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# The Torch

Lane Community College

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Since 1964

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## Are you feeling tipsy?

*Communication  
breakdown causes  
confusion for  
LCC employees*

**Megan Johnson**  
*Managing Editor*

Kelly Gleasman has worked at Blenders Espresso stand for two terms and earns minimum wage. At most restaurant or coffee shops, employees earn minimum wage because they get tips, which are taxed as additional income.

What is unique about the espresso stand on campus is that the staffers aren't allowed to keep their tips. Instead, there is a red jar that reads, "Food Service Excellence Fund. Employees do not keep tips. Sorry." This jar has left customers and employees wondering: Where does the fund go and why aren't employees allowed to keep tips?

"I think it's ridiculous that we don't get to keep tips," Gleasman said.

The difference between the coffee shop at LCC and most other shops is that the one on campus is owned and operated by the college.

Dennis Carr, human resources director, explained that this makes coffee shop workers public employees, which makes it difficult for them to receive personal gain or benefit besides their paychecks.

Oregon Revised Statute 244.020 defines a public official as any person who is serving the State of Oregon or any other public body of the state, such as LCC, as an officer, employee or agent. The statute also explains that officials are allowed to accept gifts, but must report them.

"It boils down to, from a human resources standpoint, food service workers are public employees, and even cafeteria workers make more than minimum wage," Carr said. He has worked at LCC since 2003, and said that this is the first time the issue has been brought up.

However, Carr said that if the workers were to keep tips, they would "have to declare tips for tax purposes" and that "this is nothing they're prepared to do, or we're prepared to do for them."

Despite the confusion, under Oregon law public employees can keep tips, as long as they are reported. But LCC's policy, of which neither Carr nor the employees were aware, is that the employees receive the food service excellence fund instead of tips.

"Everyone that I asked when I first started working here had no idea where [the foodservice excellence fund] went ... what the rule is [that prevents the workers from keeping tips] or where it came from," Jakeb Denney said. Denney has been working at Blenders for four years, and is also a student. "Nobody tried to figure it out. It could've been solved years ago."

Jakeb's father, Jack Denney, has worked as a food service specialist at LCC for 13 years. He said he would like to see the workers be able to keep tips. Jack added that when people try to tip the employees now, they politely refuse the tip.

"As a classified employee, I wouldn't keep



Photo Curtis McCain

Kelly Gleasman has worked at the Blenders Espresso stand in the cafeteria for two terms. The staffers are not allowed to keep their tips. Currently, tips go to a food service excellence fund, which provides employees the opportunity to take a personal enrichment course.

any tips. If a customer wants to give their money for service rendered, I don't have a problem with that, unless it is a school policy," Jack said. "If so, where is it?"

Brian Kelly, director of Food Services, explained that currently the fund is used for the staffers to take a personal enrichment course or a seminar. He said that the fund has been used to help many students. Although a recent example of how the fund has been used was unavailable due to privacy rights, Kelly assured that if one of the employees asked for financial help with a class they could probably get it. Classes such as yoga, art or even an event that has a sign-up fee would all qualify. The fund exists for the benefit of students that work in the cafeteria.

"Jack knows where it goes," Kelly said. But in the time that Jack has worked here, he said that he has not seen the fund be put to use. Neither have Gleasman nor Jakeb.

"Even if it's just 25 cents ... people really appreciate [us] and want to tip," Gleasman

said. But as Jakeb explained, people currently hesitate to tip the jar because they don't know where the fund goes.

Most of the student employees there would rather keep tips than have the fund.

"It'd be fine if we couldn't keep tips but still had some benefit like new machines ... but no one knows where it goes," Jakeb said.

Kelly said that LCC's Department of Food Services would be willing to comply with the college on whatever it asked if the workers wanted to keep tips instead of the Food Services excellence fund. "Absolutely," Kelly said in response to the inquiry. "Whatever is in the best interest of the students or the college."

Sasha Brown, LCC student, has worked at Blenders for two terms. She agrees with Kelly. She said that most of the workers make minimum wage and she would be happy to comply with whatever the college asks to track and tax tips.

"I think it wouldn't be very hard at all," she

said. "And about the whole dividing up the tips thing," she added. "I'm sure we could figure out a system that would work."

Shawnda Hamby, who has worked in the cafeteria for nearly a year and is also a classified employee, said that at the very least she would like to see the workers at the espresso stand get tips, if not the workers in the cafeteria.

"We all know what it's like to go broke at the end of the month ... it would help with gas money ... goodies ... bus fare," she said.

Carr said that if the employees approached the college, they would look into the taxing implications for keeping the tips.

"We would do the research, but the answer might still be 'no' if it's burdensome or not in the best interest of the employees," he said.

The employees are currently taking steps towards resolving the tipping issue by contacting the union board, of which classified employees are members. The board, as of Wed. Feb 20, has yet to respond.

## LCC to host first annual Peace Conference

*Renowned educators,  
activists to speak*

**Cheryl Rade**  
*Reporter*

A variety of renowned educators, political activists and spiritual leaders will convene at LCC for the 2008 Peace and Democracy Conference, scheduled for Friday, Feb. 29, and Saturday, March 1, in the Center for Meeting and Learning, Building 19. Social Science Instructor Stan

Taylor, one of the conference organizers and co-chair of LCC's Peace Center Steering Committee, said the conference is the first one of its kind at the college and will "draw together some really fantastic people from multiple walks of life to both present and to engage in discussions about issues of peace."

Taylor, an educator at LCC for the past 11 years, said, "We recognize that peace is based upon justice and basically you can't talk about peace without talking about social, racial, environmental and spiritual issues. They come together and

the conference is organized on that basis."

The conference will feature two keynote speakers, Medea Benjamin, a leading activist in the modern-day peace movement and founding director of Global Exchange, and Bob Wing, a writer and activist devoted to struggles of racial injustice and a member of the Community Coalition, a Black-Latino grassroots organization in South Central Los Angeles. Taylor noted that Benjamin is also the co-founder of CODEPINK, a women's group dedicated to creating organized action against the war in

Iraq. Wing, a Chinese-American, is one of the co-founders of United for Peace and Justice, one of the largest peace organizations in the world.

One of the unique things about the Peace Conference, Taylor said, is the wide spectrum of presenters who are willing to share their wealth of knowledge at this momentous event. "We'll have lawyers talking about civil rights. We'll have a Native American grandmother. We're going to have the Lane Interfaith Alliance - a session on spirituality and how essential religious traditions are important to peace," Taylor said.

Taylor, who holds a Ph.D. in political science and a Juris doctorate, explained that a primary goal of the conference is to foster the local peace movement, which, in turn, will lead to further discussion about how to accomplish peace in a world often besieged by violence and war. "For people like myself, I think war and militarism are robbing us of our rights, robbing us of our social welfare," he said.

The idea of a peace conference was long in coming, Taylor noted,

See PEACE page 11



### TOAST AND ROAST

**TOAST:** To NextStep Recycling founder Lorraine Kerwood for recycling computers for use by disadvantaged people and organizations.

**ROAST:** To the con artists who gave a fake \$100 bill to a Girl Scout troupe selling cookies.

**TOAST:** To the Carl Sagan Appreciation Society for trying to get Sagan's photo on a postal stamp.

**ROAST:** To Hallmark/Westland Meat Packing Co. for torturing cattle and processing unfit animals for human consumption.

**TOAST:** Oregon Public Broadcasting for bringing additional programming to Eugene.

**ROAST:** To Africa for being the birthplace of modern humans

**TOAST:** To YouTube

**ROAST:** To Facebook for killing my vampire and throwing a sheep at me.

**TOAST:** To the decline of memory loss among senior citizens in the US

## The Torch

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

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## What happened to good customer service?

*The science of winning over customers*



Cheryl Rade  
Reporter

It seems that bad customer service is the norm these days. You know what I'm talking about. Store clerks who rattle off the store's politically correct spiel, all the while never making eye contact with you, or worse, chatting on cell phones when ringing up your purchases and taking your money. Again, no eye contact.

Whatever happened to good, old-fashioned customer service? What happened to store employees who were polite and courteous — who sincerely asked if you needed help and would then, in reality, help you? And what about just being nice or at least willing to engage in some form of conversation?

Recently, I walked into a local store where the clerk behind the counter, a gentleman around 60 or so, appeared either comatose, stoned or just weird. I'm not sure. Regardless, all attempts at minor chitchat fell completely flat as the clerk seemed oblivious to what was being said. He simply accepted the cash, made change and handed it back without so much as a smile or a nod of the head. He might have muttered a very quiet "thank you," but I'm just guessing.

On another occasion, while purchasing a sweater at a local department store, I couldn't help notice that the young female clerk, probably still in her teens, seemed to have the movements of a robot. Without ever looking in my direction, she asked if I had found what I needed, if I wanted any extra help and then told me to have a nice day. She recited the words as if programmed and in a voice that could only be described as irritatingly monotone.

