

Hip bone's connected to...

New exhibit at the Science Factory

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Artists enhance Othello

Play opens Feb. 2

A & E • PAGE 5

The TORCH

Lane Community College



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JANUARY 25, 2007

EUGENE, OREGON
www.lanecc.edu/torch



Shelby Stephens, Lane's leading scorer in league play on offense against Clackamas, drives for another two of her game high 32 points.

PHOTO BY SEAN HOFFMAN

Women's winning streak runs to 50 at Titan Court

Lane sweeps weekend games

Josh Hutchins
SPORTS EDITOR

The showdown of unbeaten NWAACC South teams, Lane and Clackamas Community College, took place Saturday, Jan. 20, at Titan Court. Lane led by just two at halftime 38-36. Despite being close, Lane led the entire game.

In the second half the Titans outscored the Cougars by 16 to give them the comfortable 79-61 win. Overall, Lane shot 40 percent to Clackamas' 33.9 percent. Lane also won the battle of

points in the paint 28-14.

Shelby Stephens broke out of her 13 points-per-game average, hitting 8-14 from the floor to score a game high 32 points. Mercedes Alexander put together another strong game, getting 14 rebounds and scoring 21 points. Kammy Martindale, Lane's leading scorer for the season, went 3-6 to get 10 points.

"Clackamas, we knew it was going to be a tough game and we just knew that we'd have to be mentally tough and we came in prepared to take care of business," Alexander said.

ander said.

Head Coach Greg Sheley said, "Saturday we played really well, Clackamas is a very good team. In the second half we just pulled away. Our offensive execution was really good and we played great defense. I was really pleased with the way things went. That was our 50th in a row, so that was kind of a landmark win there. So now we've got to see if we can keep that going."

Saturday's effort was made up of different contributions from lots of people. Sheley said Alexander played well, she is continuing to rebound well, and scored well. "Tisa (Natisia) Reynolds played great defense on Saturday, helped out with some rebounding (7). She didn't

SEE LANE WOMEN • PAGE 6

The Titans next home game is Feb. 3 against PCC at 4 p.m.

Ministers sponsor forum

'Let's Talk' panel on Feb. 1 to discuss sexual identity and the Bible

Larry Coonrod
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Disturbed by the message presented in a 2006 forum held at LCC titled "The Bible and Sexuality," Northwest Collegiate Ministries will sponsor its own series of discussions: "The Bible, Sexual Identity and Open Dialogue," starting Feb. 1.

Vandalism to LCC's Queer/Straight Alliance's posters, (the spray painting of a Biblical passage calling for the stoning to death of homosexuals,) prompted last year's forum "Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and The Bible."

Dick Beswick, director of University Christian Fellowship at the UO and moderator of this year's forum, "The Bible, Sexual Identity, and Open Dialogue," said that local evangelical Christian groups were denied when they asked to have representatives on last year's forum series; "Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and The Bible: Where are you?"

"Unfortunately the way that forum developed it was as if the whole evangelical Christian community was synonymous with that kind of attitude," Beswick said. "So, if you took any kind of literal view of the Bible then you were cast in the same mold as someone calling for the stoning of homosexuals. No one on this panel would support those uses of scriptures."

The assertion by the 2006 forum speakers that the Bible could not be taken literally and has to be seen in a modern context, not the focus on homosexuality, is what prompted the NCM to sponsor its own forum, Beswick said.

"(The speakers) don't accept the Bible as authoritative. They pick and choose what they regard as important," he said. "I'm saying the Bible, particularly the New Testament, that chronicles the life and interruption of Jesus comes to us through human means but

SEE FORUM • PAGE 3

ASLCC elects new VP

Student government to fill five positions

Julia Pommert
STAFF REPORTER

At its first meeting for the Winter Term, the ASLCC elected a new vice president. Filling the vacant position is Senator Stephen Mohr. Mohr is replacing former VP Rosa Martinez, who did not return to LCC this term. According to ASLCC bylaws, Mohr will have 12 credit hours in tuition paid in addition to the stipend that all senators receive.

Additional highlights from their meeting were plans for an open microphone on Wednesdays from noon to 2 p.m. in the southwest corner lounge area in the cafeteria. The bylaws regarding elections are being rewritten.

There will be a number of required public input sessions about the proposed bylaw changes, ASLCC Adviser Barb Delansky said. Communications Director Melanie Melville said for spring elections she wants to put a notice in the Eugene Weekly.

Student government is also looking to fill five of the 10 senator positions that are still vacant. To be eligible, students must attend two consecutive senate meetings, personally gather

100 signatures of current ASLCC members and be appointed by the president and ratified by the senate. The ASLCC Student Government holds meetings from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Mondays in Building 1, Room 206.

For more information on ASLCC job openings and events go to www.lanecc.edu/aslcc.



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Mack is back!

Mackworld

COMMENTARY • PAGE 2

The Torch has been awarded first place in the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association's General Excellence category for community college weeklies for 2004 and 2005. Second place 2006.

Smokers: the lepers of society

Almost everywhere you go in the United States today, you see the same sign on every public building – “Thank you for Not Smoking,” but have you ever heard a smoker reply “You’re welcome?” In today’s society, it’s all about health awareness and less about bad habits. Of course, the term “bad” is relative. Although, I’m sure most smokers will tell you that their habit is a bad thing but not because of their health.

There’s a word that Americans spout when they feel they’re being poorly treated – freedom. A lot of smokers could tell you that the definition of freedom is “majority rules.” This may seem a little off to you, but have you ever been banned from a place and forced to sit out in the rain or snow because you had a bad habit?

