

VOLUME XLI, NUMBER 19 MARCH 15, 2007 EUGENE, OREGONwww.lanecc.edu/torch

## **Titans lead All-Stars**

#### Alex Braga Assistant Sports Editor

Two Lane sophomores proved why they were the cream of the NWAACC women's basketball crop.

Kammy Martindale scored 16 points and Shelby Stephens chipped in 14 to lead the NWAACC Southern Division to a 94-91 overtime victory over the Eastern Division in one of the two NWAACC sophomore women's All-Star games played on Sunday.

Martindale went 6-of-15 shooting from the field to lead all scorers.

The sophomore from Suislaw's four three-pointers on eight attempts also led all players. She was a first-team NWAACC tournament selection in the Titans' repeat championship victory this season, and was named a Second Team Southern Region All-Star averaging 16.4 pointsper-game during the regular season.

Stephens, who attended Willamette High School before coming to Lane with her twin sister Stephanie, went 6-of-12 from the field and finished with four rebounds.

Stephens was a First Team Southern Region All-Star selection and the Titans leading scorer during the regular season with 17 per game.

She was second on the team and fourth in the division in rebounding averaging nearly 10 per contest.

Her three steals per game was fifth best in the division and her 15 points in the final nine minutes of the Titans championship game against Bellevue sealed the victory.

### The sound of art

One of James "Ras Terms" Mongé's untitled pieces (left) was featured in the winter edition of the Denali. LCC's literary arts journal publishes every term except summer and accepts original submissions from residents of Lane County.

Puerto Rican, Colombian, African-American, Rastafarian, Ethiopian and Aruban cultures influence Mongé's art. He describes his work as giving art words and sound. Mongé's artwork is in color in the Denali available now in

> stands near the Center Building and the Denali office in Building 18, Room 213. The submission deadline for the Denali spring issue is April 26.

## Gardening gets LCC students class credit

Club supports sustainability through student volunteer efforts

#### Shelby King News Editor

There is a unique, fun new way for LCC students to earn class credit: the Learning Garden.

The Learning Garden started last year with funding from ASLCC and was granted club status during Fall term. Its designation as a campus club made it possible for the students involved to work while earning credits toward their degree. Located behind the child-care buildings on the southeast corner of the main campus, the Learning Garden has been gaining popularity, with both instructors and students, as a way for students to fulfill the service learning aspect of certain classes without leaving campus.



PHOTO BY MOY MACGIL Members of the LCC learning Garden Club prepare plant-

they sometimes don't with textbook assignments."

The students working in the garden will get to directly help the Lane community reach one of its goals: sustainability.

The college faculty and administrators have been actively trying to make LCC a "greener" campus, reducing electricity consumption, employing environmentally sound construction practices and trying to find solutions that will reduce the campus" "carbon fingerprint." With the addition of the Learning Garden, students can be a part of the solution.

Lynch posted fliers about the

"It's inspiring to me that so many students are now involved. This growing your own food is one of the most sustainable decisions that you can make because you start having a hand in eating closer to home. Being more aware of how your food is produced and what it takes to get from seed to table."

Lynch, who has been gardening his whole life, is certified in permaculture design and is a master gardener. He has been a buyer for an organic food cooperative in Portland and brings years of experience to the Learning Garden. He first got the idea for the Learning Garden at LCC during a conference in Portland that focused on the idea of sustainability. After doing a little research on campus, he found that a plot of land had already been designated for a possible garden and other students had already procured tools for the project. All that was needed was some organization and a lot of volunteers. The LCC Learning Garden Club, thanks to Lynch's hard work, now has a mission statement, a plan to make the garden "an integral part of the sustain-SEE GARDEN • PAGE 4

Brendan Lynch, a student in the energy management program at LCC and student coordinator for the Learning Garden,

#### ing beds.

has been working hard since Fall term to drum up interest in the project. Lynch says that he has interest from a number of instructors from a variety of programs, such as biology, botany, landscape management and culinary arts. Volunteering time in the Learning Garden is going to be an integral part of the Introduction to Sustainability class, taught by Tammie Stark.

Jennifer Von Ammon, a writing instructor at LCC, has allowed her writing students to fulfill their service learning credits by working in the Learning Garden and writing about their experience.

"Simply by walking outside the door of their classroom and spending time at the garden, students learn about sustainability, organic gardening, composting and hunger relief," Von Ammon said. "This Winter term, I linked my problem/solution essay assignment in WR121 to the Learning Garden. I found that students connected with the project had invested themselves in a way that garden during Fall term in an attempt to spark interest. After not getting many responses, he decided to approach the classes he thought would be interested and presented the opportunity directly to the students and instructors. The opportunity for students to receive classroom credit dramatically increased the amount of interest, and the garden started to see some real progress.

"With making the presentations to the classes and starting the club, we've gotten quite a bit of interest in it," Lynch said.

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A & E • PAGE 5

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.

## TORCH Che

#### MARCH 15, 2007



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:** Oregon Ducks men's basketball team for winning the Pac-10 tournament.

