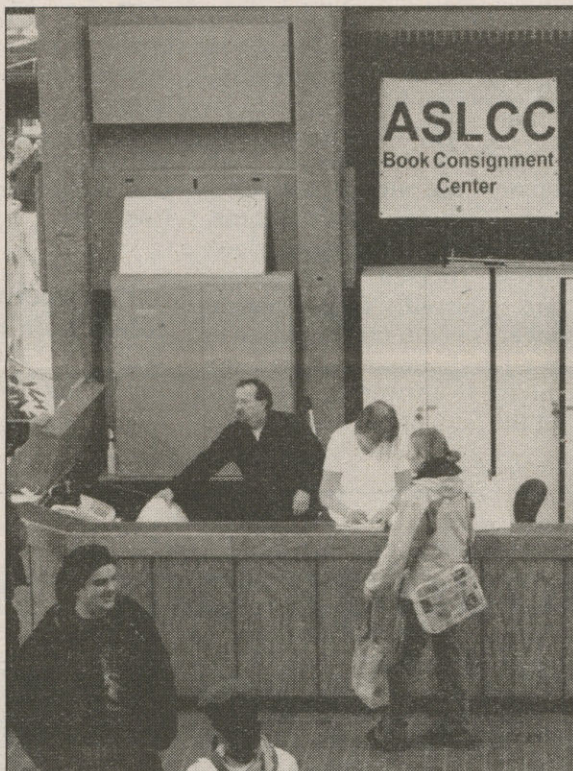


PHOTO BY JAMES HOLK

ASLCC's Book Consignment Center operating in front of the campus library offers students a chance turn in their old books in exchange for a cash refund.

would probably be sold for much less back to the Bookstore).

Next time you are in the market to buy or sell textbooks, the Book Consignment center would be a smart place to visit. Hours are 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. in the first two weeks of the term, and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the weeks following.

Student fees: breaking down the buck

Just where does your money go?

COMPILED BY KRYSTLE JOHNSON
FEATURES EDITOR

In addition to the tuition you as a student (or whomever pays for your education) pay, there is a mandatory charge imposed with main campus credit courses called the "Student Body Activity Fee." This fee goes to pay for the programs that we can take advantage of as students. All fee increases must be approved by the student body in a vote, which gives the student body a say in what their mandatory fee pays for. As of right now, the fee is \$42.75.

Provided for you here is a breakdown of just where that money is going. You might be

pleasantly (or unpleasantly) surprised to see what your money supports, and it might encourage you to check out a thing or two that's happening on campus.

Service	Fee	Last Increase
ASLCC	\$11.94	2004
Child Care Co-op	\$7.62	2004
Health Services	\$8	2002
Athletic Department	\$8	2005
OSPIRG	\$3	2005
OSA	\$2.44	2002
The Torch	\$1.75	2002

Note: 3 percent of the first \$5 that goes to ASLCC supports Denali, the LCC literary magazine, and 5 percent of the first \$5 that goes to ASLCC supports the LCC powwow. The increases were approved by students.

Reference: the 2005-06 ASLCC Operations Handbook

News Flash

STUDENT HELP DESK UPDATE

The Student Help Desk, a.k.a. SHeD, provides the following services:

Support for students with connectivity issues and questions when accessing the Student and Staff Access Network (SSAN) Technical support for distance learning students enrolled in online courses using WebCT or Moodle. Assistance for students with the questions currently handled in the computer lab, including application software usage, 'L' Number login questions and assistance with password changes (including ExpressLane) and Netstorage use. For more information, contact the SHeD staff at 463-3333, go to their website at <http://www.lanecc.edu/icl/shed.html>.

ORGANIC FRUIT OFFERED BY FOOD SERVICES

Check out the great organic produce selections in Food Service. Through LCC's relationship with Eugene's Organically Grown Company, many selections will be available below supermarket prices. Organic certification is the public's assurance that products have been grown and handled according to strict procedures without persistent toxic chemical input.

BUS PASS WINTER TERM STICKERS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK

Eligible students who have an LCC bus pass can pick up a winter term sticker in Building 1, Room 121, Jan. 19, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and Jan. 20, 8 a.m.-noon. After Jan. 20 stickers will be available at the Enrollment Services counter in Building 1 during open hours. Stickers are also available now at the Downtown Center. Students must have their bus pass and "L" Number when picking up a sticker. Stickers must be attached by Jan. 21. Students who need a bus pass photo ID can go to Enrollment Services in Building 1 or to the Downtown Center counter for a voucher to get a photo ID from LTD Guest Services at the Eugene station. Stickers can only be obtained from Enrollment Services. For more information, log on to LTD's website at www.ltd.org or www.lanecc.edu/instadv/lccbuspassinfo.htm.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP WORKSHOP PLANNED

LCC's annual Financial Aid and Scholarship Workshop will be Saturday, Jan. 21, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Building 17, Room 308. The workshop is open to anyone and is free but does require advance registration. Seating is limited.

LCC students with an L number may register for the workshop through ExpressLane at www.lanecc.edu, using registration number 32953. All others must call Continuing Education, 463-5252, to register. Details are available in Lane's winter class schedule.

OREGON STUDENT PUBLIC INTEREST GROUP GENERAL INTEREST MEETING

OSPIRG will hold a general interest meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 24 at 4 p.m. The talk will be about the current campaigns and the progress that's been made. Yes, there will be snacks! Find out how chickens will get us free food (in forms other than a drumstick) and how whales are coming home to LCC. Any questions, e-mail Sam at hedigers@lanecc.edu or call 463-5166.

KLCC SEEKS MICROBREW FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS

This event has become one of KLCC's most successful and one of Lane County's most anticipated. Join us as a volunteer on Feb. 10 or 11 at the Lane Events Center, and get a free admission to the festival. Go online to www.klcc.org to download and fill out the volunteer form. Positions are available for beer pourers, ticket sellers and more. Call 463-6020 or e-mail Kris Fox at foxk@lanecc.edu with questions.

KNOW YOUR NUMBERS HEALTH SCREENING

Take this screening to help prevent your likelihood of developing specific chronic illnesses or diseases such as heart disease, Type II Diabetes or stroke. Your risk is determined by assessing height, weight, age, blood pressure and the results of a simple finger stick cholesterol, triglycerides and glucose screening. A 12-hour fast is required. Included is a one-on-one consultation to discuss your results and lifestyle prescription. The fee is just \$10 for this 15-minute screening. You can schedule an appointment by calling or e-mailing Wendy Simmons at 463-5551 or simmons@lanecc.edu. Join us downtown on Thursday, Jan. 19, 7:30-9:30 a.m.

PARTICIPANTS NEEDED FOR ONLINE SURVEY

The Oregon Center for Applied Science (ORCAS) is looking for males, age 21 and over, who would be interested in testing a new website. You will be asked to provide your feedback and opinions on two online surveys. Study activities will take about 90 minutes and participants will be compensated \$60. Those interested should go to: <http://driving.orcasinc.com> for more information or to sign up.

Wood carving reveals a deeper meaning

SARAH FOGERTY
TORCH REPORTER

On any given day he can be found, rain or shine hard at work. The sounds of drums and rhythmic singing greet people as they walk into the tent, along with the fragrant perfume of freshly carved wood. The energy of purpose is almost palpable in the air and from the moment Tony Twocrows speaks it is easy to figure out why.

"If people want to save the world they need to start in their own back yard," Twocrows said.