In the U.S., smokers are the lepers of society. They’re a toxic breed that pollute the lungs of the

innocent, trash the sidewalks and reek of a stench that only a fumigator could love. They’re banned from almost all public areas and forced to sit in little shacks far removed from civilization. It’s not just the inside of buildings that

smokers can no longer inhabit; it’s also outdoor areas like amusement parks, cam-

pus and parking lots.

So, why are smokers getting the shaft? Anyone can tell you that “second-hand smoke kills.” Well, so does exhaust and yet, I haven’t seen any “Thank you for Not Exhausting” signs on the interstate or downtown. Why not? Well, who else do you think is going to ship your Weight Watchers food or your GNC supplements?

The vehicle industry is a huge part of our nation’s economy and banning the use of all toxic vehicles would be a hindrance to our import and export capital.

Sure, manufacturers are making environmental vehicles, but you still see the same old clunkers and 18-wheelers tunneling down the road. Granted, some states do have strict vehicle inspections that will fail your transportation if its exhaust is caustic, but these are also states that have completely banned smoking from all public areas, even casinos. It’s a start, but let’s forget about the exhaust issue.

It’s much easier to negate smoking. It’s unhealthy, dirty and

it’s at the expense of smokers.

Currently, a proposal has been set by certain politicians to tax cigarettes so children can receive healthcare funding in Oregon. Why are smokers targeted for state taxation? Just because a person smokes, it does not mean they should have to pay extra to the state. Yeah, I smoke and I exhale into the air, but that didn’t cause your kids’ juvenile diabetes or leukemia. I agree that these are major issues that some families cannot pay for but why make smokers

stating that you paid extra for this pack to help little Timmy’s broken arm or Cindy Lou Hoo’s new braces? That almost sounds like I’m donating! Shouldn’t I get a tax break for that? I’m paying extra taxes on my smokes and it’s going to a good cause but I don’t have a choice in the matter. Maybe they should start “support” cigarettes. This way, I can spend the extra money on a pack of smokes that will go to a cause of my choice. Doesn’t “Breast Cancer Ultra Lights” have a nifty ring to it?

Yes, I’m being cal- lous and arrogant, but so are the majority of people in this nation that decided to hamper on me because of my habit. It doesn’t even matter if I’m a polite smoker! In society, if the majority of people

have their idealistic lifestyle that differs from yours, you’re out of luck. I am in the minority and my freedom has left to appease and pay for the wants of others.

“...I can spend the extra money on a pack of smokes that will go to a cause of my choice. Doesn’t “Breast Cancer Ultra Lights” have a nifty ring to it?”

vile smelling. With all those issues surrounding cigarettes, it only makes sense for American society to pull the plug on the public nuisance. Therein lies the problem;

foot the bill?

Instead of the usual cigarette pack Surgeon General warnings for pregnant women and so forth, shouldn’t there be a disclaimer

War in Iraq quick facts

U.S. Military killed in action as of Jan. 24, 2007 3,063

U.S. Military wounded in action as of Jan. 24, 2007 .. 14,695

Cost of Iraq war to U.S. taxpayers\$378 billion

Have a say in Lane’s future

Lane Community College is projecting a \$12.8 million shortfall for the 2007-2009 biennium.

Budget discussions are currently underway on how the college will deal with the budget deficit. The consequences of these discussions are enormous. The quality of education is at stake. A budget forum has

been setup on the LCC website to solicit suggestions on how the college might save money and increase revenue.

Greg Morgan, vice president for finance said all suggestions are carefully considered.

To participate in this important discussion go to www.lanecc.edu/budgetforum.

What isn’t in your wallet?

A faster and better way for your business to get things done right is having good help. The Torch is looking for new people; come to the newsroom and help out.

Like saving money? Then step into Mackwood’s office, it’s just like Geico. The

market report is up and down, but Mack can make this money business a piece of cake. For example; don’t forget April 15 is the deadline for your incomes taxes. After taxes, what will be in your wallet ... Capital One?

Don’t stress too much over taxes.

Go feel good and walk your dog or cat, maybe pet some mice. Do something nice and buy your sweetheart something purrfect for Valentine’s Day.

Mackworld

John Mackwood

Columnist



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

At Random By Ryan Mason

Well Jimmy, I know you’re getting older and probably have questions you’d like to ask me. Good news, I’m getting the internet so you don’t have to.