Roast: To Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Peter Pace for calling homosexuals "immoral." Let's see, illegal invasion of another country, and the use of chemical weapons against civilians at Fallujah. General Pace evidently wouldn't know immoral if it bit him on the backside of his starched britches.

Toast: To Shelby Stephens and Kammy Martindale for leading the NWAACC South All Stars Division to victory over the East Division on March 11.

Roast: To banana giant Chiquita for paying a Columbian terrorist group protection money. Another example of big corporations outsourcing American jobs.

words have spouted out of my mouth much like dribble from a baby

When I think of my brain lately, I am often reminded of eggs in catch that break. a frying pan and

how



narcotics screw me up; I just need to stop sleeping. If I look at simple black and white pictures of dogs and cats, they quickly transform into complex quadratic fractions and the underlying issues surrounding World War I.

to

Despite my methamphetamine eyesight, language is proving a task too difficult, though I am becoming fluent in gibberish.

Much of what I try to focus on or say eventually turns into indiscernible babble. It's as if the approaching finals week scared all of my cognitive processes away.

I'm certain if I move my head from side to side, the distinct sound of brain matter can be heard sloshing around inside my temple.

It should figure that, when I

For the past couple of weeks, need my brain the most, it catches the quickest bus to D'oh Town. Now would be a great time for me to grow a brain stem that's attached to a pillow. Alas, I can't Friday after-

**Thank God for Sobe and Jimi Hendrix** 



ally I ghost my system once a week but, of course, last week I skipped the tradition.

I was working arduously on this godforsaken history paper when my computer, Lucy, interrupted me with, "It's recommended that you close all programs before you start your system back-up." Well, screw Lucy; she doesn't understand my time constraints. So, I skipped ghost day.

Obviously, Lucy became angry with me. She decided that it would be best for us to go our separate ways and then she broke my hard drive (read: heart). Well, more accurately, I broke it, but we're going through a nasty separation and I can't admit that it was my fault. I should have known better than to neglect a megalomaniac like Lucy.

IT'S HARD

TO IMAGNE A

WOMAN AS THE

SPEAKER OF

THE HOUSE!

SECON DIMENSION

DOESN'T MATTER

TO ME,

I'LL STILL

MAKE MONEY.

From the moment I built her, I knew there was something wrong with her wiring. Despite all that, my only full-system-back-up was from two weeks prior. So, that damn history paper was, well, history. That's what I get for having an affair with the word processor.

Consequently, I spent all of Friday night restoring my system. I made the last minute run to Best Buy and bought this overpriced, gargantuan hard drive that has more RPMs than my car.

Luckily, I got custody of the word processor and the two of us spent 10 romantic hours on Saturday rewriting that paper, which wouldn't have been so bad if I hadn't gone to sleep around 4 a.m. the night before. Thank God for Sobe and Jimi Hendrix.

Unfortunately, lack of sleep, bursts of caffeine and catchy lyrics don't make up very convincing papers. I'm sure my professor will appreciate reading how Woodrow Wilson and his "Foxy Lady" walked "All Along the Watchtower" in the "Purple Haze," but there you have it.

My new system and I are getting along fine. I've decided to call it MacGyver in hopes that I'm clairvoyant and any future issues can be easily handled by using a paperclip and a turkey baster. I hear Lucy is seeing a very nice CD-ROM.

COMMENTARY

Sadly, this weekend's erratic pattern is nothing new. I've noticed a trend since I started attending college: I rarely sleep anymore. I don't have time.

If it's not for that last minute essay on cumquats, forgotten assignments about the North American breeding habits of gnats or the state of fertilized politics I'd have all the time in the world to devote to reading Backwater Joe's take on over-sugared humming birds for my worthless 101 class.

Yet, when I do finally stare at the inside of my eyelids, someone always decides that it's been too long since we talked.

Sunday - the one day I really needed to sleep until the crack of noon – my mother calls at 6 a.m. Sure, it's 9 a.m. in New Jersey, but math isn't beyond her so much that she can't subtract by three.

"I know you're so busy with school lately, but I just wanted to call and let you know that I was thinking of you." Oh, my mom's just so nice. I think I'll tell her when I call her at midnight ... my time.

LOOK, WOMAN HAVE

AS MUCH RIGHT

TO BE CORRUPTED

AS MEN OK?

### Turn on your television or have some singing raisins

Tonight on the Sci-Fi channel, watch the hilarious comedy A Mackwood Story. It's about one man's journey through the unknown and his struggles to save his own cute neck.

No joke, maybe one day everyone will have a story about him or her

on the TV. Until then, it's fun at a Best Inn and stay one night to dream about it.

Mackworld

Columnist

John Mackwood

Try to get a deep sleep, so you can wake up to your Maxwell House and have a cup of raisins for breakfast. Maybe the raisins will sing! Then lat-



cow cooking. Make a good dinner every night, yes even on vacation. Or stay

to get a free breakfast, lunch or dinner buffet. Yum!

Not in the mood for free food? Then eat some raisins.

They sing and dance and are good raisin people. They



YEAH, BUT A

as speaker of

THE HOUSE?