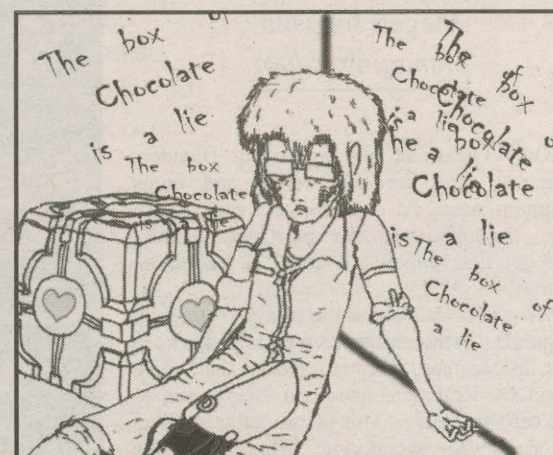
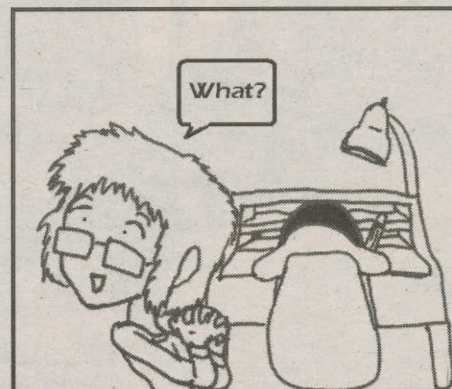
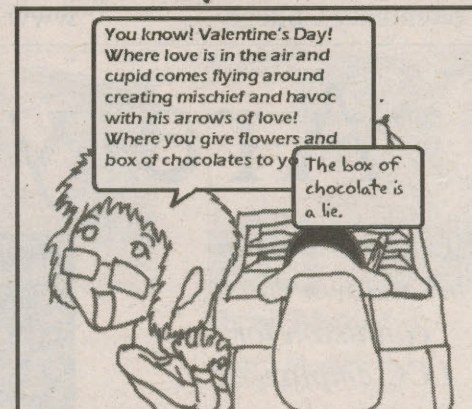
Bemused by her inability to drum up any kind of enthusiasm, I advised her, "Maybe you need to find another job — one that you actually like." With that, she looked up and laughed, "Oh, I know it. I don't plan to have a career here."

I smiled at her, but my internal voice was saying, "Well, that's nice, but could you show at least some interest in me now?" Herein lies the problem. It's not so much about good customer service or the lack thereof. Instead, it's about the lack of passion, the lack of commitment. When employers hire employees to fill jobs that interact with the public, do they ever consider that these individuals are direct reflections of their business? They might be wearing store uniforms and spouting off store lingo, but if the employees' hearts aren't in it, believe me, customers notice.

This is not rocket science here, but it is a science of a behavioral nature. The secret to good customer service is relatively simple. Be polite, knowledgeable and helpful, and if you can't help for whatever reason, please don't say, "That's not my department." In my book, those are fighting words. Instead, offer to find someone to help the customer and then actually do it. It's that simple.

In conclusion, customer service isn't just about being nice and putting on a happy face (although it's a great start). It's about establishing relationships, even for just a moment. Anyone can sell anything once, but it takes genuine people skills to bring that customer back again and again.

## Scribbles on a Paper



## Dear Mary Spilde, Sonya Christian

It has come to my attention that there is a functional disconnect between administrative staff at LCC, you namely, [LCC President Mary Spilde and Vice President for Instruction, Sonya Christian] and instructors within the Spanish Department. I am a student currently enrolled in the Spanish program. In order to meet my degree requirements and to be able to help facilitate interactions

Amanda Wilcox  
Guest Columnist

between Spanish-speaking Hispanic clientele and English-speaking government agencies, schools, hospitals, co-workers, etc.

I wish to express my grave concerns about the Spanish Program at LCC because of the cancellation of Charlas, the weekly hour of conversational Spanish with Spanish-speaking tutors, and the elimination of coordination staff in the Spanish Department.

I am surprised by the fact that as a student, I no longer have access to these tutors to converse in the Charlas component of the Spanish program at LCC. The administrative cut of the Charlas prohibits the students from classroom time for this type of intimate exchange, which is so crucial to learning the nuances of the language. Now, we students must sit at crowded tables and attempt to cover the extensive material within a five-credit class, without any time for actual conversational intensives.

The Charlas, or Chats, allowed time for students to meet weekly during a term, to sit within an intimate group and converse in Spanish with tutors, native speakers of Spanish. Charlas served to help students utilize vocabulary, grammar and their understanding of cultural diversity learned earlier in the week during Spanish class. Charlas provided students the opportunity to experience encouragement, confidence and success in their developing communication skills, essential to learning any language.

I write you now, at this pivotal time, to encourage you to reinstate the Charlas and the administration coordination for the Spanish department so that these

dedicated teachers may continue to offer LCC students up-to-date information about language trends. The compilation and coordination of modern Spanish education materials dramatically enhance the knowledge gained from the basic educational textbook package. These coordinated materials expose

LCC students to real-time social issues and the contemporary aspects of cultural deficiency and intolerance

affection the 42.7 million Spanish speaking Hispanics in the United States (U.S. Census, July 1, 2005). In Oregon, 9.9 percent of the population today is Hispanic (U.S. Census, July 1, 2005). It is by exposing students to the cultural heritage of others and current events of our times that we can become engaged in cultural enrichment.

As administrators, it is essential that you understand the process of learning a language in an intimate setting. The romantic idea that students will become proficient in Spanish by merely reading a textbook, watching a video, or taking online classes is a very limited view of the global community.

It is through personal relationships and our communication with others that we learn and exchange language, culture, ethics and policies that help us all engage in creative problem-solving. The observation of body language, facial expressions, the forming of the words and concepts, pronunciations, and appropriate social applications of a language can only be learned from another person who has been immersed in that culture, affording us all a sense of cultural enrichment.

Language is very similar to art or math. It requires change in one's perspective, a willingness to drop concepts and expand on to other new concepts which are not quite understood at first, but with familiarity and observation, engagement and the open possibility of resolution, language, art and math can begin to influence how awe are able to communicate with others. This open-mindedness

allows us to contemplate what it is that we want to say and helps us to look into ourselves and explore who we are as human beings, our environmental impact and our interactions with others, and through this, our daily lives become enriched.

This journey is possible when students, teachers and tutorial programs are in place. I implore you to take the higher road and honor your instructors with a staff coordinator to help them with clerical necessities for the Spanish Program. I implore you to reinstate the Charlas, the once a week access to conversational exchanges with knowledgeable tutors so that students will be able to deepen their understanding of this language within an intimate setting, under the guidance of a fluent speaker of Spanish.

The profound effects of your generosity on these issues will serve to strengthen your relations with LCC staff at a time when the fibers that weave the lives and accomplishments of your careers and theirs are becoming worn from financial stress and conceptual dichotomy versus right, to the betterment of their contractual agreements versus right, to the betterment of the school, staff administration, student body and social impact of Spanish speakers graduating from LCC. Both are right, but an implied right is to help all parties. Obviously, when both sides work together for a higher purpose, the limitations that we set for each other and ourselves dissolve into the vast expanse of positive possibilities.

From this larger view, I encourage you to consider what can further your good intentions for your entire staff at LCC, their dedication to presenting a fine program to students seeking to learn Spanish and for students like me who want to be in a position to help others in our state. In this way, you can improve the lives of many, beyond your job at LCC. To be truly global, forward thinking and creative problem solvers, I ask that you look into your pure-hearted motivation to benefit others and open up the tended garden of LCC to the fields of possibility.



# State renews emphasis on higher education

*Education attainment goal helps Oregonians compete in the changing economy*

Willa Bauman  
News Editor

Oregon is moving its education system into the 21st century.

In 2005, the Oregon Business Council convened the Education Roundtable to come up with a set of policy recommendations for Oregon's academic system. These recommendations soon transformed into a goal for education attainment: By 2025, 40 percent of Oregonian's will have a bachelor's degree or higher, 40 percent will hold an associate's degree, and 20 percent will have a high school diploma as their highest academic certification by the age of 25.

Connie Lee, Oregon Community College Association board president, presented the '40-40-20' education plan to LCC's Board of Education on Feb. 13. The college has subsequently adopted the proposal.

"In the 21st century, America's ability to educate its people will increasingly determine its economic competitiveness as the country shifts from an industrial to an information economy," The League for Innovation in Community Colleges and the Education Commission for the States said in the recent publication, "Keeping America's Promise." This is the root reason for the 40-40-20 goal: to enable Oregon to compete in the modern, national economy.

