

TITANS: TWO WINS AWAY FROM SOUTHERN REGION CROWN

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The Torch

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LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Recyclemania competition hits LCC campus again

514 schools nationwide vie to be greenest campus

By KYLIE KEPPLER
Reporter

LCC is one of 514 schools competing in Recyclemania, an annual competition that helps colleges promote good recycling practices with weekly weigh-ins.

The competition began on Feb. 1.

According to Recycling and Surplus Property Coordinator Mike Sims, the department uses official volume-to-weight conversions to determine the accurate amount of waste and recyclables. The schools then record the trash and recycling information over a 10-week period.

LCC is competing in five categories. The competition is based on how much waste each school creates and how much of that is recycled.

The categories include a Grand Champion prize, which is determined by combining the trash and recycling material to find the percentage rate of the schools overall waste production. There is also the Stephen K. Gaski Per Capita Classic, the Waste Minimization, the Gorilla Prize and the Targeted Materials, all of which highlight a different aspect of the recycling process.

This is LCC's third year competing, Sims said, and has done well in the past. Last year, LCC placed fourth in the Waste Minimization category without in-school promotion.

"We have such a caring community towards the environment," Sims said. "Last year I didn't do any promotion, and this year I intend to do the same, so we will see how we end up."

One new waste reduction program LCC has implemented this year is the compost effort in the cafeteria. Disposable utensils, bowls, plates and some cups used in the cafeteria are compostable. Compost bins are positioned throughout the cafeteria and student Geo Bitgood can often be seen at tables educating people on composting and which items in the cafeteria can be composted.

"I believe [composting] is going to strengthen the competition just because generally people like to get involved," Bitgood said. By composting items that would otherwise be thrown in



LCC started its third year in the Recyclemania competition on Feb. 11. Participating colleges are judged on waste to recycling ratio over 10 weeks. Recycling and Surplus Property Coordinator Mike Sims operates a machine designed to remove bindings from books so that they may be recycled. Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

President, board members attend seminar

LCC representatives meet with senators, congressmen in Washington, D.C. to discuss economic stimulus package

By WILLA BAUMAN
Managing Editor

Earlier this month, representatives from LCC attended the annual National Legislative Seminar in Washington, D.C. to learn about federal decisions that affect funding for higher education. This year, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, commonly referred to as the economic stimulus package, complicated the event.

"They were working on the Senate version while we were there," LCC President Mary Spilde, who attended the event, said, "and the capital construction and deferred maintenance for higher education had been totally dropped out of the bill. The state stabilization funds had been totally rolled back from the House version."

Spilde continued that in previous years, LCC's budget hasn't really been affected by federal decisions, but this year, with the economic stimulus package, "our operating budget is dependent on what they did. It was a totally different conversation. I think it was even more important than normal to be there to make that point."

Board member Pat Albright, Board chair Susie Johnston, Governmental Relations Officer Brett Rowlett and Spilde attended the three-day conference from Feb. 8-11, along with approximately 700 other representatives from community colleges. They met with senators and congressmen from their respective districts, and were briefed on what federal issues will affect their schools.

The event, sponsored by the Association of Community College Trustees and the American Association of Community Colleges, takes place annually in Washington, D.C., but Spilde reported that LCC does not always participate. This year, however, she felt it was imperative to attend, with the economic stimulus package potentially having a huge impact on LCC's operational budget.

"I think we were able to be helpful," she said, explaining how she sat in on meetings discussing what to stress in the economic stimulus package. In one Federal Regulation Committee meeting, Spilde managed to enlist support for the state stabilization funds, which had been rolled back in the Senate version of the bill. "We did get it," she said, "not to the extent that was in the house bill, but more than was in the original Senate bill."

Besides advocating certain aspects of the economic stimulus package, Spilde, Johnston, Albright and Rowlett met with congressmen Peter DeFazio and David Wu. "I talked to [Wu], and he's written a 'dear colleague' letter to make sure that community colleges had gotten some of

See D.C. conference, Page 8

Students, faculty lobby the capitol

Over 4,500 Oregon K-12, and college students protest funding cuts by march in Salem

By WILLA BAUMAN
Managing Editor

Oregon Student Association, Associated Students of LCC, and LCC students and faculty marched in Salem on Monday, Feb. 16, in support of kindergarten through 12 grade and higher education. Three members of LCC faculty met with Oregon senators and representatives to discuss funding for higher education.

"This was particularly poignant in the face of likely projected budget cuts," Doug Smyth, LCC counselor and faculty member said. Along with Social Science Instructor Jim Salt and Culinary Arts Instructor Joe McCully, Smyth met with Oregon Senators Vicki Walker and Bill Morrisette, and Oregon Representatives Phil Barnhart and Bruce Hanna.

Smyth stated that the instructors and politicians discussed the effects of President Obama's economic stimulus package on community colleges.

"Community college budgets have been continually slashed throughout the years," Smyth said. "What is unknown is how the economic stimulus package will be allocated. It's our hope

that a significant portion will be allocated to community colleges."

LCC President Mary Spilde stated in an e-mail addressed to LCC staff and faculty, that the federal economic stimulus package will not be as beneficial to community colleges as hoped. The initial package presented to the U.S. House of Representatives included funds for deferred maintenance at community colleges and funds for the Pell Grant, which provides need-based financial aid to low-income undergraduate and graduate students.

"Unfortunately, the Senate brokered a deal that keeps the Pell Grant but eliminates the deferred maintenance funds and slashes, by some \$40 billion, the backfill for states. The Governor, the Legislature and we were counting on those funds to help improve our appropriation from the state in light of ever declining state revenues," Spilde explained.

Approximately 4,500 students and faculty from several different Oregon schools attended the rally, which Smyth considered a "really big turn out."

In a Jan. 21 article in the Register-Guard, McCully commented on the budget decreases for



Counselor Doug Smyth, Instructor Jim Salt and Culinary Arts Instructor Joe McCully met with Oregon senators and Representatives Feb. 16 to discuss funding for higher education. Photo courtesy DOUG SMYTH

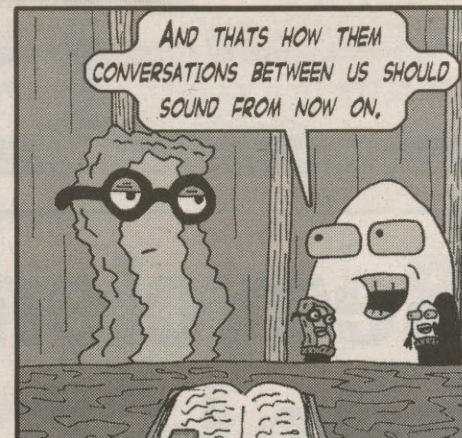
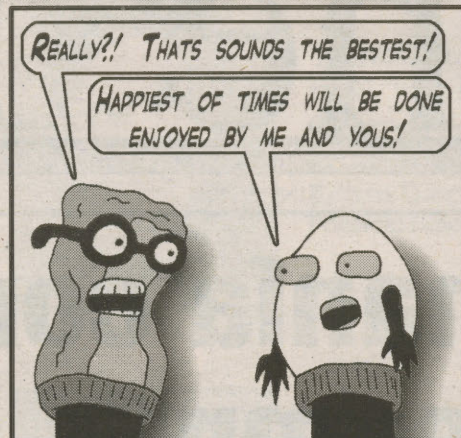
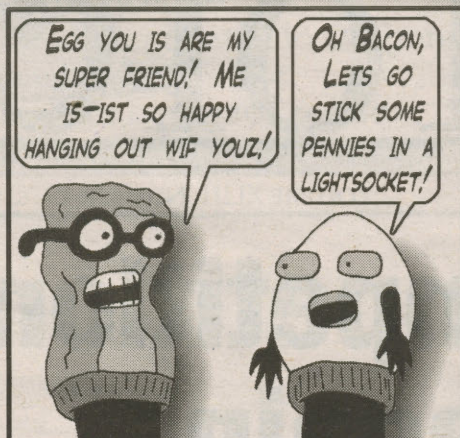
higher education, and the role of the community college in creating jobs.

