

The Torch

Lane Community College

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College hosts financial aid workshop

One-day program helps students pay for college

Willa Bauman
News Editor

The 9th annual Scholarship and Financial Aid Workshop will be held on Jan. 26 at LCC in conjunction with College Goal Oregon. The free workshop will provide information for students who need help paying for college.

"It's a great opportunity for students to get an overview of how many scholarships are out there and to put together competitive applications," Jackie Bryson, career employment adviser/scholarship coordinator at LCC, said.

Two workshops will be held throughout the day. The first, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. will be taught by Barb Griesel on behalf of Oregon Student Assistance Commission and will focus on learning resources and strategies for finding scholarships and writing essays and applications. This workshop will repeat for the afternoon session at 12 p.m.

The second workshop will take place at 10:40 a.m., and again at 2 p.m. LCC faculty member Beth Landy will focus on Ford Family Foundation and the OSAC scholarship applications. "These can be overwhelming to fill out," Bryson said. "Beth [Landy] will make it a lot easier."

Throughout the day, financial aid professionals will help participants complete FAFSA worksheets and online applications. Students are advised to come with their FAFSA pin number and their 2007 tax returns and financial records.

"[The workshop] is about encouraging people who thought they couldn't continue their education that they can," Bryson said. She reported that LCC students annually receive over a million dollars in financial aid.

Last year, the Scholarship and Financial Aid Workshop serviced over 450 people and provided opportunities for participants to receive \$250-30,000 to pay for school. However, Bryson said it's not all about the money.

"You may get money, that's great, but you have to go through a process of self-discovery in filling out the applications. You come away with a better understanding of yourself and what you have to offer," she said.

LCC students are encouraged to sign in the workshop using CRN 34607. Community members can register by contacting Continuing Education at 463-5252. Drop-ins are also permitted.

The Scholarship and Financial Aid workshop will be held on Jan. 26 in the lobby of Building 19 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information, contact Jackie Bryson at 463-5164.

Impromptu jam



Photo Curtis McCain

A spontaneous gathering of musicians liven up an average day at LCC. A one-man-act grew into a four-piece ensemble of guitars, vocals and a violin. The group played for several hours attracting the attention of onlookers.

Filling the space left by KLCC

Media Arts plan for the Forum Building

JB Botwinick
Reporter

KLCC's recent move leaves room for improvement in the media arts department. A request has been made to fill the space left behind on the LCC campus.

In the wake of KLCC's recent relocation to their new downtown facilities, the media arts department is out to reclaim the area it

formerly occupied. The plan is to move faculty members, whose offices are currently spread around campus, into the forum building as well as creating a new lab for students.

"I feel that it is a good thing," Bob Mention, of facilities management and planning said. "It consolidates their resources which better serves the faculty and students." Mention was the first to review the request.

After his recommendation of approval, LCC's executive team at their next meeting will make the final decision. Mention believes

that the request will be approved due to the fact that it requires no remodeling or extra funds. One thing that could hinder its approval is that a remodel of the forum building is high on the list of projects LCC plans to do if the bond levy passes.

The bond levy would give LCC a percentage of tax money that it would then use for upkeep and improvement of the campus. It is currently planned to be on the ballots for next November. In the meantime the executive team must put the empty space in the forum building to use.

ASLCC committee gears up for the rest of term

Members discuss upcoming activities after a slow beginning to the year

Sandy Wilcox
Assistant News Editor

Full term didn't see much in the way of student government events, but Associated Students of LCC's Multicultural and Events Coordinator Leif Brecke and Treasurer Cody Anderson are highly optimistic about upcoming events.

"We have a series of really intense and interesting events coming up and I think we can pull it off real well. I'm pretty stoked about the events we're planning, there's a lot of leg work that goes into those," Brecke said.

"This month will be pretty dry, but next month we will probably have a couple small things," Anderson said.

Although some of the events are still in planning stages, the committee is currently taking steps towards hosting a sustainable food barbecue for March or April and an event is being planned for May Day. Another is a four-day earth week event consisting of music, workshops and "all kinds of stuff that relates to the environment," Anderson said.

Anderson and Brecke mentioned bringing a Native American activist to speak, although Brecke stated that is still in the preliminary stages of planning.

Anderson also discussed a grassroots United States Student Association training, hosted by the University of Oregon, which ASLCC will be participating in.

"We're working with the UO on a 'grow training' within the next couple of weeks at the UO which is a USSA training on direct action and grassroots organizing," Anderson said.

Brecke and Anderson are working on setting up a stage in the cafeteria in order to host events.

One of the setbacks they are facing is the tax help that is held in the cafeteria. Brecke believes that it unfortunately pits the tax help against ASLCC and student group events.

"We're hoping to do more small events once the cafeteria committee can get a stage in the cafeteria. One of our stumbling blocks is that music has to be really low and acoustic only because classes are held up stairs," Brecke said.

Anderson continued, "and we have a slight setback because of the tax help that comes in right around tax time, they usually use the space over where we are going to pull the couches from."

"I think it comes down to the lack of facilities on the campus due to the lack of state funds, so we have to work with what we have," Brecke concluded.

One issue that the events committee, which Brecke chairs and Anderson sits on, has faced is people believing that the events committee should put on suggested events without taking responsibility for the event.

"People are thinking that they can just say 'hey you guys need to put on an event' and we'll [the events committee] organize it, instead of saying 'hey, we've done this work, figuring out what to do for this event, can you coordinate it and make it happen?'" Anderson said.

Due to several changes in both the senate and executive branch of ASLCC some duties might have been overlooked in the confusion of people switching or taking up positions, Anderson discussed.

"People's areas of what they have to do hasn't been clearly enough defined ... So we haven't actually had the proposals, like the ideas coming to us to make events happen," Anderson said.

Another issue that the events committee has dealt with is a lack of participation, as well as committee members stepping down.

"We had some fallout, some of the clubs lacked members coming to the council of clubs or the events committee. And so we've had an exodus from both of those committees. However we still have stepped up to the plate in planning events," Brecke said.

When asked what the events committee has been doing in regards to these problems Brecke stated, "We're making our own proposals, so we're doing both sides of the equation."

Anderson followed up with, "So far most of the events we're working on are things that are more initiated from the events committee and suggestions from various people that haven't actually done the work to make it happen."

When asked if there were anything students could do to help and or participate with events Brecke stated that, "Yes, they can show up to the events committee and participate in events forming." Anderson continued, "Any kind of events students would like to be put on can be brought before the events committee."

