



Students perform
NAACP sponsors competition at Hult Center
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Player defies age
Sheri Gates becomes oldest NWAACC champ
SPORTS • PAGE 8



The TORCH

Lane Community College

VOLUME XLI, NUMBER 18
MARCH 8, 2007

EUGENE, OREGON
www.lanecc.edu/torch

TITAN WOMEN TAKE TOURNAMENT



*Lane captures
hoop crown in
NWAACCs*

The Lane women's basketball team earned its second consecutive NWAACC crown in dominant fashion. Freshman Mercedes Alexander (24) earned tournament most valuable player honors, averaging 16 points and 15 rebounds over the extended weekend.

PHOTO BY SEAN HOFFMAN

**Total
coverage
inside**

•NWAACC special
pages 5-8

Clothing Stash is available for student needs

*Baby clothes focus
for March special*

Cade Carson
STAFF REPORTER

LCC's Clothing Stash resembles a vintage clothing store with more than just a lost and found type of setup. It is a non-profit organization that supplies used clothing to students and faculty. It is located above the gym in Building 5 room 301.

Clothes are donated from various LCC faculty and students as well as businesses and corporations. Wal-Mart, Kids Stuff and Baby World are major contributors to the program.

The focal point of the program is "we are students helping students." Two work-study students run the clothing stash. Volunteers are always welcome to come and help.

They are currently running a March sale with the promotion of baby clothes. Anyone can come and take 10 baby items (0-12 months) instead of the standard five



PHOTO BY CASSIE LAWS

Virginia Redig is a part-time student on campus who saw the signs and just wanted to take a look at the clothing stash.

items that each person is allotted each day. There is a surplus of children clothing that needs to be put to good use.

Men and women's clothing can be found there along with shoes and other items.

Men's clothing is limited so donations of Men's items are strongly encouraged.

Christian Ministries is a partner organization that the Clothing Stash is affiliated with.

Employees at the Clothing Stash have been monitoring the amount of people that come and receive free clothing. The average is about 25 people per day, which means 125 pieces of clothing are given out each day.

They have also held bake sales in attempts to raise funds for the Clothing Stash.

Two years ago the group was supposed to be moved to the Center Building, but no action has been made to support its move.

This resource goes beyond just free clothes; the employees have also given advice to customers on subjects such as how to get assistance on bills, food and rent.

The Clothing Stash used to be a general household supplies stash for faculty and students. In the past two years there have been major renovations inside of the organization.

The Clothing Stash is open Mondays and Wednesdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays 12 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays 1-3 p.m. For more information about the Clothing Stash or its volunteer opportunities, ask for Sandy or Natalie.

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A second chance

Student recovering from past

FEATURE • PAGE 4

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.



Toast and Roast is written by the members of The Torch editorial board. It's a compilation of things that are commendable (toasts) and things that are condemnable

Toast to the Register Guard for taking a chance and letting a redheaded joker and a bearded fool cover the NWAACC Championship.

Toast to the women Titans basketball team for winning the NWAACC Championship for the second year in a row.

Roast to the soldiers who took away a journalist's camera and deleted the pictures of the site where Afghan civilians were killed. You can't hide the fact that a war's going on.

Roast to conservative loud-mouth Ann Coulter for calling Democratic candidate John Edwards a "faggot" at a conservative political convention.

Roast to the audience for applauding. Hate must be one of those family values Republicans are always talking about.

Roast to New York City mayor and presidential contender Rudy Giuliani for having married his second cousin. That should make him a favorite in the South.

Urban lamb turns country lion

A city slicker gets an epiphany

Isn't March supposed to go in like a lion and out like a lamb? To me, this last weekend had a little more "Baaa" than "Rawr." Now, I'm not one to question the animal noises that nature makes during certain seasons, but Mother Nature probably should fill up her bipolar prescription again.

With the last fortnight's constant rain, the naturists started growing flowers despite the god-awful temperature. A few had bees pollinating their heads, too. I realize Eugene is synonymous with a water well and its residents have to acclimate to be semi-aquatic, but I'm almost certain I saw a tree jogging on the side of the road yesterday. And I'm positive that my neighbor sprouted a cherry tomato on her right index finger.

Although it no longer shocks me that people, like a humming drum of collectivity, consistently go outside and exercise, I find myself wondering why this masochism is so addicting. In the cold, in the hellfire heat and especially in the rain, Eugene is a heartbeat of exercise. Bicyclists, skaters, joggers and power-walkers abound

— all rasping in a harmonious exhale of exertion and stamina. Like blood cells, they rush up and down the sidewalks, streets and trails until they've fulfilled their daily pain requirement whereupon they'll retire to their respective pots and get drunk on fertilizer.

It shouldn't surprise you that I

am a blood clot in all this healthy m u m b o - jumbo. I hail from a place of in-

dustrial and city-folk. My idea of exercise is racing across a busy street and dodging vehicles. Occasionally, I'll really step it up and take the stairs instead of the elevator, but I'm a simple person. I count pizza slices instead of carbohydrates. My daily portion of fruit comes in the style of watermelon gum. I have no idea what a BMI is or what kind of mileage it gets. I'm just a blockage in this blood-rushing city.

What should shock you, however, is that I have shaken hands with the outdoors. Generally, once a year, I'll venture out. Like Punxsutawney Phil, I scope out my surroundings, check the barometer, and don myself a nifty pair of "dirt-walking" shoes. This last weekend, feeling a little 'lamb-like', I decided to give Pisgah another go.

When I first moved here three years ago, I took a look at that mountain and called myself a hiker. I picked a decent day, drove out, got lost, made a few U-turns and eventually found a parking spot for my "city" car amidst a throng of SUVs, hatchbacks and jeeps. After putting out my cigarette, I optimistically began my trek upward.

For a park, the place was packed like there would be a pot of gold waiting for you when you made it to the top. I should say "if you made it to the top" because I sure as hell didn't. I started smoothly, thinking it would be, well, a walk in the park. I looked around at the mass of people, sidestepped a crapping dog and walked past a wandering child. After about five minutes, I began searching for an 'intermediate' trail because this was child's play.

Then it started; the calf aches. I thought, "No problem, they'll dissipate." Then my chest started constricting, which, for me, is normal. After all, at the time, I was smoking about a pack a day. I continued onward and upward. But, the calf aches started getting worse and my pace quickly slowed. Yet, I kept trudging on even though Dachshunds were treading faster than me. It wasn't until a throbbing pain began banging around in my sinuses that I stopped and took a breath.

Good god, what was I thinking? My lungs sounded like a garbage disposal, my legs felt like they had bears gnawing on the muscles and my nasal cavity began a sneezing repetition that threatened to remove my pancreas. It hadn't occurred to me that allergies would be a problem at the end of October. Alas, I turned around, walked maybe two minutes and was back at the bottom. I quickly replaced my 'hiker' title with 'city slicker'. Why in the world do people do this?

For the next three years, I tried other "activities." I rode a bike until the day my brakes chickened out on a very steep hill. I tempted fate as a camper until someone decided to tell me about a certain giant rat that frequents Oregon woods. With visions of "The Princess Bride" in my head, I opted for a hotel. I even joined a gym and worked up a good sweat on a treadmill. But then I realized, I'm not a masochist and I don't take any pleasure in my own pain. So, with a sheepish apology, I returned my trial pass and decided to give up on exercise.

That is, until last weekend. Maybe I should have been feeling like a lion, but I ventured forth once again anyway. This time, however, I was driving a hatchback and I remembered my allergy meds. And since I hadn't

SEE SLICKER • PAGE 12

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Drivers solve budget deficit

Ok, I know this may sound crazy, but since Lane is having such a disastrous budget crisis I have the answer that is sure to make up the \$3 million difference. Every morning when I drive onto the campus I take Gonyea to access the parking lots on the west side. The number of cars speeding on Gonyea is reprehensible. So, why don't we start a Budget Crisis Speeding Fund?

Post a Lane security officer anywhere on Gonyea. It will not stop the drivers from speeding, I assure you. Let's start issuing tickets to all of these people who find it necessary to drive at 50 mph just to get to the parking lot first. Let's say each ticket will cost \$250 per offense. And let's make the number of offenses unlimited. I promise, you will get at least \$7,500 per day. In a little over a year's time we will have that \$3

million to secure our education system at Lane as well as retaining employees instead of laying them off.

The behavior of drivers in Eugene is ridiculous and Lane is a microcosm of our town. So, let's do it! Let's solve our budget crisis by taking advantage of those who choose to endanger the lives of others when they get behind the wheel! Eventually the roads onto campus will become safer, I hope. But more importantly, we can take our money situation into our own hands with no help from our education cutting government.

It's just an idea.

Linda Cathey
LCC student

Community activist

As a former board member of LCC, I voted to raise tuition and

I also made a motion to index LCC tuition to offset inflation. The administration, and not the Board, however, chose the HEPI as the index to be used as that is not a policy decision and only policy decisions are made by the Board.

As a retired economics instructor, I know that the only alternative to indexing is for the college to seek an increase in the tuition every year to offset the additional cost of running the college due to inflation, devaluing the buying power of the college's incomes.

Most of the college's income comes from the State of Oregon or from Lane County's property taxes. And student tuition does not come close to covering the total cost of operating Lane Community College.

If the college is unable to raise the money needed to close the

budget deficit of approximately \$4.5 million for 2007-08, it will cut programs and reduce staff because it is required by law to have a balanced budget. If the college is required to make such cuts in programs and staff, it will have a negative impact on LCC students as well as the college's ability to fulfill its mission since it will take students longer to finish the classes they need to achieve their goal.