"It just doesn't make sense that the community college system, which provides vocational and professional training ... for more than 180,000 Oregonians, would be the only area singled out for a budget decrease," McCully stated. "If the governor's budget holds, students will find themselves facing fewer course sections, higher tuition and fewer career choices."

CORRECTIONS:

- In the Feb. 12 issue of The Torch, Associate Vice President of Finance Greg Morgan was quoted as saying that LCC has the "highest paid faculty in the state." He did not say this, and it is not true. In fact, Morgan was discussing that LCC has the highest percentage of full-time faculty vacancies in the state.
- In the same issue, The Torch incorrectly identified individuals in a photo of English as a Second Language students and volunteers. The photo actually depicts students Alfonso Santiago and Israel Ortiz being helped by instructor Diane Daudt.

BACON AND EGG IN 'FUN WITH PUPPETS'



Cartoon by TOMMY HARBOUR/The Torch

The Torch

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Letters to the editor should be limited to 300 words. Commentaries should be limited to 750 words. Please include the author's name, phone number and address (phone number and address are used for verification purposes only and are not made public). The Torch reserves the right to edit letters and commentaries for length, grammar, spelling, libel, invasion of privacy and appropriate language. The Torch reserves the right to publish or not to publish at its discretion.

Average students these days cannot scrape by on a few thousand dollars of student loan money like they once could. The average undergraduate student leaves school with \$20,000 in student loans. With the cost of higher education going up every year, students have no choice but to turn, in large part, to student loans. It is a given that student loans are an inevitable part of higher education, but at what price?

According to Chris Hainley, Sr., a financial aid officer for LCC, "A major problem with student loans is the instant gratification of having the money there, but there are consequences. Students need to ask themselves, 'what is the cost of this loan in the long run?'"

With the state of the American economy, there is a very real possibility that some graduates will not be able to find work after graduation. This begs the question of how the thousands of dollars will be paid back. There are programs in place to help out, such as deferment (the postponing of the repayment for a short period of time) or an extended repayment plan (where the student pays a set monthly payment, usually about \$50 per month).

The safest and most responsible approach, however, would be to borrow only what is needed for school and school-related expenses. Financial aid officers at the University of Oregon stress that the most important thing a student can do if having problems repaying loans is to contact the lenders directly.

"One thing a lot of students do is ignore the



Jesse Gray
 Reporter

problem and hope that it will go away. The problem is that it does not go away, it only gets worse," stated a financial aid officer at the UO.

One LCC student that I spoke with, however, does not seem to be worried about the prospect of paying back loans after graduation even if she could not find work. "There is always money to be made selling plasma, right?" Tracy Brown said.

LCC and UO are both direct loan schools. This means that the students accept the loans, and the money is sent from the Department of Education directly to LCC or UO. If necessary, there are other lenders such as banks that students can go through to get more money, but it is not recommended.

"We will tell students that there is an alternative loan program but we do not recommend that," Hainley said. LCC chose to become a direct loan school shortly after the program first started in 1993.

Some of the benefits of a direct loan program include firstly, not having a middleman.

Letter to the Editor

The price of denial

Denial kills twice.
 It kills violently, and it kills psychologically.

We have buildings that are fire-retardant; furniture, carpeting, equipment, everything around us is supposed to meet, within reason, some sort of fire-retardant code. We have fire hydrants around buildings and fire hoses and extinguishers in buildings. We educate our children with regular public service announcements on what to do when they are in or have caught on fire. We do everything we can to protect ourselves from fire, so much so that no child has died from fire in a school in the past decade or more.

Yet as a society we have done nothing in the past decade to protect our children from the school violence that has claimed so many lives. Worse, shooters are getting older. First it was teens and middle-schoolers; now it is college campuses. We don't have the phrase "going postal" for no reason; we already acknowledge workplace violence is a possibility. Why are we trying to deny that we have been warned? Our first warning was the Bath School Disaster 82 years ago.

Worse than school shootings are hostage situations. Amish society has been changed forever with the horrifying events at Platte Canyon High School in Bailey, Colo. There, a pervert entered through a back door that was supposed to be locked but wasn't, due

to negligence. He then took a classroom hostage, releasing the boys but keeping six girls. Five survived the five-hour standoff, but the suspect killed Emily Keyes and then himself during the final shootout.

Denial is a two-death murderer. It kills the victims of preventable violence, and it psychologically kills those who could have prevented it. Worse, it destroys institutions economically and socially through negligence lawsuits. No one can use a building until it has passed a fire safety inspection. Why do we allow ourselves to use a campus that has not passed a violence deterrence inspection? We do not perform lockdown drills; we do not allow our Public Safety officers to carry firearms or even Tasers; we do not have a reliable response time from Lane County; we do not have indoor security cameras or public intercoms in every building. We have denied that violence could happen here, that our campus is unsafe, yet the statistics are available online at <http://lanecce.edu/psd/stats.htm>, and they demonstrate that we can be victimized, that our campus can become a target.

Not permitting our Public Safety officers to be armed allows for one gunman to rampage through a building unchecked unless a student or staff member is carrying a legal weapon. These attackers look for our weak links and exploit them. Unarmed officers and remote facilities are two very weak links, yet there are others you can find, if you look for them. Fortunately, one armed and trained Public Safety officer with adequate cover can

corner and box in an active shooter.

To those who are afraid of guns in the hands of Public Safety officers, I can only tell you that unless you are an imminent and dangerous threat to the officer or some other person, he or she will never draw that firearm and point it at you. Department of Public Safety Standards and Training requires hours of training and drill before they certify officers to carry, as does the military; most of the LCC PSOs are former police or former military. They have lived in a world of potential violence. They are trained to use the tools of violence to protect others from harm, not to brandish those tools about irresponsibly.

Finally, there is one more piece of information to consider: this is no longer an internal dialogue. Anyone who watched KEZI's news story about this debate is now aware that, right now, LCC has no legitimate defense. If we deny that fact today and face an active shooter tomorrow, every person who is injured or dies will be so due to our negligence and disbelief that it could ever happen here.

