

# The Torch

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LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SINCE 1964

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LCC's track and field team is almost as old the school itself. Since its inception in 1970, the team has been a vital part of the school's athletic program. Photos courtesy of LCC ARCHIVES

By **TYLER PELL**  
Sports Editor

In 1967, a year before Main Campus opened, LCC's long and storied athletic program commenced with a single sport, men's wrestling.

The following year, the college boasted seven intercollegiate teams: track and field, basketball, cross country, field hockey and soccer as well as two club teams — gymnastics and volleyball.

By 1977, LCC had 12 intercollegiate teams, four of which, cross country, volleyball, tennis and basketball, were women's sports.

LCC was first introduced to the unfortunate reality of retracting its program in the early 1980s. Some sports were eliminated for budget restraints, others, like wrestling, were eliminated in 1983 because there weren't enough schools with wrestling teams to compete against.

Four Oregon Community College Athletic Association titles between 1975 and 1983 marked the most successful period of the men's basketball program. However, 1983 was the final year LCC competed in the OCCAA. Later that year, LCC joined the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Col-

leges, along with six other Oregon community colleges. LCC is still among the 35-member NWAACC.

The landscape of LCC's athletics programs — and the rest of the Oregon public school system — was forever altered with passage of the controversial Ballot Measure 5. Before the bill was passed, close to half of the college's revenue was generated through local property taxes. Since Measure 5's passage in 1990, the school has become increasingly reliant on state funding. As LCC's Long-Range Financial Plan stated, 16 percent of the school's revenue came through local property taxes in the 2008 fiscal year, compared to 41 percent in 1990.

In 1995, three sports that had been cut in 1991 because of budget restraints, baseball, volleyball and cross country, were brought back with the help of a student vote. The sports would not be funded through the general fund like basketball and track, but through student fees and fundraising.

Even with the funding quandary created by Measure 5, LCC athletic programs remained amongst the most competitive in the Northwest. The baseball team made it two NWAACC championship games, and won it in 1999. Men's basketball also won a NWAACC title in 1992 and finished second and third in

1999 and 1998.

Success during that time wasn't limited to the schools varsity sports either.

"We actually had full-fledged club sports that operated like varsity sports, played other colleges. We had coaches, uniforms. They were run very much like a varsity sport. Even though we didn't actually have varsity status," LCC's Student Recreation Adviser Brent Ellison said.

In 1999, the men's club soccer team made it the National Club Sport Championships in Georgia. And the women's softball team played a varsity-like schedule that included opponents like Northwest Christian College, Walla Walla University and Boise State University.

However the school's funding was affected again in 2001. LCC's Long-Range Financial Plan states that the college was "immediately adversely affected by the state's inability to sustain funding levels" following a national recession.

With the affects from Measure 5 still being felt, national recessions have an increased affect on the college's funding. Because of that, LCC's club sports took a major hit — which has left prospective student athletes like Tor-

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## Scholarship deadline approaching

Grant provides new options, funding for students

By **WILLA BAUMAN**  
Managing Editor

LCC offers numerous opportunities for students to get help paying for college — this year more than ever. Lane Foundation Director Janet Anderson estimated a 33 percent increase in scholarships for LCC students this year, thanks to \$150,000 grant from the Miller Foundation.

"[The money] will give out a ton of new scholarships," Lane Foundation Donor Relations Officer Michele Erickson said.

In 2008, the Miller Foundation proposed \$150,000 scholarship grant, if LCC could raise matching funds. "We got it," Anderson said. "It's incredible. It's an extra \$150,000 to give away."

The Miller Grant provides for an over 29 percent increase in scholarship money. "That means 150 more people get \$1,000 scholarships," Anderson said.

The new scholarships offered to students include a scholarship for students with ties to the Triangle Lake, Ore. community; four scholarships for students under the age of 21; two scholarships provided by Unique Eugene

for Eugene residents; and one scholarship for women in the trades provided by Williams Gas Pipeline.