In economic terms, there is also an opportunity costs to students who have to take longer to finish as this delay means they lose the opportunity to make the income they would have made had they finished earlier. If it takes a nursing student an extra year to finish due to the cuts forced upon the college, that person would lose about \$50,000 in income that they would have made.

At the present time, LCC is acknowledged to be one of the top 20 community colleges in the entire United States.

Therefore, a degree from LCC is held in high regard by employers. Any cuts in programs will reduce that quality, that reputation and will diminish the desirability of its graduates as a result.

It would be to your benefit as LCC students to contact your elected representatives in Salem and in D.C. to ensure that adequate funding is available to make it unnecessary to make such cuts and to make it unnecessary for the LCC Board to raise your tuition further, and make it possible for you to finish your LCC education without delays caused by budget deficits.

G. Dennis Shine
Springfield resident

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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Peer-mentoring class offered in Spring term

Each One Teach One offers training in helping others

Larry Coonrod
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Not many college courses can boast free tuition, no final exam, an opportunity to help fellow students and the possibility of a job. The Each One Teach One peer-mentoring class offers all three.

Offered in Spring term, Each One Teach One grew out of training done for Student Service Associates in the counseling department every summer, LCC counselor Christina Salter said.

"What we found was that a lot of other departments were also training students to do one-on-one work with peers. We thought that if we offered a generic training in peer mentoring in a class format it would get rid of this duplicate training that was going on," Salter said.

Taking the class is not a prerequisite to any of the peer mentoring positions on campus; Salter said that those who successfully complete the program would receive extra consideration if they apply for a position.

Salter said she has been coordinating with people in student services to develop and publicize the class.

Peer mentors help fellow students by offering information and helping them take advantage of services and resources offered by

the college.

"My vision for the class is that in addition to basic helping skills, is an awareness of Lane resources," Salter said.

There is no final exam in the class. Instead, students will be tasked with spending 8-10 hours on a peer-mentoring project.

"Maybe they'll go off campus with Karen Edmonds and talk to high school students about Lane, assist in doing an event for international students or spend time helping in the lobby during peak registration times," Salter said. "They'll actually get some hands on experience in direct peer-to-peer work as part of the class."

Each One Teach One is open to students who have completed six hours at LCC, are in good academic standing, who are interested in service related professions, have a positive attitude and plan on enrolling at LCC next year. Student employment opportunities for Summer and Fall term are usually announced during the spring.

To teach students the variety of student services offered at LCC, Salter said she will bring in people to teach what their department does. Current peer mentors will also be involved in teaching prospective mentors.

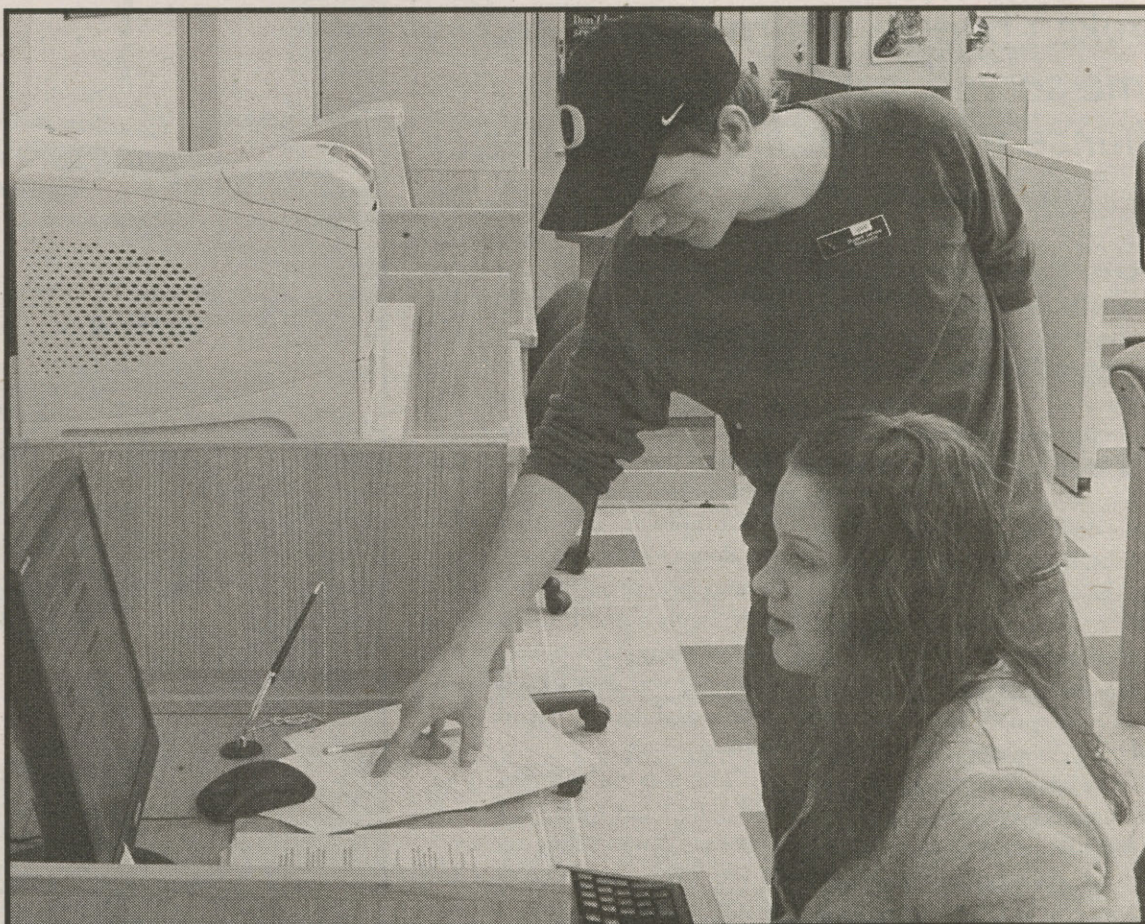


PHOTO BY LARRY COONROD

Student Services Associate Jeff Brady helps Jessica Allphin with a job search in the Career and Employment Services Center.

Even if a student is not interested in a peer-mentoring job, the class will be beneficial to anyone interested in improving interpersonal skills.

"We're going to talk about listening, communication, effective helping skills and having good boundaries when assisting other

people. This is all stuff that is effective in helping people in any situation," Salter said.

Student Service Associate Jeff Brady became a mentor after learning about the job in a career and life planning class.

"It's my favorite thing to do. I'd rather come to school to work

than go to school," he said. "I love the environment; I love helping people. Yesterday, I was in the worst mood ever, came to work and left with a smile."

The CRN for Each One Teach One is 42298. More information on the class is available by calling Salter at 463-5813.

Lane student dies in vehicle accident

Ashley Borjeson
ASSISTANT EDITOR

On Feb. 24, a fatal traffic collision occurred near Junction City shortly after 1 a.m. The collision involved Robert Harris, 30, who died from multiple injuries.

Harris was an LCC student; volunteer firefighter, a Marine, a father, a son and a brother. He had an unfaltering sense of humor and incorporated that humor into everything he did, his father Jim Harris, a Public Safety officer at LCC, said.

Harris had been heading home from his shift at Sacred Heart Medical Center; he had left a half hour early because he was excited about a firemen's ball that he and his fiancé were going to attend later that night, Jim said.

Harris was driving a 1986 Yamaha motorcycle on River Road when Edward Braley, 19, collided with him in a 1992 Ford Escort. Braley was not injured. Harris was taken back to Sacred Heart for his injuries.

"Investigations on the collision are still continuing ... it takes time to get blood and urinary test results back. But once we do everything will be forwarded to the

district attorney," Sgt. Fred Swank of the Lane County Sheriff's office said. District Attorney David Ville, who is handling the case, could not be reached. It is undetermined at this time if alcohol was a factor in the collision. No arrests have been made.

Harris is survived by his parents, Jim Harris and Donna Falleur, his two brothers Mark, 27, and Steven, 21, his daughter Katie Abshire, 12, his fiancé Tiffany Cates and her three children whom he was going to adopt.

"Steven and Robert are the 'same person'. They share the same sense of humor and often Steven would say to people 'we are the same person, only he (points to Robert) is stupider.' Robert would always play along ... he would always play along with anything," Judy Sierra, Harris's stepmother, said. "He was a wonderful stepson."

Harris's memorial service was held Monday, March 5, at the Junction City Firehouse. "There were 400 chairs setup and still there was standing room only. About 100 more people were standing up ... I had no idea that Robert touched so many people's



PHOTO COURTESY OF JIM HARRIS

Robert Harris, 30, pictured in firefighter uniform with daughter, Katie Abshire, 12.

lives," Jim said. Harris had been a volunteer firefighter for 14 years, he recently made engineer, which allowed him to drive the fire engine. "At the end of the service the fire chief (Carl Perry) stood up asked all the firemen to stand and set their platonic to Firecomm

three, which would play a tone to all fire stations. The fire chief said, 'Announcing the last call for Robert Harris, he will be missed.' This announcement went out to all firefighters," Jim Harris said. "They then rang the fire bell five times, it is their way of calling Robert home for the last time," Sierra said.

Harris started his education career at LCC in 1995 with his Marine benefits. He wanted to study to be a paramedic. "That was his goal, to be a paramedic for Eugene," Jim Harris said. His education took a break when he was called to Iraq in 2002. Harris was stationed in downtown Baghdad for about eight months and gone for one year total. He left the Marines a sergeant. "He learned that in stressful situations, all you needed was a little humor," Jim Harris said.