An elder in his community, Frank Merrill, a retired LCC Native American Students Association leader, asked Twocrows to carve six totem poles as a memorial for service men and women. There will be a pole each for the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, and POW/MIA.

"To commemorate our veterans and warriors. Remind us what our forefathers have gone through. I was asked to do this because I was trained in a Native way, not only to be able to have the skills to carve but to know the Grandfather, this is a 200-year old tree," Twocrows said. "To be able to hear the voice in the tree, to be able to hear with my hands; my hands, these knives are guided by what the Grandfather tells me to do."

Twocrows described what each of the figures on the pole he was working on are, starting

at the top there is the wolf, the warrior in repose, the wolf cub to commemorate the sons and daughters of the service people and the eagle is to show cooperation between the Army and Air Force.

"It's more than the poles, more than the trees, more than the longhouse; Native Americans have fought on both sides of the flag. We have fought for and against this government since 1492. Native American people have been fighting, in the simplest terms, as people, to be allowed to live. To live in the way of our forefathers.

"These poles not only tell the stories of the veterans who died but to remember our people have always been here. This is a 500-year old voice that can't be broken. That brings me to our longhouse. It is being built so we can bridge the gap between the two communities.

"Our longhouse is being built for young Indian women and young Indian men to have a place where they are safe. So many times when we leave the reservation we feel alone. We feel alienated. We feel like we have no place to belong, like we are in a foreign country. So what we are attempting to do is bridge the gap so that non-Indian people can put aside the books to really find out about the culture.

"Being Indian isn't just about blood, regardless of whether you light a prayer stick or lay down tobacco in the river, you have to live the Native way, every single

"To be able to hear the voice in the tree, to be able to hear with my hands; my hands, these knives are guided by what the Grandfather tells me to do."

-Tony Twocrows

day, otherwise every prayer of our ancestors was for nothing," Twocrows explains.

"My hope is that the longhouse will serve for generations to come," Twocrows said. "Most Native people think about our ancestors yet to come, we think of seven generations ahead of us. What will they have to fight for? Look at what your people have had to fight for, follow your heart. If you see something that isn't right speak out because if we don't speak up and out against injustice these things will continue to happen. As a people if we don't have a voice we will die. We have to teach our children how to communicate in this world as well as the ancient world," Twocrows said.

"The Grandfather is here so that you look deeper than yourself, see what your uncles, your fathers, grandfathers, have been through, look beyond yourself, look deeper than yourself. Those people that are over in Iraq are there to do a job, because they had the courage to answer the call. It is not the fault of the warriors but



PHOTOS BY NAOMI REICHMAN

of the government. They are answering a call," Twocrows said.

The Memorial and Longhouse projects are accepting donations. Anyone who is interested in contributing to their successful completion and operation can contact the LCC Foundation in Building 3, Room 205.

Tony Twocrows works on a totem pole near the Center Building with hand-forged tools for the future Longhouse project.



Breaking apart language and social barriers

Outstanding student overcomes the odds and works toward his goals, dreams

LARRY COONROD
TORCH REPORTER

Working in a sweatshop at the age of 15 convinced Juan Jose Mora Flores that getting an education was going to be a priority in his life.

"I would rather just shoot myself if I were to have that as a life option," he said. "It was the worse-worse job that a human being can have while living on Earth."

Mora Flores' educational path has not always been easy. Arriving in the United States from Mexico with his family at age 10, Mora Flores spoke no English. At school, he had to learn how to communicate in English and keep up with the regular work. Within one and a half years he had learned the language well enough to be conversant with his friends, a feat he attributes to his father.

"I was forced to speak English. That was the plan my dad had for us: to come to America and speak two languages," Mora Flores said.

"I wanted to (learn to) speak English as fast as possible so I could help around the house. So I can help my parents communicate-help them with mail and phone calls and dealing with the landlord," Mora Flores said.

Education is the focus of Mora Flores' life. His father brought the family to the United States from their home in Morelia Mich, Mexico for the

educational opportunities.

"We were financially secure in terms of our assets," he said. "Our dad wanted us to get a good education...the education system in Mexico was poor."

Influenced by his early teachers, Mora Flores' goal is to become a teacher himself. "So thanks to those early ESL teachers I want to do what they did for me and give back to the community," he said.

After completing his AAOT in education this spring, Mora Flores plans to attend UO to earn a Masters of Education degree. He then hopes to teach elementary children.

"At a younger age it's easier to start building their brains, they are more open-minded. That's why I decided to teach at that level," he said.

Mora Flores is already gaining valuable experience in teaching. In high school, he worked as an office assistant where he translated for parent-teacher conferences. He also worked as a kindergarten classroom assistant. For the past three summers he has worked at a 4J summer reading camp for children.

Currently he works in the Students First department as a student service associate. Student service associates help students with registering for classes, writing scholarship essays, cover letters and job searching.

"I think it was a good idea they came up with of having students help students," Mora Flores said. "Students can relate to us because of our age."

When talking with Mora Flores it quickly becomes apparent how big of a role his family of nine and his work play in his life. At 23, he is the oldest of

seven children, with the rest ranging from 4-22 years old. "Since we are a community family we have always been tight, strongly tied culturally in helping one another," he said.

Mora Flores started helping with the family expenses soon after arriving in America as a young child.

"I would knock on the doors of my neighbors and ask them if they needed yard work or cars washed...so I could help my parents financially in terms of getting food on the table," he said. "It wasn't too much of a financial difference but at least it was something."

At 15, he started working with his father at an industrial dry cleaning business during the summer months. "That was my choice because I wanted to value what it was like to spend a dollar," Mora Flores said.

Mora Flores describes the working conditions as dismal: cramped hot quarters, loud machinery, dust and dangerous chemicals. More disheartening though than the environment was observing adults with no education that would probably spend their entire working lives there.

"It was just devastating to see people

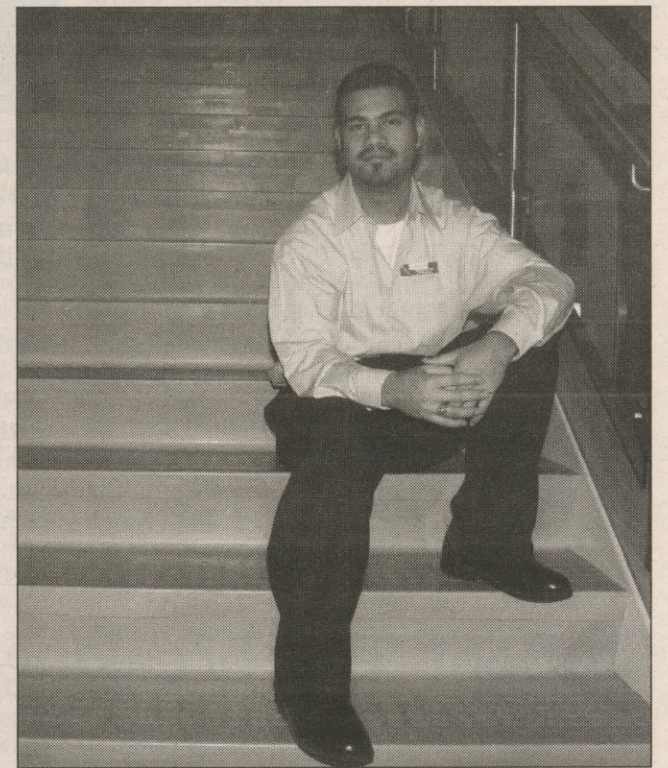


PHOTO BY JAMES HOLK

Juan Jose Mora Flores talks of his life and its hardships, how his experience working at a sweatshop inspired him to make a better life for himself.

working there that had no future," he said. "I know the difference between not going to school and being stuck in a job worse than McDonalds."