TOAST AND ROAST

TOAST: To Omar bin Laden for "calling for peace" in a video interview with Associated Press.

ROAST: To tailgaters.

TOAST: To Liberty High School in Hillsboro Ore. for hosting the Intel Oregon 2007 FIRST LEGO League Championship Tournament.

ROAST: To the TV Boss advertisements on satellite television for running back to back ads and running them multiple times in one commercial block.

TOAST: To recently deceased Heath Ledger for a successful career.

ROAST: To the cafeteria for not providing a free drink with as many meals.

TOAST: To Michael Weller for coming to watch the S.P.A. production of his play, "Buying Time."

ROAST: To people who don't clean up after their dogs on walks.

The Torch

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It's time for Oregon to step up

As many Oregonians lose jobs, the state does nothing



Megan Johnson
Managing Editor

Oregon: a place we all call home. Oregon has provided us with countless regional benefits, not to mention the lack of a sales tax, which many from out of state like. Oregon is hailed as a beautiful place to live and its large metropolis, Portland, has been named a leader in green living.

It's home to the arts, and many great bands such as The Shins. Not to mention the famed childhood game Oregon Trail.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor, Oregon's unemployment rate has been steadily decreasing for a few months now. It remains at a 5.6 percent, only slightly higher than the national rate of 5 percent.

The Oregonian reported on Jan. 14 that despite the increases, and most industries proving successful, construction workers took a hard hit

this year. Construction reported a loss of 2,600 more jobs than usual in the slow winter months. So, unemployment is at a low, yet thousands of men and women have lost their jobs.

All over the state, blue-collar workers are losing their jobs, their livelihoods.

I feel sometimes like it is so surreal, like the days of poverty and unemployment and hunger in the U.S. are all a fuzzy, mean dream; but it is ever so nigh.

Hailing from Southern Oregon, I know the benefits of the timber industry. It has provided my entire family with jobs to bring home the bacon, and in a time like this, there are very few pigs left.

Left and right, mills in southern Oregon were either shut-down or bought out by outside companies trying to gain footing in Oregon's luscious land of plenty.

While it is recognized and understood that timber industries have a boundary they must not cross into wildlife, and they often do, this is not the time to address it.

The issue remains still, what does a state do when so many of its citizens are losing jobs? Hard-working, stand-up people, who have lived in Oregon and diligently paid their taxes and supported their

communities, are now without work. They are now without options except for menial, part-time jobs that are normally filled by the states' teenagers and 20-somethings.

Funny, that at the same time these jobs are dropping, government jobs increased by 1,600 at the end of 2007.

Economies fluctuate. Job markets fluctuate. But where do people fit in to that statement? The timber industry isn't the only one that has been affected.

A student commented to me the other day that he used to see janitors come through twice a day, cleaning benches and emptying trashcans. Those people lost their jobs. Across the state, employees of schools ranging from janitorial to teaching positions to aids have all lost their jobs.

Again, the question: What is the State of Oregon going to do about it? Better yet, what are citizens going to do about their fellow Oregonians losing jobs?

It is time to quit pretending that this is okay. The state needs to do something to fix an unsure and unsteady job market that leaves many people without options, before Oregon becomes a not-so-pleasant place to live.

The guilty pleasures of pop culture

I hate to admit it, but I love pop culture. It's all about who's going to jail, who's having the biggest meltdown, who's taking a wacky ambulance ride. I'm one of those people who flip unashamed through the gossip magazines while waiting in the supermarket checkout line. I marvel at the headlines - Britney loses custody, Paris goes back to jail, Lindsay's a sex addict. It's all so sordid, so sick, so addicting.

While watching last night's news, I viewed Britney Spears being driven to the courthouse to attend a custody hearing. Crazy photographers and journalists mobbed the courthouse entrance, with members of the paparazzi literally pressing themselves against Ms. Spears' vehicle. Snapping photographs like madmen and shouting out rapid-fire questions, they looked like wildcats snarling and biting to take down their prey. I was both appalled and mesmerized by the absurdity of it all.

Why do we, as a culture, focus so much attention on celebrities, especially the ones who implode on a regular basis? Is the sight of a young singer

shaving her head more important than say, the agendas of political candidates, global warming, health care or our problematic educational system? Hardly, yet daily these far more significant issues are overshadowed by the antics of wayward pop stars.

Our fascination with celebrities has been going on for decades, yet we often think of this paparazzi craze as a relatively new phenomenon. Not true.

In the 1950s, "Sweater Girl" Lana Turner was involved in a high-profile trial involving the death of her mobster boyfriend at the hands of her teenage daughter.

In the 1960s, oft-married Liz Taylor was condemned by the Pope for her scandalous affair with actor Richard Burton. And what about blonde bombshell Marilyn Monroe having sexual trysts with both John and Bobby Kennedy? Talk about tabloid headlines.

That was then, however. This is now. Years ago, the paparazzi didn't have instant access to the

media. They didn't have the luxury of snagging a photograph of some drunken starlet passed out in her vehicle and then immediately posting it on the Internet for all to see. Today, any individual with a decent cell phone can take a picture of anyone in a compromising position and, like magic, it's on the web. And once an image goes viral, well, there's no going back.

So back to my original question. Why are we obsessed with the antics of celebrities gone wild? I'm sure there are many psychological reasons that involve fantasy, envy, love or even hate. Or perhaps we, as a people, just enjoy watching famous people spiral out of control.

Maybe we derive some kind of perverse pleasure at knowing that even with all their fame, money and beauty, they are more messed up than we are. Or maybe it's just for the sheer fun of it. I prefer the latter.

Come on now. Let's be honest. Didn't we all feel a bit warm and fuzzy when Paris Hilton was hauled off to jail again? And weren't we squirming with delight when the same thing happened to O.J. Simpson? So, with that, pop some popcorn, move your chair closer to your television or computer screen and enjoy the show.

D.R.H.

Letters to the Editor

On January 17, 2008, the Register Guard published an editorial by Harold Meyerson dealing with the forthcoming recession and how to best deal with it.

Meyerson suggested all those books by J. Maynard Keynes be dusted off, especially the parts where Keynes suggested that to deal with a recession, a government should increase government spending and cut taxes. Keynes was very specific about the type of government spending that would be helpful such as building dams, roads and bridges, which are labor intensive.

This increase in employment would lead to an increase in demand for consumer goods and businesses would invest in capital goods and hire more workers to meet this increase in demand.