Harris was taking a few science classes this term at LCC and was once again working toward his goal of becoming a paramedic. He was also working at Sacred Heart Medical Center as a phlebotomist collecting blood samples.

"He would take my hand and

say, 'oh, Judy. You have some great veins.' That's just the kind of person he was, he didn't notice eyes, he just noticed veins," Sierra said. He had just moved to a house closer to the fire station so he could be the first qualified person there.

"The first qualified person at the firehouse got to drive the engine, you know what he was thinking when he moved closer," Jim Harris said.

Harris was always willing to help others. Jim Harris recalled Perry saying Harris "lived his life the way most people want to; he touched everyone that he knew with his humor, compassion and love." Jim Harris agrees. A couple weeks before the collision, he had a conversation with his son that ended with "I love you, son." Robert Harris replied, "I love you too, dad." That was their last conversation. Jim Harris said he is confident that his son knew how much his family and friends loved him.

"Many of the deputies dealt with Robert in professional levels. I knew him. I know Jim. It's very sad, what happened," Swank said.

Woman takes second chance at life, LCC

Broken hearts, a turn of fate and time served gives a woman the chance to live her life for the better

Ariel Burkhart
COPY EDITOR

Leslie Dornbusch is a woman winning a battle. Her battle started when she was 18-years-old. She had been in and out of jail, group meetings and, one day, started using methamphetamines.

"I'm not proud of anything I did," Dornbusch said. "Back then, nothing else mattered. It was the feeling I had been missing, the courage, the edge," she said. "At 21, I was locked up and I stopped using."

On the road to recovery, she has been very open about her past and the person she is today. She's honest with herself and her story but doesn't dwell on the past.

After Dornbusch was released from jail, she went into treatment and met a guy who eventually introduced her to needles. She used drugs for about a year, ran stolen credit cards and wrote bad checks. "I was hanging with raunchy people and in and out of jail. I left my family, my parents; they were good parents," Dornbusch said.

She met a man who had escaped prison. They committed robberies together, which eventually landed the man in jail and Dornbusch in for a night. When he was in jail, she would sneak him drugs and made money by having him sell them inside the prison.

That's when she met her future husband, Robert, and had her daughter, Katera.

She stopped using alcohol and drugs when she was pregnant and stopped all together for a few years until one day she found a bag of meth in a hotel room she was cleaning. After that, she kept using and started dealing meth.

She had dealers in her house, people she would never have her daughter around now. "I didn't think I was jeopardizing her," she said.

Two years later, she got pregnant again and had a miscarriage. The day after, her husband started using meth as well. A few years later, Dornbusch was pregnant

again and she had a healthy baby boy named Chance. By the time she had Chance, Federal agents had caught on to her actions. She was tried for conspiracy to commit bank fraud and was sentenced to a federal prison in Seattle. She drove to the prison in the family car with her husband and children so they could say goodbye.

Dornbusch said that when the doors to the prison slammed behind her, years of drug abuse were finally over. "I was watching my kid's hearts get broken. Once that door was shut I knew everything was different. Thank God I went to prison."

"The feds came to talk to me and I told the truth. It was the first time I was telling the truth. It was my crime. The feds had never talked to someone who came clean. Eighteen years of fog cleared from my head. It wasn't them (who were the bad guys), it was me. They were trying to get me right," she said.

"It's nothing that I'm proud of," Dornbusch said. "I don't think you should glamorize drugs. I'm ashamed now. I don't want people to know, but I'm cool now because of where I am today."

Her husband, suffering from drug abuse and diabetes, died while she was in prison.

"I was sad, but I didn't wallow in misery. I had to get up and get over it. My kids lost their father and didn't have a mother."

"My kids are strong," Dornbusch said. "Their happiness is my quest. I told them 'we have today and we have each other.' (They have) more passion to get through these things. They need stability. And they're so normal. Robert was the best dad and I think I'm a good mom."

Today, Dornbusch has been able to submit a letter of recommendation written by her boss, Karen Edmunds, the High School and Community Relations coordinator for LCC, to receive grants. She has her health, her job and most importantly she has her children.

"Stable people; those are the

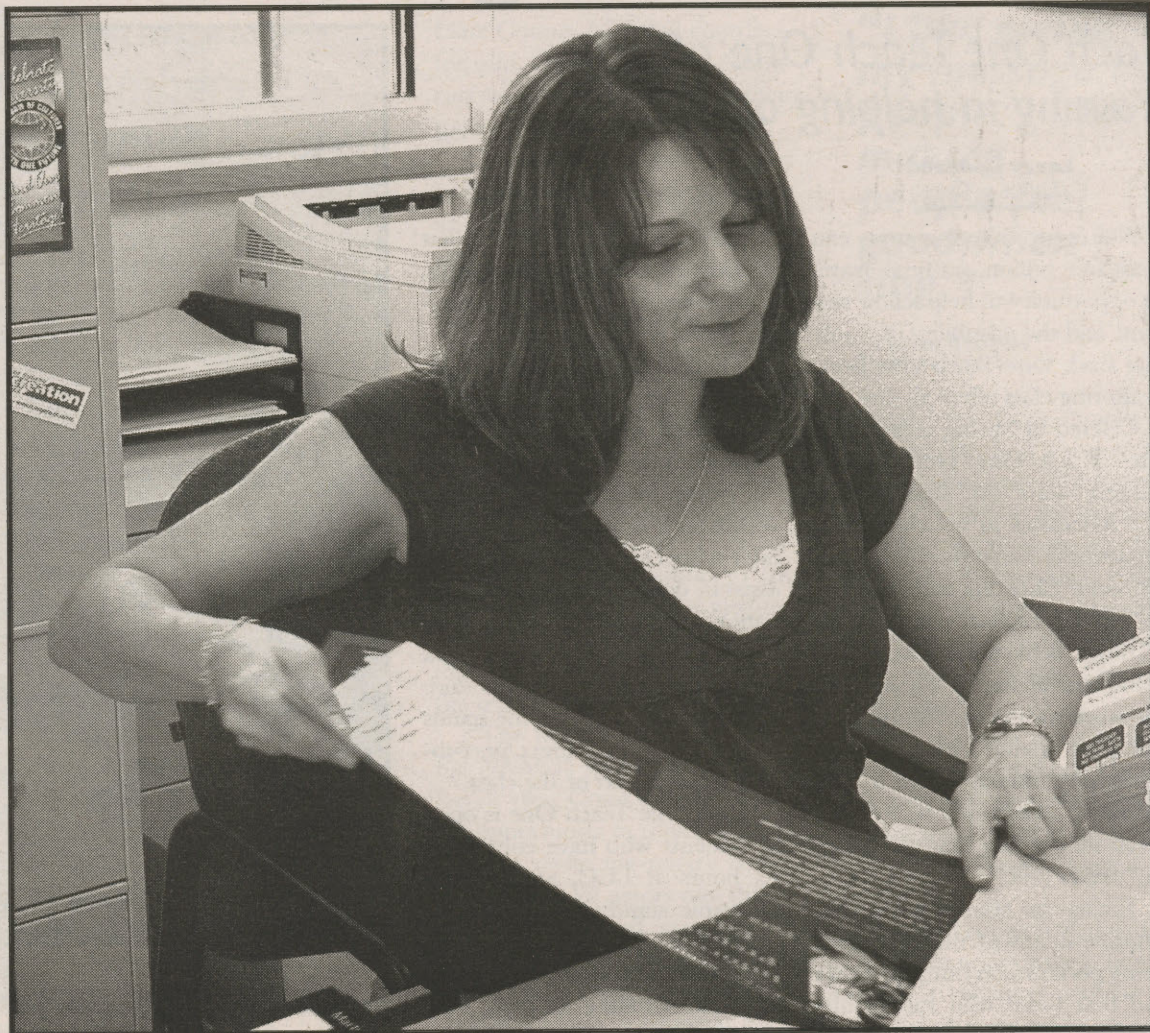


PHOTO BY CASSIE LAWS

Sending flyers to high schools for a bilingual college night is just one of Leslie Dornbusch's many duties as an office assistant in the High School and Community office located in the Students First Building.

people that are awesome. They don't fall. I don't pat myself on the back for getting up in the mornings. I don't want to be commended for being a loser."

Since she has lived in Eugene, Dornbusch has taken all the steps towards recovery. "I quit cigarettes, I started exercising." She started attending classes at LCC and received help from the Women in Transition program.

"At Lane, there are so many people in the same boat. Education is huge."

Impressed by the progress Dornbusch has made since she was out of jail, an employee of the FBI wrote her a letter of recommendation to help her get a job. Dornbusch has had 35 arrests on her record and still her judge backed her release from prison.

Today, Dornbusch wants to pursue a degree as a legal assistant.

"I do have goals. I thought I was going to die in the meth world. But I'm an accomplished person. I'm glad I'm here at Lane," she

said. "I get up, get my kids up and off to school. I'm at work; I get my kids, do chores and go to basketball games. I study and I talk to people. I put all my energy into this stuff."

Going to school has given Dornbusch a lot of confidence and a lot of hope.