After working all day at the "sweatshop," Mora Flores worked at ShopKo from 5 p.m. until 10 or 11 p.m.

"That is how we all as a family built up financially in terms of getting a house

See MORA FLORES page 5

ASLCC FROM PAGE 2: ASLCC needs to have greater presence on campus

ASLCC is also in charge of funding some services that students do not know about, such as Student Health Services. Eight dollars of the \$42.75 goes into a fund so that we can see the doctors on campus for free.

I have my own health insurance, and a regular doctor, but if I just need to ask a quick question, or get a prescription without waiting three weeks for an appointment with my regular doctor, I give them a call and they see me quickly.

How about the Clothing Stash? ASLCC accepts donations of clothing from companies and local businesses as well as the public of new and used clothing. Guess what? It's free! Almost every year they bring in a truckload of goods from Columbia Sportswear Company and just give it away to the students. You didn't know that, did you?

The other groups who get a cut of the money are: ASLCC Child Care Co-op, OSPIRG, the Athletic Department, Oregon Student Association, and a

whopping \$1.75 goes to The Torch.

OSPIRG must spend an awful lot on sidewalk chalk, cause they get \$24,000 per term. That's all I ever see or hear from OSPIRG: sidewalk chalk ramblings about special meetings about creeks next to logging operations and how many ways we can get AIDS.

I hear that OSPIRG is much more than that; I just haven't sought out enough information about what they really do.

The Athletic Department sponsors free activities for students and their families. Last year I took my kids out to get a free pumpkin and a hayride. But you can also bowl, mini-golf, swim and ice skate for free. Not many people know this stuff!

The biggest portion of the \$42.75 fee (\$11.94 per student or \$95,520 per term) goes to ASLCC operating expenses, Legal Services, and Student Clubs. Student clubs get \$100 maximum per term, regardless of how few clubs there are and the overflow goes into a general

fund, which is spent at the discretion of the council of clubs.

Last year, at the end of Spring term there was a huge surplus in the collected fees and ASLCC initially voted and approved Portland Professional Wrestling to come to campus and do a show for a huge expense. Anything to blow money, right?

After taking serious heat they backed down from that silly notion and the plan was canceled. Yet I am pretty sure the students did not get those excess fees back.

The handbook doesn't specify how much Legal Services gets, but students are eligible for free legal help in uncontested cases. I haven't checked into it, but that seems like it could be of huge value.

The president of ASLCC gets 12 credits per term free tuition, and \$500 per month, 12 months a year. This is on top of any financial aid, student loans or scholarships the president receives. Pretty good pay for...what? We don't

know what the president of ASLCC does. That's part of the problem.

I think ASLCC would have a far better image if they put out a publicity campaign and actually informed us what they are doing to help us.

As Tory Dolzadell put it, "The (president of ASLCC) should be standing down there in the cafeteria, personally handing out flyers saying, Hey, I'm so and so and I'm your president, this is what I'm doing for you."

ASLCC, as a whole, needs to have a far greater presence on campus. They actually need to do a better job of informing us of what we're paying for.

I sincerely apologize for not digging deeper and finding out what other services ASLCC provides to the student body; in my honest opinion I believe that we shouldn't have to dig, pry, search and seek out what services are available. Those services should be out in the open and promoted extensively. Then maybe students wouldn't have such a negative impression of the ASLCC.

ECONOMY FROM PAGE 1: Medical, accounting, airline industries boast jobs, hiring

education service made any gain insignificant.

An education helps one be more prepared to enter the job market and be able to work for better wages.

Many students are returning to school to train with computers to become multi-skilled.

"One of the fastest growing careers is accounting," said Bryson, "There are also always nursing, respiratory therapists and medical office assistants needed."

Due to computer access and online accessibility many jobs such as travel agents are not growing. "The airline industry is reorganizing and there are a record number of pilots who are close to retirement, so

qualified pilots will also be in greater demand than in the recent past," Bryson said.

The information technology revolution has greatly changed the work force as it is previously known.

Knowing the different functions within the global economy and being armed with the knowledge of where one's interests and skills are best-applied helps one become more capable of planning potential prospects.

LCC's Career and Employment Services offer many ways to find a direction when a person is unsure of how to plan for a future.

With a full-time staff of four and several part-time,

employees as well as student associates to help, they are ready and willing to offer many options for career guidance.

LCC also offers a career and life planning class for those who are interested or are unsure of what field or occupation they may wish to pursue.

The Career Center located in Building 1 has an array of skill and assessment tests designed to offer ideas and to show people where their dependable strengths and talents may best be suited.

Bryson counsels, "If you have a passion, even if it is a small field, go for it." Not everyone wants to attend college and there are possibilities open to them. Many first and second

year degrees are available such as veterinary technicians and dental assisting.

Finding a job in these challenging times is often difficult. Many of the jobs that are available are not paying as highly as they have in the past.

Celia Maximin of the Workforce Network located in Building 19 urges people to access the many opportunities that Workforce Network offers.

"Keeping an eye on the daily news and getting a sense of what is going on out there," are things Maximin said would benefit people who are currently looking for a job.

Both Bryson and Maximin felt that education and acquiring skills in many different areas

improved a person's chance of finding employment and a career.

Good communication and computer skills are needed in almost every job out there nowadays. "There are less people coming into Workforce Network," said Maximin. This is a good indicator that the job market is at least leveling off or even on a slight upswing.

The Workforce Network offers a variety of job listings, programs, computer access, workshops, seminars, and even a "job club" for people entering the job market.

In their opinion, education remains the most powerful tool one can wield when approaching tomorrow's job market.

MORA FLORES FROM PAGE 4: Long-range planning fits into goal-setting style

and helping my parents," he said. "To this day they support me and I support them. In the house we all depend on each other."

"In fact today my parents are not working. Me and my brother and my sister are the ones bringing economic status to the table," he said.

Despite the success the family has achieved since settling in the United States in 1993, Mora Flores' dad worries that his children will lose touch with their Mexican heritage. "Honestly, it is disintegrating, for me it's not where we come from but that we forget important dates," he said.

"We are always on the move—the clock is our boss," Mora

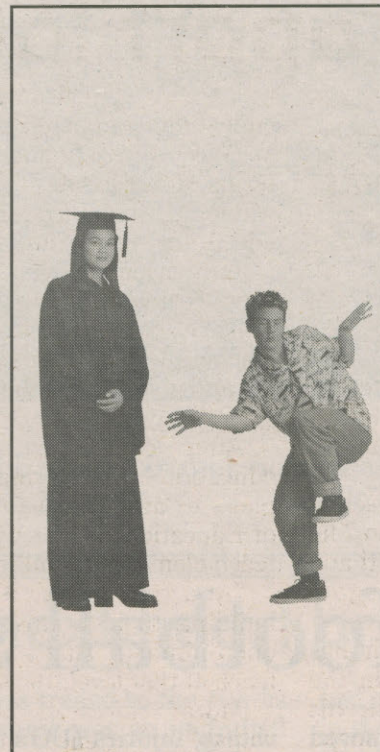
Flores said. "It's a fast paced life. I'm not saying it is bad, it's just the way it is...everything has a price."