MOMAN

SECONDIMENSION.COM

ca Joy

ttman Ioxley

kwood rters arson • rkman

ilsky

COMMENTS: PAIZONO@GMAIL.COM

WELL, LM.

SURE, EQUAL

RIGHTS AND

ALL THAT?

TOM APAMS () 2007

CORRECTIONS

er you can have a lemon cake with lemon icing from Weight Watchers. I wonder if they have lemon cake in the Outer Limits? If not, I sure hope I get left behind.

will make you feel better. Put raisins in cookies, like Subway does. Or have a good morning with raisins in your cereal. Raisins make good music and good food.

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.

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.

LCC student Leslie Dornbusch was misquoted in a story in last week's Torch.

Dornbusch never committed a robbery. She did not say that federal law enforcement officials had never talked to someone who came clean about their crimes.

The correct quote as submitted by Dornbusch via email to The Torch reads: "They were relieved that I was not going to make them prove

my guilt; I was taking full responsibility for my actions. By my being honest to them they would not have to investigate any further the crimes I had committed therefore using less of their time and money.

"When people make the courts prove their guilt, it just adds on to the money that they already ripped off by using hours and resources." The Torch regrets the misquote.

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## NEWS

## The TORCH

MARCH 15, 2007

## Service learning database provides opportunities

### Program grows, expands since inception of idea in 2001, includes AmeriCorps VISTA connection

#### Megan Workman FORCH REPORTER

Activities provided by LCC's Service Learning Program and courses allow students to experience physical assignments in their work-study.

Students can choose from eight to 10 courses per term in a broad array of subjects. Everything from science, to writing, to human service has become part of the curriculum.

Students have been able to take part in native plant research in Eugene's wetlands and conduct personal interviews by using the Service Learning courses among the many opportunities.

Service Learning incorporates community service into course curricula and gives students a unique opportunity for handson experiences. Students can see how the application of skills and knowledge they learn in the classroom can affect the community. In Poetry in the City, WR 245, the form and style of poetry are studied by writing, reading and team-teaching poetry at youth detention centers and senior retirement homes.

History of the United States - Twentieth Century, HST 203, takes learning out of the book and brings it to life through interviews with senior citizens at local elderly care facilities. Students become historians and analyze how the individual affirms or contradicts the textbook.

Classes with a service-learning component often give students unique insights into their community, studies and themselves.

A pilot project of the Strate-

gic Learning Initiative, a single Service Learning class, started in 2001

"Spring is a big term for the Service Learning program," service learning coordinator, Jennifer von Ammon, said.

There are classes such as technical writing, which is offered without the service-learning component throughout the year, but in Spring term there is one section of the class, which includes the requirement.

This year, LCC is utilizing the services of Penny Parks, an AmeriCorps/VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) member to aid in increasing the service learning projects in the classroom and the community.

AmeriCorps/VISTA is a full-time, volunteer program for people to assist communities in the creation and expansion of programs to address poverty. According to Parks, her position "... is part of a three-year Ameri-Corps/VISTA grant that is designed to expand current Service Learning projects, build capacity and sustainability, as well as generally increase civic engagement on campus."

Since the beginning of January, Parks has been attending many of the campus events sponsored by student groups, introducing herself to student leaders and interviewing instructors who offer classes with a service-learning element.

Parks plans to create a database of classes and non-profit partners. Faculty who are considering offering a Service Learning component will be able to search



Vista Coordinator Penny Parks has been building a searchable database for local community needs.

the database by keyword for nonprofit partners whose needs correspond to class curricula.

Parks is one of 10 Ameri-Corps/VISTA members serving at various campuses around Oregon. Their positions are sponsored by the Oregon Campus Compact, a statewide network of college and university presidents committed to the civic mission

of higher education. Her service commitment is for one year with an option of applying for a second year. Parks said she was attracted to AmeriCorps/VISTA because its focus is about fighting poverty. "There are literally hundreds, perhaps thousands, of AmeriCorps/VISTA slots all over the country ... with numerous non-profit organizations and edu-

cational facilities." Service with AmeriCorps/VISTA also has the benefits of health insurance, forbearance of student loans and a cash stipend or payment toward educational loans.

Visit the website at www.lanecc.edu/sl/ for more information about service learning classes. Or, contact Penny Parks at arkspa@ lanecc.edu or at 463-5423

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### **Veterans helping veterans** through outreach club

#### **Ariel Burkhart** COPY EDITOR

LCC student veterans and military service members may be able to establish a club to help other vets and service members. on campus.

The club will be designed to provide resources to vets and those in the military service by introducing them to other men and women in or out of the service. "It's vets helping vets," Ellen Jones, LCC veteran's specialist said.

Members will know how to get assistance, where they can get it from and whom they can-talk. It is also an opportunity for those in the service to socialize with other vets or military personnel.

Members will be able to assist each other by making others aware of the information and resources available for themselves and their families. Members may either be looking for a roommate, or need help with school or service-related issues. The group will meet Thursday, April 12, at 3:30 p.m. in Building 16, Room 211.