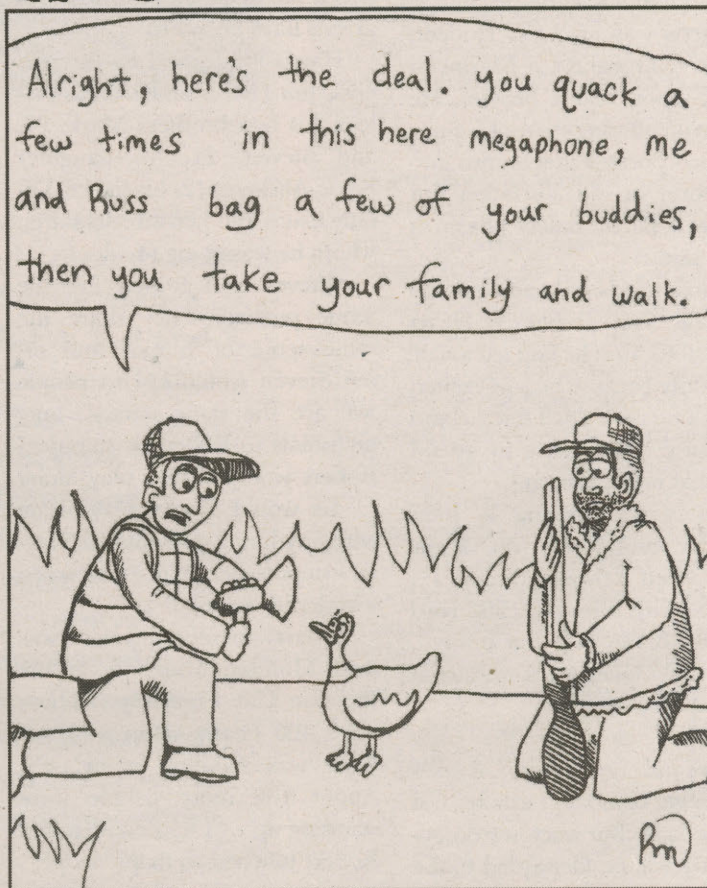
"I thought, 'I'll never learn how to learn.' But now, what better way to pay back my debt to society by becoming a productive citizen," she said. "I take full re-

sponsibility for what I did."

As far as drug use is concerned, "I don't even think about it. I don't wanna use. I'm never going to do this to my kids again."

About a year ago, Dornbusch was collecting her children from school when she overheard her daughter telling a friend about her mothers past. "I asked her, 'aren't you embarrassed?' My daughter gave me a funny look and she said, 'no mom, cuz look at where you are now.'"

At Random By Ryan Mason



www.AtRandomComics.com

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NWAACC Championship Repeated



Lane women's NWAACC

Tournament hoops by the numbers

6	Consecutive trips to the NWAACC Tournament for Head Coach Greg Sheley, after an eight-year drought for the program
77	Total margin of victory in Lane's four tournament wins this season
26	Rebounds by tournament MVP freshman Mercedes Alexander in the semifinal game against Yakima Valley, a tournament record
1	Warning given to Yakima Valley fans for being verbally abusive to players and officials
33	Rebounds by freshman Nicole Morgan in tournament, versus the 51 she had the entire regular season
9	Three-pointers by Valerie Meyer in tournament, versus the 17 she had the entire regular season
1	Annoying hockey mascot in the Toyota Center
648	Total miles driven by Torch employees to and from Kennewick, Wash.

Stories by

Alex Braga
Assistant Sports Editor



Photos by

Sean Hoffman
Photographer



Game 1: The Blowout

The Lane Community College women's basketball team jumped out to an early lead and cruised the rest of the way for a 71-42 victory over Wenatchee Valley in their Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges Tournament opener.

The defending NWAACC Tournament Champions were fueled by 57 rebounds as a team and sophomore Shelby Stephens' 21 points, 11 rebounds and five steals.

Mercedes Alexander added 10 points and 12 rebounds for the Titans, who overcame a strong performance by WVC center Margie Lou Correll.

Correll, who finished the game with 13 points, 10 rebounds and a tournament-record 11 blocked shots - seven of which came in the first seven minutes of the game - was the only Knight to score in double figures.

Lane (26-4) jumped out to a 15-0 advantage before WVC guard Stephanie Mifflin hit a 15-foot jumper with 11:50 remaining in the first half. On the Knights' ensuing possession, Stephens got a steal, which she converted to a breakaway layup at the other end.

Stephens was able to bully defenders in the key to get easy

opportunities for herself and her teammates throughout the game.

"Shelby's doing what she's been doing for us in the last 14, 15 games," Titans coach Greg Sheley said. "She's tough to defend, she's getting rebounds and she takes a lot of pressure off of our other players."

Stephens, who attended Willamette High School, said the experience of last season's championship run has been valuable for her this time around.

"We are a totally different team from last year, but it helped a lot knowing what to expect," she said.

Sheley said his team exceeded his expectations in every facet of the game, despite the fact that he didn't change much in his preparation for Wenatchee Valley.

"I don't know if it was so much us creating turnovers, but they didn't shoot real well in the first half," Sheley said of the Knights, who shot 23.3 percent in the opening half.

"It was huge to be able to control tempo and get some separation."

WVC (14-15) finished the game 26.2 percent from the field and 21.7 on three-pointers, and turned the ball over 16 times on eight Titans steals. Lane scored 17 points off the turnovers and shot 35.9 percent from the field.

Lane received 28 points from its bench, which is something Sheley says is crucial for his team's success if the Titans are to repeat as champions.

"It's huge in a tournament like this," he said. "Obviously you've got to play to win first, but everybody has to give us minutes to save legs when you play four

days in a row."

Titans freshman Valerie Meyer hit all four of her three-point attempts to finish with 12 points, and sophomore Sheri Gates, who won an NWAACC Championship with Umpqua Community College in 1997, added 12 points, three rebounds and controlled the tempo from the point in the second half.

The Titans will

face Lower Columbia Community College in their second round game. The Red Devils defeated Whatcom Community College 56-42 in their opening game behind 14 points each from Samantha James and Vanessa McCormick.

LANE 71 • WENATCHEE VALLEY 42 HALFTIME — LANE 39 • WENATCHEE VALLEY 16

NAME	FIELD GOALS	FT'S	TOTAL
MARTINDALE	3-11	0-0	7
REYNOLDS	0-10	3-4	3
ALEXANDER	4-12	2-5	10
MORGAN	1-5	0-0	2
STEPHENS	9-21	3-3	21
THOMPSON-RODGERS	1-3	0-0	2
EVANS	0-1	0-0	0
GATES	5-7	1-1	12
McVICKER	1-3	0-0	2
MEYER	4-5	0-0	12
TOTALS	28-78	9-13	71

3 POINT GOALS: 6-16 (MEYER 4-4, GATES 1-1, MARTINDALE 1-6, EVANS 0-1, McVICKER 0-1, MORGAN 0-3)
REBOUNDS: 57 (ALEXANDER 12)
ASSISTS: 12 (GATES, McVICKER 3)

Game 2: The Sharpshooters

Lane Community College rode the coattails of four consecutive three-point shots to open the game and solid pressure defense throughout to a 59-35 victory over Lower Columbia in the quarterfinals of the NWAACC Regional Women's Basketball Tournament.

"The start was huge. The nice thing was that even if we wouldn't have hit real well from the outside, we still did a great job defensively," said Lane coach Greg Sheley, whose team advances to a semifinal matchup against Yakima Valley, a 95-56 winner over Everett.

Lane (27-4) used a mix of a full-court press and half-court trapping to record 12 steals and force 18 Red Devils turnovers, which the Titans converted into 14 points. The pressure defense also held the Red Devils to 22.6 percent shooting from the field and 3-of-20 on three-pointers.

Sophomore Kammy Martindale, whose three three-pointers fueled a 15-3 Titan run in the game's first three minutes, scored 19 points to lead Lane.

Martindale was held to just seven points in the Titans' first-round matchup with Wenatchee Valley, but she took advantage of the Red Devils' relaxed defense to hit 5-of-8 three-pointers.

"Kammy was flustered with the way she played yesterday, so I knew she was going to come back and play well," Sheley said.

"I didn't know she was going to hit her first four shots of the game. It was a pretty nice little start."

The presence of sophomore Shelby Stephens and freshman Mercedes Alexander in the key forced Lower Columbia to play a collapsing zone for most of the game, which left Martindale and the rest of her teammates open shots on the perimeter.

"We knew they were going to double down on the post, so we were trying to go in and then come back out," Martindale, a sophomore from Siuslaw, said. "Last game I was kinda out of rhythm; I was feeling it today."

Freshman Valerie Meyer was the only other Titan in double figures, finishing with 12 points and two of Lane's 10 three-pointers.

Alexander finished with six points and matched her rebound total from the first game with 12.

Sheley, who will lead the team to its fourth consecutive NWAACC semifinal appearance, said the Titans' attitude in these tournament situations is what separates them from the rest of the field.

"We're playing to win this thing," he said. "We have kids that have been here and won it. There's a difference in mentality that comes with that."