In terms of tax cuts, Keynes suggested tax cuts for the less affluent instead of the rich (as has been the policy of the Bush administration) Keynes

felt that income received from such government infrastructure projects would be spent on consumer goods producing what Keynes called a multiplier effect as each person or business who received these payments will in turn use the extra or marginal income to buy more consumer goods and, therefore, produce an impact on the economy in excess of the initial tax cut or increase in government spending.

So what can we do? I would suggest contacting Congressman DeFazio who chairs the House Transportation Committee and State Representative Terry Beyer who chairs a similar committee in Salem and ask them to use their influence to spend more money repairing our bridges, a number of which are unsafe. This would help our economy and safety as well, and J. Maynard Keynes would be pleased to be dusted off again!

Dennis Shine
Springfield, Ore.

SCRIBBLES ON A PAPER

And here's a man who is now residing in an "IKEA" furniture warehouse after having his apartment recently fumigated.

ISKEA

Despite frequent stares and questions, I'm sure he's feeling right at home.

On another note, in California they're kicking it off with the BIG

WAV

A former marine and her unborn child's charred remains were found in her backyard this morning.

The man responsible is believed to have been a fellow marine. His whereabouts at the moment are unknown.

In other news, a man discovered recently he had been paying child support for children that were not his.

Based on true events

JANUARY 24, 2008

Commuting to LCC yields facts about transportation

By bus or by car is the question

Shawn Cook
Reporter

Approximately three-quarters of students attending LCC drive to school each weekday according to the Oregon Student Research Laboratory. There are presently 3,500 parking spaces on campus.

All LCC students automatically pay a \$19 dollar transportation fee. Susan Tater, group bus pass coordinator at LCC, explained that 8,706 students enrolled at LCC Fall term. Multiplied by \$19 per student, that totals \$165,414. \$13.89 of that fee goes directly to LTD. "The remainder goes back to LCC's bus pass program, which is responsible for taking photos and administering new passes and stickers," Tater said. She continued, "\$150,000 per year is set aside for campus parking lot maintenance and expansion projects."

Andy Vobora, spokesperson and director of Service Planning for LTD was able to shed some light on how this seemingly vast resource is utilized. "That money goes into a general fund. A normal adult bus pass for one month currently costs \$38.

We are able to offer the lower rate because of the group pass. But

the group pass makes the board of directors nervous," Vobora said. When asked why, he responded, "LTD is revenue neutral. Bus pass fees only pay for 20 percent of our operations cost. The remaining 80 percent is subsidized through a tax on local businesses. Demand for ridership is at an all time high, but our entire fleet is out five days a week.

The group bus pass barely pays for maintenance, gas, and drivers' salaries."

The US Energy Information Administration posts on its website statistics and averages on everything from electricity use to average gas price. The average price of gas per gallon for 2007 was \$3.06. The average automobile gets 15 miles per gallon. The Torch conducted a test to see how far the average student might travel to and from campus from various locations around Eugene. The result was an average of 11.08 miles. Multiplied by 55 days, that's 609.4 miles per term. Employing the current averages as documented by the EIA, it is costing LCC students approximately \$124.33 per term to drive to school five days a week.

Tater further explained that of the 8,706 students who paid the transportation fee, only 2,540 actually validated their bus pass.



Photo Curtis McCain

LTD offers LCC students not only an alternative mode of transportation but freedom from the financial burden of ever increasing gas prices with a widely circulating bus system.



OSPIRG fights to make textbooks more affordable

Panel discusses ways to lower prices and find alternatives

Heather Cyrus
Reporter

LCC's chapter of the Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group hosted a panel Tuesday, Jan. 15, to discuss proposed solutions for the skyrocketing cost of textbooks.

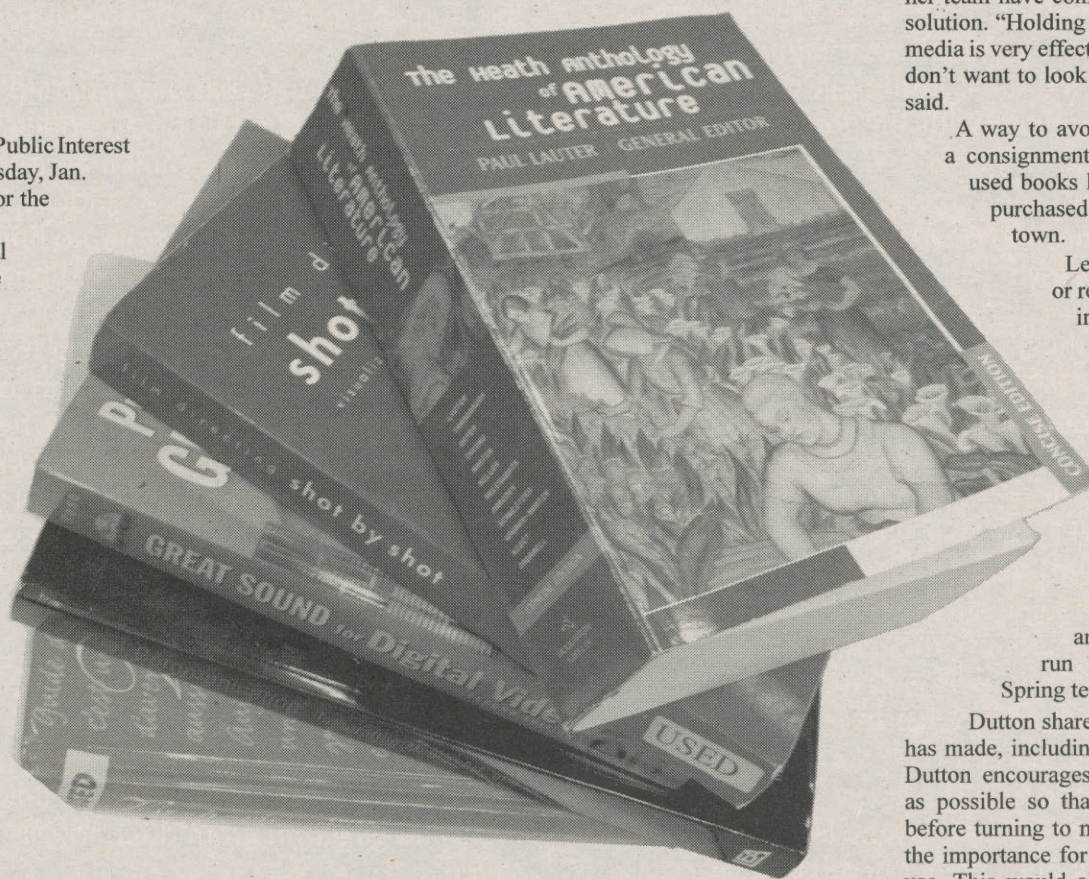
Three panelists, OSPIRG National Program Director for the Affordable Textbook Campaign Nicole Allen, LCC bookstore manager Shelley Dutton and LCC math and engineering instructor Robert Thompson came together to discuss the reasons textbook prices are so high, possible solutions, and what actions students and professors can take to fight back.