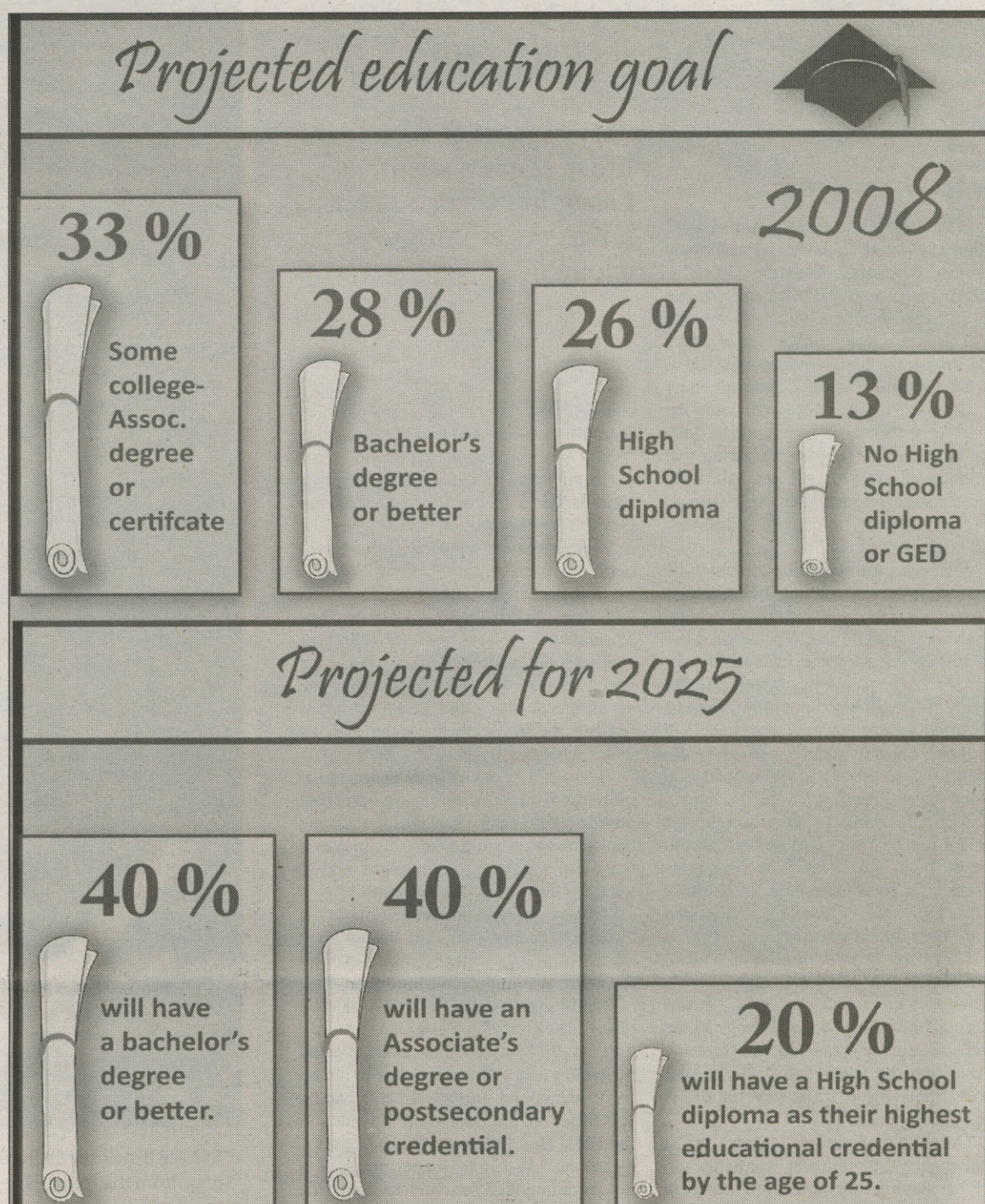
"There is a direct correlation between education and income with citizens who have higher levels of education earning substantially more money throughout their lifetimes than those who are not well educated," Kathryn Dysart, communications director for OCCA, said.

Currently, Oregon's educational attainment percentage is marginally higher than the rest of the nation. Twenty-eight percent of Oregonian's have a bachelor's degree or better, 33 percent have some college, 26 percent hold a high school diploma, while 13 percent do not have a high school diploma or GED. The "40-40-20" goal will attempt to almost double these figures in 17 years.

While the education plan affects all academic levels, it is expected to have a crucial impact on the role of community colleges, which are the primary access point into post-secondary education for many students and the primary workforce training provider. "Community colleges, however, are in a unique position because they address all levels to some degree. Oregonians who don't finish high school with their peers often come to community colleges to complete a high school or GED diploma ... Each phase of '40-40-20' impacts community colleges," Dysart stated.

The OCCA stated that with adequate funding, community colleges may fill the gap between the current percentage of Oregonians with higher education and the projected goal for 2025. Dysart implied that the "40-40-20" goal may give further incentive for renewed state funding for community colleges.

"If Oregon Community Colleges are to be successful in dramatically increasing their provision of services to a substantially larger number of students, the state will have to increase its investment in postsecondary education," she said. "This should produce more classes, more support services, and improved facilities for students."



graphic Diana White

# 'Laramie Project' sheds light on social awareness

## Matthew Shepard

was born on Dec. 1, 1976 in Casper, Wyoming. On October 7, 1998, he was dragged to a desolate spot in Wyoming, beaten and left to die by Aaron McKinney and Russell Henderson.

He died five days later in Fort Collins, Colorado. Since his death, Matthew Shepard's story has become symbolic of American hate crimes, fueling sympathy and interest in the plight of LGBT youth nationwide.

*Noted guest Judy Shepard speaks about personal hardship*

Bennett Mohler  
Reporter

South Eugene High School finished its production of Moises Kaufman's "The Laramie Project." The play is based on Matthew Shepard, who in 1998 was fatally attacked near Laramie, Wyo. in what is now one of the most infamous hate crimes in American history. To support the production and express her opinions on the play's subject matter Matthew's mother, Judy Shepard, visited the school.

"How great it is to see you all here. I'm so impressed. An unrequired assembly and just look at all your bright and shiny faces," Shepard said at the beginning of her speech.

The presentation was open for students at 2:20 p.m. and was shown again for the general public at 7 p.m. Classes finished up early so that students could attend the event. Attendance was not required even though students were excused early from school. The students and faculty at SEHS were enthusiastic about

having Judy Shepard personally come down for their performance. The auditorium, which has a capacity of 1,000 people, was full during the afternoon presentation. Only 1,650 students attend SEHS.

The presentation began with a video produced by Shepard and her husband Dennis that depicted several instances of hate crimes. The video also provided a brief history of hate crimes and was accompanied by a voice-over discussing of the nature of the crimes. Shepard's speech followed. She began by reciting her speech before the court at the time of the trial for Matthew's murderers. Later she spoke about progress in social issues involving the LGBT community. The remaining 20 minutes were set aside for questions from the audience.

Several sponsors, including LCC, made the assembly possible. The entire presentation cost SEHS \$10,000. While some of this money was used to cover Shepard's expenses, most of it will go to the Matthew Shepard Foundation.

Pat Avery, drama instructor, was largely in charge of the organization of the event and was proud that so many students attended. "More than half of them chose to come on a sunny day when they were already excused from school. So that's pretty wonderful," Avery said. However, the evening presentation was not

very well attended, with only 220 guests. "It's difficult to say why this was the case," Avery said. "If there's anything I'm disappointed about, it is the media's coverage ... or their lack of coverage."

The performance of "The Laramie Project" sold well for all of its showings. The production was very complex, requiring strenuous emotional involvement from the cast. A small ensemble of 11 students, mostly juniors and seniors, portrayed a cast of 65 different characters involved in Matthew's life and death.

"I didn't know what to think. Most of his dialogue was scripted so I had to go to the guy's website to get an idea of what he was about and man it was intense," Sam Morrison, junior at SEHS, said about portraying Fred Phelps, a reverend who has protested outside of funerals for people with AIDS.

"It was hard," said Laryssa Birdseye, a senior at SEHS. "We're dealing with some very heavy subject matter here, but in the end it was just a wonderful experience."

The cast and crew also had a chance to speak with Judy Shepard privately before her presentation. "It was really neat just to sit and chat with her," Ian Boyd, a junior, said. "It was very spontaneous. She became a real person instead of some vague image."

Both "The Laramie Project" and

the Matthew Shepard Foundation aren't about Matthew so much now as they are about saving other LGBT individuals from abuse, as well as creating awareness of this persecution. Shepard made it clear that her speech isn't ultimately about her son, but about the future of this issue.

"Matthew is no longer with us," Shepard said in her speech. "Our program is focused mostly on gay and lesbian young people that have been forced from their homes."

"There's nothing that can be done for Matthew now," Avery said. "He's gone. It's about what happens after and understanding why it happened in the first place and why it happens now."

"The Laramie Project" is presented in a way that suggests it isn't isolated to Matthew's attack. Instead of a dramatized documentation, the play allows the audience to relate the event to similar instances in their own life. Laramie is presented in a way that it could be any town, including the audience's.

"I think that theater has always been an agent of social change," Avery said. "It's an event that we never want to forget and the play allows us to remember. It's a very important piece that needs to be reproduced every five to 10 years."



# Songs from the heart

*LCC faculty and guests perform ensemble of specially selected songs*

Nicole Perkins  
*Arts Editor*

The sounds and inspirations of LCC voice and music instructors will blend together in "Songs from the Heart," a unique performance where students can observe their teachers' talents in action.