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# TORCH

## FEATURES

#### MARCH 15, 2007

## **Disability Services makes LCC accessible to everyone**

### Department provides note takers, alternative textbooks and other learning aids for students

"We encourage

us, as there are

ways they can

accomodate

themselves."

•Nancy Hart director of disibiilities services

in and talk to

Willa Bauman STAFF REPORTER

The LCC office of Disability Services provides services to approximately 700 LCC students per year. Lynn Lodge, an alternate format specialist, said Disability Services

are geared towards helping be successful in their academic pursuits.

"The overall focus of the department is to encourage and support students and to provide information and resources that will help facili-

tate their success," Lodge said.

Some of the ways Disability Services does this is by providing a variety of accommodations including note-takers, testing accommodations, alternate format for textbooks as well as furniture accommodations for students with physical disabilities.

"I see LCC as being on the

cutting edge of accommodations," Lodge said. "And, I feel like we have some of the best technology available." Nancy Hart, director of Dis-

ability Services at LCC, said there is a leader in electronic format that uses a con-

version process for stustudents to come dents with print disabilities.

Both Hart and Lodge agreed that Disability Services

strives to provide an "open door"

to students seeking information and access to these resources.

"The first thing is for a student to schedule and attend a group orientation," Lodge said. "Which gives a general overview of our department. Then they need to obtain whatever documentation they can about their disability to bring back to the de-



PHOTO BY LARRY COONROL

Disability Services provides a wide range of equipment to help students with physical disabilities.

partment and set up a second intake appointment. The student's accommodations are determined at the intake appointment."

Although this is the standard process, Hart said it is often flexible for individual students. "Sometimes it is very expensive to obtain documentation for learning disabilities. We encourage students to come in and talk to us, as there are ways they can accommodate themselves."

Hart said she would like to

dispel the myth that Disability Services is a purely legal institution.

"We're seen as this legal office, and we do provide legal accommodations, but it's not as cut and dry as that. Our primary goal is to provide support, advocacy and education, and so anybody who has questions about disability issues should contact us so that we can talk things through. Education is embedded in everything we do," Hart said.

The recent budget cuts that have impacted most aspects of LCC have not affected Disability Services' ability to help students, Lodge said. "We've had to take a hard look at the organization of the department and we've had to streamline some of the things we're currently doing. But overall I don't think it has impacted any of the accommodations that we provide students. That is our main goal, to serve the students and to serve them well."



**TRANSFER STUDENTS FALL 2007** MAY ADVISING

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- Meet with an Academic Adviser

## **Garden From Page I**

fresh green to start what hopefully becomes a thriving garden.

All of the topsoil, nutrients and supplies have been donated by local businesses. The size of the garden has been limited to the amount of fencing that has been donated so far. As more supplies become available and more students volunteer their time, Lynch hopes to expand the garden.

"It's organic, and the idea is to kind of do it in a permaculture style as much as we can, as far as annual vegetables are concerned," Lynch said. "We're trying to get more perennials in, which take less maintenance and constant application of soil amendments." Last fall, Lynch planted winter vegetables such as kale, chard, arugula, mustard greens and multiple varieties of lettuce. With the icy weather over the winter he lost most of the lettuce, but plans on replacing it when possible. He has also planted peas, spinach and cilantro, and will be adding more vegetables as they become available. Lynch and the Learning Garden gladly accept donations. "Most of the materials have been donated to make the garden functional. We are always looking for donations of tools, fencing, seeds and soil. Potential donors can contact me for more information."

ability class," and a plot bursting with he's trying to achieve. The site is limited on space by its close proximity to the child care buildings and the vegetation around it. The tall trees to the south of the garden block the sun in the "shoulder seasons" spring and fall. While cutting the trees down could be an option, Lynch hopes that won't have to happen.

"What's kind of more important to me would be that we show we're successful here, and then we start to move some of this operation to a more visible site on campus," Lynch said. "There are vacant fields all around campus where I feel we could grow.

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While Lynch is happy to have the garden started, the site isn't ideal for what

The more food grown, gives more possibilities of what to do with harvests. Right now Lynch is looking at a few possibilities. These include using the vegetables for food service in the cafeteria, serving them at special events on campus, donating the harvest to Food for Lane County or even having an on-campus farmers' market.

Lynch is hoping for suggestions about what to do with the harvest, and he is always looking for student or faculty volunteers

Anyone who would like to volunteer, has a class that would benefit from service learning in the Learning Garden or would like to get more information can contact Lynch at 503-334-9753 or email the Learning Garden coordinator at lccgarden@yahoo.com.

## FEATURES

## TORCH

MARCH 15, 2007

## Hands-on experience with internships

Cooperative Education program offers out-of-classroom learning

#### Sandy Wilcox Staff Reporter

Cooperative Education is an internship-based program that allows students to gain knowledge and work experience on and off campus.

"Cooperative education is a program that gives academic credit and recognition for learning that goes on outside of the classroom. It is a bridge from the theory-based classroom environment to experience in the work space. Students use it for broadening knowledge, for applying knowledge they learn in the classroom," Larry Scott, one of the coordinators for the Cooperative Education program, said.