"This is not a simple problem to solve, so we are working with students, faculty and staff to develop and implement solutions to high textbook costs at Lane," Kat Dillon said. Dillon is the coordinator for LCC OSPIRG's Make Textbooks Affordable campaign, which she spearheaded last term.

"When students are spending an average of \$900 on textbooks a year, close to half the price of attending a community college, textbooks begin to rival the price of tuition," Allen explained.

Instructors and college bookstores are normally the targets of criticism for high book prices. However, the publishers are to blame, according to OSPIRG's research. While several factors affect the high prices of textbooks, Allen touched upon three main problems, most of which link back to the way the market operates.

"The textbook industry doesn't run like a normal consumer market. When we want to buy something, we normally have many choices to choose from and we are able to factor price into our decision," Allen said. "Students, however, don't have a choice in which books to buy. Instructors choose them yet they don't have to buy them. This fundamental flaw in the textbook market gives publishers disproportionate power, leading to a marketing balance where publishers have the ability to set prices extremely high."



Until recently, publishers were not required to disclose the prices of textbooks so instructors didn't have the option to factor pricing into their decision. A recent study released by OSPIRG found that 77 percent of professors said that publisher representatives rarely or never volunteer price information.

Bundling is a fairly new system publishers use, adding workbooks and CD-ROMs textbook resulting in a higher price.

Along with bundling, publishers frequently create new editions, often times only changing the bare minimum required by law. This forces students to purchase the newest edition.

Along with new editions and bundling, only three major publishing companies are currently operating, creating very little competition.

While advocating across the country for students, Allen and her team have come up with several steps for a comprehensive solution. "Holding publishers accountable in the spotlight of the media is very effective, public opinion matters to publishers, they don't want to look like crooks in the eyes of professors," Allen said.

A way to avoid high book costs is to buy used. LCC has a consignment book store that students can buy and sell used books located next to the library, books can also be purchased used on-line, or at used book stores all across town.

Lending libraries, swapping books on campus, or rental programs are further ideas that can all be implemented. After running a successful, small-scale rental service in the math department,

Thompson believes a larger program that involves the bookstore at LCC could be successful. Many schools across the country have already begun campus-wide rental programs, dropping the annual cost of books for students to about \$250. At LCC, the Textbooks Advisory Committee, a group consisting of the bookstore, library, participating faculty, staff, administration and students, is considering a small scale trial run involving some math and science classes Spring term.

Dutton shared some of the efforts that the LCC bookstore has made, including offering textbook scholarships to students. Dutton encourages instructors to submit book orders as soon as possible so that used book wholesalers can be exhausted before turning to new books to purchase. Dutton also stressed the importance for instructors to adopt textbooks for long-term use. This would allow students to sell back books for higher prices and to feel confident they'll be able to get a return on their investment.

Compared to last year's fall term, the amount students who sold books back have increased by seven percent, the amount of books bought back increased by 14 percent, and the amount of money paid back to students for used books increased by 18 percent, "this is certainly a good start," Dutton said.

In the long term, lowering the initial cost of textbooks is the ultimate goal, explained Allen. Increasing the supply of more affordable materials is one option. "Working to create an environment so that more competition is out there may be the key," Allen said. Through policy changes, the recent legislation passed in Oregon requires publishers to disclose textbook prices to professors. Open textbooks are now slowly becoming available on-line for free. Students can download or print them.



Reconnecting with Nature

Learning community explores a holistic approach to education that blends science, spirituality, political activism

Waves crash upon the rocky shoreline as the tide slowly recedes; tiny organisms litter the beach, lingering in pools of crystal clear, salt water. The landscape consists of both sedimentary rock and basalt bedrock, which provides the necessary structures for tide pools to form, offering a window into another realm — the ocean.

This is a classroom.

This is one of the classrooms for Reconnecting with Nature: Science, Spirituality and Political Science.

"I remember driving up with ... classmates before our forest field trip and camping high in the mountains, building a bonfire and sleeping under the stars," former LCC student Noah Guadagni said of his experience with the Reconnecting with Nature learning community. "Then we met up with the rest of the class in the morning and spent the day exploring different forest sites, identifying plants and trees and learning about the differences between old-growth, second-growth and freshly logged forests."

The learning community links together three courses: Global Ecology (CRN40237); Nature, Religion and Ecology (CRN40622); and Environmental Politics (CRN40495).

"The idea is that these are all very interrelated courses covering the broader topic of reconnecting with nature," Cliff Trolin, Nature, Religion and Ecology instructor, said.

Years ago, LCC started experimenting with learning communities that "linked together classes that are related to each other and have students that participate as cohorts," Stan Taylor said. Taylor teaches the Environmental Politics course within the Reconnecting with Nature learning community.

"I am now a true believer that learning communities are the ... most effective teaching models of modern education," Tom Humphries noted. Humphries is a current LCC student who took the classes the last time they were offered one year ago.

Because the classes reach into the realms of ecology, politics and religion, while maintaining a central theme — nature

— students receive an education that is broader in scope than generally found outside the learning community.

Jerry Hall emphasized that the learning community helps students gain a more complete understanding of nature. He teaches the Global Ecology class which blends Native American spirituality with ecology.

"When you take a course, you get one angle on a subject, when you take this kind of interdisciplinary program it becomes three-dimensional or even more so that it takes on a fullness for the human being that you can't just get by doing one angle," Trolin said.

This is the fourth year that the triad has been offered at LCC.

Since it's designed to be a cooperative experience, all three classes must be taken simultaneously, for a total of 12 credits. "It's very demanding on a student because they're basically putting their whole quarter on the line," Trolin remarked.

Reconnecting with Nature is limited to 24 students and is only offered during Spring term on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. There are also field trips on two Saturdays.

Field trips are an important part of the Reconnecting with Nature learning community. The two field trips take the classroom into nature, once to the ocean and once to the forest.