In addition, each department at LCC gets one \$750 Shining Star scholarship, for students who are pursuing either the Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer degree or a technical degree.

The LCC deadline for scholarship applications is March 12. Scholarships must be submitted to the Lane Foundation.

Anderson recommends students submit applications to scholarships in the All Majors category, and take a thorough look through the scholarship booklet.

"We're hoping this helps people stay in school and complete their programs," Anderson said.

## Influenza peaks early in county

LCC Health Clinic still has vaccines available to students for \$25

By **JESSE GRAY**  
Reporter

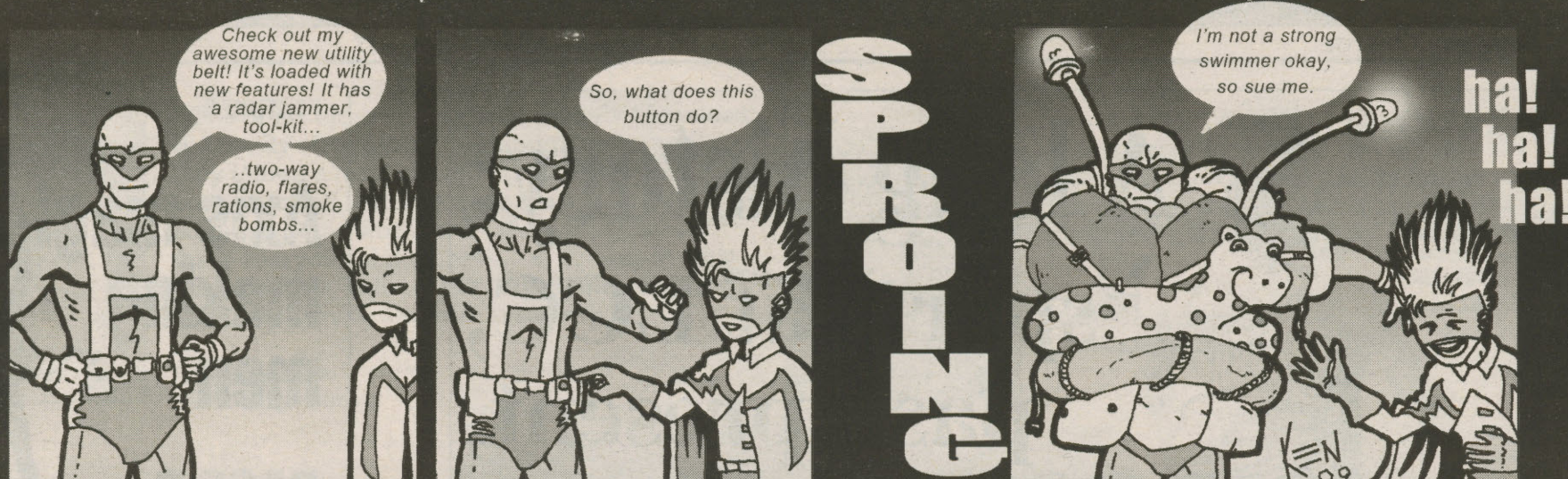
Some years the flu hits Lane County around March or April, but this year it came early. "From a public health perspective, our influen-

See Influenza season, Page 11



## Hit and Miss superhero small talk

by Kenny Ashcraft



## The Torch

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

Up to two copies per person per issue of The Torch are free; each additional copy is \$2.

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.

## Front-page facts misleading

The Feb. 26 front page of The Torch features a photo of me with an accompanying short news piece, titled "Faculty, administration at odds."

The story states, "Approximately 30 faculty members met in the cafeteria and walked en masse to the boardroom on Wednesday evening to show support to instructor Steve McQuiddy ... who addressed the board."

This reporting is at best incomplete, and certainly misleading. I was only one member of the nearly forty faculty members in attendance, and one of three who spoke to the Board. The group was not there to "support" me, specifically. Yet the story clearly gives that impression. It is also worth noting that the messages from the three speakers could

best be summed up thusly: hope, vision and opportunity.