Although Cooperative Education might seem to be a fairly new model for education, it is what used to be called an apprenticeship.

"One of the things to realize is that Cooperative Education is an educational paradigm ... it's a model of education that we all engaged in before we developed classroom based learning," Scott said. "If you go back 300 years and you wanted to be a master shipbuilder, you didn't take classes, you went and worked with a master shipbuilder and that's how you learned your trade."

Scott has worked with over 600 organizations in the area within the last 10 years establishing Coop opportunities: organizations such as Peace Health, the University of Oregon, PSC Scanning, Weyerhaeuser and state agencies.

"I'm able to use the stuff that we learn in school and able to apply it here at work ... I've picked up more skills and improved on the skills that I've been learning with," Brian Stephens, Energy Management major, said.

Stephens is enjoying his internship at EWEB "most of the time," he said, jokingly.

The Co-op program can allow students from any field to get some hands-on experience that pertains to their majors.

The program is very flexible in accommodating students'

needs. A student wanting to work in the field with biology might get an internship that allows them to explore and work in the environment on their own. Whereas, someone wanting a nursing internship would get more in-depth experience, working with other nurses and patients.

The Co-op education program requires that students wishing to take an internship enroll for at least three credits.

"The idea there is unless they are immersed in the experience to that extent they probably won't learn a lot from it, so we sort of look for that level of immersion," Scott said.

The program allows students to take up to 12 credit hours a term in Co-Op, each credit equals about 36 hours of work that needs to be completed. A student taking three credits can figure to work 9-10 hours a week

at an internship. For more information on the program contact the Cooperative Education Department at 463-



#### 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 • MTuWThF • MTuThF • MTuWF						
Class starts at	Exam day	Exam time				
7:00 a.m. or 7:30 a.m.	F	7:00-8:50 а.м.				
8:00 a.m. or 8:30 a.m.	M	8:00-9:50 а.м.				
9:00 a.m. or 9:30 a.m.	W	8:00-9:50 а.м.				
10:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.	М	10:00-11:50 а.м.				
11:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m.	W	10:00-11:50 а.м.				
12:00 р.м. ок 12:30 р.м.	Μ	12:00-1:50 р.м.				
1:00 p.m. or 1:30 p.m.	W	12:00-1:50 р.м.				
2:00 p.m. or 2:30 p.m.	М	2:00-3:50 р.м.				
3:00 p.m. or 3:30 p.m.	W	2:00-3:50 р.м.				
4:00 p.m or 4:30 p.m.	М	4:00-5:50 р.м.				
5:00 р.м.	W	4:00-5:50 р.м.				

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## DURING FINALS WEEK



#### **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 а.м.
8:00 a.m. or 8:30 a.m.	Tu	8:00-9:50 А.М.
9:00 a.m. or 9:30 a.m.	Тн	8:00-9:50 л.м.
10:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.	Tu	10:00-11:50 а.м.
11:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m.	Тн	10:00-11:50 а.м.
12:00 p.m. or 12:30 p.m.	Τυ	12:00-1:50 р.м.
1:00 p.m. or 1:30 p.m.	Тн	12:00-1:50 р.м.
2:00 p.m. or 2:30 p.m.	Τυ	2:00-3:50 р.м.
3:00 p.m. or 3:30 p.m.	Тн	2:00-3:50 р.м.
4:00 p.m. or 4:30 p.m.	Τυ	4:00-5:50 р.м.
5:00 р.м.	Тн	4:00-5:50 р.м.

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

## TORCH

#### March 15, 2007

6

## SPORTS

# Athlete and head coach instructs Lane squads

Small town background helps O'Connor connect with Lane athletes

#### Josh Hutchins Sports Editor

When your high school has less than 60 students, there is little opportunity to play a sport in college, let alone two sports.

Grady O'Connor, director of Lane's men's and women's track and field/cross country teams, made it as a walk-on player at the UO on its track and football teams.

He attended Paisley High School in Southeastern Oregon near Lakeview.

"I just knew I wanted to go to Oregon, because I knew they had that track tradition," O'Connor said. "So even being from a small town I came to Eugene and dealt with the culture shock and adapted."

The transition of coming from a small town to Eugene was made easier through track camps he attended at the UO while in high school. As a freshman walk-on to the track team, he secured a Pac-10 Conference qualifying mark. In his sophomore year he was a walk-on to the football team.

Coming from a background of eight-man football, he realized that he needed some work. The coaches liked the fact that he had speed. As a freshman he placed fifth at Junior Nationals in the 400IH. He became a project at the free-safety position. By his junior and senior years he had obtained a full-ride scholarship.

While at the UO he qualified for the Pac-10 Championships four consecutive years. In addition to the 400m hurdles, he was a member of both the 4x100 and 4x400 relay squads. In 1992 he "Because the Fall, Winter term when I needed to develop the pole vault, develop the shot put, I was playing football." After the UO, he joined the

Oregon International Athletics Team. He credits those years as a decathlete towards making him a better coach, having done those events in a competitive form. He earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the UO and a master's degree in health education from OSU.