"The field trips were an integral part of the overall experience," Humphries recalled. "On one we went into the forest and stopped in an area that had previously burned, then to an area that had been thinned by logging and finally to an area of old-growth that is scheduled for logging."

The field trips are geared to reflect all the dimensions of the learning community.

"When we go to the old growth forest, we typically have a forest activist that comes with us talks about the activism that they're engaged in around the forests in the Northwest," Taylor stated.

See RECONNECTING WITH NATURE Page 5

Story by Lana Boles

Photo by Isaac Viel

JANUARY 24, 2008

Renaissance Room opens for Winter term

Ménu features British dishes

Cheryl Rade
Reporter

The Renaissance Room at LCC, which offers a gourmet lunch menu with an English theme, is again open for business. Tucked away behind the Student Center's espresso bar, the 32-person restaurant features the talents of students from the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management Program.

Clive Wanstall, one of the core chefs in the culinary program, explained that the Renaissance Room opens every term with all meals prepared and served by first and second-year culinary students. "So when you come in, you're eating curriculum," he said. "It's somebody's grade."

Wanstall explained that the Renaissance Room, a staple at LCC since the 1970s, serves many purposes for the culinary arts students. "The second-year students get to supervise the first-year students, so there's a tremendous amount of mentoring," he said, pointing out that the 'Ren' Room is considered a restaurant laboratory and includes two classes with approximately 15 students in each one. The classes are Dining Room and Kitchen Lab, and Dining Room and Kitchen Supervision.

Regarding the restaurant's offerings, Wanstall said the menu this term features

recipes straight out of British celebrity chef Jamie Oliver's latest cookbook. "We thought an English theme would be fun," he stated. "And it's a pretty good value for the money." All the entrees are under \$8.

Some of the entrees include grilled tenderloin with white beans, leeks and duchess potato, schnitzel with watercress, spiced apple and savoy cabbage, and roast halibut with smoked bacon, lemon mayonnaise, asparagus and potatoes rosti. Desserts, which carry a mere \$2, include "bloomin'" easy vanilla cheesecake, good old bread and butter pudding, chocolate cambridge cream and pear tarte tartin.

Kwanzaa Vinje, a second-year culinary student who also works as a private chef, stated that he is excited about the 'Ren' Room opening up again. "When I first worked in the Ren Room, I was overwhelmed, but I was confident that I could do it," he said. "I like what the teachers emphasize, to try to always improve. I think Chef Clive really pushes us for excellence in here. We are always going over what we learned and what we can do better."

Vinje praised the 'Ren' Room's menu. "We do filet mignon. We do halibut. We do really fine cuisine," he said. "This little restaurant is one of the finest in Lane County."

Another second-year student, Colin Riddle, said he enjoys the strong hands-on approach offered through the culinary arts program. "Here, you get a chance to do a lot of stuff you've never done before. You can make what you want to



Photo Curtis McCain

Rebecca Ross, second year culinary arts student serves guests at the Renaissance Room, located on the first floor of the Center Building adjacent to Blenders Espresso stand. The restaurant is open from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

make and when you ask for something, they'll try their hardest to get it for you.

"I like working in here. You get to learn every aspect of the industry — service, set-up, the front line, the salad area. It helps you learn.

It's a really good experience."

For more information about the Renaissance Room or to make lunch reservations, call 463-3533. Seating begins at 11:30 a.m. and ends at 12:30 p.m.



Photo courtesy of www.womenwholightthedark.com, photo credit Norma Adhiambo

A group of women including Paola Gianturco — author, photographer and advocate of women's rights, experience an upwelling of emotion, as they dig a well in a Kenyan community where young women and girls are frequently responsible for rising early in the morning to gather water for their families, sacrificing time that would otherwise be spent on education.

Lighting the dark through words and photos

Author, photographer,
promoter of women's rights
comes to Eugene to present
images of hope

Lana Boles
Features Editor

Throughout the world, women are inspiring courage, providing support and joining together to enact positive change through creative tactics. Images and tales of some of these 'women who light the dark' will be presented by author and photojournalist, Paola Gianturco, Tuesday, Jan. 29, from 7-9 p.m. at Temple Beth Israel, 2550 Portland Street in Eugene.

Gianturco's book, "Women Who Light the Dark," takes the reader on a journey across five continents, depicting how women all over the world are working to emancipate women from inequality, rape, poverty, illiteracy and war.

For the past 12 years, Gianturco has been capturing glimpses into women's lives. "Women Who Light the Dark" is Gianturco's fourth book.

Her photography has been seen in many magazines, including Marie Claire, Spirituality and Health, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Business Week, San Francisco Chronicle, San Francisco Examiner, Chicago Tribune, Christian Science Monitor and Washington Post.

"I've documented women's lives in 40 countries, and everywhere I have seen local women helping one another tackle the problems that darken their lives," Gianturco said.

In "Women Who Light the Dark," Gianturco captures images of women utilizing the arts to

encourage awareness.

She found a theater group in Morocco that writes and performs plays to address women's rights in communities where the illiteracy rate is more than 85 percent.

Women are using poetry in Zimbabwe to provide support to young women and increase awareness about child rape.

She found people who were using creative approaches to address the problems facing women.

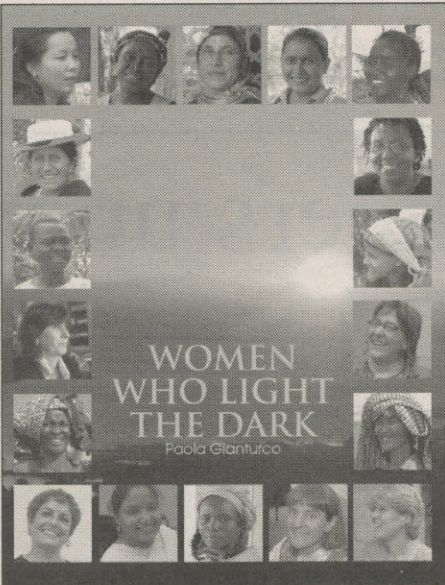
"In Kenya, groups of mothers are collaborating to have wells dug at their daughters' schools — so the girls can bring water home after class instead of walking for hours to collect water while the boys are being educated," Gianturco said.

"Women Who Light the Dark," contains 19 pages of photographs from Mobility International USA's 2006 Women's Institute in Leadership and Disability in Eugene, where women from around the world "who are blind and/or deaf, others who require crutches, canes and wheelchairs, come ... to participate for three weeks in sports activities that most of them have never tried," Gianturco stated. "They return to their countries empowered to lead their local organizations for disabled people."