Mora Flores never loses sight of his ultimate goal of becoming a teacher. Every job builds experience and connections that lead to the next job that will bring him closer to having his own classroom. Building his customer service skills at ShopKo, working as a summer school instructor and helping fellow students as a student service associate are all part of a carefully constructed plan.

"Every single plan I had, it is laying into place," he said. "I still have a long way to go but so far it is good. It's going how I am planning life to be."

We're sorry!

In the Jan. 12, 2006 issue of The Torch, we mistakenly miscredited this photo. Barbara Cooper was the photographer, not James Holk.

**Scholarships for valedictorians—and those who aren't**

The Lane Foundation offers 383 different scholarships—and for some of them, a high GPA is not a requirement. For information, visit www.lanecollege.edu/foundation/scholarships.htm. The deadline to apply for these scholarships is March 13.

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Off to a good but tenuous start

Lane needs more wins to feel comfortable

ROBERT JONES
SPORTS EDITOR

Most teams would be happy with a 2-0 start in league basketball play. For the Titans though, they know that one slip up could mean the season. "Two wins is great, but that's all we got now. If we take any kind of breath now we can be 2-12 at the end of the year and be going 'where did those two wins go?'" said Head Coach Matt Swagerty.

On Jan. 14 the Titans traveled to sixth-ranked Clackamas in what turned out to be quite a battle.

The men led for most of the game but could not get past a 10-point lead. The Titans took a 48-44 half-time advantage. In the game, there were eight ties and eight lead changes; Clackamas's biggest lead was just two points, 4-2 in the first half.

The Cougars caught up to within two points late in the game, but Lane held their own and put the kitties to sleep 93-87. Josh Akwenuke led the Titans with 22 points and nine rebounds. Nick Keith scored 19 and James Clark chipped in 17 points.

Lane demonstrated an impressive defense in stopping Clackamas, "For a 40-minute period we worked harder than we had all year defensively. We stayed focus and more into our game plan," Swagerty said.

The Titans look to continue it's four game winning streak while playing Linn-Benton on Jan. 18.

This will be the third meeting between these teams this season, with the series tied at one each. Lane won the first game at Umpqua in the season opener but dropped the second at home in the Dale Bates Tournament.



PHOTO BY ROBERT JONES

Sophomore Josh Akwenuke drives the ball up court during the Titans convincing 91-73 win over host Umpqua Community College.

College football says goodbye... for now

Now that we're two weeks removed from the college football season, I'm suffering from separation anxiety. The championship game between Texas and Southern California will go down as one of my all time collegiate favorites.

Watching Texas quarterback Vince Young and USC running back Reggie Bush run wild on the same field was enough to make me happy. The entire championship had come down to the last play of the game, USC quarterback Matt Leinart dropped back and threw an incomplete pass which ended his team's two-year championship reign. A sports fan couldn't have asked for anything more satisfying.

The game nicely capped off an eventful season that was full of shake-your-head-stories (Virginia Tech's Marcus Vick and his McDonald's gunplay), season-

ending injuries (UO's Kellen Clemens' broken leg), and the loss of great player to the NFL (Reggie Bush, USC).

One other player who chose to leave early was University of Oregon's mammoth defensive tackle Haloti Ngata.

COMMENTARY
Zackary Pacholl
Assistant Sport Editor



Ngata chose to forego his senior season to enter the NFL Draft so he could support his four siblings and his mother. Then, on Jan. 13 his mother, Olga Ngata, passed away while being

treated in the hospital.

Usually when a player leaves college early for the NFL it's for money. Ngata's decision, however, highlights his responsibility and deep, commendable sense of familial duty.

Ngata has done everything he can do for the Ducks, and I wish him and his family the best of luck.

Since I have an extreme love for college football with no way of getting more of it, myself and those like me will be forced to make the switch to the NFL in the final few weeks of its season.

To ease the transition, we'll turn to the Seattle Seahawks.

With Seattle making it this far, a sense of regional pride should obligate all of us should root for them, even if we don't typically like them.

I have never been a Seahawks fan but

I've begun to catch the northwest vibe.

Up here in the Pacific Northwest, getting to championship games is a rarity and the Seahawks have never been to a Super Bowl.

If you're not pulling for the Seahawks, look at the other teams left in the playoffs-Denver, Pittsburgh and Carolina. Regional proximity isn't the best argument for rooting for a team, but in this case it'll do.

Let's just hope that Seahawks quarterback Matt Hasselbeck doesn't repeat his infamous line, "we want the ball and we're gonna score." Hey Matt, slap in your mouthpiece before you embarrass yourself and the rest of us anymore.

And take heart, fellow college football fans, spring practice is less than three and a half months away...

Titans stumble on the road but come back firing

Lane women's basketball suffers first loss of year

ZACKARY PACHOLL
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Lane women's hoop team makes two appearances on the road in an attempt to cruise to the end of season without another loss. The first game matches Mt. Hood (2-12, 0-3) against the Titans (18-1, 2-1). On Wednesday, the hoop team makes another trip to the Portland area and faces Portland Community College (7-9, 1-2).

The Titans dropped its first game of the year 80-92 at Clackamas.

"It was a tough game because Clackamas played pretty good...they played their best game of the year and their coach agreed with that."

In the loss, Clackamas (12-3, 2-0) was led by freshman forward Charday Hunt who scored 34 points and sophomore guard LaToya Hill's 27 points.

Coach Greg Sheley didn't think the Titans played poorly but that the Cougars played better.

"We just made couple mistakes here and there at some crucial times that prevented us from being able to win that game," Sheley said.

"It might wake them up but it might remind them that there are good teams out there and we have to be ready to play every time."

On Wednesday, the Titans came out flat against Linn-Benton and it showed.

"I was a little flustered with our appearance on the court tonight," Sheley said.

"We looked sloppy and played sloppy and that's what frustrated me."

The score was very even early being 10-10 at one point.

Lane got the ball and ran down the court and the ball was knocked out of bounds. It was apparent the frustration of the players.

Coach Sheley came part way on the court and said, "Morgan (Zajonc) have some patience."

The next play sophomore guard Zajonc hit a three-pointer that changed the pace of the game.

The hoop team looked normal after that comment by coach, going on a 17-3 run over a span of two minutes.

Steals almost came at will and three point shots began to fall. The team morale changed like a flip of a light switch.

A fan in the stands said, "Now this is Lane basketball."

Lane closed strong fashion leading 47-25 at halftime against the Roadrunners.

In the second half, the Roadrunners made a nice push to close with 19 points but the Titans were just too much to handle.

Sophomore forward Cora McVey led the Titans with 20 points and grabbing six rebounds. Sophomore post Lisa Fernandez scored 17 points while pulling down 11 rebounds.

"After the loss to Clackamas we knew we were going to have to come out and prove something," Zajonc said.

"I think it was little bit of a revenge factor. It was more pride than anything."