His career at Lane started in 1994 with an internship and he has been the head coach since 1998.

His teaching emphasis is primarily in the weight room for strength training. In the last 10 years he's also taught basketball, first aid and CPR.

Lane has developed a reputation for producing decathletes. "We've had close to nine Division I decathletes over the last 10-years produced from Lane," O'Connor said. "Collin Cram is continuing that tradition."

There are currently four former Lane decathletes ,who are now assistant coaches at other programs. O'Connor said that they were good high school athletes, who, by working with Lane's coaches, found their passion in the decathlon and are now terrific coaches themselves.

Cody Fleming is at the UO, Keith Baker is at the University of Alabama, Gabe LeMay works for Kent State University and Josh Priester is an assistant coach at George Fox.

Lane's teams have been regional champions three or four times on both the men's and women's side. Despite the women's cross country team winning the NWAACC in 2005, Lane has had to be content with being runners-up to Spokane Community College's teams. O'Connor's programs have produced over 100 junior college All-Americans and several Coach of the Year hon-

n there's e typical-I ly some good tale ent locally."

O'Connor

spends time calling other coaches, attending meets and keeping an eye on results not just in Oregon, but on the whole west coast, including Alaska and Idaho.

Though just a small portion of his work, the rewards come with actually being on the track working with young people on specific events. During the course of a day he has to wear different hats, including role model, counselor and substitute parent. A big reason he's turned down offers from other schools around the country is that, "The impact I can have here at Lane on student athletes is pretty significant," O'Connor said. "Athletics for a lot of these kids is the big hook that keeps them in school." He said he measures success in seeing student athletes learn life lessons as they attempt to win championships.

O'Connor loves meets where there are team winners and losers, instead of athletes simply chasing individual marks. He highlights the dual meet against Clark College and Mt. Hood, March 31, the regional meet, May 12, and the NWAACC meet, May 24 and 25. "Generally we have good success with that and it really brings the kids together," O'Connor said. "It elevates their performance and it's the social aspect. So many of these kids are a long way from home and this gives them that social support that they need. A lot of friendships are made through this sport that last a lifetime."

It's easy for O'Connor to spend two or three hours on the phone and computer at home doing research after a day at work.

Currently he's coaching both his 10-year-old and fifth graders provide him with a whole new perspective on patience. He loves every minute of

"Truthfully, my hobby is my kids and coaching them. I coach, that's my job and I coach as soon as I get home," he said.

placed 4th in the conference in ors. the 400IH.

His football career netted him two shoulder surgeries but no regrets.

"I remember the missed opportunities I had, the missed interceptions or the missed assignments," O'Connor said. "But there's a few highlights: tackling Curtis Conway who's a USC All-American and tackling Glyn Milburn, both guys went on the NFL."

Following his career at the UO (89-94) he had the opportunity to continue competing, this time as a decathlete. "The fact that I chose to be a two-sport athlete at the UO limited my opportunities in the decathlon," O'Connor said.

O'Connor gives credit to his

assistant coaches. Dan West has been the pole vault coach for five years. Ross Krempley is the distance coach for Lane, who also

coaches several other professional groups. James March is another young coach from the UO who is the throws coach.

To field one of the Northwest's most competitive teams requires 365 days a year of constant recruitment. "First off you want to identify local kids. We want to make sure all of the local kids have

us as an option," O'Connor said.

"Because Eugene has a good track and field program, at the middle

school level, there's clubs: Emer-

ald Valley, there's Track City, so

daughter's YMCA basketball team and his eight-year-old son's KIDSPORTS basketball team. He said third

### Grady O'Connor at a glance

- Director of Track and Field / Cross Country since 1998
  Two sport athlete at the UO
- Competed in the decathlon post-collegiately

**S**PORTS

## TORCH

#### March 15, 2007



Lane's baseball team stretches out in practice. The Titans have had several strong performances this season and hope to be ready for their March 29 league opener.

## **Baseball gets first win on shutout**

Team drops three wins one game; outfielder out with injuries

#### Alex Braga Assistant Sports Editor

Lane baseball played four games last weekend in Spokane, Wash. and earned its first victory of the season behind a stellar pitching performance against the host school.

Redshirt sophomore Scott Carpenter pitched a complete game, 2-hit shutout against Spokane Community College in the morning game Sunday, March 12. The southpaw struck out 11 and only walked two in the Titans 2-0 win.

Titans Head Coach Rob Strickland decided before the season started that Lane would schedule tough preseason opponents to prepare themselves when league play starts March 29 against Clackamas.

He said he was pleased with Carpenter's performance against Spokane because, while he knew that Carpenter had the talent to pitch as he did, he didn't think he would see it this early in the season.

"It was good for him because it's the best he's ever thrown, and he beat a good team. As good as any team in our southern region if not better," Strickland said of his pitcher from Marshfield. "He got the first guy out every inning and he got ahead of hitters. It was just a masterful performance."