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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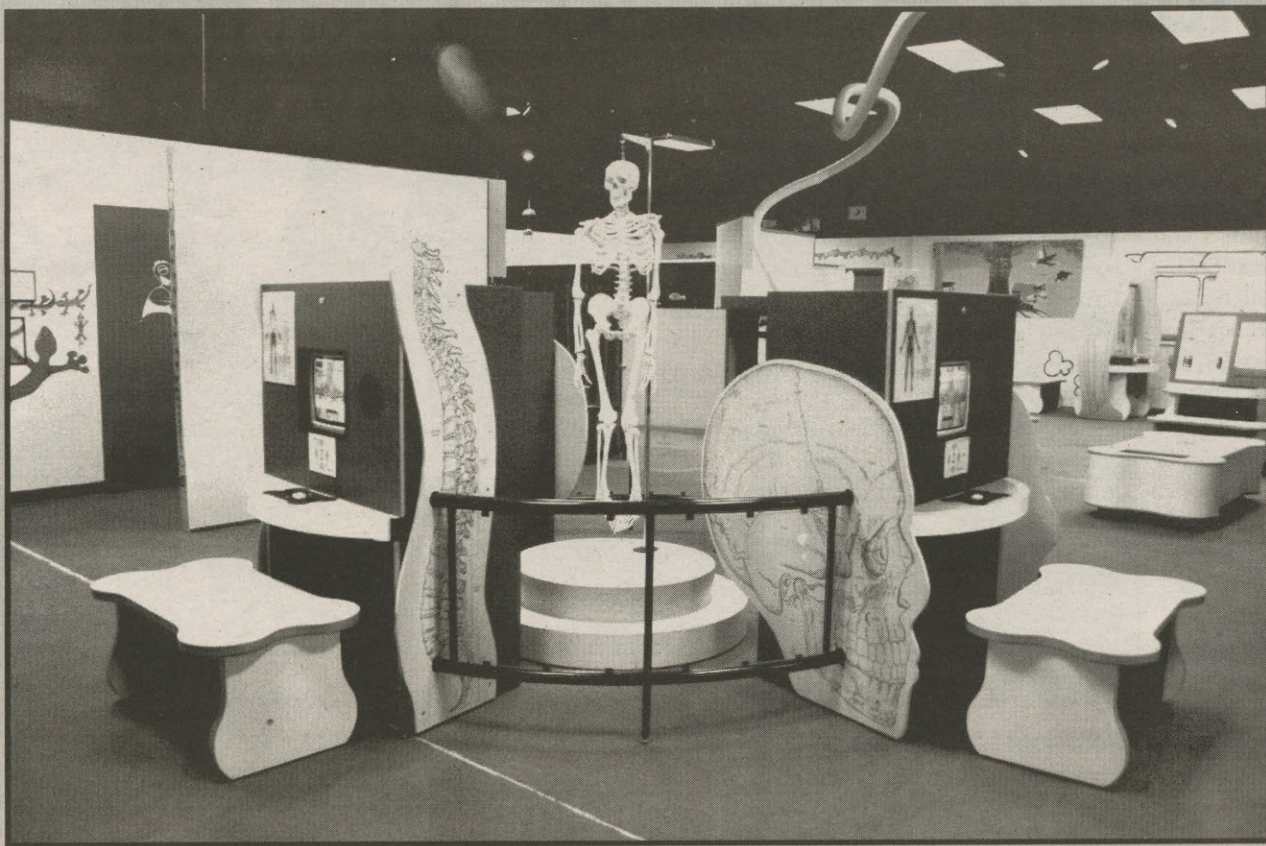


PHOTO BY CASSIE LAWS

Children and adults can explore the human bones exhibit from OMSI at the Science Factory located in Eugene at 2300 Leo Harris Parkway.

Science Factory exhibit

Children and adults discover bones through May 6

Jenica Pistone
FEATURES EDITOR

Anyone in the vicinity of Autzen Stadium would have noticed the round, rainbow-striped exterior of the Science Factory. For those who have marveled at the storybook appearance of the building but have never ventured inside, there has never been a better time to get acquainted with the Science Factory and the educational experiences it has to offer.

Wednesday, Jan. 24, the Bone Up on Bones exhibit opened to the public.

The 200-square-foot exhibit features an array of real human bones, a giant bone puzzle designed to help kids (or adults) learn where certain bones are located, video footage of hip replacement surgery, informative computer programs and an eight-foot sculpture of a bone.

In addition to teaching the basics of how bones move and operate, the exhibit will also provide information on how to keep bones healthy.

"I think it's important for children to understand the way their bodies work," the Science Factory's acting Executive Director, Joyce Berman, said. "All kids have a natural curiosity about that. They're a living organism; they seem kind of static, but when you look closer they're very much alive," Berman said.

Though the large exhibit was expected to take nearly a week to set up, the entire task was arranged and ready to go in a single day.

"We had a lot of volunteers from Umpqua Bank and the Kiwanis club, and we just got it up in no time," Berman said. The Factory was previously an extension of the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry; it has been an independent, non-profit organization since 1978. It con-

tinues to show a broad spectrum of educational exhibits. The bones exhibit, which is a traveling OMSI exhibit, arrived last Friday after a showing in Texas. The exhibit hall also houses several year-round attractions for children, including a ping-pong ball maze, pet iguana and puppetarium, which are available for everyday viewing.

One of the most popular features of the Science Factory is the planetarium, which has shows at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday. The show is currently aimed at children ages eight and under.

Discovery Days, held the first Friday of each month, are designed for children between the ages of three and five. Each seminar focuses on a different topic, ranging from arctic animals to bubbles to shapes.

"We do a lot of hands-on stuff in there," Berman said.

As for older age groups, computer classes, hands-on educational programs and the weekday Magic School Bus Adventure classes are offered. Berman feels that the computer classes are a particularly good resource.

"In our computer classes we do a lot of work with kids learning digital photography, how to create their own websites ... it can be very valuable," Berman said.

The Science Factory is currently looking for volunteers for a variety of different projects and programs.

"We'd love to have LCC students help out here," Berman said. "There are a lot of

opportunities to get involved if you're interested in computers or in creating bulletin boards, especially for those in early childhood education."

The Bone Up on Bones exhibit will run Jan. 24 through May 6. For more information on classes and upcoming events or for those interested in volunteering, call the Science Factory at 682-7888 or visit their website at www.sciencefactory.org.