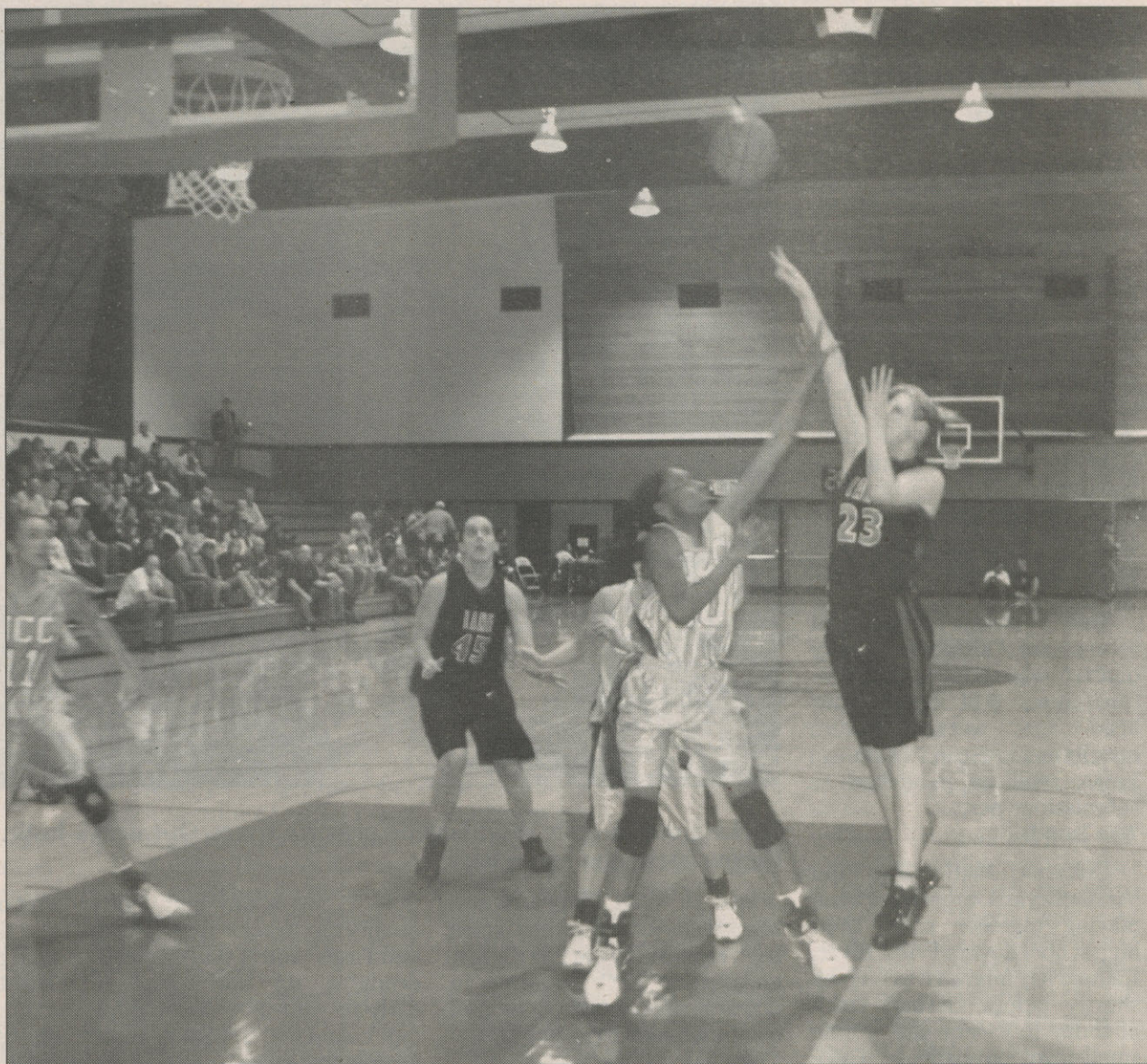


PHOTO BY JARED MILLS

Ashley Weber (23) takes a shot against Umpqua Community College in Roseburg during Lane's 72-59 win over the Timberwomen.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 21	Mt. Hood	4:00
Jan. 25	Portland	5:30
Jan. 28	Chemeketa	4:00
Feb. 1	SWOCC	5:30
Feb. 4	Clackamas	4:00
Feb. 11	Mt. Hood	4:00
Feb. 15	Umpqua	5:30
Feb. 18	Chemeketa	4:00
Feb. 22	Linn-Benton	5:30
Feb. 25	Portland	4:00
March	SWOCC	5:30

*Home games are bold

Lane/Linn-Benton Game Stats

Linn-Benton Roadrunners

Name	FG	3PT	FT	PTS	REB	AST	BLK	ST
Whitney Bryant	3/12	0/5	7/8	13	5	1	0	4
Simrin Cummins	4/9	0/0	0/0	8	3	1	0	0
Jennifer Fillion	2/12	0/3	0/0	4	3	0	0	2
Molly Fillion	3/7	1/2	4/6	11	6	1	0	3
Keri Kordatzky	1/1	1/1	0/0	3	0	0	0	0
Cassie Lloyd	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0	0
Sarah Long	0/5	0/1	2/4	2	4	0	2	1
Rebekah Welch	3/7	2/3	4/4	12	2	1	0	1
Team Totals	16/53	4/15	17/22	53	27	5	3	11

Lane Titans

Name	FG	3PT	FT	PTS	REB	AST	BLK	ST
Dominique King	2/4	0/0	0/0	4	1	2	0	5
Morgan Zajonc	3/4	1/2	2/2	9	2	9	0	2
Ashley Weber	4/8	0/0	0/0	8	5	0	1	0
Tess Treinen	3/5	3/4	0/0	9	2	1	0	3
Cora McVey	8/11	1/2	3/5	20	6	2	0	4
Lisa Fernandez	6/13	0/0	5/11	17	11	0	1	0
Shelby Stephens	2/3	0/0	1/2	5	0	1	1	1
Kammy Martindale	4/8	1/2	1/1	10	0	2	1	3
Ashley Ficek	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	1	0	2
LeAsia Jones	2/5	0/0	1/2	5	2	0	0	0
Team Totals	34/61	6/10	13/23	87	34	19	4	21
Box Score	1 st Half	2 nd Half	Total					
Linn-Benton	25	28	53					
Lane	47	40	87					

Championship football: predicting the next heart-breaker

The Steelers versus Colts game turned into a real heart stopper. The Steelers practically had the game won with the ball on the Colts' two-yard line. Jerome Bettis took the hand-off, barreled his way up the middle, and then blew it all with a fumble.

Seconds later, a Pittsburgh fan suffered a genuine heart attack while watching the game at a local bar in Pittsburgh.

Terry O'Neil, the weak-hearted fan in question said, "I wasn't upset that the Steelers might lose, I was upset because I didn't want to see him end his career like that. A guy like that deserves better. I guess it was a little too much for me to handle."

Of the four playoff teams that remain, none of the quarterbacks have won a Super Bowl.

Jake Plummer of the Denver Broncos won his first playoff game, Ben

Roethlisberger lost in the conference championship game last season and Matt Hasslebeck won his first playoff game with the Seahawks.

COMMENTARY

Robert Jones
Sports Editor



Hasslebeck and Delhomme are the only two QBs left that were selected to the Pro-Bowl.

Plummer was selected as second alternate and will make the trip thanks to injuries to teammates Carson Palmer and Drew Brees.

Hasslebeck was a sixth-round

selection and was traded to the Hawks in 2001. Delhomme was an undrafted free-agent

The Panthers were picked by many people to make the Super Bowl, but a dismal start forced many believers to become doubters. After Tampa Bay won the division, the Panthers were an afterthought.

So, as we did last week, let's gaze into the reflective laces of my crystal ball as I make my predictions for the games this Sunday.

The Panthers may be having a great season, but they can't win without Steve Smith having a big game. The Seattle Seahawks winning this game rests on two things, Shaun Alexander's health and stopping Smith.

If those factors come to life then Seattle will be tough to beat. The home field advantage also is in Seattle's favor. I'm sticking to my prediction that I've

had since week 10: the Seahawks will be in the big game. Prediction: Seattle 24, Carolina 17.