The Titans got a single apiece from the 1-through-4 hitters and the lone RBI came from freshman Justin Barchus.

Barchus injured his shoulder on Sunday in the outfield and had to be taken to the hospital. Strickland said it was a dislocation with nerve damage and that Barchus is done for the season.

Barchus is added to a growing list of injured Titans that includes freshman utility player Cody Clack, leaving Lane with only three outfielders on the roster.

"I have no one else to put on its roster for the preseason and we're not gonna get anybody back for preseason as far as injuries," Strickland said. "We're looking at doing a rotation in the outfield and two of those guys may need to pitch, so we're also gonna have to run some infielders out there. We'll just take our chances."

Lane (1-7) opened the weekend Saturday morning with an extra-innings loss to Spokane 7-6. The Titans led the majority of the game but Spokane was able to manufacture enough runs to tie the game in the ninth inning and eventually take the contest in the 10th.

"They kept chipping away, a run here, a run there and they eventually ended up tying it on a bad-hop base-hit right over my second baseman's shoulder with two outs," Strickland said. In the tenth inning Spokane led-off with a triple, earned a base-on-balls and then singled in the game-winning run.

Sophomore Russ Razor and freshman walk-on Mat Solders had three hits and three RBIs apiece in the loss. Sophomore Ricardo Leclaire added two hits and scored a run from his leadoff spot. Sophomore Jesse Sweet pitched five strong innings for Lane, only giving up three earned runs on six hits.

"It was a big learning experience, but

they hit well and they actually played well," Strickland said. "We're gonna take our lumps, but what I'm starting to see is that we're improving in all facets of the game."

Despite the team's record, Strickland said he's pleased with the way his pitchers are getting sharper against good talent and that his hitters are beginning to come around.

The Titans followed the extra-innings heartbreaker with a 9-0 loss to Northern Division powerhouse Bellevue Community College in its Saturday afternoon game,

BCC has four players that were drafted by major league teams, four others that have signed to NCAA Division I schools and overwhelmed the Titans on the mound and in the batter's box.

"It showed, but Jesse Sweet had 'em down to 2-0 and I told (my players) that if we could keep it within a couple of runs we'd be all right," Strickland said. "We had to take Jesse out and they just hammered us after that. It was a learning experience for our relievers."

Sweet did not allow an earned run in six innings of five-hit ball. He struck out five and walked two in his second consecutive game on the mound. Razor had two of the Titans' four hits in the game. As a team, Lane was struck out 13 times by Bellevue's big-league caliber pitching.

Lane followed the Carpenter shut out on Sunday morning with a 7-inning afternoon game against BCC. It was another strong showing for the Titans in which they were tied 3-3 for most of the game. Solders had two hits and two RBIs for Lane, but it wasn't enough to overcome SEE BASEBALL • PAGE 8

GAME RESULTS	A DECEMBER OF					and states	
24		1					
LANE 6 • SPOKA	NE 7 ab	r	h	bi	bb	SO	
LeClaire (2b)	5	1	2	0	0	1	
Parham (lf)	4	0	0	0	0	3	a sta
Nading (ss)	3	1	0	0	1	2	-
Razor (rf)	4	2	.3	3	0	0	1
Ausland (3b)	3	1	1	0	0	0	1
Solders (dh)	4	0	3	3	0	0	-
Bavaro (1b)	4	.0	0	0	0	0	1
Rectar (c)	4	0	0	0	0	3	181
Barchus (cf)	2	1	0	0	2	1	
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Contraction of the	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	N
Sweet	5	6	4	3	2	3	. 87
Mosley(L)	4.3	9	3	2	1	3	69

LANE 0 + BELLE	VUE 9		-				
ALC: NO.	ab	r	h	bi	bb	50	
LeClaire (2b)	3	0	0	0	0	2	- Ang
Parham (3b)	3	0	0	0	1	2	
Nading (ss)	4	0	0	0	0	2	
Razor (rf)	4	0	2	. 0	0	1	
Solders (1b)	3	0	0	0	1	2	
Ausland (dh)	4	0	1	0	0	1	5:2
Smith (lf)	3	0	1	0	0	1	
Cullen (c)	2	0	0	0	1	1	
Davidson (cf)	3	0	0	0	0	1	
Totals	29	0	4	0	3	13	
LANE 000 Bellevue 000	000	000 25×		9 4 9 12			
A MARY SILE AND	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP
Sweet (L)	6	5	2	0	2	5	92
Brown	2	7	6	7	1	0	24

	ab	r	h	bi	bb	SO	11
LeClaire (2b)	4	1	1	0	0	2	1.1.2
Barchus (cf)	4	0	1	1	0	1	1914
Razor (rf)	4	0	1	0	0	1	
Solders (dh)	4	1	1	0	0	0	3.5
Nading (ss)	2	0	0	0	2	2	1 C
Parham (3b)	2	0	0-	0	1	1	
Smith (lf)	3	0	1	0	0	2	
Bavaro (1b)	. 4	0	0	0	0	1	
Rector (c)	4	0	0	0	0	1	
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LeClaire (2b)	4	1	1	0	0	1	1
Smith (rf)	3	1	1	0	0	1	-
Solders (1b)	. 4	1	2	2	0	1	120
Nading (ss)	3	0	1	0	1	1	12
Razor (p/dh)	3	0	1	1	0	1	-
Parham (lf)	3	0	0	0	0	2	
Ausland (3b)	3	0	0	0	0	0	N.L
Rector (c)	3	0	0	0	0	0	all a
Davidson (cf)	3	0	0	0	0	0	-
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State of the second	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	NP
Razor	5	4	3	3	7	4	78
Mosley (L)	1	2	5	3	2	1	36
Lopez	1	2	0	0	0	0	7