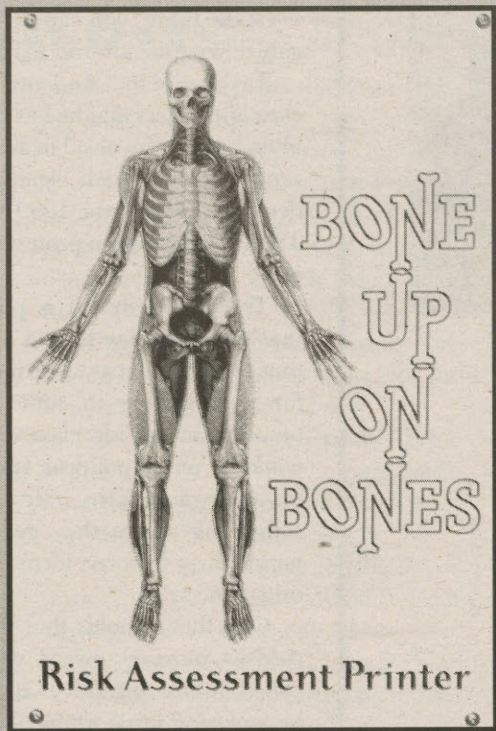


PHOTO BY CASSIE LAWS

The Bone Up on Bones section of the exhibit contains information on any bone in the body. Viewers can utilize a specialized computer program to learn about bone function and health.

Minister's forum From Page 1

inspired by God, so therefore it is not subject to error."

Picking and choosing which text can be considered relative in modern times in order to support a particular view has evangelicals concerned that "liberal mainline" churches are undermining the authoritative nature of the Bible, Beswick said.

Paul's references to slavery are often used by people trying to undercut the relevance of the Bible to a modern society by saying that Paul and by extension the Bible condone slavery, Beswick said, an assertion that he strongly disagrees with.

"He's addressing slavery in Rome. He doesn't advocate slavery; he actually advocates freedom. But, neither did he want Christianity to be synonymous with a slave revolt. That wasn't the issue with early Christianity," Beswick said.

Liberal churches use this same strategy of downplaying the significance of certain texts to claim homosexuality is something intended by the creator, Beswick said.

"Liberal mainline churches see very clearly that homosexuality is not an acceptable alternative even in the New Testament. And, so what they want to do is undercut the authority of those passages," he said. "I don't accept their views, but I've certainly been able to talk to people like that fruitfully."

Beswick, who holds a Masters of Divinity from Yale University, believes that his 30 years of experience bringing people of diverse viewpoints together for constructive talks will help lead the forum to a more civil discourse. The last forum discussion to be held on Feb. 15 is titled, "Can Public dialogue Be Civil."

"There is a middle ground between God created homosexuals as a viable lifestyle and homosexuals ought to be stoned," Beswick said.

This year's forum will be similar to the 2006 series, which featured speakers all presenting more or less the same view on Biblical interpretation. Although prompted by their own exclusion from that forum, Beswick said that they didn't invite speakers with opposing viewpoints to serve on their panel discussions because, "We want a series of forums that balance out last year. We want to dispel some of the myths that were woven last year."

Four panel members will each speak for five minutes at each of the three forums and then the discussion will be open to questions from audience members.

"The end result is that we will be able to engage people in civil discourse," Beswick said.

Crystal Bradford, an LCC student, will speak at the forum's Feb. 15 discussion "Can Public Dialogue Be Civil."

Bradford, who is a member of the LCC chapter of the Northwest Collegiate Ministry, said she agreed to be on the panel because of her concern that Christian's views are being controlled by educational institutions. She said she has found LCC to be very open but doesn't believe all schools are, citing her cousin in high school being forced to write an argumentative essay supporting abortion rights even though he strongly disagrees with that position.

Bradford said she also disagrees with groups spreading the message that homosexuality is not changeable.

"I know people who've been homosexual and who changed that," she said. "There are actually programs at churches, even in this community where people can go and find someone to talk to or find a program that will help them if they're unsatisfied with being a homosexual."

By participating in the forum discussion Bradford said she hopes to foster a civil dialogue between opposing viewpoints.

Her topic is "When does civil discourse breakdown and what can we do about it."

"This is something I'd really be interested in, speaking in my community, at my school, in front of my peers and maybe getting the message across," she said.

Learning Community reconnects with nature

Class will examine "future primitives" possibilities

Larry Coonrod
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The learning community series Reconnecting with Nature: Science, Spirituality and Political Activism offers students an integrated learning experience about the environmental dangers facing the planet and what they can do about it.

Reconnecting with Nature is a 12-credit, 3-class learning community combining ecology, religion and environmental politics.

Spring Term will mark the third year instructors Jerry Hall, Cliff Trolin and Stan Taylor have offered the course.

Global Ecology, taught by Hall, examines Native American and other indigenous peoples points of view about their relationships between themselves and the earth.

"They (indigenous people) do not have a competitive approach but a supportive approach," Hall

said. "We teach that partly as a model for other ways of living, other ways of extracting resources."

During the term the global ecology class will examine the global recycling of nutrients, specifically the carbon cycle, disruptions of which cause global warming, Hall said.

Hall's class will also examine the loss of species diversity, which he attributes primarily to habitat destruction and exploitation by humans.

"The extinction rate is greater (now) than anytime in earth's known history," he said.

Trolin, who is teaching 'Nature, Religion and Ecology' fears that humankind's reliance on intellect and technology has caused a disconnect with nature, with dire results.

"It's in our isolation from the community of living and non-living things that we've built the economic and political structures that are decimating both humans and the earth itself," Trolin said.

Quoting author David Korten, Trolin said that he believes that society is in the beginnings of a transition from "empire to earth



PHOTO BY PHOTOGRAPHER

Ed Bowen (L), Hereditary Chief of the Coos Tribe explains the relationship between the salmon, the sea and native tribes to Cliff Trolin's learning community class.

community" brought about by dwindling of oil reserves, known as the peak oil theory, and the effects of global warming.