In collaboration with MIUSA, Gianturco brings these stories and more to Eugene for a free presentation.

Gianturco became connected with MIUSA through the Global Fund for Women, an organization that supports women's rights worldwide.

Susan Sygall, chief executive officer of MIUSA, is excited about the upcoming event. Gianturco's work is effective, Sygall said, because it "gives the impetus to fight injustice



on a local level."

Sygall emphasized the importance of Gianturco's work. "I think it's wonderful to hear positive news," she said. "So often we don't hear about women activists," but even more rare is it to hear about women activists with disabilities, she said.

"I hope these stories of women's successes will be heartening and a reminder that positive change is underway. Because nonprofit enterprises have limited resources, I hope these stories will inspire others to support them," Gianturco said.

She personally supports non-profits by donating 100 percent of her author royalties from "Women Who Light the Dark" to the GFW.

RECONNECTING WITH NATURE

from page 4

Religion is woven into the field trips as well. "On the field trips last year at the coast Jerry [Hall] did a kind of invocation of the spirits of the four directions as we began and it had a tremendous impact on the students because they went out into the tide pools with a sense of respect for all the living creatures there and a sense of humility ... it had a way of opening them to appreciation of the creatures ... as living beings that have a spirit and life of their own," Trolin said.

Guadagni said that the traditional Native American ceremony that Hall conducted was the most memorable part of the classes.

Guadagni went on to explain how being able to see an environment first-hand was a great educational tool. Humphries agreed.

"We were able to see first-hand the different canopies of the forest and the different plants and trees struggling for domination on the forest floor," Humphries said. "Another field trip to the tide pools on the coast was just as exciting to see these pools teeming with life and how the have adopted to nature to survive."

Many students who have taken the classes in the past are geared towards an environmental career, but participation in the learning community is not limited to any particular major and the courses satisfy some of the AAOT requirements.

"The ecology class satisfies the cultural diversity requirements because we look at ecology from a Native American perspective," Hall said.

Reconnecting with Nature partially fulfills the science with lab, social science and ethnic/gender/cultural diversity requirements while also satisfying two of the three core requirements for the University of Oregon environmental science and environmental studies programs.

The interests of students who have taken the classes in the past vary, Trolin remarked. He finds it exciting that the majority of students are not necessarily interested in the same subject, because it brings variety into discussions "in the classroom that you might not get in certain classes where a lot of the students are geared in a particular way," Trolin said.

"I am an undecided major and prior to this learning community I felt uncomfortable telling others, counselors and instructors that I was undecided," Humphries said. "Now, having learned so much about issues I was barely aware of, I have to wonder how much more is there to learn that I know nothing about that may have an effect on my pursuits both personally and educationally."

Students vie for cash, kudos in poster contest

"Be Your Dream" set as theme for April Career Fair

Nicole Perkins
Arts Editor

Students have the chance to publish their dreams in this year's poster design contest. For the second year LCC has asked students for poster designs for the Career Fair in April. This year's theme is "Be Your Dream."

Last year LCC decided to offer students a way to show their artwork publicly. "We thought it would be a good opportunity to get something published, to get their name out there," Lori Kramer, career and employment adviser said.

Kramer, other staff members, as well as a student make up the committee that decides which poster will be used as the logo for the Career Fair. Kramer said the contest, which is open to all LCC students, sees a variety of interpretations of the theme.

The winner of the contest receives a \$100 gift certificate to the Lane Bookstore, as well as having the design featured on campus, LCC's website and around the Eugene/Springfield area.

The deadline for entries is Feb. 1 at 2 p.m. All submissions must be in an 11x13 inch format. Students must include their name, e-mail, L-number and phone number. Submissions should be dropped off at Career and Employment Services in Building 1, Room 102. The winner will be notified one week later.

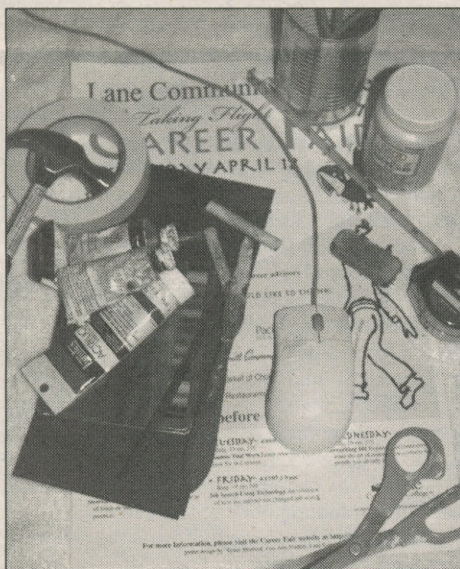


Photo Monica Carson



Photo courtesy of Volifonix

Volifonix is a funkadelic rock band, heavily influenced by Led Zeppelin, from Oakland, Ore. Volifonix will open for New Monsoon at WOW Hall next Thursday, Jan. 31.

The sound of freewill rings in Eugene

Local band Volifonix rocks WOW Hall next Thursday

Bennett Mohler
Reporter

Local band Volifonix will be making its first appearance at Eugene's historic WOW Hall this upcoming Thursday, Jan. 31. Volifonix is an experimental funk rock band that emerged out of Oakland, Ore. with brothers Blake Forbess, 24, and Trevor Forbess, 20.

They have been playing music together and jamming with others since they learned how to play their respective instruments.

Trevor and Blake lived in Eugene before moving down to Oakland. There, Trevor met bassist Elijah Medina, 19, while playing at Sutherlin High School in spring of 2005. "I just saw him outside class playing his guitar," Trevor, who sings and plays guitar, said. "We started playing and we just clicked."

Trevor became friends with guitarist Joe McClain, 20, at the University of Oregon. They achieved some local celebrity after winning

the UO Battle of the Bands in 2006 and 2007. They've also performed with Alan White of Yes at "Sunshine on Chrome" in Issaquah, Wash.

Trevor and McClain are currently music majors at U.O. Medina is majoring in music at LCC. Blake just finished a degree in Hospitality and Management at LCC last year and is currently the kitchen manager at Diablo's Downtown Lounge.

Originally called Rukkus, then The Great Escape, the band finally settled on Volifonix. "There was a while of searching for a band name," Medina remembered. The word volifonix is a combination of the latin prefix "Voli-" meaning freewill, and "fonix" a derivation of "phonic" meaning sound. "It means the sound of free will," explained Trevor.