Last week saw Pittsburgh getting lucky against the Colts. Fortune was not in their favor for the last part of the game, but luckily there was a wind gust in the RCA Dome that made Mike Vanderjagt shank his pathetic kick.

Pittsburg had a great first half, though, and should give the Broncos a run for their money. The Steelers have a great defense, but so do the Broncos.

Denver showed up ready and eager to play against the Patriots last week. They need to do the same thing to have any chance of making the big dance on Feb. 5. I'd say this will be a defensive battle, but only for the first half. Both offenses should also have a big game once they get started. Prediction: Denver 35, Pittsburg 29.

Call your bookie now.

Here's to being four promising musicians

Outspent works the post-hardcore angle on the local scene

REVIEW BY RYAN MCGILL
FOR THE TORCH

With the recent departure of Atrial Flutter, lauded by many as "the best band in Eugene," our fair city has been left with a significant void. In that spirit, The Torch has seen fit to sponsor one roving critic's quest for artistic gratification. Over the next two terms the assignment is to scour the town with specific attention to LCC-related bands in hopes of locating a suitable heir to the throne.

This week's installment focuses on Outspent, a fiery quartet whose slick, intuitive tunefulness will haunt your head for weeks. Future installments of The LCC Music Project will be published as submissions permit.

The Band:

Guitarist Justin Ray and bassist Bryan Gerow have been playing together since their high school days in Priest River, Idaho. They migrated to Eugene shortly before Gerow's 20th birthday to escape the stifling small-town atmosphere. Once they landed they resumed the business of living and working. Ray and guitarist Jared Smith found themselves in concurrent



PHOTO BY RYAN MCGILL

Rocking out in their West Eugene practice space Outspent's Justin Ray sings while Brian Gerow backs him up on bass.

orbits at Wild Oats Natural Marketplace, which has since been replaced by Capella. Gerow enrolled at LCC, majoring in political science, where he met drummer Josh Crist in a class.

The Disc:

Outspent's album, "Here's to Being Four," was recorded in a whirlwind session by local musical jack-of-all-trades Ed

Cole. It has a raw and snotty quality on tracks like "Death and Taxes" and "I Will Contest," drudging up the sound of early-to mid-'80s trash punk but balancing it with a more ecumenical face.

Other songs such as "Find a Way," riff on a post-hardcore approach with occasional nods to modern rock. However, the standout track is their most disparate: "Last on the Front Porch," which is a slow, haunting tune with mariachi overtones that mourns a failed past. It is one of those rare songs

that unfurls like a tapestry, bits at a time, then dazzles with the final result.

The Live Experience:

Outspent is an intensely charismatic band on stage, reminiscent primarily of bands like Bad Religion and Jawbreaker. They have a fast, melodic approach and gel with an unusual ease. Crist's drumming is fast and crisp while Ray's leads are an exercise in good taste. They occupy a space somewhere between Weezer and former Ozzy Osborne guitarist Zakk

Wylde.

Gerow has a rare quality for an essentially punk bassist: he doesn't copy the guitars. Instead, he employs walks and unorthodox harmonies that would be more at home in jazz or funk. In doing so, he elevates Outspent well beyond the mediocrity of most bands. Smith interacts with the rest of the band, darting deftly here and there and filling all the little holes so desperately in need of filling.

The Downsides:

Outspent has two drawbacks. The first—a minor complaint—is their name, which has a meaning that is rather elusive. The second is their vocals, which can be coarse and raspy. This fits perfectly with their ethos but not with their overall sound.

Gerow and Ray sing their own songs; to bring in a new singer would both crowd the stage and dilute the energy essential. On the other hand, they could benefit from more songs that utilize a smoother vocal tone.

The Shows:

Jan. 21, 10 p.m., at John Henry's, 77 W. Broadway, \$3

Jan. 24, 10 p.m., at John Henry's, 77 W. Broadway, \$3 (with the Black Jettis)

Feb 11, 9 p.m., at the Samurai Duck, 980 Oak, cover unknown at time of publication (with the Costars)

For more information about the band, visit <http://www.myspace.com/outspent>.

For more information about the LCC Music Project and how to participate, e-mail lccmusicproject@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

Things to do in your local area

MUSIC

Oregon Jazz Festival
Friday and Saturday, Jan. 20 and 21
Performing Arts Building 6, LCC Main Campus:
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. free to the public
Evening Guest Artist Concert: 7:30 p.m.
Performance Hall
Concert tickets: \$18 adults, \$12 students

ART

LCC Art Exhibitions in Building 11
Jennifer Salzman and Monique Belitz
Jan. 8-31
Multimedia Exhibit
Feb. 1-21
Ceramics
Feb. 22-March 16

DANCE

Collaborations in Rhythm Dance Concert
Hip-Hop, Modern, Salsa and Jazz
8 p.m.
Friday Jan. 27, and Saturday, Jan. 28
\$8 adults \$6 students

THEATER

The Good Doctor
A Neil Simon comedy, directed by Patrick Torelle
8 p.m. Friday & Saturday
Feb. 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18
And at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12
Adults: \$10
Students/Seniors: \$8

WINTER ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

Performance Hall in Bldg. 6
Lane Symphonic Band
7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 9
Admission by donation \$4 - \$6
Chamber and Concert Choir
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 14
Adults \$4; Students/Seniors \$2
Spectrum and Jazz Band
7:30 p.m. Friday, March 17
Admission by donation \$4 - \$6
Lane Chamber Orchestra
4 p.m. Sunday, March 19
Admission by donation \$4 - \$6

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PHOTO BY JAMES HOLK

Artist and instructor Monique Belitz has collaborated with fellow LCC instructor and photographer Jennifer Salzman in showcasing their artwork within Building 11.

Landscapes brought to life

Monique Belitz paints large, vivid Northwest landscapes

JAMES OSBORN
TORCH REPORTER

Monique Belitz was never into art when she started out, but rather as she says, "it was in me." Belitz's paintings are now on display at the LCC Art Gallery. They hold a common theme of open, sweeping landscapes with breathtaking colors that bring to life the beauty of nature and the Northwest. Belitz was raised in the Netherlands and in the vicinity of Munich, Germany. Growing up, she was influenced by German expressionist artists, particularly the ones that utilized large, colorful paintings.

She started by putting all of her money into art supplies and learning the trade from the bottom up. Hubert Robert, an obscure 18th Century French artist and the co-founder of the Louvre, was and continues to be a huge influence on Belitz.

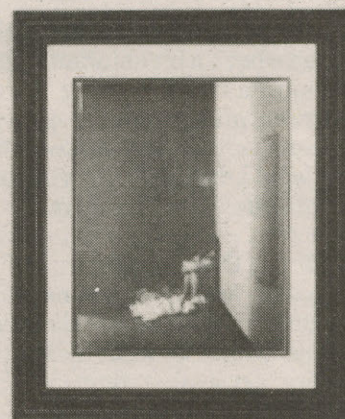
When asked to describe her art, Belitz said, "Wide open landscapes, deep depth and no obstructions. Paintings are metaphors for me; they are a way to express my own mood."

Belitz, a rock climber, says she is fueled a great deal on her journeys out to Smith Rock where she gets a lot of her imagery and inspiration. For someone who hasn't watched television in 20 years, Monique sheds some light on art as, "like with words and music, [art is] an important outlet of humanity."