"From my perspective the class and the entire learning community are about the evolution of the human consciousness. From viewing ourselves isolated from and ruling over nature to a discovery ourselves within context of the earth," Trolin said.

Environmental Politics exam-

Class CRN numbers

Global Ecology 40275

Nature Religion & Ecology 40756

Environmental Politics 40611

ines the many forces affecting environmental policy and what students can do as individuals and by working together.

"My class comes from a pretty much grassroots orientation. Grassroots politics and real alternatives to current structures," Taylor said. "We focus fairly heavily on globalization and the global economy and the impacts of that, and then we move into alternatives; the things you can do to organize your life around that."

Taylor said that students in this class and others that he has taught often become involved in activism ranging from beach cleanups to demonstrating at the 1999 World Trade Organization protest in Seattle.

Trolin said that it is possible that the class may have a format that allows students to earn credit for participating in some form of activism outside class such as working on a political issue or on an organic farm. "It will be something where they get their hands dirty in some form or another," he said.

One theory holds that the society is moving toward what is called future primitive and will be looked at in-depth by all three classes.

"With things like global warming and peak oil it seems fairly evident to many people that we are at the end of modernism, things are going to change," Taylor said.

During the term, the class will

take two day long field trips, one to an old growth forest and the second to the Oregon coast. On past trips forest activists and elders from local Native American tribes have escorted the class and explained their views on humans' relationships with the natural world.

Taylor said the benefit of an integrated learning community such as this is it gives students a more comprehensive view of the subject. Because all students in a learning community series take the same classes together, they have a better opportunity to know and work with their fellow classmates.

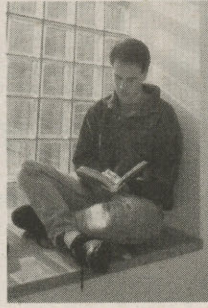
"The experience of students in the cohorts is that it is a much deeper learning experience. The level of interaction and friendships are lasting that come out of the community," Taylor said. "I'm still running into students from the past who are living together."

Robi Petteplace took the Reconnecting with Nature learning community sequence during Spring Term 2006 and found it "a valuable learning experience."

"The whole structure of the learning communities is valuable. Being with the same people all the time makes you more comfortable about speaking up. You really get to know your classmates," he said. "I still know a bunch of people from the class and we are still friends."

The Bible, Sexual Identity, & Open Dialogue "Let's Talk"

LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Noon—1PM
Building 17, room 308



February 1 - "Can The God Of The Bible Be Taken Seriously in The 21st Century?"

Mike Jaskilka, Berean Baptist Church
Rick Lewis, Eugene Bible College
David Crabtree, Gutenberg College
Jan Schultz, former Bible Study Fellowship Teaching Leader

February 8 - "Is Christianity About Condemnation?"

Ed Glaspey, Restoration Ministries
Duan Walker, Mid-Valley Fellowship
Kendra Hanes, Mid-Valley Fellowship
Nancy Scott, Marriage & Family Counselor & Gutenberg College

February 15 - "Can Public Dialogue Be Civil?"

David Crabtree, Gutenberg College
Tom Alderman, attorney
Russell Long, community member
Crystal Bradford, LCC student

Moderator—Dick Beswick, Director of University Christian Fellowship

This series is sponsored by Northwest Collegiate Ministries. Each panel will present for about 20 - 25 minutes, followed by questions from the audience. Questions? Call 687-6504. This panel series follows a Forum Series presented in fall of 2005 and sponsored by the LCC Multicultural Center, Religious Response Network and the LCC Diversity Coordinator. It was titled, "Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and the Bible."

The Lane Memorial Bloodmobile will be on the LCC main campus

- Tuesday, January 30
from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 - Wednesday, January 31
from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Contact Judy Ann Fuller for an appointment at
463-5564

Othello production introduces new art to the Bard

A collaboration of artists come together at the Blue Door Theatre

Ariel Burkhardt
COPY EDITOR

The Othello production and its players are really working with a work of art.

What audiences will be seeing differently this year is the collaboration of artwork that the directors and students have integrated into the show.

The box stage of the Blue Door Theatre will don two 18-foot-tall, 44-inch-wide silk drapes that will have images projected onto them. Judith "Sparky" Roberts, the creative designer and director of Othello, has been inspired by local artist Steven Oshatz, who works with silk.

Roberts has had a silk scarf of his for 20 years and was inspired by its reptilian design. It reminded her of Iago, played by Benjamin Newman, a 'villain' in Shakespeare's Othello.

The two drapes are hung on either side of the stage and will project pictures of Oshatz' art work, themes of jealousy, love and passion told through images of scarves that are passed around

by characters in the play.

Oshatz has projected onto silk with his art before but the idea to add it into the mix came from Roberts, who has complete faith in her cast.

"It's an amazing group of people," Roberts said. "(The players) are completely believable. There isn't anybody not doing a fine job. Some of the imagery is highly evocative."

The theatre is being replicated to London's Globe Stage, except in the place of two pillars, there will be the two sheets of silk. "It adds majesty and size," Roberts said.

Matt Keating, who plays the Duke in Othello and Michelle Nordella, who plays Desdemona, happened upon another artist whose work will be collaborated into the play.