The evening is a collection of opera and Broadway tunes, performed by three LCC faculty members and two University of Oregon faculty guests, all with the underlying theme of relationships, love and heartbreak. "It's the one string that connects all the pieces," Siri Vik, LCC voice instructor, said. "All these [songs] are 'appassionata,' about hearts breaking and hearts full of joy."

Vik began training in opera when she was 15. After completing her master's degree at the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, Vik focused her interest on the European cabaret sounds, a genre that incorporates acting into the songs. "In opera it's about pretty sounds, it started to get boring," she said. Vik said the cabaret style "seemed really interesting to me, it's more gritty. It called for good acting."

Since the concert program is compiled by the performers, it allows them to "really pick and choose the highlights of music," David Gustafson, LCC music instructor, said. The song collection spans over three centuries.

Gustafson started singing as a child in a Eugene church, encouraged by his father, a former UO professor. "I was singing before my voice changed," he said. Gustafson traveled, performing music until he wanted to have "a little more stable life ... The key for me is being in Eugene."

Gustafson describes opera as a challenge. "My biggest challenge in life is staying attentive ... I sang in jazz choirs but it was never intriguing

"My biggest challenge in life is staying attentive ... I sang in jazz choirs but it was never intriguing enough."

DAVID GUSTAFSON  
LCC MUSIC INSTRUCTOR

enough." He said that other music genres seem easy as opposed to opera, which is "really singing and making music."

In addition to the LCC instructors, John Jantzi, a UO music professor and David Webster, who is working as the UO opera theatre director until June, will perform.

Webster, who has performed on Broadway in productions such as "Les Miserables," is looking forward to "just singing some loud music" at the upcoming performance. He explained that the performance is a good opportunity for not only the faculty, but "for the students to see what the teachers can do."

Though the concert is an ensemble of individual songs, including excerpts from operas, the performers will be giving background on each piece. "It makes a huge difference if the audience knows what's going on," Gustafson said.

"We're going to be acting it out to the best of our ability," Vik said. In each song the performers will be trying to express the flavor and concept of the scene.

"Songs from the Heart" will take place on Thursday, Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Performance Hall, located in Building 6. Admission is \$10 or \$8 for students and seniors. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance at the EMU Box Office on the UO campus by calling 346-4363. The performance is not recommended for children under the age of six.



Photo Curtis McCain

LCC Voice Instructor Laura Wayte and University of Oregon Music Professor John Jantzi rehearse for "Songs from the Heart." The performance is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 21 at 7:30 p.m. in the Performance Hall in Building 6.



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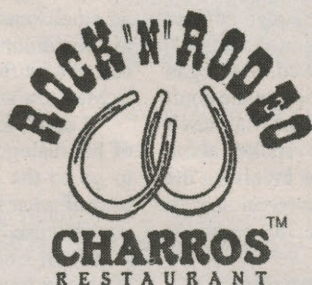
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## Weekend Beat

**Friday 2/22**

**WOW Hall:** An Acoustic Evening with Floater.  
Showtime 9 p.m. \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door.

**Cozmic Pizza:** Middle Eastern Guild of Eugene.  
Showtime 8:30 p.m. \$4

**Axe and Fiddle:** I-Chele and the Circle of Light.  
Showtime 8:30 p.m. \$5

**Sam Bond's:** The Badmitten Orchestre.  
Showtime 9 p.m. \$5

**Saturday 2/23**

**WOW Hall:** An Acoustic Evening with Floater.  
Showtime 9 p.m. \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door.

**Bel Ami:** Olem Alves Trio. Showtime 10 p.m. Free

**John Henry's:** Johnny Cash tribute night.  
Showtime 10 p.m. \$4

**Sunday 2/24**

**Sam Bond's:** Irish Jam. 5 p.m. Free

**Tsunami Books:** Drummers in the Round. 5 p.m. \$3 suggested donation.

**Cozmic Pizza:** Jasper Mountain, The Water Tower String Band. 7 p.m. Free

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*Lecture and film series delves into conflict resolution*

Word" exhibit.

"The subject is so deep and so subtle ... what is it? How does it work?" Tim Hicks, director of the University of Oregon's Conflict and Dispute Resolution master's program, said.

At the series' core is "The F-Word," an exhibit of photos and stories put together by The Forgiveness Project, an organization based in Britain. The project "presents stories of people who have suffered major trauma and are confronted with whether to forgive or not," Hicks, who co-organized the event, said. "The desire is to promote public dialogue about the role of forgiveness."

"They've [the people in the exhibit] faced it in a variety of ways, but they've all had to struggle with it," Hicks said, describing the exhibit.

The series begins on Feb. 22 with an opening reception by Aqeela Sherrills, one of the featured individuals in "The F-

Azim Khamisa, whose story is featured in the exhibit, will present "Restorative Justice: A New Paradigm for Social Transformation." Khamisa's

son, Tariq, a 20 year old student, was shot in 1995 while he was delivering pizza. The shooter became the first 14 year old to be charged as an adult in California, and received a 25-year prison sentence. Khamisa reached out to Ples Felix, the shooter's grandfather, and they now work together in the Tariq Khamisa Foundation, an organization that describes itself as "stopping children from killing children."

Restorative justice is a theme not only in this series, but in the Conflict and Dispute Resolution program at the UO. Students in the program, which is in its third year, study conflict and mediation in local and international communities.

Hicks will also give a speech in the series, entitled "Forgiveness and climate change," focusing on how humanity will face an unprecedented and possibly life threatening condition.

"One of the questions is how we factor in climate change as a species; how do we explain it?" he said. "We're both offender and victim. How do we look at ourselves and go forward?" Hicks lecture will be held on Feb. 23 at 5 p.m. at The Shedd, located at 868 High Street.

In addition to lectures and discussions, three documentaries will be shown during the series, all dealing with the concept of acceptance and forgiveness. The films will be shown in the UO School of Law, 1515 Agate Street, Room 175.

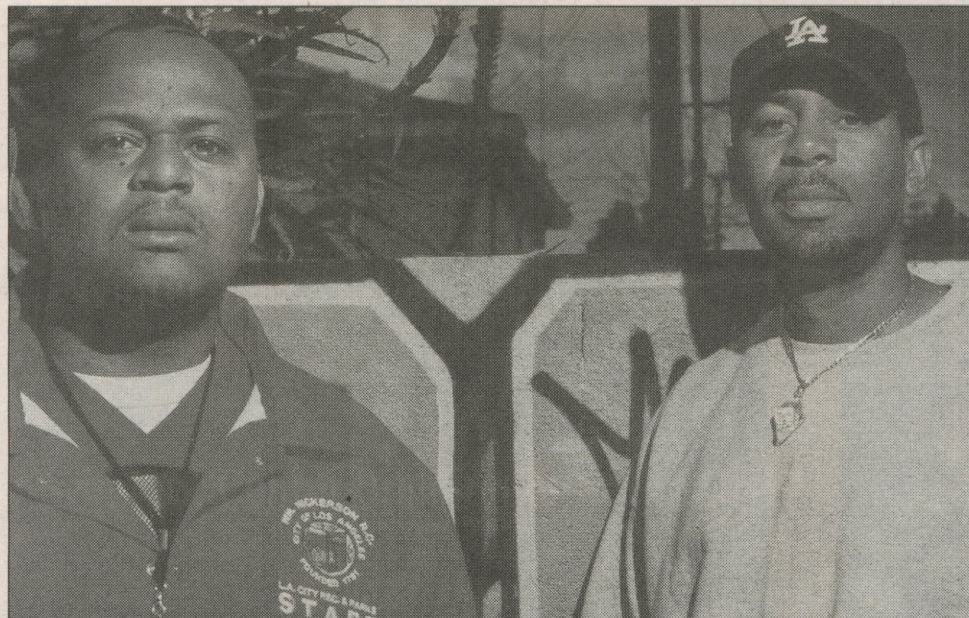
For a complete listing of the event's schedule, visit [www.conflict.uoregon.edu/forgivenessevents.html](http://www.conflict.uoregon.edu/forgivenessevents.html). All of the events are free.

Hicks believes this series is important for a community "because all of us - as we go through life - are going to hurt somebody in a small or large way."



Photo **Curtis McCain**

*To forgive* [fər ˈɡɪv] 1. to cease to feel resentment against (an offender).



Aqeela Sherrills and Calvin Hodges, who are featured in "The F-Word" exhibit, grew up in opposing gangs in Los Angeles. They now work together in a peace and reconciliation center. Aqeela Sherrills will speak at the opening reception for the "Realms of Forgiveness" series, Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m. at the Fenario Art Gallery and again on Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. at The Shedd.



Photos courtesy of The Forgiveness Project

Azim Khamisa and Ples Felix both strive to stop youth-caused violence for the Tariq Khamisa Foundation. Tariq, Azim's son, was killed by Felix's grandson who only 14 at the time and is now serving a 25 year prison sentence.