The band is self-described funkadelic rock, though all the members admit to be heavily grounded in rock. "We used to play lots of heavy drop-D stuff," Trevor said.

Since then, their sound has evolved into a funkier free-spirited interpretation of rock. "In the beginning there was another guitarist that wasn't quite fitting the mix. I would start playing some funky stuff and he would keep chugging along," he said.

"I used to play harder rock stuff. I didn't

even listen to funk till I met these guys," lead guitarist McClain said.

Blake and Trevor described themselves as being heavily influenced by Led Zeppelin in their early years because their father was a fan. Medina started playing in punk rock bands in high school. "That's all there was to play if you wanted to be in a band," he said. "I'm glad now I'm pretty much doing what I want to do."

The band approaches songwriting from a collaborative standpoint. "I'll bring in something of my own and it'll be twisted into something great," Trevor said.

Volifonix seemed thrilled about playing WOW Hall. "We've been counting the days since we first heard of it," Trevor said. "I've been wanting to play there since I moved back to Eugene."

The band plans to travel to Spokane, Wash. to record their debut record in March.

Until then, they expect to be playing in Eugene. "I feel the gigs are just going to keep coming up at this point," Trevor said.

Volifonix will open for New Monsoon at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are available in advance for \$12 or \$15 at the door.

"Bring your friends," McClain said. "Because we're going to bring the thunder."

Market cheers up winter blues

An assortment of art, clothes and crafts found in LCC's cafeteria

Nicole Perkins
Arts Editor

Vendors offering candles, artwork, posters and clothing have set up shop in the LCC cafeteria. The first Winter Market of 2008 began on Tuesday, Jan. 22, and will run through Friday, Jan. 25.

Vendor Gary Rugg has sold at LCC's market for 12 years because "the interaction with students is fun." He sells different types of art and jewelry from all over the world. Rugg's international products include Moroccan crystals and Australian Aboriginal artwork.

Tina Lymath of Student Life and Leadership Development organizes and prepares the market. "This Winter Market is an experiment," she said.

The market was an everyday event in past years, she explained. Partially due to student feedback, Lymath decided to cut down the market to only special occasions. This time,

a group of vendors sell for the first two days, and another group for the last.

Lymath feels the cafeteria market brings a pleasant change to campus. "I think it brings a festive, street fair feeling," she said. "The University of Oregon has it on their campus. Students like the change and the variety."

Second year LCC student Presephone McDermitt also enjoys the vendor atmosphere. "I love it," she said. "I love having the option of having handmade crafts."

Kimmy Smith sells hand-beaded jewelry at her booth Earthly Spirit Designs. She likes selling at LCC because of "the educational atmosphere. A lot of my friends go here too," she said.

The market is also beneficial to LCC. Vendors pay Student Life a fee, which goes towards other Student Life costs. Lymath said that last term money earned from past markets paid for presents for underprivileged youth from the "Giving Tree," located in the Student Life office before the holidays.

After the Winter Market, the next vendor sale will be the Valentine's Day Market, running from Feb. 11-14. In addition to vendors, there will be a bake sale provided by Specialized Support Services and a card-making table from Student Life.



Photo Curtis McCain

Students peruse jewelry at Earthly Spirit Designs, run by Kimmy Smith, at the Winter Market in LCC's cafeteria. The market runs through Friday, Jan. 25.

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Photo Curtis McCain

Jarrad Childs and Kenan Dizdarevic of Umpqua can't keep up as LCC's Travon Mouton, sophomore guard/forward, drives toward the basket in last Wednesday's game.

Win against Mt. Hood gives hope for Titan playoff chances



Photo Curtis McCain

Travon Mouton who finished with 18 points in the game against Mt. Hood, leaps for a rebound against Umpqua.

LCC team focuses on season goals after Saturday's victory

JB Botwinick
Reporter

The Titan's 83-68 win against the Mt. Hood Saints last Saturday, Jan. 19, reinforced hopes to set a positive trend for the remainder of the season. With a current record of 2-3 for league play and a fifth place ranking in division, the Titans feel they have the potential for improvement.

Saturday's game went well for the Titans with solid performances by Dominique Watson, Travon Mouton and Kyle Winkler: the three top scorers of the game. Watson led the team with 22 points and Mouton finished with 18. Winkler, a sophomore, had a stand out night with 20 points, four assists and shot five for five from the three point line. Leading scorers for the Saints were Demarcus Branch with 23 points and guard Mike Wohlers with 19 points.

The Titans held strong, controlling most of the game and at one point extended its lead by 21 points in the second half. "I could tell the guys were excited," Bruce Chavka, head coach, said. "We just had to do some smart things to wrap it up."

The win was a relief after

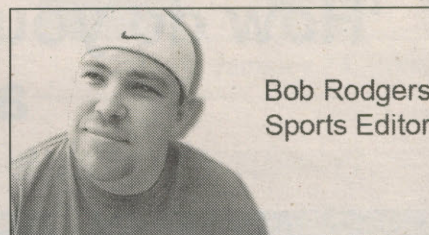
last Wednesday's loss to Umpqua. "Our team, after the Umpqua game, has kind of turned the corner, and we seem to be on the right page heading into the conference schedule," Brian Stamme, assistant coach, said.

The team plans to face the rest of its schedule head on and earn a spot in the playoffs. To do that, the Titans must finish within the top four rankings in the division "If we do all the things we're supposed to, it should all culminate in the playoffs," Chavka said.

Much of the Titans' hope for the future rests on the shoulders of Watson, the team's consistent top scorer. "He is our high flyer," Stamme said. When asked how he felt about this title Watson replied, "I've been flying ever since high school and it's really natural to me, but you know helping my team out and winning, giving the crowd a show, it feels good."

Mouton, one of the team's top players, will also be influential in the success of the team. "Effort, as long as we keep our effort and pride we'll be okay," Mouton said, when asked what his team needed to fulfill its goals.

The road to the playoffs will almost certainly be a hard one for the Titans with games against Umpqua, Clackamas, and Chemeketa, all of which defeated the Titans in its first meetings. Southwestern Oregon Community College could also prove to be a difficult opponent.



Bob Rodgers
Sports Editor

Poor journalism overshadowed by offensive comment and image

The debate over whether golf is a real sport has waged on for centuries. The debate over Golfweek's controversial magazine cover featuring a noose has waged on this past week.