## Lane track and field athletes qualify for

## **NWAACC** in replacement meet in Salem

### Teams forming as locals ink for next year

Josh Hutchins SPORTS EDITOR

With the cancellation of the Mt. Hood Community College track meet, Lane's team traveled to the Willamette Mini-Meet Saturday, March 10, for a replacement meet.

"The meet went well. We had several athletes qualify for the (NWAACC) conference meet," Director of Track and Field Grady O'Connor said. Travis Thompson won the 400m with a conference-leading time of 48.76 seconds. Erika Stratton qualified in the pole vault at 11 feet. JoLena Boatsman also qualified at 10'6", as did Sara DeBit at 10'. Matt Fitzgerald qualified in the 110m hurdles with a time of 15.78.

"What everybody's doing right now is chasing marks, so they're trying to qualify for the NWAACC meet," O'Connor said. "They're not scoring meets and so (for) the majority of the meets on the schedule, we're trying to obtain qualifying marks to get these athletes into the championship meet."

Jordan McNamara was one of several unattached athletes that Lane took to the meet.

He won the 1500m with a time of 3:51:99, 10 seconds ahead of the second

place finisher.

O'Connor said the unattached athletes are ineligible because of various missing pieces to their packets. Some of them are injured.

In some cases there are academic reasons and for others the coaches want to see how they compete before they put them into uniform.

O'Connor said the team is still in preseason and waiting for spring break to arrive to process and move ahead with an idea of who is going to be on the team.

Lane's Women's Cross Country program has signed a pair of All-State performers from Siuslaw High School, Leah Twombly and Sierra Lee. They have the experience of competing in three consecu-

#### tive state championships.

The men's program signed Lukus Fenley from Thurston High School and David Sherman from McKenzie High School. Lukas was the Midwestern League Champion this Fall in cross country. Sherman won the 2006 3A/2A/1A State Cross Country Championships.

A limited roster for Lane will be in action Saturday, March 17, at the Oregon Preview meet, held at the UO. "The Oregon meets are good for very competitive marks," O'Connor said. "The athletes typically perform up to that level and get some personal bests."

The competitors will include Collin Cram, Travis Thompson and Danica Bates.

## THINK ABOUT IT

## "If you could have one supernatural ability, what would it be?"



8

MARCH 15, 2007

Kayla Olsen MEDIA ARTS "The possibilities! Flying would be nice, 'cause I can't drive."

**Compiled by Ariel Burkhart Photos by Michael Brinkerhoff** 



The

TORCH

**Charles Sohm** RESPIRATORY CARE "An advanced understanding of technology to ease the diagnosing of the body."

**Janet Anderson** LCC FOUNDATION DIR. "To fly. To see the earth from 100 feet up at this time with all the plum trees

blooming."



**Dawn Dewolf** DIVISON CHAIR, ABSE "I think running a marathon would be supernatural. To have the youth and ability to do that."



Lytton Reid and Liam

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT "I've always wanted to fly and swim, like the supernatural ability a duck has."

a late flurry of runs and Lane fell, 8-3.

Razor was forced to move in from the outfield and pitch against BCC and gave up three earned runs on four hits in five innings of work. Lane's 1-through-5 hitters accounted for all six of their hits.

Strickland was thrown out of the game in the second inning for "arguing balls-andstrikes because (the umpire) wasn't giving Russ anything and he was making good pitches. Next thing I know the kids come back to tie the game 3-3. (Bellevue) made two great plays to keep us at three runs. If not, we could have had five or six runs and it could have been the difference. I was really pleased with the way (my players) decided to fight and play as hard as they could."

Strickland said he was impressed with his team's play over the weekend. "There's some bright spots in here. It's just a matter of if we're gonna be able to put things together and be consistent."

Lane has two more weekend tournaments before league play at home begins, weather permitting.



#### **Baseball Page 7**

#### Classifieds

#### Internships

Teach nature studies to K-5 grade students. Lead interactive nature walks at Mount Pisgah Arboretum this spring. Three miles from LCC. Training begins April 4. No experience required. Cooperative Education Credit Available. Call 747-1504

#### **Events**

Beach Cleanup Phi Theta Kappa is seeking volunteers to help with the Oregon Beach Clean Up Saturday, March 24. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Carl Washburne State Park. Call Velda Arnaud at 463-5682 for more information.

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