We have been warned. We cannot and must not allow another Virginia Tech, Northern Illinois, or, horribly, another Beslan. LCC need not be a locked down fortress, but we must rebut denial and accept that the threat exists, and the people to whom we have entrusted our safety must have their tools.

Abraham Alfaro
 LCC student

Look up to see the graphic designs of students

Lane Transit District continues partnership with LCC art classes

By TARYN ACKELSON
News Editor

Each term, posters created by LCC students based on the Reading Together Program sit side-by-side with advertisements in the interior of Lane Transit District busses.

Language, Literature and Communications instructor Ellen Cantor introduced the Reading Together Program to LCC, with the goal of integrating one campus-wide reading selection.

Art and Applied Design instructor Kathleen Caprario took on the program for her Basic Design: Color and Basic Design: Fundamentals courses, ART 116 and ART 115, respectively. The final project assignment for these courses was adapted so students create pieces that convey their understanding of the material by incorporating a quote from the text, an image interpreting the quote and letter forms.

Caprario used a similar exercise with classes in the past where she allowed students to select their own text. "I thought, 'we'll just use Lane's text for the year.' So I started having my students do this project," she said.

Because many of Caprario's students go on to study and work in graphic design, she feels the project is an appropriate introduction to commercial art, as they prepare to integrate text and image on a routine basis.

"The community really enjoys it," Andy Vobora, LTD director of marketing and communications, said.

For many students this will be the first time they create art for a client.

The class is asked to think about the audience — bus riders — as the students include characteristics of gestalt, or visually recognizable figures, in producing the 11-by-17 inch posters.

Caprario described bus riders as

"people that are not intending to have an art experience."

"These images have really got to have that gestalt. They've really got to have some sort of visual hook, and definitely visual literacy, that will grab people's attention and make them look that extra few seconds to actually read and kind of appreciate the content of the piece," Caprario said.

The practice on the East Coast of placing art on busses for public viewing inspired Caprario to approach LTD. "It brought the art to the public in a very effective way. It's not a new idea, but it's new here," she said.

"They're put up there right next to the ads to go to LCC," Caprario said. This provides the students with the opportunity to share their artwork publicly.

"[LTD was] really impressed with our students' work. They were very open to having this partnership with Lane," Caprario said.

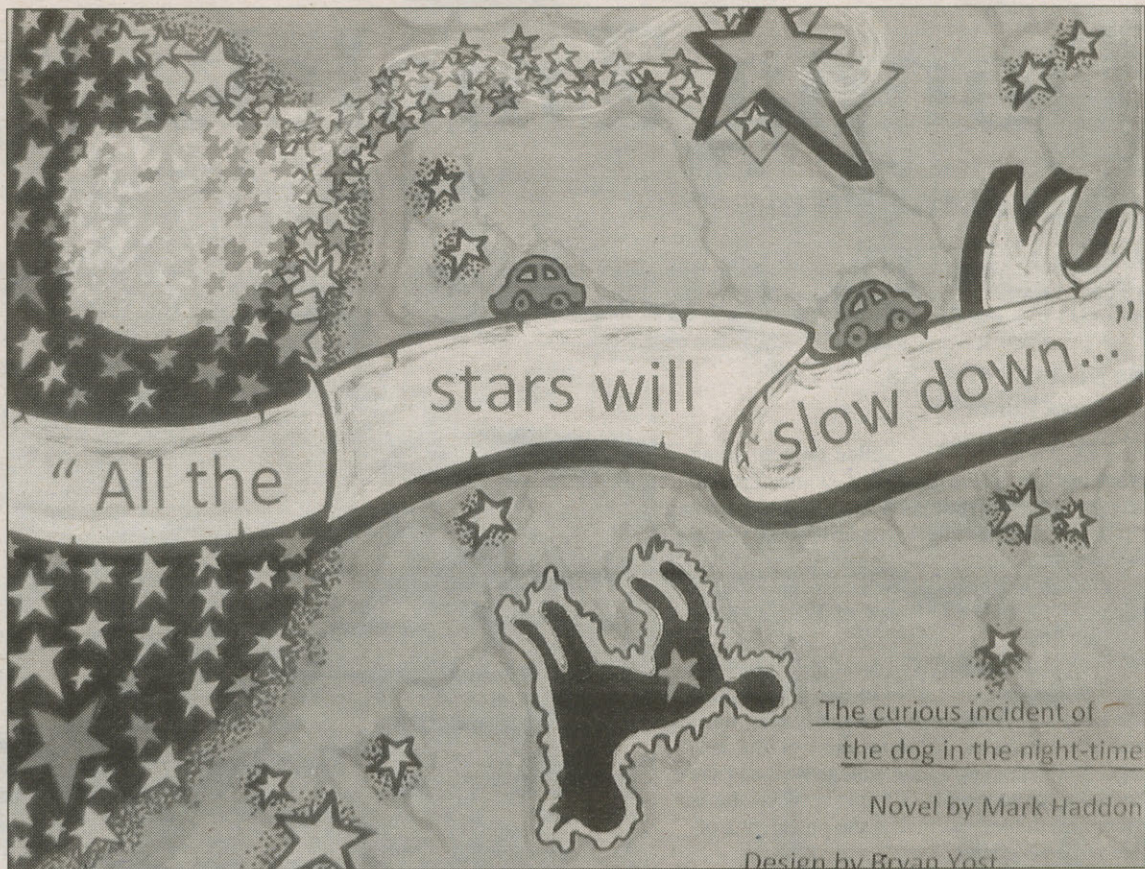
Caprario chooses pieces to display once students complete their work and indicate that they are interested in being considered for the "bus option." Caprario takes the selections to LTD where they are approved for public display and use as posters.

LTD aims to print enough posters to supply one to each of its busses. A limited quantity is printed for each design, based on the number of designs provided by the class.

The reading for this academic year is "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time" by Mark Haddon. The story is expressed in the first-person experiences of Christopher John Francis Boone, a young boy who lives with autism. When Christopher discovers the neighbor's dog has been killed, he endeavors to find the murderer.

The first posters depicting themes from Haddon's novel should reach busses by mid-February.

"It's always exciting to think



Every term, selected final projects from art instructor Kathleen Caprario's ART 115 and ART 116 classes are displayed on LTD busses. Students are assigned text from the LCC's Reading Together Program and told to express their understanding of the literature through design. An example of such work is "All the stars will slow down..." by Bryan Yost.

that your work is going to be put up, whether it's chosen or not," Fine Arts student Amanda Wilcox said. "It's always humbling."

Wilcox took the Basic Design course with Caprario in which students created posters for a previous Reading Together selection. She is currently enrolled in Caprario's color design class and will have another opportunity to produce a piece of art for the poster project.

"It makes people work harder," Wilcox said. "You have this little treat to know that you could share your work with other people."

Only two posters have been rejected by LTD in the two years of partnership between LCC and LTD. Vobora

said the artwork can be "shocking" at times, but the bus company has only questioned the content of two pieces.

Both rejected pieces were inspired by "The Things They Carried" by author Tim O'Brien. One depicted figures from Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper," in a commentary on a section of the book, which read, "Good soldier Jesus." The other showed a woman in childbirth, while still fully clothed, that Caprario explained was a metaphoric interpretation of a passage from O'Brien's text.