LANE 59 • LOWER COLUMBIA 35 HALFTIME — LANE 29 • LOWER COLUMBIA 20

NAME	FIELD GOALS	FT'S	TOTAL
MARTINDALE	7-14	0-0	19
REYNOLDS	2-5	0-0	4
ALEXANDER	3-12	0-0	6
MORGAN	3-5	0-0	8
STEPHENS	2-7	0-0	4
THOMPSON-RODGERS	0-0	0-0	0
EVANS	1-1	0-0	3
GATES	0-3	0-0	0
McVICKER	0-1	3-4	3
MEYER	5-11	0-0	12
TOTALS	22-59	3-4	59

3 POINT GOALS: 10-24 (MARTINDALE 5-8, MORGAN 2-3, MEYER 2-7, EVANS 1-1, GATES 0-1, McVICKER 0-1, REYNOLDS 0-1, ALEXANDER 0-1, STEPHENS 0-1) • REBOUNDS: 48 (ALEXANDER 12) • ASSISTS: 18 (MORGAN 7)

Clockwise from left: NWAACC Tournament MVP Mercedes Alexander fights for a rebound in semifinal action against Yakima Valley. The Titan bench gets into the action as Lane takes on Bellevue in the Championship game. Kammy Martindale (20) shoots a three-pointer over a Yakima defender. Valerie Meyer slashes to the hoop. Mercedes Alexander, Nattisia Reynolds and Assistant Coach Kevin Grumbley (offset top right) make their way to the Toyota Center hardwood prior to semifinal action. Nicole Morgan takes a kidney punch while saving an outward-bound ball in quarterfinal play. Sophomore standouts Kammy Martindale and Shelby Stephens (offset bottom right) enjoy the spoils of victory and show a little love to the NWAACC trophy. Nattisia Reynolds drops into defensive position against Lower Columbia. Head Coach Greg Sheley stares down a referee after a questionable call in the championship game against Bellevue. Shelby Stephens lines up for a critical free throw during the final minutes of the Titans' title-game victory over Bellevue.

As reported on March 2

As reported on March 3

AMPIONSHIPS

TheTORCH

Game 3: The Comeback

Defending champion Lane needed to rally from a 12-point halftime deficit to beat Yakima Valley 78-70 in overtime and earn its third consecutive trip to the Northwest Athletic Association of Community

Colleges Women's Basketball Tournament Championship game. The top-ranked Titans face Bellevue (26-4) for the title. Bellevue reached the final with a 58-47 victory over Walla Walla in Saturday's other

semifinal. Freshman Mercedes Alexander finished with 24 points and an NWAACC tournament-record 26 rebounds for the Titans (28-4) in their semifinal victory.

Alexander's putback layup with two seconds remaining in regulation tied the score at 68 and sent the game into the extra period.

"We've been in this situation before, and we know what it's like," the freshman from Churchill said about handling the pressure. "We had to rally around each other. It's an amazing feeling."

No. 2-ranked Yakima Valley (28-4) jumped out to a 9-0 lead behind four Lane turnovers and two three-pointers in the first 2:30 of the game. The Yaks extended their lead to 39-27 at halftime behind 44.1 percent shooting and a defense that held the Titans to only eight field goals in the half.

Lane opened the

first five minutes of the second half with a 14-2 run to pull even at 41. Sophomore Kammy Martindale accounted for seven of the Titans' points during the run.

"I don't have to tell these kids anything," Titans coach Greg Sheley said. "After seeing (Yakima's 95-56 win over Everett) yesterday, I just wanted to keep it under 30. It was an amazing win."

Martindale scored 22 points and freshman Valerie Meyer added 15, including seven in the last eight minutes of regulation for the Titans.

Yakima's shooting cooled off in the second half thanks to pressure by the Titans. The Yaks settled for perimeter looks and ended up 9-of-40 on three-pointers.

Sophomore Shelby Stephens finished with 12 points, nine of the 69 Titan rebounds and hit all four of her free-throw attempts in the final minute of overtime.

Lane ended the game 39.4 percent from the field behind a 51.3 percent second-half performance.

Bellevue, which outlasted Walla Walla behind 23 points from sophomore Jennifer Deyoung, beat Lane 75-57 in the teams' only meeting this season.

As reported on March 4

Game 4: The Champions

The Lane women's basketball team used a second-half surge and dominance in the key to earn an 81-65 victory over Bellevue Community College and its second consecutive Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges Championship.

Freshman Mercedes Alexander earned tournament most valuable player honors and finished with 24 points and nine rebounds for the Titans.

Bellevue leading scorer and first-team all-tournament selection Jennifer DeYoung finished with 10 points and six rebounds but was held in check for most of the game.

"Our approach was to deny her the ball," sophomore Shelby Stephens said, who finished with 24 points and nine rebounds after scoring 15 points in the last nine minutes of her second consecutive championship game victory. "We knew she can make shots, but we just wanted to limit her on her shots."

Alexander took advantage of her size close to the basket to get several easy layup opportunities, something she was able to do the entire tournament.

"The last two games that Mercedes played were absolutely amazing because they tried to focus on her and stop her, but couldn't," Titans coach Greg Sheley said of his center, who averaged 16 points and 15 rebounds per game for the tournament. "The only

one that could stop her was herself." The Titans (29-4) shot 50.9 percent for the game and won the battle of the boards 50-26.

"The key was to keep our composure and not get overexcited or down," Stephens, who went 7-of-12 from the field, said. "It's surreal right now. We did it and it's beautiful."

Lane jumped out to a 35-26 lead at halftime behind Alexander's 16 points and seven rebounds and a defense that held the Bulldogs to 34.5 percent shooting in the half.

"We defended well in the first half, which was big," Sheley said. "We spent the whole halftime talking about the first five minutes (of the second half) and not letting them back in the game. They finished well and I'm so proud of them for it."

Bellevue opened the first five minutes of the second half with a 13-5 run to cut the Titans' lead to 40-39 when sophomore Kammy Martindale hit a three-pointer for Lane.

"We made enough baskets at the right time to just keep them far enough at bay," Sheley said.

Sophomore Sheri Gates, who won a title in 1997 with Umpqua Community College before she left basketball to have a family, won her second NWAACC championship after a decade away from the game.

"Sheri Gates is the hardest-working 'kid' on the team," Sheley said of his reserve guard, who pulled down 13 rebounds and scored eight points.

Martindale finished with seven points and was a first-team all-tournament selection, averaging nearly 14 points per game. Nicole Morgan added eight points and 11 rebounds from her point guard position.

"This group is amazing," Sheley said of his sophomores. "The fact that this is our third year in a row to be in the championship game of a 16-team tournament, let alone the fact that we were defending champions. I've been coaching awhile and I've never been prouder of a group in my whole life."

As reported on March 5

LANE 78 • YAKIMA VALLEY 70

HALFTIME — LANE 27 • YAKIMA VALLEY 39

OVERTIME — LANE 10 • YAKIMA VALLEY 2

NAME	FIELD GOALS	FT'S	TOTAL
MARTINDALE	8-20	2-3	22
REYNOLDS	0-6	0-0	0
ALEXANDER	10-17	4-10	24
MORGAN	0-3	0-0	0
STEPHENS	3-7	6-8	12
THOMPSON RODGERS	0-0	0-0	0
EVANS	0-0	0-0	0
GATES	0-0	1-2	1
McVICKER	2-4	0-2	4
MEYER	5-14	2-3	15
TOTALS	28-71	15-28	78

3 POINT GOALS: 7-24 (MARTINDALE 4-12, MEYER 3-8, MORGAN 0-2, McVICKER 0-1, REYNOLDS 0-1)

REBOUNDS: 69 (ALEXANDER 26)

ASSISTS: 15 (STEPHENS 5)

LANE 81 • BELLEVUE 65

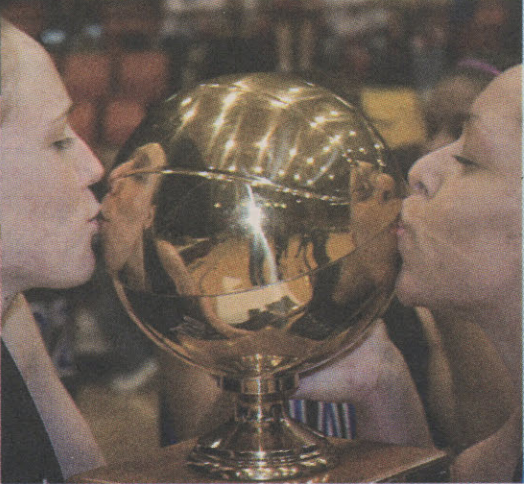
HALFTIME — LANE 35 • BELLEVUE 26

NAME	FIELD GOALS	FT'S	TOTAL
MARTINDALE	3-8	0-0	7
REYNOLDS	1-1	0-4	2
ALEXANDER	10-19	4-6	24
MORGAN	3-6	1-2	8
STEPHENS	7-12	8-12	24
THOMPSON RODGERS	0-0	0-0	0
EVANS	0-0	0-0	0
GATES	2-3	3-6	8
McVICKER	2-3	2-3	6
MEYER	1-5	0-2	2
TOTALS	29-57	18-25	81

3 POINT GOALS: LANE 5-13 (STEPHENS 2-2, GATES 1-2, MORGAN 1-3, MARTINDALE 1-3, ALEXANDER 0-1, MEYER 0-2)

REBOUNDS: 50 (GATES 13)

ASSISTS: 14 (GATES, ALEXANDER, MORGAN 3)



MARCH 8, 2007

'Team mom' finds fountain of youth with Titans

Drafting major earns second NWAACC Championship after a decade away from the game

Alex Braga
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

When Sheri Gates went to see a counselor in the LCC admissions office all she wanted to do was talk to him about the school's drafting program.

After a rough day at her husband Alan's construction company, where she ran the business side of operations, Gates decided she needed to make a change.

"I was all frustrated driving home from Eugene and I drove by Lane and I was just like 'dang it, I'm going back to school,'" Gates, a mother of three, said. "I went home, picked up the phone, called and had an appointment with a counselor."

She said she was nervous about going to LCC because she had been away from school for over nine years and had been a

housewife and mother to her children during that time.

"I'm very much a religious person and I said 'oh Lord what am I doing? I did not pray about this. What am I getting myself into?'" she said. "I sat there and I prayed for like 10 minutes, 'whatever doors you want to have open, open them and whatever doors you want closed, close them. I

don't know what I'm doing here. I don't know what decision I just made without consulting you first. I just want to be where you want me to be."