The two were in Portland and overheard a concert performed by Sxip Shirey; they heard the music and knew Roberts would fall in love with it. As an artist, Sxip studied the Shakespearean language and integrated it into his music. Clips of his songs were

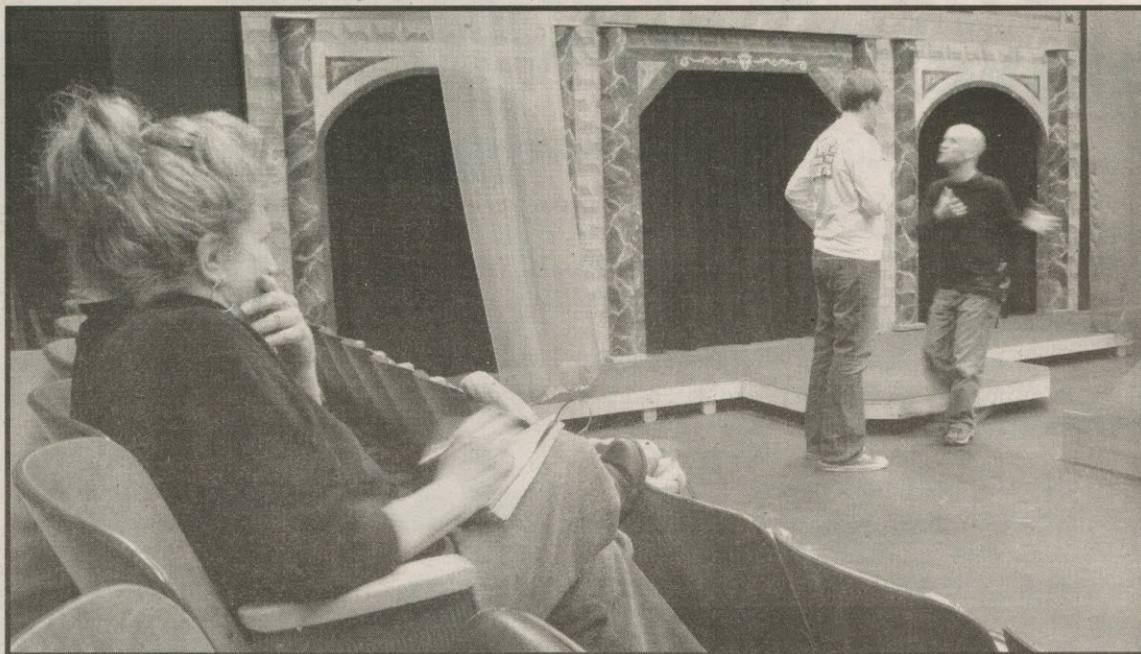


PHOTO BY MICHAEL BRINKERHOFF

Director Judith "Sparky" Roberts analyzes a scene just days before Othello premieres.

edited by Roberts and she knew exactly where to place them in the play. The music is mostly electronic.

"(The play) is a work of art because it does have artistic collaboration. It's a multidimensional experience."

Roberts commented that several community members have joined in the play, as well as LCC English instructor Bill Woolum.

"It's coming together," Woolum said. "I think that by

next Friday it's going to be pretty powerful."

Othello will run about two-and-a-half hours with two short intermissions, and edited so it won't last for five hours. "We had to do some serious editing," she said.

The Shakespeare classes at LCC collaborate with the Student Production Association, and three times a year, students come forth to direct and produce their own scenes.

Roberts and Woolum came up with the idea of having student lead productions 16 years ago. "It had two people in it and now we have 26."

"It's gonna be a phenomenal work of art," Keating said. "It's visually stunning and emotionally piercing."

Othello runs weekends, Feb. 2-3, 9-10 and 16-17, also Thursdays Feb. 8, 15 and Sundays, Feb. 4, 11. For ticket information call 463-5761.

Men's basketball team record dips to 6-14

Team can't hold the paint in losing weekend contests

Alex Braga
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The problem the Lane men's basketball team has had the entire season has been the simple act of putting the ball in the basket.

So when they finally played a game in which they shot 56 percent from the field, 57 percent on 3-pointers and 73 percent from the free throw line, fans would expect a victory to come along with those numbers.

This was not the case against NWAACC South leading Clackamas on Saturday, Jan. 20, at Titan Court, where victory continued to escape the Titans' grasp.

Lane (6-14, 0-5 NWAACC) fell 118-95 to the Cougars in a game that saw Titan sophomore David Webb score 34 points and three other Titan players finish in double figures.

Despite the loss, the Titans impressed Head Coach Bruce Chavka, and he knows that, with a season in which a team is struggling to find a win, there is something to be gained from a game like the Clackamas loss. "We learned to play through frustration (against Clackamas) and didn't let it effect our game," he said.

"If we can learn one big lesson a

game, keep practicing hard and improving it'd be great."

It was the most points Lane had scored in a game this season but was not enough to earn the win, as they had no answer for the size and strength of Clackamas' 6'10" center Brian Freeman.

Without a solid presence in the key, Lane was out-rebounded 30-12 in the first half to fall behind 62-42.

Freeman, who finished the game with 23 points and 13 rebounds, was a force inside, playing against Titan players five to 10 inches his lesser.

"We had a lot of guys playing out of position," Chavka said. "We had guards playing against their bigs. They were battling, but they were just smaller."

"It makes it tough when you're battling, getting dirty and you keep coming at 'em, but you're just not very big."

The Titans came out firing in the second half. Webb earned a conventional 3-point play, which he then followed with another drive for a layup. "I wish (Webb) could score 34 every night," Chavka said. Those baskets were then followed by consecutive 3-pointers by Dylan Hettrich and Damien Evans.