LTD has received no complaints concerning the content of any posters, and Vobora reported that feedback from the public has been positive.

"I think when they realize it's tied to the reading, and the person created it as art, they really appreciate it," Vobora said.

"LTD is very happy with the quality of work that our students produce," Caprario said.

Caprario and LTD have collaborated for the past few years and intend to continue working together in the future.

LTD absorbs all costs once the designs are accepted.

Outside of the Reading Together project, LTD works with LCC students on a number of projects. Vobora said that graphic design interns from LCC help create rider materials including the Rider's Digest.

Putting a face on a Titan

LCC searches for an image to represent school mascot

By LANA BOLES
Editor in Chief

LCC is mascot hunting. The Titans need an image.

In the first year of operation as a community college, in the first student body election, on Nov. 29, 1965, the Titan was selected as LCC's mascot. Since that time, the Titan has never had an image permanently associated with it.

In October 2008, a steering committee of staff members from various departments met to discuss the possibility of attaching an image to the Titan. The group included staff from marketing and public relations, the athletics department, the bookstore, student recruitment, and student government.

"This is an opportunity to really build school spirit," steering committee member and Bookstore Manager Jennifer Steele, said. "We're considering branding ourselves as the Titan store."

After the initial meeting, Funk/Levis and Associates, a marketing firm in Eugene was contacted for help creating the new image of LCC.



An LCC steering committee researched the mythology of Titans, hired a marketing firm and surveyed students and staff to provide LCC with two options to choose from for their mascot image. Images courtesy of the Titan Mascot Team



"Students, faculty and staff participated in a Mark Preference Survey designed to gauge like and dislike of designs, structures of logos, lettering, etcetera," Student Recruitment and Outreach Coordinator David Van Der Haeghen said. "With that data, the company began designing multiple concepts during December."

The outside firm was hired for three main reasons: the steering committee did not want to disrupt the syllabi of classes to enlist the help of students and staff, LCC students are currently interning at Funk/Levis and Associates, and the committee wanted the process to move more quickly than intercampus collaboration might allow.

The first round of designs was presented in January. The potential mascots were narrowed to two images, which students and staff can vote

on by accessing ExpressLane and following the link.

The steering committee wanted to insure the selectors of the mascot are currently associated with the college, such as currently enrolled students, staff and faculty.

The images may be seen around campus on posters and on test products; 12 T-shirts were distributed to steering committee members, Associate Students of LCC and bookstore staff.

The voting is open for two weeks, from Feb. 19 to March 2. A decision will be made by March 9 based on the results of the survey. The committee is working quickly.

"I'm really excited about having a school mascot. I think it has lots of implications for building awareness on campus and around the community," Steele said.

Candidates sought for board openings

Next year, the LCC Board of Education will have three new members.

Three board positions are up for election on May 19, in Zone 1, primarily Western Lane County and Florence; Zone 3, Springfield and Marcola area; and Zone 4, eastern/southeastern Lane County.

Candidates must live in the zone they wish to represent, and must file with Lane County Elections between Feb. 9 to March

19. All Lane County voters are eligible to vote on the positions.

Currently, board member Susie Johnston represents Zone 4, board member Paul Holman represents Zone 1 and board member Pat Riggs-Henson, represents Zone 3. Their terms will expire on June 30, 2009.

More information on the positions and the zone descriptions is available online at <http://www.lanecollege.edu/pre-soffice/board>.

RECYCLEMANIA, From Page 1

the garbage, LCC is decreasing the amount of trash.

The compost tables are new this year but have already contributed to keeping compostable garbage out of landfills.

According to Sims, the school has composted 9.5 tons of material that would have otherwise been thrown away.

The competition is based on a garbage to recycling ratio, so even though LCC will be competing against some much larger schools

— some of which operate in-school campaigns for the competition — LCC still has an opportunity to make big things happen.

"Here at LCC we recycle about 65 percent of all the material we discard, which is huge," Sims stated.

"Anything we can keep out of the garbage will help. If you go to throw away cans, plastic, cardboard or paper, then look around. Chances are there is some kind of recycling container within 15 feet of you," Sims said.

"... I have to make it work out ... It's challenging. It's kind of like a puzzle."

— Donna Zmolek
Asst. to LCC president

Donna Zmolek: Juggling two jobs requires multi-talents, multi-tasking

A look at the life of
LCC President
Spilde's assistant

By DILLON BLANKS
Features Editor

LCC President Mary Spilde thought about what her life would be like if Donna Zmolek left for a whole week. "Oh my god," she said. "If she wasn't here for a whole week, I would feel a little bit lost."

Zmolek has been Spilde's assistant and the secretary of the LCC Board of Education for the past four years.

"She is awesome," Spilde said. "One of the great things that she brings to this office is that she's been in the college for a really long time, and she's been in different parts of the college. She really knows the college well and she knows a lot of people. I think because she is more accessible, that makes the president's office more accessible."

Zmolek was born in Oregon and raised in San Jose, Calif. After graduating high school, she moved back to Oregon and enrolled in classes at LCC. Within three years, she obtained her degree as a legal secretary. She then spent two years working for a law firm, and then worked for LCC over the next 15 years in four different departments before becoming Spilde's assistant in 2005.

"I knew I'd be going to board meetings and putting together all the board materials," Zmolek said. "I knew I'd be assisting the president but I wasn't so sure what that was going to entail. I knew it would be setting up appointments and that was about all I really knew going in." Now, with four years under her belt, Zmolek knows very well what her job entails.

Spilde refers to Zmolek's job as a "split position" because not only is she responsible for managing Spilde's time, she also has substantial responsibility in board meetings.

"I go to board meetings, I take minutes at the board meetings, [and] prepare all the material," Zmolek said. "I'm kind of the college liaison of the board ... I'm kind of the assistant to the president and the board secretary."

"Those [minutes] are public records and they need to be accurate," Spilde said. "Those are the things that 20 years from now we might go back and look at what was the decision that the board made in 2008."

"Most communication that goes to board members comes through me," Zmolek said. "Most [of] the board members' needs come to



Donna Zmolek has been President Mary Spilde's assistant and the secretary of the LCC Board of Education for the past four years. Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

me and I make sure they get those met." The board members aren't the only ones who get help from Zmolek. She performs a lot of troubleshooting on campus, especially with upset parents or students.

"I understand when somebody calls or comes to the president's office. They're at their wits' end," Zmolek said. "They're very upset; they've tried a lot of different avenues that didn't work. When they get to me, I try to understand where they're coming from."

When Zmolek deals with difficult people, she tries to inform them that Spilde is a very

busy person. She says there is only so much she can do. Zmolek acts on behalf of the president, listens to issues and concerns and directs the person to someone who can better assist them with a specific issue.

"She's pretty caring," Spilde said. Spilde pointed out that Zmolek tries to help the people who come to her with their problems.

Zmolek reported that countless times people have lashed out at her, but she takes a deep breath and tries her best to help them in return.

"Some of the things people call the president for really surprises me," Zmolek said. "But

again, I have to stop and realize they think this is an issue, it needs to go to the top."