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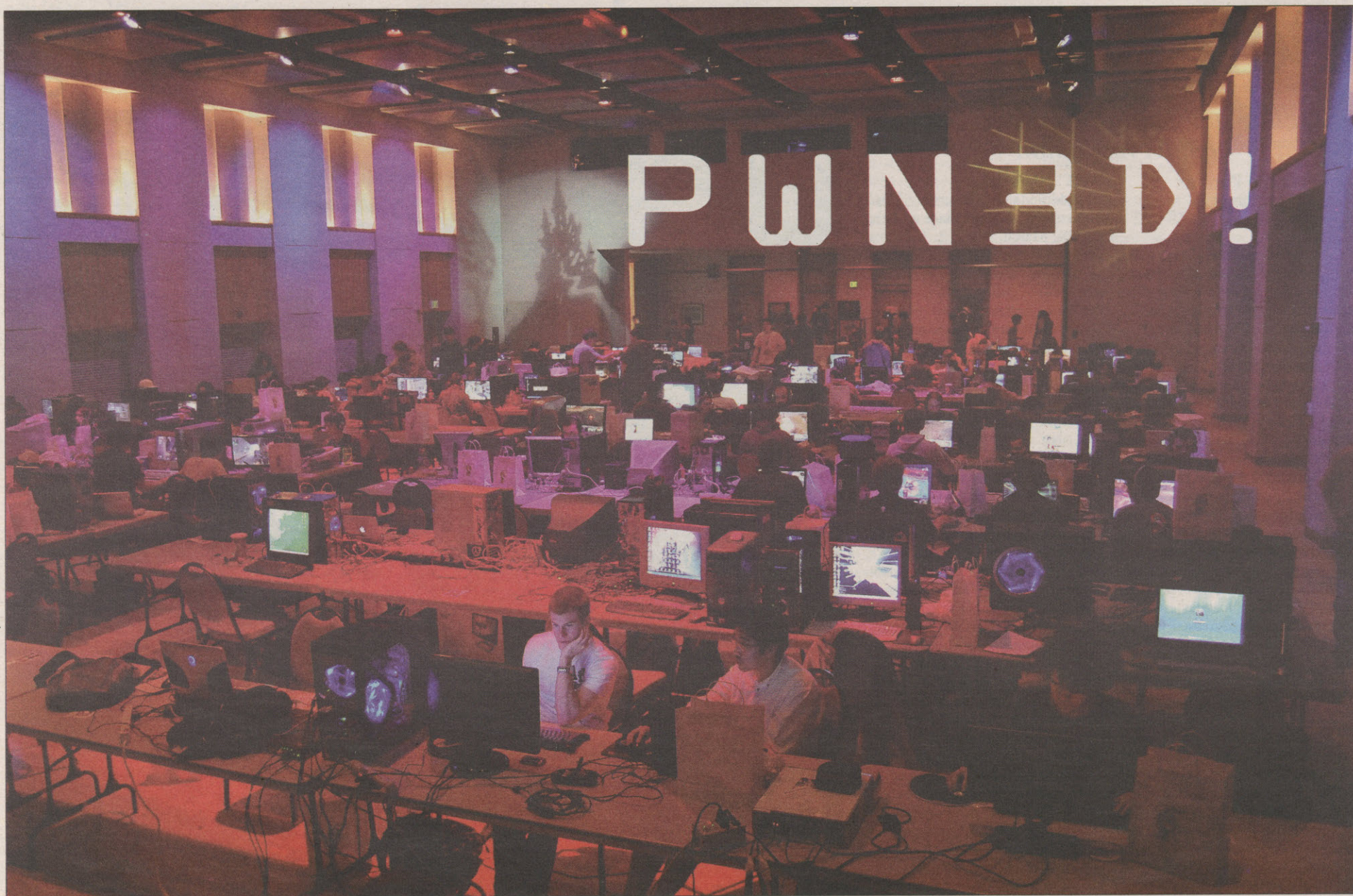


Photo Jeremy Banchard

180 gamers gathered at the third annual emuLAN party on the University of Oregon campus, coming together for 24 hours of video game madness.

### *emuLAN 3.0 creates a 24-hour video game player's paradise at UO*

Lana Boles  
Features Editor

The Erb Memorial Union ballroom, on the University of Oregon campus, was filled with rows of tables upon which laptops and desktops were set with screens aglow, illuminating the faces of the many people who gathered at the third annual local area network party, emuLAN 3.0.

For 24 hours from Friday, Feb. 15 at 4 p.m. until Saturday at 4 p.m., emuLAN 3.0 provided approximately 180 gamers with a venue for playing video games.

"Usually LANs consist of a bunch of people getting their computers together and then playing four or five

different games," Kristofor Miller, gamer and LCC student, said.

For the third year in a row, emuLAN has provided an environment where gamers ranging in ages and interests converge for 24-hours of eye-straining, mouse-finger sore making, back-slouching fun.

With 38 volunteers, approximately \$250,000 worth of equipment and countless cups of coffee, energy drinks and prepackaged pastries, emuLAN 3.0 pulled off the most attended emuLAN thus far.

On Friday evening the heat of electricity filled the large EMU ballroom. A big screen on the stage showed scenes of battle and at the opposite end of the room couches faced another big screen where four

guys played Mario Kart on Nintendo 64.

Although most of the eyes in the room were fixated on monitors, some people were interacting with others, walking around, socializing. Most of the gamers were college-age males, although there were a few teenagers, younger kids and a handful of women.

Many people remarked that they play video games everyday, some several hours a day. The annual LAN parties give them a chance to interact with like-minded gamers.

Some people were playing massively multiplayer online role-playing games like World of Warcraft, while some others chose real-time strategy games such as Dawn of War.

A few people were gathered in four smaller rooms where game consoles were set up for games such as Halo 3, Rock Band and Guitar Hero.

Of the approximately 180 people

in attendance, about 25 were console-only players. They didn't pay for table space for a computer, they stuck to the consoles — Wii, Nintendo 64, PlayStation3 and Xbox 360 — which were also available to everyone.

"Console gaming is more casual," Miller said, you can pick up a controller and play for a few minutes and walk away, whereas PC gaming is "for hardcore gamers."

Having the consoles at emuLAN 3.0 makes for more of a community environment, where people are interacting with each other, Bonnie Rose, emuLAN marketing assistant said.

Miguel Chavez, UO student, said he comes to the LAN parties to play the games he enjoys in the company of other gamers. He prefers RTS first-person shooter games like Starcraft and Unreal Tournament 3.

By 5 a.m. on Saturday, some gamers were losing steam. A couple

people were resting, cheek-to-keys with their keyboards. One guy was stretched out on a couch in the room where Mario Kart was still being played. Some people had left, leaving empty spaces where gamers were at one time playing nearly shoulder-to-shoulder.

By the end of the party three LAN tournaments — Team Fortress 2, Call of Duty 4 and Counter Strike: Source — had concluded and so had five console tournaments — Super Smash Bros. Melee, Mario Kart: Double Dash!, Halo 3 and Guitar Hero III.

There was even a Rock Band competition where people formed bands whose style and abilities were judged by experienced Rock Band gamers. The top four bands performed on the main stage in the ballroom.

The next emuLAN will not happen for another year, but in Portland, the PDXLAN brings hundreds of gamers together several times a year.



Photo Isaac Viel

Leonard Madarang on vocals, Nathan Montgomery on guitar, David Bell on bass guitar and Charles LaMothe on the drums are rocking out with Rock Band on the Xbox 360 in one of the four console game rooms.



Photo Isaac Viel

Kristofor Miller plays first-person shooter, role-playing and real-time strategy games. The first video game he ever played was the Atari 2600 when he was three and then went on to play first-person shooter games when he was five. He's playing Dawn of War, an RTS game.





Photo illustration Curtis McCain

People in wheelchairs sometimes experience difficulty getting around campus. There are no elevators in the performance arts building, it can only be accessed by ramps, and the No Cash Clothing Stash is not handicap accessible, residing above the gymnasium without an elevator for access.

### *LCC meets the standards set by the Americans with Disabilities Act, but what does that mean to students*

Lana Boles  
*Features Editor*

There's a multitude of individuals at LCC who are mobility challenged and the needs of this population vary widely. Some individuals are identifiable by their use of mobility aids — wheelchairs, crutches, walkers and canes — while other people with mobility issues

may be less identifiable, such as people with fibromyalgia (chronic pain), multiple sclerosis or back injury.

LCC is constantly working to make campus more accessible for people with special needs. Some students with limited mobility find the campus comfortable and accessible, while others said that it's a struggle to get around campus and be comfortable in their classes.

Bill McNair uses an electric wheelchair and

has worked in the senior companion program at LCC for 18 years. He finds the campus very accessible and has no problems getting around.

McNair and his coworker Herman Wela, who has been at LCC 20 years, said that the elevators have made a big difference at LCC.

One common complaint is the crowded elevators in the Center Building. Christina Ford is a full-time student at LCC and uses an electric wheelchair. "I've been late to classes ...

it's really inconvenient," Ford said.

A problem many that people with mobility issues face on campus is finding parking. Jimmy Davis, who uses a cane to assist his walking, has found that there are some days when he cannot find an available handicap-parking place.

Another student who also uses an electric wheelchair suggested turning some of the motorcycle parking spots that are close to the buildings into handicap-parking places.