Let me catch you up to speed. The Golf Channel broadcasted a live update about the greatness of Tiger Woods. Nick Faldo and host Kelly Tilghman talked about how to stop Woods and who could challenge him. Faldo suggested in a joking manner that the younger players on the tour should, "gang up on him for a while." In a momentary lapse of live televised reason, Tilghman just laughed and responded, "Lynch him in a back alley." Wow.

Here is where we catch up to the present. On Jan. 16, Golfweek published a full-length story about the events I have just summarized, but unlike The Torch, Golfweek put a picture of a noose on its cover to compliment the story. Obviously an image like that is going to evoke some reaction, but for what purpose?

Golfweek's editor, Dave Seanor stated, "We chose it because it was an image we thought would draw attention to an issue we thought deserved some intelligent dialogue."

I understand the tactics Golfweek used to gain attention for something that they felt needed to be addressed. They had to use the same shocking device and turn it around to make it a weapon against racism. It's nothing new. It's like being against war, but using pictures of war as a weapon to make a point. Sometimes it doesn't fly with certain people.

However, this benevolent anti-racism agenda was one of two things. Either it was well-intended but as insensitive as Tilghman's comment, or not a benevolent anti-racism agenda at all. The Professional Golfers Association likened it to tabloid journalism trying to sell magazines. Although I happen to agree with Golfweek's tactics, I feel they were inappropriately used. Apparently so did the senior management at Golfweek, Seanor was told to hit the bricks as editor-in-chief.

The Golfweek story myopically focused on Tilghman making an on air boo-boo instead of exposing the big picture. Census numbers don't exactly track statistics regarding race in golf, but it is arguably a classist sport, with a predominantly white fan base that comparatively makes NASCAR look diverse.

Golfweek should have hammered home with such an outlandish attention grabbing cover, the history of racism in the PGA and how the Tilghman incident was just another brick in the wall. The PGA has a track record of not responding to sensitive racial issues over the years. Golfers have been guilty of saying far more incendiary things to the press with little or no reprimand. Let's not forget that within the PGA's watch, there still exist white-only golf courses.

Although Golfweek missed a huge opportunity, they have the right to put whatever they want on their cover, because ultimately they have to answer to advertisers, readers and the court of public opinion. Because of this incident, they've lost an editor, some readers and most importantly, advertising dollars. It brought a good spirited debate over more than race but sports journalism, too.

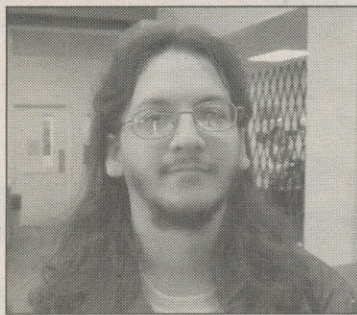
Now that we've settled that, let's get back to the point. Is golf really a sport or just a skilled hobby?

'How do you feel about the FDA approving the cloning of animals for human consumption?'



Jennifer Cornwall
Business

"I don't know. I don't think there's a need, that's why we procreate. We have plenty of food."



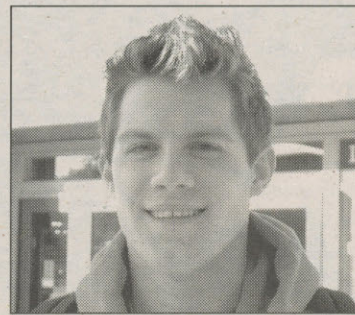
Andy Barrett
Political Science

"I don't have a problem with it. To me wherever we can get our food is fine."



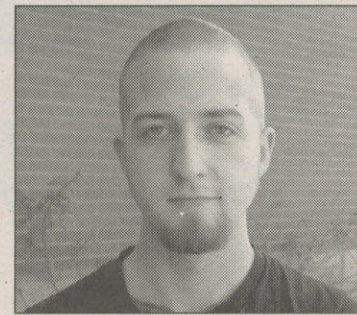
Sarah Bowen
Nursing

"I haven't thought about it. I'm okay with it if there's no difference."



Evan Moore
English

"I think it's disgusting. It's a bad step, it's setting a bad precedent."



Jeremey Sherry
Multimedia

"It doesn't bug me. I'd try it; I'm pretty open-minded."

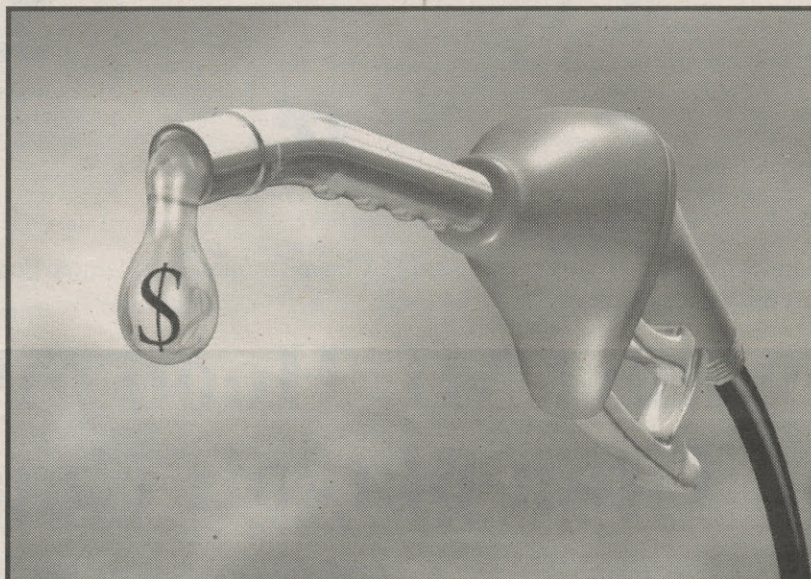
Interviews by Nicole Perkins
Photos by Curtis McCain

Memorial service held for deceased instructor

The Lane Weekly reported that a memorial service will be held for Deborah Posen on Saturday, January 26, at 2 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Eugene at 1376 Olive St. Posen taught in the legal administration program until 2006. She died by accidental drowning on January 6. Posen is survived by her son Satchel and her husband Ben Hill, a math instructor at LCC. Memorial contributions can be made in Posen's name to the Lane Foundation for scholarships or to the Greenhill Humane Society in Eugene.

Blood Drive

Wednesday, Jan. 30 and Thursday, Oct. 31
Time: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Location: LCC Cafeteria- Northeast Corner
Point of Contact: Judy Ann Fuller, LCC Facilities
Phone: 463-5564
e-mail: fullerj@lanecc.edu



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