Other difficult aspects of Zmolek's job include the hours it entails. It's more than 40 hours a week and sometimes forces her to stay late to get caught up on her duties. Zmolek, however, doesn't really mind. "It's okay," she said. "I'm management, so it comes with the territory."

What Zmolek does see as the most difficult part of the job is managing Spilde's time. "She's in high demand," she said. "Sometimes it's just not going to work out so I have to make it work out ... It's challenging. It's kind of like a puzzle. It's like any other thing you have to put together."

Spilde's schedule also runs on weekends. Sometimes she has flights to catch and meetings to attend, and Zmolek is responsible for making sure all those things are put together.

"I consider her a 24-hour a day kind of a president," Zmolek said. "She works on the weekends, she works at night and she never seems to have any problems with that."

When Zmolek is away from the office she spends time with her family. She has a husband and four kids. She also has three horses, and has been a horse owner since age 12. Zmolek is also part of the American Association for Women in Community Colleges, an organization that provides professional development and personal growth opportunities for women in community colleges.

"It kind of started out for women who wanted to be leaders in community colleges back in the day when there weren't very many," Zmolek said. "And it still is that, but it's also for providing opportunities for women in community colleges."

Writing is another of Zmolek's passions. She won third place in a writing competition in Michigan and also published a short story in a small circulation magazine that is due out in May.

"I'm just a budding writer," Zmolek said. "I'm just going to get my feet wet with that."

"She's bright, she's really bright [and] she's a good writer," Spilde said. "She's got a great sense of humor. She's very kind of on the upbeat side, she's always looking for the positive."

"She's a very nice, very sweet person," LCC President's Office Project Coordinator Elizabeth Andrade said. "Very understanding as a worker. She's a good person to work [with] as a team. We get along really well [and] she has a really good sense of humor."

"She's invaluable and she's got just a deep commitment to the college," Spilde said. "She could be doing other things but I'm just really glad she's here."



Associated Students of Lane Community College

ASLCC Events

- February 26th
Oregon Student Association Lobby Day
- February 28th
Inner(sex)tionalty & Education; Bldg. 17, Rm. 309
- March 4th 10am-4pm
Open mic in the Northeast end of the cafeteria
- March 4th 6-8:30pm
Lane preview night

ATTEND LCC LOBBY DAY IN SALEM ON APRIL 9TH

If interested in these events and/or Student Gov't:
CONTACT: Meghan Krueger 463-3171
<http://www.lanec.edu/aslcc>

Council of Clubs Ratified Clubs:

- Black Student Union
- Culinary & Food Service
- Phi Theta Kappa (Honors)
- Native American Student Association
- Queer-Straight Alliance
- Latino Student Union
- LCC Learning Garden
- Green Chemistry
- Students for a Democratic Society
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For more info, contact: Liza Rosa-Diaz
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'Collaborations 2009' features diverse artists



LCC dance instructor Sarah Nemecek choreographs the students that will be appearing in "Collaborations 2009." Fellow LCC dance faculty Bonnie Simoa, Anita Sanford and Margo Van Ummerson will also be presenting new work. Photo by KYLIE KEPPLER/The Torch

Renowned dancers grace LCC performances

By BENNETT MOHLER
Arts Editor

"Collaborations 2009" is an annual dance performance featuring LCC dance faculty, dance students and several guest dancers. Each year, these guests change from University of Oregon faculty to out of state professional dancers.

"Sometimes they're just different people from the community," LCC dance instructor Bonnie Simoa said.

This year, the guest artists hail from Eugene, Ashland and Portland.

"It's a chance for faculty to showcase their choreographical work and it's a venue where students can work in a professional setting," dance instructor Margo Van Ummerson said.

One of the most anticipated guests of the event is the Dancing

People Company, directed by Robin Stiehm and Peggy Paver and featuring LCC alumni Alonzo Lee Moore IV from Ashland.

"They've danced all over the world, but then again, most of our dancers have danced all around the world," LCC performing arts Marketing and House Manager John Watson said.

Dancing People Company has performed in Belarus, Poland, Russia and Japan. The company will be performing one of Paver's pieces, "Ascending Uluru" and "A Safe Place to Fall."

Simoa choreographed "Rubaiyat," a piece set to Iranian music, for the Lane Dance Company.

"That's a piece commissioned to us by the Oregon Arts Commission," Simoa said. The Lane Dance

Company is LCC's most prestigious student dance troupe.

"They do lectures and workshops at schools around the area," Simoa said.

They will be reprising their performance of "Rubaiyat" at the American College Dance Festival in the summer.

Simoa herself will also be performing, along with UO's Walter Kennedy, in a piece called "Thirst," inspired by Taiwanese filmmaker Tsai Min-liang. Portland dancer Mary Osland choreographed the piece.

LCC dance faculty Sarah Nemecek, Anita Sanford and Van Ummerson will also be presenting new work performed by LCC dance students.

Van Ummerson will be choreo-

graphing two different pieces set to different jazz compositions. One is livelier, ensemble-oriented and set to a Benny Goodman tune. The other is more personal, duet-based and set to a Paul Desmond song.

"One is more intimate ... in the other we have the students moving more as a group," Van Ummerson said.

The event will feature three performances on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 26, 27 and 28. Due to scheduling delays, "Collaborations 2009" will have a performance on Feb. 27, the same night that the Hult Center is holding "Dance For A Reason 2009."

"This time of year is a really big dance time in Eugene," Watson said. "Normally we don't overlap ... but we got a deal going with [the Hult

Center]."

Individuals that see "Dance For A Reason 2009" at the Hult Center Friday night can see "Collaborations 2009" on Saturday night for half price if they bring in their ticket stubs from the Hult Center.

"We encourage people to go to two dance concerts in one weekend rather than pick and choose just one," Van Ummerson said.

"Collaborations 2009" will show next weekend at the Performance Hall at 8 p.m. all three nights. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. Tickets can be ordered online at <http://lanecce.edu/tickets> or by calling the box office at (541) 463-5161.

"It should be a very diverse and rich performance," Van Ummerson said.

Moving pictures amidst the home of stills

New Zone Gallery hosts bi-monthly film night

By BENNETT MOHLER
Arts Editor

New Zone Gallery has become a popular spot for the First Friday Art Walk in Eugene. Every month, New Zone presents a new show and packs the house. Now, Gallery Director Steve LaRiccias wants to bring in a crowd on the second Friday of the month. New Zone will be hosting a film night every month starting in February.

"We always wanted to do it," Tony Brown, coordinator for the film night, said. "We recently acquired a projector ... it was actually donated to us ... so we were finally able to put the idea together."

New Zone projects the films on one of the

gallery walls facing the window to the street. The idea is that passersby will notice a film playing and take interest as they would if they noticed art displayed.

"People can see the movie from the street," Brown said. "We hope they poke their head in to see what's up. When they find out it's free, they'll hopefully come in and check it out."

Every film night at New Zone is free, but donations are accepted to help support the event.

While LaRiccias first suggested using the wall space to show films, Brown has taken the idea further as an outlet for local artists.

"We want to give local and regional filmmakers a place to show their work," Brown said.