When Gates talked to a counselor about signing up for the drafting program at LCC, he noticed on her transcript that she had played basketball at Umpqua Community College in 1997.

"I signed up for classes and he was going through my transcript and he was like 'well you played sports at UCC, it looks like basketball. You still have a year of eligibility left' and I said, 'so what, I'm 28 years-old?'"

Gates was a star on what was the UCC version of the "fab five" because they were a starting lineup made up entirely of freshmen. It was a team that won an NWAACC title the season she played there.

"I was the point guard so I was the one with the assists and the steals. I was definitely a threat on offense, which is something that's different from now," she said. "I was really a lot more mobile back then. On the defense it was steals galore. If they had one player they needed shut down I would shut 'em down."

Gates met with LCC Athletic Director Sean Mondragon and he set her up with basketball Head Coach Greg Sheley to talk about playing on his team.

"I think Sheley was really skeptical at first. I'm the oldest player they've ever coached and they really didn't get a feel for how I was gonna react," Gates said. "Kevin (Grumbley), our assistant coach, is a year older than I am, and to take orders is like, what? They do such a good job though."

Sheley told Gates that if she could play well she would have the opportunity to play this season with the team. For Gates, her talent was never the problem; it was that she would need to leave her responsibilities for her husband's company and her children at home.

"I wasn't seeking it out, like 'oh I'm gonna go play basketball again,'" Gates said. She had married her husband Alan in 1998 after her championship season at UCC and immediately started having children. "It's been a big

adjustment for my family. They were really, really supportive in the beginning, especially my husband."

Gates said, for her children the transition to not having their mom around to send them off to school everyday was tough, and her husband was vital in the success of her balancing act.

"Needless to say, daddy knows how to put in ponytails now and the kids are adjusting really well," she said. "The end is near and it's kind of bitter sweet. They're glad mom's gonna be home but they're totally pumped to be (at the NWAACC Tournament). They're having a great time with it. Getting to skip school, play hooky, go swimming, all of it."

Gates brought her family to the NWAACC Regional Tournament to watch her attempt at becoming the oldest champion in conference history and to complete one of the more prolonged repeat title runs in basketball history. Her children were in attendance every game of the tournament to cheer her on. Gates' delayed repeat championship attempt coincides with many of her teammates own attempts to repeat the Titans' NWAACC title of last season. Gates said she was nervous when she first joined the team. She thought she wouldn't fit in with her new teammates because she had spent so many years as a housewife and missed out on her years of partying and acting like a college student.

"At first I was so nervous and I tried so hard to fit in," Gates said. On a preseason trip to California, she finally said to her teammates that she was nervous about not wanting to be the "old person you guys are embarrassed to be around."

"I forget which one of them it was, but they said 'oh thank god, cause this scrunchie has to go,' and she reaches forward, takes my scrunchie off and throws it on top of a car. Meanwhile, my hair is falling out a mess and they were just like, we don't use scrunchies anymore."

Gates attributed her gradual increase in confidence to allowing herself to be comfortable with being herself and letting her teammates see her for who she is and not who she thinks they want her to be.

"I was completely nervous and out of my element and didn't really know what to do or say; as I got to know them a little bit more they just kinda took me in and that's when I started to fill in the team mom role," she said.

Sheley played a big role in her transition, she said. "I think he is a really good coach because he can relate so well with the girls and myself off the court," Gates said of her head coach that called her the hardest working "kid" on his team. "He's the one talking about all the midnight shows and late night television during practice and making all the funny jokes and playing games, but when you step in between the lines, then it's the intense Sheley that you see."

Gates said that the biggest adjustment she had to make as a player was from being a star in high school and at UCC to a role player with the Titans and not knowing her role from game-to-game.

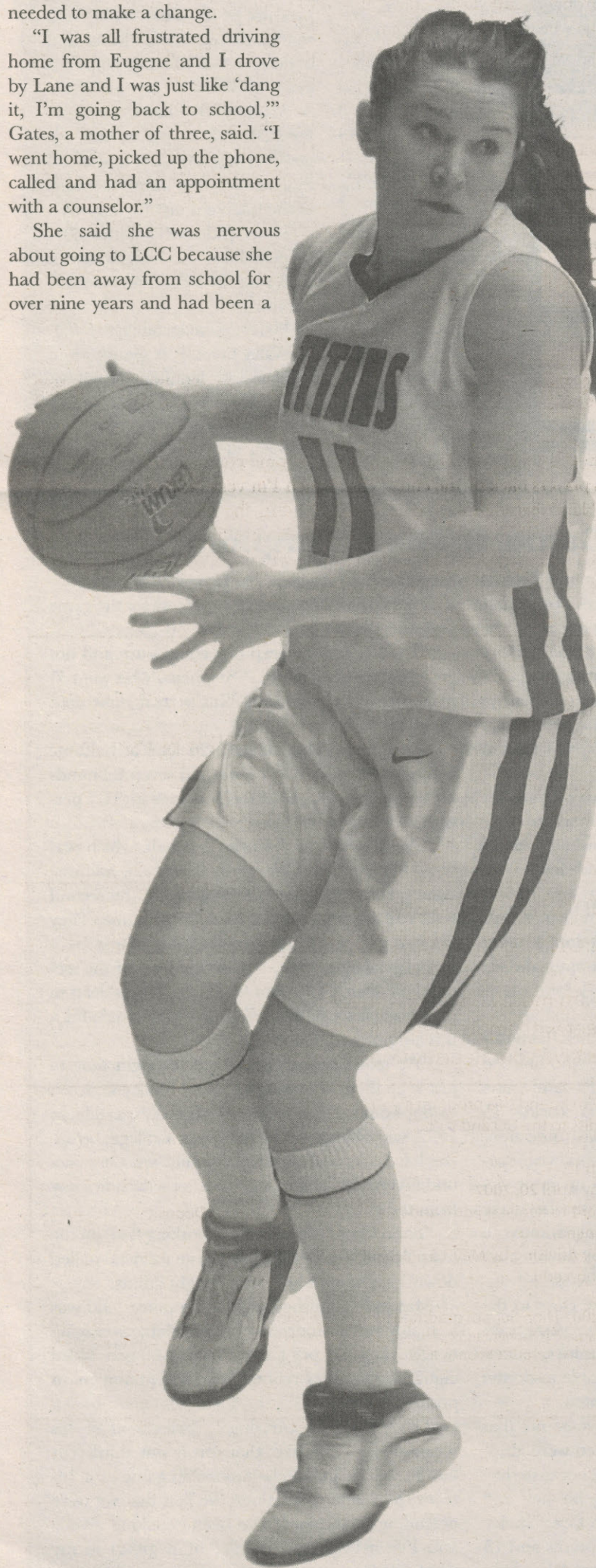
"The biggest thing I've learned is humility," Gates said. "It's just how to contribute when I'm supposed to contribute and just be humbly satisfied if I don't get to. Wherever I fit in the scheme of things I have to be prepared for that at all times. I just have to be ready to fulfill whatever challenge it is and it's different every time."

As the tournament wound down, reality began to set in that her basketball career was coming to a close.

"I sit back thinking, this is the very last time I'm probably ever gonna step on the court in a competition and it makes me wanna cry," she said. "I'm so excited because we get to be champions. We have this awesome opportunity and if we can pull this off and I can have back-to-back championships 10 years apart. That's gonna be amazing."

Going into the NWAACC Tournament, Gates was unsure of what she was going to be able to contribute, but had a steady showing that included 12 points in the opener versus Wenatchee Valley and a free throw to send the semifinal game against Yakima Valley into overtime. She finalized the weekend with a solid title game performance of eight points and a team-leading 13 rebounds.

SEE GATES • PAGE 9



Sheri Gates at a glance

- Named to NWAACC All-Academic Team with a 3.33 GPA
- Won NWAACC Championship in 1997 with Umpqua Community College
- Had season-high 13 rebounds in NWAACC title game
- Oldest player to ever win an NWAACC Championship
- Loves the fettucini alfredo from the Olive Garden

Collin Cram wins decathlon at Chico Multi-Event Classic

Lane athletes go three-for-three in NWAACC championship meet

Josh Hutchins
SPORTS EDITOR

Three of Lane's track and field athletes competed in Chico, Calif. March 1-2. The meet was one of just two in the season for the decathlon and heptathlon. Next up is the NWAACC Championships.

Collin Cram scored 6,617 points overall in the decathlon, earning him first place for the second consecutive year in this meet. In second place was Robert Nooney of Chico State, scoring 6,203. Javin Dimmick of LCC came in seventh with a score of 5,339. The qualifying mark for the NWAACC Championships in the decathlon is 5,000.

Cram won the decathlon at the NWAACC Championships in 2006. He then competed in individual events on his own,

becoming the high point athlete for the whole meet. "He was good enough to score multiple All-American honors in multiple events," Grady O'Connor, director of men's and women's track and field, said. "He's getting recruited by Alabama, Long Beach State and the UO."

Danica Bates represented the Lane women in the heptathlon earning a score of 3,701, good for fifth place and a place in the NWAACC Championships in Spokane on April 30 and May 1.

"All three athletes scored the qualifying mark, that was our number one goal," O'Connor said. "The second goal for Collin was to defend his title. He won it going away against some other Division II and Division I athletes."

O'Connor said Cram is one of the best decathletes in the Northwest, and for a March 1 meet, he turned in a very good score. With the weather turning and Cram getting into more speed work, his score is expected to increase (get better).