"There really isn't a classroom that I can think of on [LCC's] main campus that is not accessible."

NANCY HART  
DIRECTOR OF DISABILITY SERVICES

"When the architects came to remodel and design, they asked people in wheelchairs to help them ... the college is in the forefront of accessibility."

KIM HAYES  
VOCATIONAL TRAINER FOR SPECIALIZED SUPPORT SERVICES.

## Therapeutic Exercise and Rehabilitation offered at LCC

*Where therapy and exercise are brought together*

Lana Boles  
*Features Editor*

Every term at LCC, a multitude of physical education classes are offered. Within the PE program, there are Therapeutic Exercise and Rehabilitation classes geared specifically for individuals who have a wide variety of special needs.

The purpose of the therapeutic exercise program is to work with people who have sustained injuries or live with physical disabilities, enabling them to safely exercise in a supportive community while empowering them to be able to participate in PE classes outside of the therapy classes or workout at home or at another gym independently.

Therapeutic Exercise and Rehabilitation Coordinator Shannon Gaul, has been working at LCC for 8 years and works with people

Four therapeutic PE classes will be offered Spring term: PE41579, PE40645, PE40644 and PE40642.

who have everything from fibromyalgia to post-traumatic stress disorder to injuries incurred in car accidents.

Gaul and students in the cooperative physical education program are able to work with individuals on a personal level.

People must have a diagnosis from a doctor so that a program can be put together specifically for each individual's needs.

"Every story is a success story," Gaul said. Many people who have taken advantage of the classes have remarked to Gaul that it has changed their lives.

## LCC Main Campus

- Built in 1963
- LCC complied with the Rehabilitation Act of 1974, which addressed the equal rights of people with disabilities
- Meets most of the basic access guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- 8 elevators
- 13 ramps
- 28 exterior electric doors
- 82 handicapped parking spaces

## Disability Services

- Serves 500-700 students per year.
- 20 percent of those students have a condition that impacts their mobility.
- 40 students have requested special furniture accommodations this term, 110 this academic year.
- 2007-08 LCC approved budget for Disability Services is \$625,584.



# 'Jail Blazers' era ends as a new one begins

*Up north,  
professional basketball  
has something brewing*

If you were a sports fan in the early '90s and you lived in Oregon like me, chances are good that you were a Portland Trail Blazers fan.

Admittedly, I was a Michael Jordan/Chicago Bulls fan (come on, who wasn't?) but the Blazers were my second favorite team in those days. The point is, whatever happened to 'Rip City'?

Let's start by paying homage to the 1977 Trail Blazers that started it all by winning the NBA championship with hall of famers Bill Walton, Mo Cheeks and Head Coach Jack Ramsay.

The Blazers were a franchise that had only one winning season prior to that title. Between 1982 and 2003, Portland went to the playoffs 21 consecutive times, which is the second most in NBA history.

During that streak was the golden era of Blazer basketball. In 1990, legendary play-by-play announcer Bill Schonely coined the term 'Rip City.'

Those were the days when I ate way too much Franz bread trying to collect Blazer trading cards and bugged my mother to go to

our local Dairy Queen and get the latest Clyde Drexler or Jerome Kersey collectible glasses.

Even former Oregon governor Barbara Roberts got into the swing of 'Blazermania' and lent a cameo to the locally infamous pop-rap song "Bust a Bucket" that played on every radio station in Oregon. Just think of a basketball version of the Super Bowl Shuffle. (Commence YouTube-ing, I'll wait.)

The Oregon governor allowing herself to be associated with something as trivial as professional sports and most importantly an exuberant fan base who really embraced the team, the Portland Trail Blazers must have been a big deal.

From my own personal perception, the team reciprocated the feelings. No players were ever in trouble with the law and always supported local charities. All of the players, no matter how important they were on the team, would support even the smallest local Oregonian businesses by pitching their products. They were also very accessible to the media during those years as well.

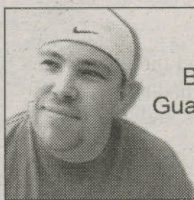
A major turning point came when, after teetering for so many years on the brink of almost winning a championship, the owner

and management got desperate. Perhaps you've heard the term 'Jail Blazers'? It was a sad and dark time for the franchise when the management wanted a championship so bad they hired employees with raw talent but questionable character. Between the numerous (no exaggeration) DWI's, drug possessions, rape charges, gun charges, paternity suits, referee shoving and a dog-fighting ring, the 'Jail Blazers' had eventually reaped the fruits of their labor. The Blazers haven't made the playoffs since 2003.

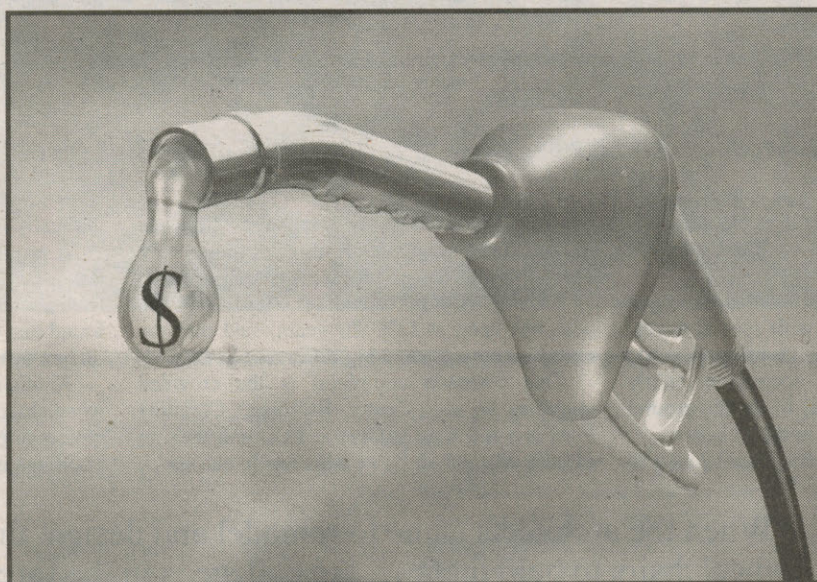
The national media had caught on to the 'Jail Blazers' tagline, and the local media had sharply criticized the management for atrocious team building.

The Blazers management was so sensitive through its recent years of poor decision making that tensions ran high with The Oregonian and other local papers when they reported unfavorable information regarding the team.

Henry Abbott of ESPN.com wrote about the situation, "There has never been a team of any kind, in the history of eternity, that won over the public while declaring war on the reporters covering the team."



Bob Rodgers  
Guarding the Point



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JB Botwinick  
Sports Editor

*Where's  
the noise, LCC?*

Wednesday, Feb. 13 was the final night of home games for the LCC basketball teams. It was a big night for both the men and the women. A season and a streak were on the line. When the teams hit the court one could feel the excitement. Then the players looked out into the stands, and found most of them empty.

Where's the noise, LCC? We have a top-rated women's team and a men's team one game away from the playoffs, and there are barely any people to cheer them on. In an unofficial head count it was found that only 75 to 100 people attended the Feb. 13 game.

That is ridiculous. Why aren't we, as a community, supporting our sports teams? Going to sports events shows that we are united as a student body and gives support to our athletics programs.

Why should we support our athletics program with more than our student fees? A good athletics program improves LCC's reputation and makes it more attractive to student athletes not ready for a four-year school. Attracting these athletes gives us a larger quantity of full-time students, which gives the school more money and provides more diversity on campus. Money and diversity are definitely things that we need more of here at LCC.

Winter sports are winding down but spring sports will start soon. Instead of making another trip to the mall or sitting around at home, why not go to a LCC sports event? Bring your friends; bring your homework. Even if you don't like sports the games are still fun to be at. All sports events are very family friendly so bring everyone you can, mom and dad, the wife and kids, girlfriends, boyfriends, any friends, it's a good chance to sit back and spend time with the people you care about. And you can show support for your school and community.

Maybe in the future we can see the day where our gym is packed with blue and white-clad students ready to cheer on their team. But until then I don't think 75 to 100 people is going to cut it.



# Titan men make the playoffs!

*It all came down to the last night of league play*

JB Botwinick  
*Sports Editor*

The Titans suffered a heartbreaking loss against the Southwestern Lakers on Feb. 13. The 84-74 defeat seriously affected LCC's chances of getting into the fourth and final spot for the playoffs.

It was a high-energy game from the very beginning with both teams playing at a high tempo, keeping the game within ten points. At the end of the first half the Lakers were in the lead, but only by four. It was the beginning of the second half that the Titans started to waver.

"We were our own worst enemy. We didn't get back at times. We didn't execute well at times and we didn't stop the ball at times on defense," Bruce Chavka, head coach for LCC, said.

As the clock wound down, LCC found themselves down by 15. It was then that they found their spark and started to rally back against the Lakers. With some beautiful plays by Dominique Watson, well-timed free throws from Travon Mouton and back-to-back threes from Aric Wright, the Titans were able to come within five points in the final minutes of the game. But the Lakers proved to be too much, pulling away at the very end to finish the game with a ten-point lead.