It seemed, however, that whenever the Titans would rally that the Cougars would either match the points Lane put up or surpass them with easy put-back layups or 3-pointers of their own.

Then when Lane would go on a drought Clackamas would continue its

SEE TITAN MEN • PAGE 7

DO YOU WANT TO PUBLISH YOUR ART?

**LCC'S LITERARY ARTS JOURNAL
IS CURRENTLY SEEKING SUBMISSIONS
FROM LANE COUNTY RESIDENTS
AND LCC STUDENTS.**

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D E N A L I

Freshman basketball player leads NWAACC

Lane offers chance to play, averages 14 ppg

Josh Hutchins
SPORTS EDITOR

In 15 games, freshman forward Mercedes Alexander leads the Titan women in minutes played with 441. She's second on the team in points with 212, averaging 14 per game. She's also averaging 14.3 rebounds per game, which leads the team, and the entire NWAACC.

Alexander went to Churchill High School in Eugene, where during her senior year, her Lancer team was Midwestern League champions. She said they didn't quite make it to state, but that it was a lot of fun. She was named the league's most valuable player and played for the Oregon all-star team.

Alexander said, "(The college game is) a lot more aggressive and fast paced, especially at Lane, (it takes) a lot more hard work. High school was tough, but not like Lane. And it's just a lot more competition. Because you're playing against a lot of good people instead of just a couple."

Alexander said that at first fitting in with the team was a little bit tough, because she is shy and quiet by nature. "But after the first week, week and a half, it was kind of fun. I fell in love with it right away."

Alexander said that Head Coach Greg Sheley is one of the best coaches she has ever had. "He's got a really good sense of humor," she said. "It's kind of nice when he can be silly, but also know when to be serious. He just really knows what he's talking about."

Alexander says she chose Lane because it was close to home, and it had a really good program. She wanted to start somewhere where she could get better and then transfer to a four-year program when she feels she is ready.

Her family is very important to her, and by going to Lane, she gets to stay at home. She has one sister, Alexa Moore, and two brothers,

Hayward Alexander and Elijah Gelman-Price. Her mother's name is Carmen Gelman. Alexander said, "My mom, she's everything. She's a single parent, she's given up a lot to support me and my two brothers, just put us through sports and everything. And coming to every game."

Alexander is majoring in sports medicine at Lane and is taking 16 credits this term. She said she doesn't have a lot of free time. "(Basketball/school) keeps me busy which is good, and I've made a lot of friendships which also keeps me busy 'cause I always have something to do. There's not a lot of time to just sit around."

"I'm close with a lot of the girls on the team," she said. "There's a couple that I'm really close with, that'd be like Shelby (Stephens), she's helped me a lot through times that I've been frustrated on the court because she really knows what she's doing. Danielle (Thompson-Rodgers) is one that always motivates me. And Stephanie (Stephens) is just there for everything, kind of all-around, so that's cool," she said.

When she's done with Lane, Alexander plans to attend a four-year school and continue playing basketball. Her goal is to become an athletic trainer for a college team someday, and estimates that it will take about six years of education to get there.

Alexander says that she hasn't decided on which institution she will get her degree from. "No idea (which four-year school,) I'm pretty open about it, cause I think after Lane I'll be ready to venture out and go somewhere if the opportunity arises," Alexander said.

In the meantime she enjoys photography, which she doesn't have the opportunity to do much of during the season. She likes to watch movies and just laugh a lot.

Alexander also has some ideas about how to spend this com-

ing off-season, to help make next year even more successful than this one is shaping out to be. "I wasn't really prepared coming in (this season). But after the first couple of weeks, I realized that I should be for next year. So I'll probably just do a lot of conditioning, lifting, stay on top of the point where I've gotten, and getting quicker and in better shape, so I can play longer," she said.

So far this season, everything has been going the Titans and Alexander's way. She said that most of her points come from offensive rebounds, and that the team does have some plays, which go to her, but mostly the scoring is coming from put-backs.

"I definitely think there's things we need to work on, like with any team, but I feel we're starting to realize that and work on them, and it's getting a lot better. I think we're doing pretty good, looking pretty good," Alexander said.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL BRINKERHOFF



Mercedes Alexander at a glance

- **Came to Lane from Churchill High as the Northwestern league MVP**
- **Currently leads the team in blocks**
- **Second on the team in scoring, with 14 points per game**
- **Credits her family on and off the court with her success**
- **Leads the NWAACC South with 14.3 rebounds per game**

Lane women From Page 1

score that much. She missed some shots. She took good shots, they just weren't falling, but she had great energy," Sheley said.

Lane's Wednesday game against Portland Community College was postponed until Sunday, Jan 21. It was a close affair in Portland, with Lane holding on for the win 63-58.

Lane was down a point at halftime, but was able to outscore Portland in the second half 30-24.

Stephens scored 17, Martindale scored 16, and Reynolds

added 11.

Alexander had 12 rebounds for the night.

"They shot the ball really well in the first half, meaning Portland. And I think we struggled with a little bit of energy, kind of a letdown from the night before. So it was nice just to get out of there with a win," Sheley said.

"The second half we came out with a little bit of energy. I mean we scored, we got the lead, I think it was 39-36, we had like four straight trips where we came

down and just missed some good looks. I think we made a steal and missed a transition, I think we really could have got that thing [the lead] up to about eight or nine but didn't," Sheley said.

Alexander and Stephens both fouled out of the game.

The Titans were left with five guards on the floor in the final minutes.