"He's the favorite to win the decathlon in our conference," O'Connor said. "He had a nice personal best in the pole vault, that was probably the highlight. In some of the running events we had some head wind." Cram vaulted 15-7. Almost a foot higher than UC Davis' Doug Roche, who placed second in the event at 14-7 1/4.

Cram also finished first in the shot put with a mark of 11.89m, the men's 110-meter hurdles with a time of 15.73 and the javelin throw with a mark of 47.64m.

Bates is a red-shirt freshman and this meet was her first competition in three years. "She was

a very outstanding multi-sport athlete from Pleasant Hill that was going to come to Lane to play basketball and run track," O'Connor said. "But her senior year in high school she blew her knee out and had MCL surgery not once but twice." Because Bates has been in rehab mode for pretty much three years, O'Connor said it was special getting her in uniform and getting her the chance to feel the "butterflies of competition."

He expects her to get much stronger and faster now that she's healthy and will become a real force in the championship run.

Dimick is a sophomore from Mohawk High School and his decathlon score was a personal best. He had four or five personal bests in the meet.

These athletes will compete in the NWAACC Championships, then after two weeks of rest will come back and com-

pete in individual events. Lane has been runner-up to Spokane Community College for the last two years.

March 31 is when O'Connor plans to have everyone in uniform. Through March the athletes will mostly be training. A few select athletes with qualifying marks will be in action for the Oregon Preview Saturday, March 17, at the UO.

The team traveled to the Southern Oregon Invite Saturday, March 3 in Ashland. O'Connor said it was an ice-breaker meet, and that a lot of people were left home for different reasons.

This weekend's Mt. Hood Community College open in Gresham has been cancelled. Some flooding in the track area caused their athletic director to cancel it. Lane is trying to find an alternative meet for the weekend, but O'Connor isn't sure if that will happen.

Titan baseball team loses four to start season

Lane team undermanned due to injuries

Josh Hutchins
SPORTS EDITOR

The Lane baseball team traveled to Mount Vernon, Wash. to open the season Saturday, March 3. Head Coach Rob Strickland said it's a great place to play baseball. The school has an indoor facility to hit and is getting lights for the field next year.

Jesse Sweet gave up only one hit in the opener against Edmonds. Sweet is a sophomore from Thurston High. He pitched a complete game, but lost 1-0. "Unfortunately that one hit was a double," Strickland said. "He struck out four, he walked a couple, which hurt us. He also hit a couple, but we didn't make any errors behind him. So, I was pretty pleased with the way that we pitched and played defense."

Ricardo LeClaire had two stolen bases for the Titans.

Saturday's second game was against Skagit Valley. Strickland picks Skagit Valley as one of the top three teams in the Northwest, with a pretty good chance of winning the NWAACC this year. Skagit Valley beat

the Titans 11-2. "I basically knew we were overmatched, but I wanted to see how well we would compete against them," Strickland said. "They threw their best pitcher. He pitched very well, he struck out eight of us, but we also hit him hard."

Sunday morning Lane played an academy out of British Columbia. In the first inning, Lane walked two and hit two, allowing two runs in all. Later Lane gave up a two run homerun to fall behind 4-2. The Titans got a couple of runs to make it 4-2, but that was as close as they got. Strickland said the bottom line was that they left 12 men on base, they had opportunities to score every inning, but didn't capitalize on them.

Their last game of the weekend was a rematch with Edmonds, which ended up 7-2. "We came out and scored a run early in the second inning," Strickland said. "It looked okay, at least as far as trying to be competitive. But we gave up three runs the very next inning, which hurt us. The kids started to get down with it."

Despite the losses, Strickland found the

weekend encouraging. Lane has only five sophomores. So, they're inexperienced. If the team gets all its players back by the end of preseason, Strickland feels that they will be in the race for second place.

Mount Hood Community College is predicted to be the favorite in the league

by far.

"I saw some competitiveness this weekend, which I'm very pleased with," Strickland said. "In the long run we'll be very good. I still expect this team to really make a run to get to the NWAACC Tournament again this year."

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Gates From Page 8

Gates said that her favorite thing to do in her free time, when she has it, is to "Go quad riding as a family. We go to the coast and ride on the dunes. We go there for a week at a time and we have a good time with that. That's kind of my wild side from being a kid and being a tomboy myself."

Her plans after LCC are to take it slow and let her kids grow up but that the architecture program at the UO

could be an opportunity for her down the road. "I want to be more into design," she said.

Gates also said that a big priority will be to re-focus on her husband's business as the day-to-day operations have "gone down the toilet" since she began attending LCC.

"It was an adjustment to get here and now it's gonna be an adjustment to go back to the Gates' family lifestyle."

African-American youth to compete in local talent show



PHOTO BY LARRY COONROD

Yasha Stubbs rehearses her singing in preparation for the annual ACT-SO competition at the Hult Center in downtown Eugene.

Community members mentor children for specific fields of interest

Larry Coonrod
EDITOR IN CHIEF

African-American high school youth from around Lane County will display their talent in the annual Afro-academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics on March 17 at the Hult Center.

ACT-SO is sponsored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and provides a forum for youth to "demonstrate academic, artistic and scientific prowess and expertise," according to the NAACP.

Students in the ACT-SO program receive a year of mentoring from a community member considered a professional in the field in which the student has chosen to compete.

"ACT-SO gives African-American kids an opportunity to be recognized in a way they normally aren't," Rayna Luvert,

Lane County ACT-SO coordinator, said. "Mainly, African-American youth are recognized for their sports ability or juvenile cases."

Competition categories cover performance art, academics such as mathematics, science and visual art.

Winners of local competitions will compete in the national competition in Detroit, Michigan in July. Winning at the national level brings participants scholarships and internship opportunities.

North Eugene High School English instructor Cory Mainor won for poetry in the 1995 national event. In addition to the \$750 cash prize, Mainor said the networking opportunities that being a national winner provide was the real benefit.

"The Beverly Hills branch (of the NAACP) sponsored a dinner for all West Coast winners. I had the opportunity to travel down to LA and recite my poetry before an audience of actors and different celebrities and members of the NAACP," Mainor said. "It has affirmed myself as a writer."

Yasha Stubb, a senior at Sheldon High School, won the gold (first place) for singing in last year's event and competed at the

"I like giving my message to people. I like making people feel good when I sing."

•Yasha Stubbs
Sheldon High Senior

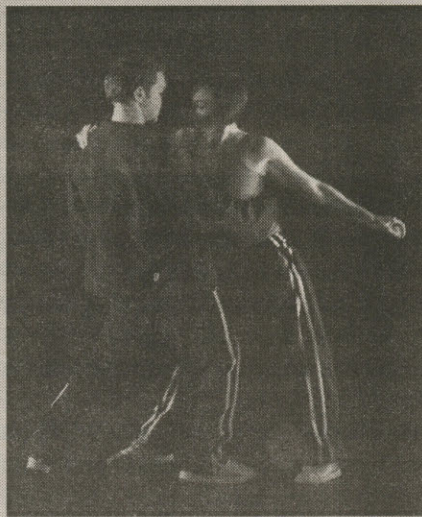
national level. Even though she didn't win, she said it was a great learning experience. She hopes to win another trip to the nationals.

Performing since she was four-years old, Stubbs says singing allows her to express herself. "I like giving my message to people. I like making people feel good when I sing."

The academic competitions will be in the afternoon. The evening program featuring student performances is scheduled for 7 p.m. in the Soreng Theatre in the Hult Center.

More information on the ACT-SO program, including how to become a volunteer mentor can be found at www.naACP.org/programs/act-so or by calling the Eugene/Springfield chapter of the NAACP at 431-1119.

Collaborations brings down the stage



Five dance companies performed seven dances at LCC's Performance Hall on March 1, 2 and 3. Cynthia Spencer (left) performed in the dance piece "archetype." Dancers from Dance Northwest perform to Stevie Wonder's "Let's Get It On." (above) The student based Lane Dance Company performed two dances including archetype and Anchors and Butterflies.

A&E EVENTS CALENDAR

Friday March 9

Special 'Science Circus' Show
Oregon American Association of Physics Teachers

Music, sound, resonating instruments, juggling, and quantum phenomena, the relations of these topics with be displayed in an all ages science show to be held Friday night 7:30 p.m. at the Lane Community College Performing Arts Center at the North East corner of the main campus off 30th Avenue.

Bring the family Friday night and enjoy a fast paced fun filled evening of science and edu-tainment.

For more information about Friday's show, call Stan Micklavzina at 346-4801.