"I thought we handled their pressure. We knew that they were going to play us tough and defend us well, and we were able to withstand some runs that they made," Trevor Hoppe, head coach for the Lakers, said.

The Titans faced the Lakers without starter Kyle Winkler who was sick with the flu. Winkler's absence may have been the missing link that LCC needed to win the game.

"I knew it was going to be a tough one without Kyle," Chavka said. "[Southwestern] wants you to play fast and Kyle would be able to run our team and get us to play the way that we wanted to play."

High scorers for LCC were Watson with 17

and Mouton with 16. Emmanuel Olekaibe led the Lakers with 22. Power forward Matt Dance had a stand out night for the Lakers with 18 points and 17 rebounds.

After their loss on Feb. 13, the Titans made their longest road trip of the season to Mt. Hood to face the Saints.

LCC defeated Mt. Hood in their last match-up, but the Saints went on to win several big games and even topple the undefeated Umpqua Riverhawks. Despite Mt. Hood's improvement, the Titans went into the game confident. But Coach Chavka was wary of the team. "Well it was their sophomore night, we're always concerned about that, when a teams having a sophomore night, because you think the kids are going to step up and play a lot better than they normally have been," Chavka said.

In the end, the Titans came out with an 86-79 victory. Outstanding performances from Watson, who led the Titans with 28 points, and a newly recovered Winkler, who had 26 points, were the main reason for the win.

Chavka was happy to have Winkler back on the court. "It just shows that we're a whole different team when he's playing with us," Chavka said. "He just brings a steady calm influence to our team and really handles the ball and does what he's supposed to do."

Going into the final league games there was a three-way tie for the fourth and final spot in the playoffs between LCC, Mt. Hood, and Chemeketa. Who went to the playoffs depended on how all three teams did last night.

"We all know what's on the table," Chavka said before the game. It was a tense situation for the Titans, but they coped with the pressure and came out with a 74-66 win against Linn-Benton. That coupled with Mt. Hood's loss to Portland assured them the fourth spot in the rankings and a place in the playoffs.

"We're goin'," Chavka said over his cell phone. The cheers of his team could easily be heard in the background.



Photo Curtis McCain

Dominique Watson leaps towards the basket in the game against Southwestern Oregon Community College Feb. 13.

## Lady Titans go undefeated at home for another season

*LCC women continue to play strong*

JB Botwinick  
*Sports Editor*

The lady Titans are showing no signs of slowing down as the season comes to an end. With back-to-back wins this week, they showed they are most certainly a force to be reckoned with.

The lady Titans at LCC decimated the Southwestern Oregon Lakers on Feb. 13. LCC quickly took the lead in the first half due to several turnovers by the Lakers squad. By the end of the first half the lady Titans led the Lakers 52-20.

"We went back on our heels and had entirely too many turnovers in that first half and got ourselves into a huge hole," Stacia Rustad, head coach for the Lakers, said. Turnovers would continue to plague the Lakers team for the rest of the game; they would finish with 27 total. Rustad, obviously frustrated, could easily be heard down the hallway as she spoke to her team at halftime.

Despite Rustad's efforts to fire her team up, LCC continued to dominate the game in the second half as they brought all but one of their players off the bench. In the end, LCC took the

game 95-39 securing their 63rd win at home making this their seventh straight season to go undefeated on their home court.

"I'm very pleased with tonight we played with a lot of energy, we were selfless distributing the ball around. We played great defense, I'm very very pleased," Greg Sheley, head coach for LCC's women's team, said.

It was a big night for the Titans bench with seven players out of the 13-woman roster scoring at least one basket. Mercedes Alexander led the lady Titans with 25 points for the game. Stephanie Stephens was also a high scorer for the Titans with 18 points. The lady Titans had a tremendous game all across the board and simply out played the Lakers team.

"We broke down mentally and therefore our game broke down physically," Rustad said, clearly unhappy with her team's performance. Though disappointed with the outcome of the game Rustad held no ill will for the Titans, "I hope they go on and make our Southern region proud."

Now guaranteed the top spot in the Southern region, LCC is staying focused on getting through league play and on to the tournament. "We have got to finish out the last couple games and continue to get better," Sheley said. "I think we're playing really well right now."



Photo Curtis McCain

LCC's Alysha Moore drives the ball past the Laker's Brianna Wallace in the Feb. 13 game.

**UPDATE:** Lady Titans beat Linn-Benton in the final game of league play with a final score of 77-56. Now the team sets its sights on the playoffs and the NWAACC championships.



# Travon Mouton, a true player

*Houston born hoopster wraps up his final season as a Titan*

JB Botwinick  
Sports Editor

To anyone attending the men's basketball games this season, the fierce play of number five Travon Mouton could not have been missed. Battling alongside his teammates to make it to the playoffs, Mouton has been an invaluable asset this season. Anyone who's met Mouton will quickly see a young man who loves the game of basketball. What they may not see is how he came to be here at LCC through his drive to better himself both on and off the court.

"Where I'm from is Houston, Texas!" Mouton is quick to say. Mouton was born on March 6, 1987 and raised in Houston until he relocated to Eugene in 2005. He began playing basketball at age seven and joined his first team at age nine. "I've been a ballplayer ever since then," Mouton said. Mouton participated in several sports growing up, but basketball would remain his focus. "I've played other sports but basketball is the main sport that kept me out of trouble," Mouton said.

Unsure about what to do after high school, Mouton was helped by former University of Oregon basketball player Andre Joseph, who pointed him towards Eugene. Joseph and Mouton attended the same high school in Houston and had formed a friendship as workout partners. Upon Joseph's encouragement Mouton made a trip to Eugene and immediately fell in love with the city.

"I saw all the trees and not very many buildings and I knew that it was a new environment I could come into," Mouton said. He felt it was important for him to leave his home in Houston in order to be successful. "The neighborhood I'm from is pretty bad," Mouton said. "I felt that if I was going to be able to pursue what I wanted to do in life I had to be away and just move out."

Since moving to Eugene, Mouton has been pursuing an education at LCC. Though he remains undecided on a major Mouton has a good idea of what he's studying for. "I would like to work with kids or with child protection services," Mouton said. "I've been taking a lot of classes in that area." Though he hopes to continue to pursue basketball as a career goal, Mouton is serious about his education. "I want to get my education and better myself in the world," Mouton said.

Mouton admitted that as a student athlete, the academic side proves to be more of a challenge. "I just want to go out and grab a basketball," he said.

Academics proved to be a problem for the young athlete last year when he found himself ineligible to play with his team. Despite his troubles in the classroom, Mouton continued to practice with the Titans impressing Head Coach Bruce Chavka.

"He came up ineligible, and a lot of times when a kid finds that out they just bail. Well he stayed and he practiced with us last year, and this year you could just see the light go on," Chavka said. Chavka was quick to say how proud of Mouton he was, "that's why you get into teaching and coaching to someday be in that situation where you know a kid sort of figures out what he is here for. He is here to get an education. He is here to compete and take care of business."

This year marked Mouton's second and final season playing for the LCC Titans. He is currently planning on attending Evergreen State in Olympia, Wash. where he will play on the basketball team and continue to pursue an education. After college Mouton hopes to play professional basketball. "I would play in any league. I don't care if its overseas, under seas, it can be in Pakistan, I don't care. As long as they have a basketball court and they're paying me, I'll play."

Mouton has stood out in the past season. He may not be the highest scorer, but he most certainly is one of the hardest workers for the Titans. The Titans' players and staff will surely miss his presence on the court.

"He is going to be a huge loss because he is a really athletic player. He can do a lot of things: shoot the ball, rebound and play defense on bigger opponents. He runs the floor well and he is a third-year guy so he brings leadership to the table," Chavka said.

Assistant Coach Brian Stamme smiled as he recounted one of his fondest memories of Mouton. "I think my all-time favorite moment is when he had come off a terrible week and was having trouble getting his [school] bill paid. His classes were dropped and we were away at a tournament and he wasn't sure if he was going to be able to play. Then at the last minute we got the call from the [athletics director] saying he could play. He had 17 points and 15 rebounds in that game. That was really a big highlight."

For Chavka, Mouton's trademark smile is his favorite memory. "If times get rough, if things get heavy, he flashes that grin and makes things light. He gets everyone else laughing and you sort of know everything will be ok."

If he continues to show the determination and focus to better himself as he has in the past, we may hear a lot more about Travon Mouton in the future. "We want him to graduate from a four-year school and continue to be successful in his life. Hopefully his [basketball] career will continue," Chavka said. "I think the future is bright for him."



Photos Curtis McCain

Travon Mouton sits in the bus stop at LCC. "It's fitting," a smiling Mouton said, "cause I ride the bus."

(Below) Mouton determinedly drives the ball past a dismayed looking Kevin Reynolds in the Feb. 13 game.