One such filmmaker whose work was shown on Friday, Feb. 13, was Michael Maruska. Maruska has been making films since his early childhood.

"I've had a camera since I was seven. I'd put together dumb little videos with super heroes and private investigators," Maruska said.

Maruska started taking to filmmaking more seriously when he attended LCC. Majoring in

media arts, he started to produce more complex movies.

"Once I had the tools to get my creativity out there ... that's when the floodgates opened," Maruska said.

New Zone featured two of Maruska's films. The first is "Star Wars: Nightshade," his first major production, and his most ambitious effort to date, "Zombedy."

"Zombedy" is the first film I've really promoted," Maruska said.

Maruska's films were used in S.P.A.'s Winter's Tale production. His film "Zombedy" had its first major public showing at the Bijou Art Cinemas, Halloween 2008.

"We wanted to see if it could win over an audience that the movie is totally not targeted for," Maruska said.

The film night will not only be dedicated to local filmmakers. On Mar. 13, Brown will be playing Pink Floyd's "The Wall," accompanied by the soundtrack for "The Wizard of Oz" (an inversion of the traditional combination of "The Wizard of Oz" accompanied by "Dark Side Of The Moon"). There will also be live music by

local artists Scrambled Ape and Honey Vizer featured that same night.

As for April, Brown is in talks with local filmmaker Daniel Johnsfeld.

Brown encourages any and all local filmmakers to submit their work to New Zone Gallery for consideration.

"As far as mediums, we're open to different things, all kinds of material, whether it be documentary or art films," Brown said.

The only restriction to the films submitted is adult content. The film night is open to the public and displayed in full view on the city streets.

"As long as it's not too graphic or too out there, we'll probably be okay with it," Brown said. "We just have to be aware of content."

Regardless, Brown hopes to receive plenty of submissions from which to choose. Filmmakers can drop off their videos at New Zone gallery in DVD format or contact Brown at tboradb@yahoo.com. Submissions should be given two weeks in advance.

New Zone's film night is the second Friday of every month at 7 p.m.

SPORTS LINE

Where art thou, Michael?

Tyler Pell
Sports Editor

It's Sunday morning. My head is pounding, I'm nauseous — and I just threw up. But I'm not battling your standard hangover. I just feel like I mixed my favorite \$3 bottle of wine with stale Steel Reserve because last night's NBA Slam-Dunk Contest is still fresh in my mind. Yes, it was that repulsive.

Don't get me wrong — I love the Slam-Dunk Contest. And a poster of Michael Jordan's legendary freethrow line dunk, which sealed his '88 dunk contest win, still hangs on a wall above my bed. Unfortunately, that poster represents the golden age of the dunk contest, an age that has long since passed.

Dominique Wilkins and Spud Webb rounded out the trio of Slam-Dunk Contest champs that brought the contest to new heights in the late '80s. Their dunks were powerful, acrobatic and most importantly, original. And even if they weren't original, nobody knew it. (Imagine, a time before YouTube.)

Fast forward 20 years, and what once was the ultimate showcase of basketball's signature play has been reduced to just one plea-for-world-peace away from being a full-blown beauty pageant.

Back in the golden age, dunk contests weren't scripted, they weren't market-tested and most importantly, the trophies didn't go to who had the best new costume. Unfortunately, it is extravagance, not dunking, that has come to epitomize the dunk contest.

Take defending champion Dwight Howard for instance. Howard kicked off the final round of the dunk contest by running into a strategically placed phone booth so he could emerge with a Superman costume. (You know, like the one he wore last year.) He followed up his grandiose entrance with a dunk that was underwhelming at best. Makes me wonder if he spent more time practicing his dunks or his wardrobe.

Not to be outdone, before Nate Robinson could attempt his dunk, he traded in his royal blue Knicks uniform for a green one, along with the rest of the green accessories that decorated his body. Get it? Green = Kryptonite. Robinson finished off his beautifully choreographed routine with a well-executed dance. Oh yeah, and the dunk was cool, too.

That unfortunate sequence was only compounded by the color man, Reggie Miller, frantically exclaiming that Lex Luthor was in the building. Get with the program Reggie, Lex Luthor and kryptonite are far from the same.

I don't mean to judge Robinson quite so harshly. As far as I'm concerned, when you're 5'9" you can do whatever you want in a dunk contest. But when it comes to players like Howard, I think he would be better off spending less time with his seamstress and more time working on his free throws. Because what good is being able to jump buildings in a single bound when you are such a liability from the free-throw line your coach won't let you get off the bench in crunch time?

I suppose it's not really Howard, Robinson or anyone else's fault. With the exception of Vince Carter in 2000, we've been watching the exact same dunks performed every single year, which is why I think it's time to pull the plug on the dunk contest, or at least its current format. Without original dunks, the contest has devolved into a choreographed jumble of shameless self-promotion. Call me old fashioned, but this isn't the Flavor of Love reunion show, is it?

In the interest of full disclosure, it should be noted Dwight Howard isn't exactly on my good side. I know, I know, he's funny. He's got a great personality, blah blah blah. I'm still bitter that he used last year's Dunk Contest as a platform to hijack the Superman nickname from Shaquille O'Neal. I realize Shaq has a lot of nicknames, but you still can't just go and steal it from him — the Superman logo is tattooed on his bicep! After the hijacking, Howard converted what appeared to be one of the greatest dunk contest dunks ever — if he had only touched the rim, that is. Replays clearly showed Howard came up short of the rim, and instead of dunking, threw the ball into the basket. Despite the fraudulent dunk, Howard won the contest and successfully swindled the Superman nickname away from its rightful owner.

LCC roaring through NWAACC

Titans avenge loss; streak is at 70 games

By TREY CALDWELL
Reporter

On Saturday, Feb. 14, the LCC Titans earned their 70-consecutive home victory and avenged their only conference loss to date by beating the Clackamas Community College Cougars 79-58.

LCC earned a measure of revenge for the lone conference loss this season to the Cougars 91-78 on Jan. 24.

Head Coach Greg Sheley felt the Cougars took advantage of his team's poor play in that match.

"Obviously, this game is closer to where we are as a team right now," Sheley said. "I thought CCC would shoot a little better in this game, and I thought we would score more."

The Titans used their pressure defense and size advantage to take a 45-24 lead into half-time. The Titans out-rebounded the Cougars 49-32.

After Clackamas took a timeout with 13:10 left in the first half and a 12-11 lead, LCC responded on a 34-13 run that put the momentum squarely on the side of the Titans. The Cougars would trim the deficit to no smaller than 17 points the rest of the game.

Every time the Cougars would make a run, LCC dialed Sheena Cole's number.

Cole had 22 points, seven steals and five rebounds, and at times seemed as if she could get to the basket at will. Cole also



Titans forward Lynette Minthorn splits two Clackamas Community College defenders for a layup in the second half of LCC's 78-59 win on Feb. 14. The Titans will play at Umpqua Community College next Wednesday in a game that will likely decide the NWAACC Southern region champion. Photo by BEN LUNDBERG/The Torch

made the Cougars pay for fouling her, as she went 10-of-10 behind the line.