"There was a lot of fouls called, and there could have been a lot more called. It was like whoa, I'm surprised they didn't call that. Especially on shooters

when someone's going to the basket, usually they will call that foul. Sometimes out-top or away from the ball they won't. But it was a tough game, Portland was ready to play, and our kids did a great job," Sheley said.

"Portland, it was a very hard fought game and battling close every minute. It was cool cause when Shelby and I fouled out other people stepped up and hit free throws and got our lead up and kept composure. It was very much a team effort, everybody was involved in many different

ways," Alexander said.

"On Sunday Kammy hit some big shots for us, stepped up and helped out. Calie (McVicker) played some really good second half defense for us, pressuring the ball. Nicole Morgan has kind of been playing a little bit of everything for us and I think she did what she does all the time in both those games. I think that's why we're finding ways to win. When somebody else is not doing what they normally do, someone else can step in and help out," Sheley said.

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Events

Reading Together Educational Forum. Thursday, Jan. 25, 12-2 p.m. CML Building 19, Rm 104 Reading Together is planning an interactive Educational Forum, which will explore the central themes of each of the reading together books, including the various ways that the books speak to each other.

Second annual Good Earth Home, Garden & Living Show at the Lane County fairgrounds Jan. 19-21. Friday 5-8 p.m. Saturday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission free with canned food donation. More information at www.eugenehomeshow.com.

Support Lane baseball. The third annual baseball spring spectacular will be on Friday, Jan. 26 in Building 19. The dinner/auction will benefit student athletes and is \$100 per person or \$750 for a table. For more information or to make a donation call Dale Hartley at 915-6828.

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Titan men Page 5

onslaught by grabbing one of its 23 offensive rebounds and scoring two of its 28 second chance points.

Clackamas finished the game with 49 total rebounds to the Titans 20.

Chavka said his team played well, but that they ran up against a solid unit that played a nearly flawless game. "They're good, they like to push and get easy shots," he said. "We played hard, but our lack of size and defense hurt."

Evans, who finished with 20 points for Lane, along with Webb, Hettrich and Greg Eggers, were the Titans to finish in double figures. "Damien still gets wild sometimes," Chavka said. "He made a lot of jumpers, it's nice to see him playing under control."

"Greg (Eggers) is also coming along for us," he said. "All coaches are teachers and we are always telling (our players) the importance of practicing well and that's something he's learned to do, is practice hard."

Evans said that the Clackamas game was tough because the team finally clicked, but it was against the division leaders that it happened. "We finally found a comfortable way to play, it's just too bad we found it against the best team in the league."

His increased scoring is something Evans attributes to tapping into an ability he never knew he had until recently. "Practices have been really good lately," he said. "I've been able to find my three-point shot, which I've never been able to do before."

The Titans followed the tough loss at home to the Cougars with a trip to Portland the following day to play Portland Community College.

It was a game that Lane was forced to play less than 24 hours after its match-up with Clackamas because it had been re-scheduled after weather canceled the original Jan. 17 game day.

Lane cooled off significantly against PCC, only shooting 38 percent from the field and had more of the same problems on the boards to fall 89-68; it's tenth straight loss.

"We came in thinking, 'we can win this one' and 'this is a team just like us' but we got down 15 and just got frustrated," Evans said.

Lane was led by Kyle Winkler's 19 points and Dylan Hettrich's 17 points and six rebounds, but was unable to make up a 41-25 half-time deficit. "We played with 'em to 25-24, but then they went on something like a 17-0 run and we just couldn't score," Evans said.

The 17-0 run ended the first half and left Lane frustrated and with too large a deficit to overcome.

The Panthers, who shared the bottom position in the division with Lane before the game, shot a blistering 61 percent from the field and out-rebounded the Titans 40 to 23.

"We were loose and ready to go in the first half, then (PCC) went into a zone and we looked like a deer in headlights," Chavka said.

Despite solid play in the key by center Jon Curry, who finished with 11 points and five rebounds, Lane could not find an answer for Panther Derrick Hamilton who got a lot of easy looks to finish with 27 points and four rebounds.

"I think we may have taken them for granted," Chavka said. "It was a tough one. That's life on the road I guess."

2007 Titan Basketball

Men's League Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
JAN. 27	CHEMEKETA CC	6:00 P.M.
JAN. 31	UCC	7:30 P.M.
•FEB. 3	PCC	6:00 P.M.
FEB. 7	SOCC	7:30 P.M.
•FEB. 10	MHCC	6:00 P.M.
FEB. 14	LBCC	7:30 P.M.
FEB. 17	CLACKAMAS CC	6:00 P.M.
•FEB. 21	UCC	7:30 P.M.

Women's League Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
JAN. 27	CHEMEKETA CC	4:00 P.M.
JAN. 31	UCC	5:30 P.M.
•FEB. 3	PCC	4:00 P.M.
FEB. 7	SOCC	5:30 P.M.
•FEB. 10	MHCC	4:00 P.M.
FEB. 14	LBCC	5:30 P.M.
FEB. 17	CLACKAMAS CC	4:00 P.M.
•FEB. 21	UCC	5:30 P.M.

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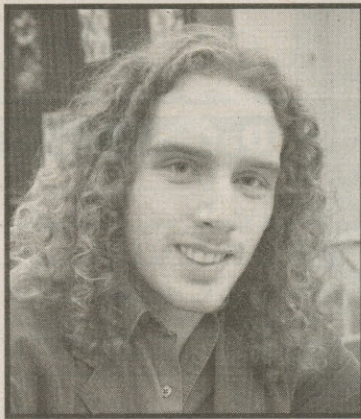
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Compiled by Ariel Burkhardt
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