With her own art, Monique describes that which she observes in nature, puts it through the filter of her own personality and then lets it become her own. "The paintings should speak for themselves, but I encourage people to interpret them in their own ways."

To upcoming artists or ones just starting out, she advises, "Keep on going, don't be discouraged but don't expect to make a living off it."

Belitz's art is now being showcased at the LCC Art Gallery in Building 11.



LCC faculty artist brings art to focus

Jennifer Salzman seeks to evoke emotion through photography

JAMES OSBORN
TORCH REPORTER

Jennifer Salzman has been driven since she took her first photography class at 16. Now her art emanates a wide spectrum of feelings to viewers that can range from childhood nostalgia to thought-provoking discomfort through powerful symbolism.

Salzman's goal for her art is to "to evoke an emotion in the viewer. I hope that it might be the same emotion I feel but any emotion felt is a good reaction. It forces the viewer to think about what they're looking at."

Salzman grew up in Wausau, Wisc., which she described as "the middle of nowhere." Early on her motivation as an artist was to go beyond what she knew in her isolated world. She identified with the medium of photography, enjoying its immediacy and manipulation from a technical standpoint.

Before being a teacher at LCC, Salzman was the Art Curriculum Director at the University of Wisconsin in River Falls. Her advice to artists just starting out:



PHOTO BY JAMES HOLK

Jennifer Salzman currently has her photography on display in the LCC art gallery that portrays intensely dark and emotionally healing imagery as it contrasts the relationships between comfort and distress.

"Learn your medium well, you really need to know your tools. Listen to people's criticism but don't let it bring you down. Most importantly, art is something you should be doing for yourself."

Salzman's art is on display at the LCC Art Gallery in Building 11, and will be showcased at Eugene's "The Diva" in 2007.

Barbarians, broadswords and blintzes

Eighth Century Jewish Kingdom ruled Eastern Europe

RANDY WOOCK
A&E EDITOR

Little is known about the Khazars, a war-like people whose kingdom provided a buffer between the Byzantine Empire and the Muslim Caliphate. Turkish by blood but Jewish by religion, the Khazars raised sheep, raided widely but made sure to never rape, loot or pillage on the Sabbath. **The Skinny:** Koestler's main thesis for *The Thirteenth Tribe* is that Western Jewry is not descended from Semetic tribes, but from the Jewish kingdom of the Khazars. During the Dark Ages, Khazaria stretched from the Black Sea

to the Caspian, and the Khazars were fearsome warriors who exacted tribute from the Muslims and Christians surrounding them. After a brief time

OFF THE SELF

The Thirteenth Tribe by Arthur Koestler Library 1976

in the sun, the Khazars were dispersed into history when bigger and badder tribes arrived on the scene.

The Good: Ah, for the days when you didn't need to use words like "freedom" and "democracy" or make any pretenses towards altruism when slaughtering and stealing the resources of your fellow man. Sure, the Khazars might have been bloodthirsty but at least they were open

and honest about it.

Koestler's writing does a lovely job of describing the thin veneer of civility and religious piety that gilded a world which never tired of bathing itself in blood. Reading the book made me long for my own broadsword and a couple defenseless peasants against which to swing it.

The Bad: If you have an American education, not only are you probably dumber than a good percentage of Western Europe, but world history, outside of the Greeks and Romans, most likely isn't one of your strong points. Not your fault, but there it is all the same.

Koestler does his best to give concise explanations for each tribe and historical figure that makes an appearance. However, unless you can already tell your Ghuzz from your Magyar, or the Karaite heresy from other brands of medieval Judaism, you might have a few

moments of utter confusion--per page. Keep the Internet handy and prepare to Google.

The Ugly: The back cover of the book reads, "What happens to anti-Semitism if Jews are not really Semites at all?" Unfortunately, something about our species tells me that history lessons aren't quite enough to keep us from hating each other. We're awfully resourceful about such things.

Additional Info: For more info about the Khazars, in reader-friendly fashion, try some historical fiction like *The Wind of the Khazars*, by Marek Helter or *The Rabbi King*, by Monroe Kuttner. Also recommended is *Dictionary of the Khazars*, by Milorad Pavic. The latter is more of a post-modern collection of hyper-short fairy tales than it is historical fiction, but still rates as one hellaciously entertaining read.

All the stars are projectors: 21st Century astrology

Jan 19—25

Aries



Weird Situations. Antsy little Aries, you've been a bit emotional as of late. The moon has been moving through watery Cancer, making you stop to think about whatever it is you've been considering. It would be best for you to talk your problems out with others.

Taurus



Carpe Diem. Mars is still making a pass at your Sun, giving you far more energy than you've had in quite some time. Mars is also making you a bit more aggressive than you're used to. You are especially good at persuading others during this time. Taurus, now is a time where you're actually willing to get up and do something... seize the day!

Gemini



Thinking Is Fun. You have been thinking much more about life and you've been constantly wondering as to whether or not you are on the right track. With so very much on your mind, you can't be your normal airy self. You've hit a point in your life where you'll actually have to make logical decisions. There will always be time to goof off later.

Cancer



Emotional Understanding. You've definitely been feeling the effects of the moon passing through your sign. This upheaval of your unconscious seems to give you a breath of fresh air. You are abnormally in tune with all that is going on around you, and you even feel as though you are currently capable of reading people. This effect doesn't last for too long (as the moon moves quickly), so enjoy it while it's there.

Leo



Frustrating Times. Poor Leo is having a frustrating time with so many planets trying to force their energies into your day-to-day life. I know it feels as though nothing is going how you want it to go, but it won't stay that way forever. Little Leo, you'll be a better person once you've made it through this.

Virgo



Mini Endeavors. You've no doubt noticed that life has been pretty simple the past few weeks. You have been thinking about trying something new and interesting as of late (that's what Jupiter does to you), and I would highly suggest giving that a go. Saturn is tossing in a ray or two of its energy towards you, meaning that whatever you partake in may end up being meaningful for you.

Libra



Venusian Scatterbrain. O, Libra, you've been feeling like a massive scatterbrain for a little while now. Libra is ruled by Venus, meaning that it's soft, beautiful energies are quite soothing to you. I know it may be difficult for you, Libra, but try to organize your thoughts.

Scorpio



Identity Crisis. During this time you have surely begun to notice that you are in the process of having a mini identity crisis. Saturn is squaring your Sun, which means that you have been seriously debating as to whether or not there are certain things in your life right now that you had best give up. Saturn removes whatever it is in your life that you don't need, and embracing change will make this transition that much more easier.

Sagittarius



Unusually Weird. Saggi, you've got Jupiter making a trine and Neptune making a sextile to your natal Sun. These two transits, in turn, are making you think even more out of the box than you (and those around you) are accustomed to. Definitely utilize this transit combo while you've got it.

Capricorn



Ultra-Chatty. There's a mess of planets giving their energy to you, which is making you feel a bit confused. You have at least been feeling good about yourself due to the Sun making a conjunction to your natal Sun (when it conjuncts to the exact degree, that means it's somebody's birthday...).

Aquarius



Bad Aim. Poor Aquarius, you've been having a hard time as of late. No doubt that Mars squaring your Sun has been making you feel as though you've been trying hard to accomplish things, but you have Saturn opposing your Sun, which is preventing things from working out. Aquarius, try to figure out what it is you really need in your life right now, and make that happen.