"She always had an answer," Sheley said. "She was confident, relaxed and smooth. She has really been playing well the last 10 or 12 games. She does not feel there is anything anyone can do to stop her, especially going to the basket."

In the team's prior match up, the Cougars used good shooting to get a 13-point victory. This time, the Titans controlled the Cougars trademark long-range game, holding Clackamas's shooters to only 6 of 29 from three-point land for the game. Many of Clackamas's long-range shots hit nothing but air.

"I think the kids are starting

to get confident in their ability as a team to defend," Sheley said. "They are also understanding the importance of defense and how it relates to our success in the win/loss column."

Shayla Feters torched the Titans the first time these teams played, shooting 5-of-5 from three-point range and accounting for 32 total points. Feters, who was bothered by a leg injury, only had five points in this game, including just one for five from behind the arc.

Jennifer Kimbrow added 15 points, nine rebounds and a block for the Titans. Carmen Williams had 15 points, nine rebounds, three steals and two assists. Brittany Duty, who had 15 points and seven rebounds, led the Cougars. Rylee Peterson added 14 points, seven rebounds, four steals, three blocks, and an assist.

LCC now has only two games remaining in the 2008-09 season. "The biggest thing we need to work on heading to the playoffs is just finishing a game," Sheley said. "I do not think we finished well [against Clackamas]. We shot too quick sometimes, then other times we had a two on one in transition and just did not finish ... I just want us to finish games on a stronger note, and I think that comes with game experience."

LCC takes on Portland Community College on Feb. 21, followed by a huge rematch with Umpqua Community College on Feb. 25. LCC and UCC are currently tied for first atop the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges South division. LCC defeated UCC 89-81 on Jan. 21, behind 26 UCC turnovers.

No playoffs for LCC men's team

Sophomores look to end season on high note against PCC, UCC

By TYLER PELL
Sports Editor

The Titans finished up their season series against the No. 1 ranked Clackamas Community College Cougars at home on Saturday, Feb. 14. The Titans lost 86-55 to the Cougars this time around, dropping their conference record to 2-9. In the first meeting on Jan. 21, Clackamas defeated LCC 101-66 in Oregon City.

Coming in, the Titans were focused on shutting down the Cougars high-powered offense, which had been averaging and NWAACC-best, 99 points per game. And even though the final score wasn't close, the Titans held the Cougars to 13 points less than their season average.

"We came out really strong, played really hard, and were limiting them to one shot," Assistant Coach Brian Stamme said. "We took an 8-4 lead, then some of their shooters got hot, and a few of their guys went to work on us and we got in a pretty big hole."

The Titans went into the break trailing 46-22 but they came out strong in the second half. LCC matched baskets with the No. 1 ranked Cougars for the majority of the final two quarters and Clackamas outscored the Titans by just seven points in the

second half, 40-33. Once again the turnover margin proved to be the difference, as more than one-third of the Cougars' points came off 25 Titan turnovers.

Despite the loss, there were some positives for LCC, such as their balanced scoring, which was highlighted by 21 points off the bench. "We played more team ball, worked the ball around more than we usually do," sophomore Captain Cody Britton explained. Brent Jones shot 6-of-11 for a team high of 15 points. Jones also snagged a team high eight rebounds. It was very much a team effort after that, with 10 Titans getting into the scoring column.

The Cougars were paced by the NWAACC's second-leading scorer, swingman Chelales Tapscott, who shot a blistering 10-of-13 from the field and put up a game high of 26 points. JC Cook added 19 points for the Cougars, including 3-of-4 from beyond the arc. With the loss, the Titans are now four games behind fourth place Linn-Benton Community College with just three games to play. Their post-season hopes are officially over.

But will that affect how the Titans approach their final three games? "Not at all," Stamme said.

Stamme made clear this team



Titans point guard Quentin Guidry looks to make a pass to Cody Britton during first-half action of the Titans Feb. 14 game against Clackamas Community College. The No. 1 ranked Cougars defeated the Titans 86-55. Photo by BEN LUNDBERG/The Torch

does not plan on packing it in early. "We're gonna try to send our sophomores out on a positive note. We've got three games left and we think we can win all three," he said.

"We are definitely confident we can get the last three," Britton added. "We already beat Umpqua, we were right there against Portland, and [Southwestern Oregon], we are just are confident we can beat them this time."

Heading into the final week of the season the Titans have two

games remaining. First up is their Saturday, Feb. 21 game where LCC will host the 5-17 overall and 3-8 in conference Portland Community College Panthers at 6 p.m. The Titans wrap up their 2008-09 season four days later on the road against the Umpqua Community College Riverhawks. The Riverhawks are 5-19 overall and 1-10 in conference.

The Titans will look to sweep the season series with Umpqua, who they defeated 67-63 on Jan. 21.



U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio speaks to LCC students in Steve Candee's political science class, on Wednesday, Feb. 18. Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

Congressman visits college

Peter DeFazio speaks to students

Students in LCC political science instructor Steve Candee's U.S. Government and Politics class were treated to a visit by U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-Oregon) on Wednesday, Feb. 18. DeFazio spoke to approximately 20 students about his job as congressman for Oregon's 4th District that serves Benton, Coos, Curry, Josephine, Douglas, Lane and Linn counties.

The congressman also discussed his opposition to the Recovery and Reinvestment act that U.S. President Barack Obama signed into law on Feb. 18. DeFazio said he especially opposed that 44 percent of the act was comprised of tax cuts, and stated that he was unsure just how many new jobs it would create.

He criticized the tax cuts as Obama's failed attempt at bipartisanship saying, "this is a new president, and he made a mistake."

However, DeFazio did go on to say that he supported some aspects of the Recovery and Reinvestment act, commonly referred to as the economic stimulus package, especially

the funding awarded to education. "I think investing in education is a very meritorious thing to do," he said.

DeFazio also discussed his role in developing a new, national energy policy, and America's involvement in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. DeFazio expressed support for Obama's plan for withdrawal of troops from Iraq, but seemed disappointed with the president's emphasis on the war in Afghanistan.

LCC President Mary Spilde recently spoke with DeFazio at the National Legislative Seminar in Washington, D.C. On his Feb. 18 visit to LCC, the congressman also looked at LCC's health and energy programs, Spilde reported. "That is really good," she said.

On a more personal note, DeFazio gave students a glimpse into being a congressman, especially how much commuting his job entails. "It's a long way to D.C.," he said, adding that he has flown approximately three million miles since taking office. "United Airlines loves me. I don't love them," he joked.

Presidents' Day closure serves dual purpose for LCC

Water supply and discharge systems repaired on holiday

By LANA BOLES
Editor in Chief

On Monday, Feb. 16, students, faculty and staff got the day off due to the Presidents' Day holiday. Facilities Management and Planning took advantage of the holiday to close Main Campus for repairing the main water supply and discharge systems.

In order to work on the areas that required repair, the entire system had to be shut off. Because this

meant the fire suppression systems would not be functional, the Office of the Oregon State Fire Marshall advised LCC to close campus to all students and personnel.

The campus was closed to everyone who wasn't directly involved in the repairs or Public Safety.