Thursday, March 15

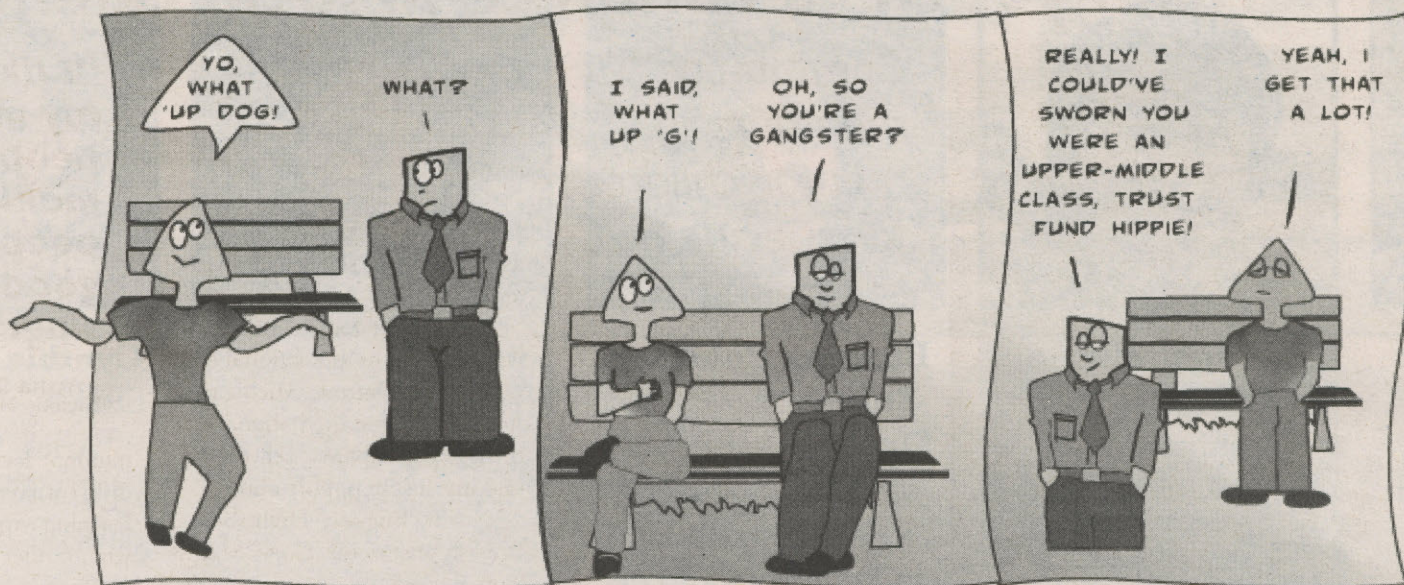
Chamber Orchestra and symphonic band in concert at Lane

Hisao Watanabe directs the Chamber Orchestra as they perform in concert with the Symphonic Band directed by Ron Bertucci. This concert performs two times in the Performance Hall on the Main Campus at Lane Community College located at 4000 East 30th Avenue in Eugene.

The first concert is Thursday, March 15, at 7:30 p.m., followed by a matinee concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 18. A donation of \$4 to \$8 is requested.

All proceeds go to funding music scholarships for students working toward a music degrees at Lane. Ticket Office information line: 463-5202.

SECONDDIMENSION



TOM ADAMS 2007 SECONDDIMENSION.COM

Classifieds

For Sale

Drafting table, 36" by 24" adjustable slope. 29" tall with 2 side shelves, good condition \$15 607-0001.

Pentium III computer (includes monitor, keyboard, cpu, speakers and laser printer) has windows 2000/ms word, anti-virus (the works) \$150 541-607-0001.

Announcements

Come to the Hunger Banquet! This event will educate attendees on hunger and homelessness locally, nationally and worldwide. Come

learn how to give your time to make a difference in your community! Monday, March 12, 4 p.m. in the cafeteria. There is no cost and everyone is invited!

Information about the Admission Process into the second year of the Graphic Design Program is now available in the art office Building 11, Room 101.

Clubs

Do you want to learn sign language, or to meet deaf people, or socialize with other signers? Then e-mail disabilityservices@lanecc.edu under the subject 'ASL club.' Tell us

when is the best time for you to meet to plan an ASL club.

Services

Poem for your ex! Say it in style so he/she will never forget! \$20. Linda ponypleasetallan@yahoo.com.

FREE TAX HELP with AARP volunteers, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays in the cafeteria at the South end.

For Local Business Coupons on a new growing site, click on www.theclipperzone.com to print out your **FREE** discounts and savings.

Students who use the **FREE** tutors

learn more, get better grades and have more fun. Tutor Central, below the bookstore, has a list of locations.

Is it mid-term and your grades aren't where you want them? Study better and get **FREE** help in the free drop-in tutor centers.

Events

LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE — Music, sound, resonating instruments, juggling and quantum phenomena. The relations of these topics will be displayed in an all ages science show to be held Friday night 7:30 p.m. at the Lane Community College Performing Arts

Center at the northeast corner of the main campus off 30th Avenue. Admission is free. Call Stan Micklavzina for more information 346-4801.

CAFE FRANCAIS FRENCH LANGUAGE PRACTICE, Tuesdays, 7:30-8:30 a.m., cafeteria, northeast corner, Building 1, Room 202.

Advertise with the Torch. LCC students can place a free ad, 20 words or less, in the Torch's classifieds section.

To place an ad contact Torch Ads at 463-5654 or e-mail torchads@lanecc.edu.

 **Lane**
Community College SM

Take the money and run!

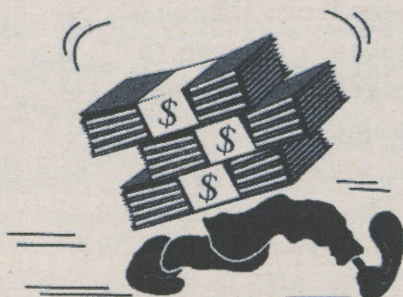
FREE POPCORN DURING FINALS WEEK

Sell Your Books During Finals Week at your campus store

Lane Bookstore
3rd FLOOR CENTER BUILDING
www.lanecc.edu/bookstore

March 19th - 23rd, 2007
Monday - Thursday:
8:00 am - 7:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Look for Special Sale Items:
Selected Burt's Bees
Fruit Frappe Body Products
Clothing & MORE!



Winter Term Final Exam Schedule

For the week of March
To find exam time, find the day, then the time class is held

Class Days

MWF • M • W • F • MW • WF • MTuWThF • MTuWTh • MWThF • MTuThF • MTuWF

Class starts at	Exam day	Exam time
7:00 A.M. OR 7:30 A.M.	F	7:00-8:50 A.M.
8:00 A.M. OR 8:30 A.M.	M	8:00-9:50 A.M.
9:00 A.M. OR 9:30 A.M.	W	8:00-9:50 A.M.
10:00 A.M. OR 10:30 A.M.	M	10:00-11:50 A.M.
11:00 A.M. OR 11:30 A.M.	W	10:00-11:50 A.M.
12:00 P.M. OR 12:30 P.M.	M	12:00-1:50 P.M.
1:00 P.M. OR 1:30 P.M.	W	12:00-1:50 P.M.
2:00 P.M. OR 2:30 P.M.	M	2:00-3:50 P.M.
3:00 P.M. OR 3:30 P.M.	W	2:00-3:50 P.M.
4:00 P.M. OR 4:30 P.M.	M	4:00-5:50 P.M.
5:00 P.M.	W	4:00-5:50 P.M.

Class Days

TuTh • Tu • Th • TuWThF

Class starts at	Exam day	Exam time
7:00 A.M. OR 7:30 A.M.	F	9:00-10:50 A.M.
8:00 A.M. OR 8:30 A.M.	Tu	8:00-9:50 A.M.
9:00 A.M. OR 9:30 A.M.	Th	8:00-9:50 A.M.
10:00 A.M. OR 10:30 A.M.	Tu	10:00-11:50 A.M.
11:00 A.M. OR 11:30 A.M.	Th	10:00-11:50 A.M.
12:00 P.M. OR 12:30 P.M.	Tu	12:00-1:50 P.M.
1:00 P.M. OR 1:30 P.M.	Th	12:00-1:50 P.M.
2:00 P.M. OR 2:30 P.M.	Tu	2:00-3:50 P.M.
3:00 P.M. OR 3:30 P.M.	Th	2:00-3:50 P.M.
4:00 P.M. OR 4:30 P.M.	Tu	4:00-5:50 P.M.
5:00 P.M.	Th	4:00-5:50 P.M.

Evening (5:30 p.m. or later) and Weekend Classes:
Examinations scheduled during regular class times.
This schedule **does not** apply to Downtown Business Education Center Classes

"If you could date any fictional character, who would it be?"

Shaun Hernandez
UNDECIDED

"Ariel, because she is the cutest red-head I've ever seen and she's lovable even when she doesn't have a voice."



Lola Schweiger
GERMAN

"Candide, from Voltaire, because his character is so clueless and comical."



Roseena Robinson
-Stone
DANCE

"Robin Hood. Because he was smooth and righteous and he was fighting for the under privileged."



Sierra Evans
FRENCH

"J.D. from 'Scrubs'. I just love him, he has a good heart."



Cynthia Spencer
DANCE

"Aries. Sexy; one wild, wonderful date."

Compiled by Ariel Burkhardt
Photos by Michael Brinkerhoff

Slicker From Page 2

smoked in five weeks, I was feeling pretty confident. Well, sort of confident. I decided not to tempt the climb to the top and instead opted for the trails. I have to say, it was pretty easy going. I didn't even mind that a Dachshund passed me this time.

What I did find a bit odd was what people did while they hiked. I passed older couples that argued, people that complained about their partners, teenagers that whined about their parents, and dogs that constantly barked at each other. It occurred to me that, for people over here, exercise is like going to a shrink. It's something that they do, not just to be healthy or fit, but to clear their minds. It's almost as if an open atmosphere gives people the chance to get life off their chest ... and their hips, too. My only question is: what do all the solitary exercisers think about? Is there bickering inside their head? Are who I thought of as a healthy people, really just deeply troubled? Is anyone here as healthy as I once thought? Well, it certainly puts the title 'health nut' into perspective.

Although I still consider myself a city slicker – a sane one – I can see the benefit of getting outside and away from life. But do you really get away from it all when you just bring it with you, in your head? Maybe it's fitting that the one place people go to get away is within the very bosom of the most flippant and bipolar energy ever – Mother Nature.



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