Pisces



Embracing Mars. Mars is currently making a sextile to your natal Sun, making you positive that you can accomplish just about anything life throws at you (which you probably can). This transit makes you feel far more vital than is normal for you, and does open up lots of new opportunities. You know what it is that you want during this time, so go ahead and get it. Assertion is the key! Take what you want!

LAINIEY BLOOM
TORCH ASTROLOGER

Jan. 12 Crossword Answers

1	D	E	M	E	R	A	R	A		9	R	I	F	E	S	T
15	A	W	A	K	E	N	E	R		16	U	N	L	A	C	E
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19	A	R	I	D	E	S	T		20	S	T	E	R	E	O	
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34	A	S	E	A					35	I	F	S				
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48	L	I	N	T	E	R			49	S	M	A	S	H	E	D
54	B	E	N	I	G	N			55	E	L	E	C	T	I	V
56	E	A	G	L	E	T			57	M	E	N	H	A	D	E
58	G	R	E	E	N	S			59	U	T	T	E	R	E	R

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Dear Pele

Dear Pele,

My younger sister got married last year at 18 to a man who is 30. He just sits around smoking pot and has never had anything more than a minimum wage job. He encourages her to waste her money on outrageous tattoos. He even gave her an STD and has threatened her. Every time she tries to leave him, he convinces her to stay with him. How can I convince my sister that the sooner she gets out of the marriage, the better her life will be? She hates to be told what to do.

Concerned in College Hill

Dear Concerned,

Unfortunately, we all know someone who married someone they shouldn't have, and though we want to help and save them, there's not always a whole lot we can do. My best advice for you is to sit her down, talk to her about what she wants from life, and ask her what she's doing to accomplish those things. If she's tried to leave him before, chances are you won't have a difficult time getting her to see the light. You don't need to keep pointing out his flaws; she already knows them. Instead, encourage her to help herself succeed and do it in a way that doesn't attack everything she's done in her life. Try and find the positive lesson she could have learned from this ill-fated marriage.

Dear Pele,

I work at a small law firm and have, over the past few months, become very attracted to a coworker. She seems fond of me, too, but the only problem is she's in her mid-50s while I'm barely 20. Actually, she's a well-preserved 50+ while I'm a horribly out-of-shape 20. I realize that some social disapproval could be expected if we hooked up, but I'm willing to put up with that if there's a chance that this could work out. Can such a large age gap be overcome in the name of mutual attraction?

Eager for love in Elmira

Dear Eager,

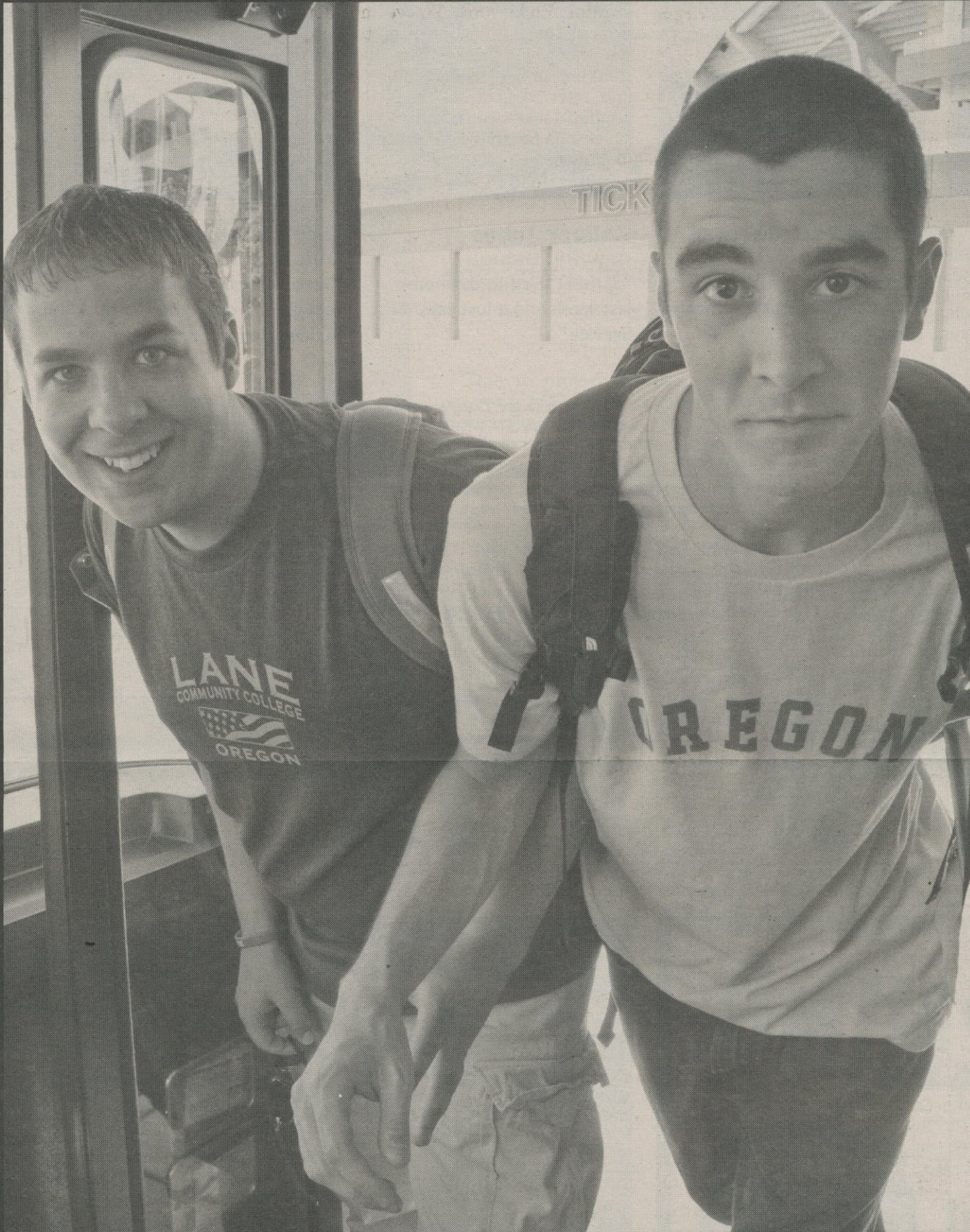
Love comes in all forms, but this is too much. Use this guide to gauge whether or not someone is too old for you:

If they're double your age, old enough to be your parents, or you have to use "well-preserved" to describe your object of affection, they're too old.

Love in the workplace is hard enough without having to breach a three-decade age gap. I'd try an online dating site, or place a personal ad, and I'd definitely move on from your ill-fated crush.

Dear Pele is an advice column written by a Torch staff member, and is not to be taken literally. Send your problems or questions to us at askpele@hotmail.com and the Goddess of Fire will do her best to give you some advice.

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ASLCC



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Adam Walsh, President
ASUO

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Who is your cellular provider and do you get good service at LCC?



Amanda Danilson

MUSIC

"Verizon. I can only get service in a couple places. I get a lot of calls dropped."



Michael Luvliner

BUSINESS

"Verizon. I get one or two bars. I can talk, but it's not that great."



Colleen Johns

GRAPHIC DESIGN

"Sprint. I tried to call home last week and it just says 'No Service.'"



Jacob Painter

UNDECLARED

"Verizon. I can get a good reception around the Center Building, but not anywhere else."



Chelsea Senn

DENTAL ASSISTING

"Cingular. It works pretty good for the most part. I like it."

COMPILED BY DREW HUNT
PHOTOS BY ROBERT JONES

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improve
when
shaken up.



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