## TRAVON'S PERSONAL TRIVIA:

**Age:** 20, can't wait to be 21

**Hometown:** Houston, Texas

**Position:** Guard/Forward

**Years at LCC:** 3

**Years Playing Basketball:** 13

**Recruitment status:** Committed to Evergreen State

**Favorite memory at LCC:**

Making the playoffs freshman year





# Students pack a lunch

*Lawmakers receive unconventional thank you from students*

Sandy Wilcox  
Assistant News Editor

College students across the state gathered to present traditional sack lunches to Oregon legislators to thank them for funding higher education during the 2007 legislative session.

On Feb. 13, a group of LCC students joined Western Oregon University students as well as Oregon Student Association representatives to deliver the lunches.

Each lunch consisted of a peanut butter and jelly sandwich and an Oregon apple 'to nourish the minds of Oregon students,' as stated in a Feb. 13 press release. The lunches also included lemon bars, brownies, crispy rice treats and a 'Now & Later' candy, symbolic of 'Thank you now and don't forget students later,' stated the press release.

"With these bagged lunches, we are both thanking our legislators for the great job they did last session for Oregon's college and university students as well as reminding them to keep it up," Mike Filippelli, OSA board of directors member, said in a Feb. 7 media advisory.

The sack lunches were part of a continuing student effort to ask legislators to fund higher education. Last year on May 3, students held a symbolic bake sale at the capitol asking legislators to invest in higher education.

The baked goodies ranged in price from an \$875 million brownie representing the requested funding for Oregon universities, \$529 million crispy rice treats representing community college funding, \$47 million slices of carrot cake and frosted cupcakes ranging from \$1 million for the student child care program and \$103 and \$594 million for capitol construction funding for community colleges and universities.

"A continued reinvestment in postsecondary education is what will ensure that our economy has the college-educated workforce it needs for the future," Filippelli said.

Though the Oregon State Legislature did not fund all of OSA's proposed issues, college students still thanked the legislators for the support they gave to higher education.

Student Alejandro Jaurez, LCC's OSA campus organizer who

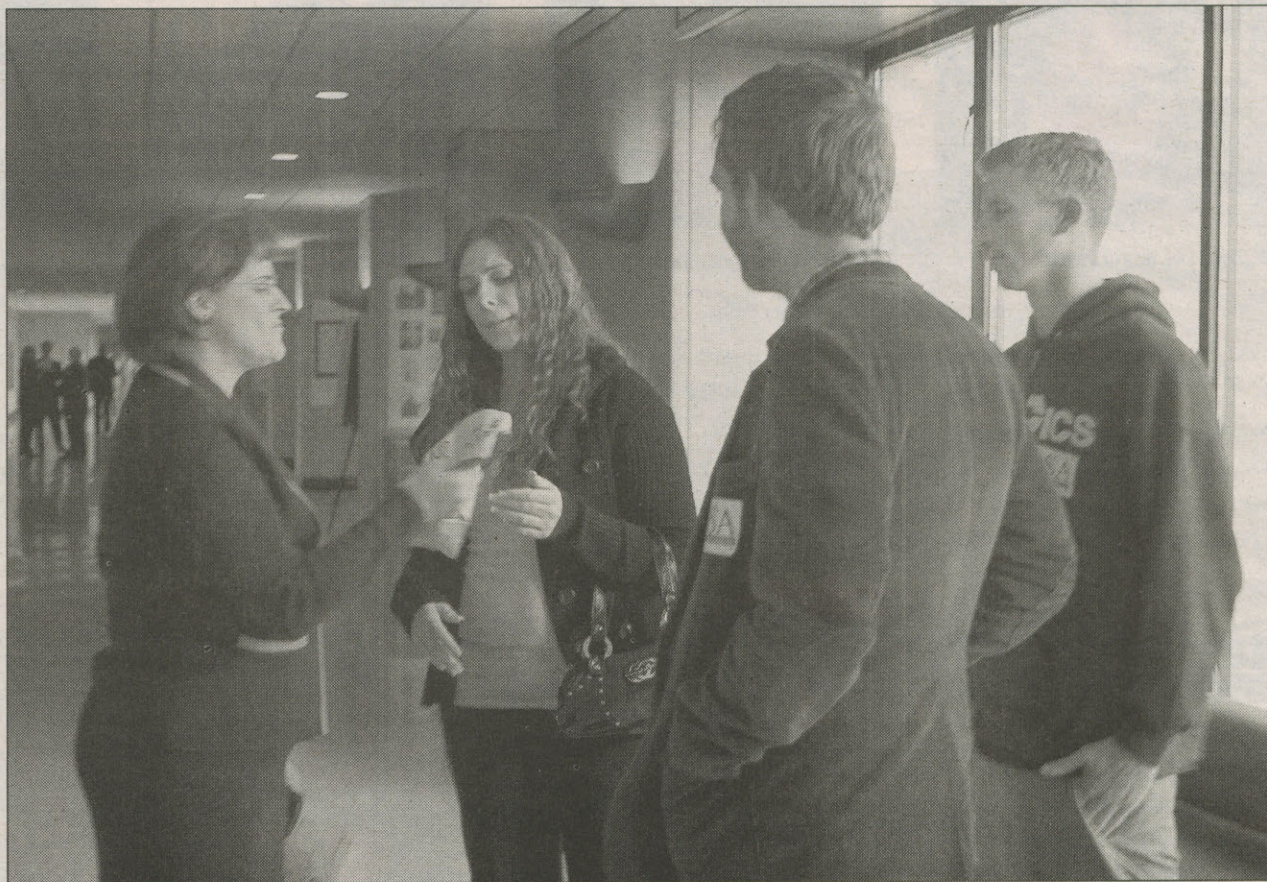


Photo Sandy Wilcox

Oregon Senator Vicki Walker receives a sack lunch from LCC students Darla Hicks, Max McNally and Kyle Goodman.

also attended the Feb. 13 trip to the capitol, said that it was a beneficial trip for representatives to meet with the students so they could keep higher education issues in mind for the future, as well as providing a chance for students to interact with the legislators. "Legislators will also keep us in mind throughout the year as we enter this recession ... although they did invest, it's a continual thing.

They shouldn't disinvest in higher education. It's putting that into their minds a lot sooner then they will be making concrete decisions on funding," Jaurez said.

Since Feb. 4 the Oregon state legislature has been in the midst of its first-ever supplemental legislative session, which is a special session where the legislators discuss a variety of issues as opposed to a specific topic.

## PEACE, from page 1

pointing out that he and LCC President Mary Spilde came up with the notion some time ago. However, he said, the original idea of the conference was presented last year to the Peace Center Committee.

"The thing that really made it possible is the endowed chair fund, which was awarded to the peace fund" to allow the process to begin" he said. "It's something that's been my dream and I know it's been the dream of others as well."

For Taylor, this is the first conference he has helped organize, a task he described as both difficult and rewarding.

He concluded, "I have to say that it's

very gratifying that all the people who are presenters or panelists are coming from all over, and they're donating their time for free. Their response to help manifest this, I think, is a phenomenal thing. They're really quite extraordinary."

Conference hours on Friday, Feb. 29, are from 9 a.m. to 8:45 p.m. Hours on Saturday, March 1, are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. It should be noted that the conference is free to all LCC students on Friday from 10 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

For further information about the conference or for ticket prices, call the LCC Peace Center at 463-5608 or [www.lanec.edu/peacecenter](http://www.lanec.edu/peacecenter).

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# Think About It

'How would you feel about having a 21-year-old student as the mayor of Eugene?'



**Liza Rosa-Diaz**

Music

"Age wouldn't have a factor in it. It would be what his plans are to do for Eugene. I would look in terms of his track record, his desire and conviction."



**Linda Twyman**

Manufacturing

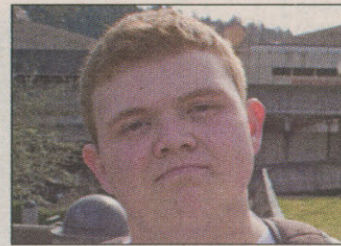
"I think if he knows what he wants, why shouldn't he be able to? Some 21-year-olds have it more together than older people would."



**Kolby Schnelli**

Multimedia

"It seems like they should have a little more experience. I think he should run but I don't know if it's the best choice over all."



**Cody Linklater**

Secondary Education

"If he's smart, go for it. It'd be a fresh change. We always have old people running for office. He can relate to younger people."



**Ryan McKelvy**

Sports Marketing

"I wouldn't like that at all because of his lack of experience."

Interviews by Nicole Perkins  
Photos by Curtis McCain

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Required application packets are available online at [www.willamalane.org](http://www.willamalane.org) or at the Willamalane Community Recreation Center, 250 S 32nd St, Springfield, OR 97478. Positions start immediately. Applications will be accepted until positions are filled or June 13, 2008.

Willamalane is a drug-free workplace. EOE.

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Required application packets are available online at [www.willamalane.org](http://www.willamalane.org) or at the Willamalane Community Recreation Center, 250 S 32nd St, Springfield, OR 97478. Applications will be accepted through 2/25/08 at 5pm.

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Application materials are available online at [www.willamalane.org](http://www.willamalane.org) or at the Willamalane Community Recreation Center, 250 South 32nd Street, Springfield, OR 97478, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. (541) 736-4544. Applications accepted until position is filled.

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