The total water shutdown began at 7 a.m. and was scheduled to be finished at 4 p.m., but repairs were completed by 1:30 p.m., with additional time afterwards for monitoring.

"At 2:30, we opened up the gates and restored normal bus traffic," Public Safety Officer WD Perkins said. Only one unauthorized person tried to access campus, which was an outside contractor who had no knowledge of the closure. There were no problems, Perkins said.

"This is just the start of some

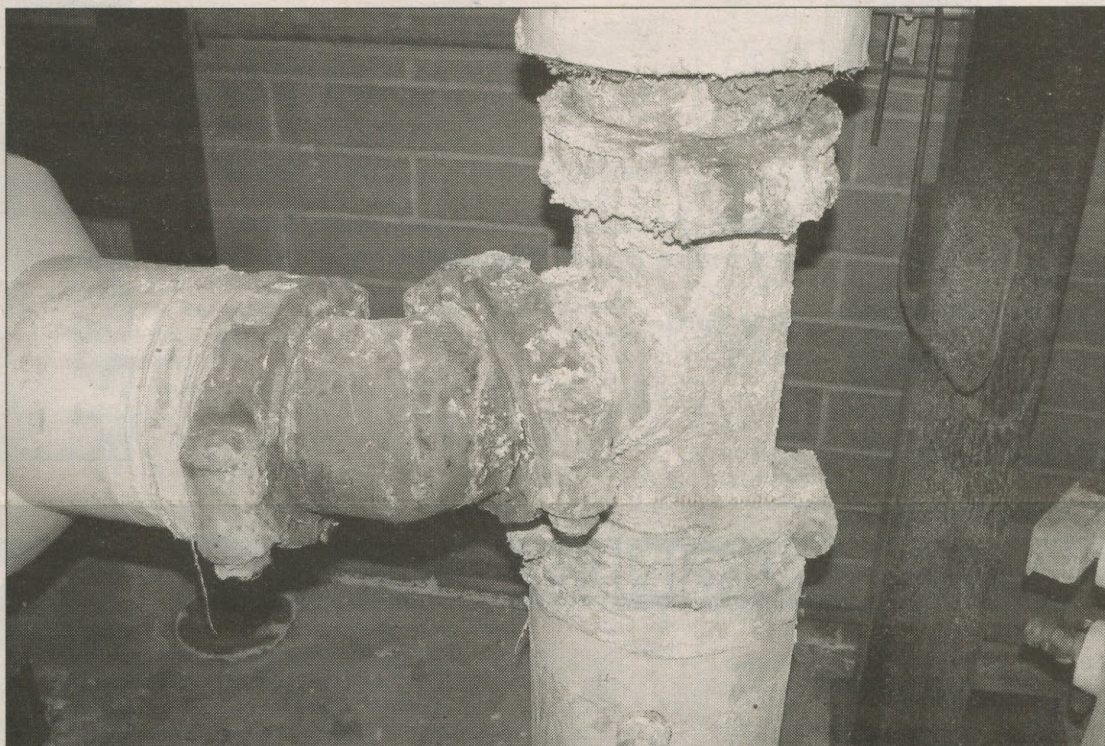
other work as we look to make improvements this summer," LCC Facilities Management and Planning Director David Willis said.

Springfield company, Omlid and Swinney, that is contracted for LCC's fire protection system work, performed the necessary repairs in conjunction with FMP.

The water distributions systems consist mostly of components dating to the 1960s, when the college was built.

Willis reported that the valves and gaskets that were replaced were most likely from the original construction. "Seals and gaskets tend to leak once they get older than 20 years," Willis said.

Willis said the repairs and following tests were successful, with only one call to FMP reporting problems associated with the new parts.



On Presidents' Day, Facilities Management and Planning tested and made repairs to components of the water system. The entire water system had to be shut down so work could be done on the old infrastructure. Photo courtesy of DAVID WILLIS/Facilities Management and Planning

SPORTS FIX

What to watch: The upcoming week in sports

Feb. 19 - Feb. 25

EUGENE SPORTS

Roller Derby

- Emerald City roller girls' exhibition bout. Friday, Feb. 21, 5 p.m. Regional Sports Center 200 South 32nd Ave. Springfield.

LCC Titans

Women's Basketball at home:

- Portland Community College Saturday, Feb. 21, 4 p.m.

Men's Basketball at home:

- Portland Community College Saturday, Feb. 21, 6 p.m.

Oregon Ducks

Men's Basketball at home:

- California Thursday, Feb. 19, 6 p.m.
- Stanford Saturday, Feb. 21, 5 p.m.

Editor's Internet Picks

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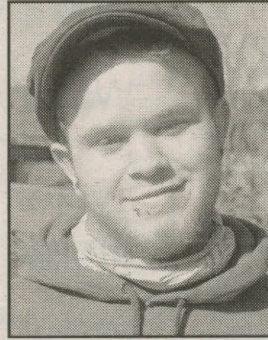
Think About It

'If you could choose LCC's mascot, what would you pick and why?'



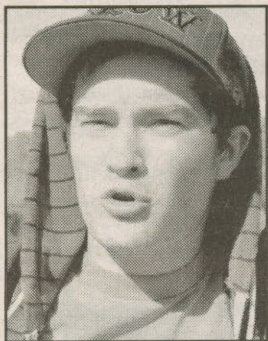
"Probably something related to Oregon. Probably some kind of bird or something like that because I see so many birds in Oregon."

Jessica Factor
Business



"It would be really cool to have the dodo bird. Just because it's funky and we're a funky area, it works."

Adam Davis
Political Science



"How about a rabid wolverine, because they're vicious and they have no predators that consume them."

Derek Abbott
Graphic Design



"I don't think I've seen any tree mascots. I think it would be cool if we had just a tree guy. There are a lot of nice trees on campus and it represents learning and growing."

Nicole Compton
Multimedia Design



"A lion. Because lions are fierce, and they make people scared of us."

Carly Tuttle
Theater



"The Titans seems to work. I like Titans. Nothing else seems to fit."

Thane Jackson
Business

Interviews and Photos by **JB BOTWINICK**

CLASSIFIED ADS

Eugene Chosen is putting three bands on the stage at the WOW Hall May 16. Busket NEEDS to be one of those bands. Vote for Busket! More info at eugenechosen.com.

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D.C. CONFERENCE, From Page 1

the money that has gone to the state," Spilde reported.

She continued that she also met with Secretary for Education Arne Duncan, who "is a K-12 guy but seemed to have some understanding of community colleges." Duncan presented his focal points at the event.

Spilde seemed to feel that LCC's participation in the National Legislative Seminar was

successful.

"You never know what good it does," she said. "But some of the things that we were asking to happen happened. It's this fine balance between making sure that students get enough, and making sure that we get enough so that students can actually enroll in classes. It's trying to educate legislators about that fine balance, and I think we did that."

www.lcctorch.com

Student Productions Association of Lane Community College
presents, courtesy of Theater Maximus,

GODSPELL



music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz and book by John-Michael Tebelak

Feb. 6, 7, 12-15, 19-21

directed by Chris Pinto

music direction by Vicki Brabham

choreography and vocal direction by Michael P. Watkins

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