The next paragraph is simply incorrect. It states, "After McQuiddy finished his short speech, which focused on working together but never giving up, the instructors from varied departments silently left the boardroom."

Again, I was one of three faculty speakers. Other speakers took their turns before and after the three faculty members. This was part of the public comment period, a feature of all LCC Board of Education meetings. The faculty group left the room when this period was finished, not when I had finished speaking, as the story says.

This may seem like splitting hairs to some. But one of the reasons journalists check facts and back them up with quotes is to avoid the kinds of misunderstandings that invite assumptions and fuel biases.

It is the duty of journalists,

including student journalists on this campus, to present facts accurately and in proper context, particularly when reporting on a topic as sensitive as contract bargaining.

Steve McQuiddy  
 LCC instructor, Academic Learning Skills

## To fund or not

I am not clear as to the criteria used by the Oregon Legislature in deciding what to fund and what not to fund. For instance, they have chosen NOT to fund the Oregon Project Independence, which allows seniors to stay in their homes rather than go on Medicaid, which is much more expensive to taxpayers and less convenient for seniors, as well.

Another example I found confusing is funding cuts for Oregon's 17 community colleges

in the face of an average of 15 percent increase in enrollment in credit classes. Unemployed people facing the fact that they may need training or upgrading their skills are turning to community colleges to provide their workforce development. Any investment in community colleges has been shown by means of cost/benefit studies to have a return far in excess of their investment. I would assume the same to be true of Oregon's universities as well.

The members of the Oregon Legislature have been elected to be wise stewards of our tax money.

On March 7, there will be a legislative forum at the Campbell Senior Center in Eugene from 1:30-3:30 p.m. I would suggest that people interested in what criteria are being used to spend our tax money plan to attend.

G. Dennis Shine  
 Springfield, Ore.

## ASK THE TORCH

Dear Torch,

*I'm in love with a woman that happens to have an extra finger on her left hand. I don't even notice this monstrosity most of the time. However, it becomes very apparent during specific events, like holding hands, and when she reaches across my plate for an extra piece of cheesecake. I've offered to finance the surgery to have this extra appendage removed, but she insists that if I love her, I should just accept her for the way she is.*

*Am I being unreasonable in asking her to go through with the procedure with the ultimatum of breaking up with her if she refuses?*

Desperate for advice,  
 Bob

Bob:

Sorry Bob, but I don't think the problem has to do with any extra digits. To me, the real issue is your girlfriend walking all over you. Who the hell would reach across someone else's plate and take an entire slice of cheesecake? She can't just ask for a bite? That's just inconsiderate.

Cheesecake hoarding aside, if you actually love someone, a sixth finger would be flat out insignificant. I for one would love to have a sixth finger. I've never played the piano; thrown a curveball or typed 150 words-per-minute, but a sixth finger could make all those dreams a reality. So get with the program Bob; you've got a real keeper, and yes you are being unreasonable (but I might, too, if someone ate my cheesecake).

Tyler Pell

Bob:

Bob, I'd like you to take a minute and really ask yourself how you feel about this woman. If you truly feel the way you claim to about her, an ultimatum should be the farthest thing from your mind.

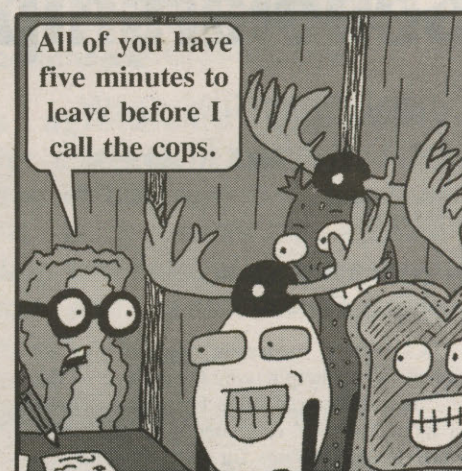
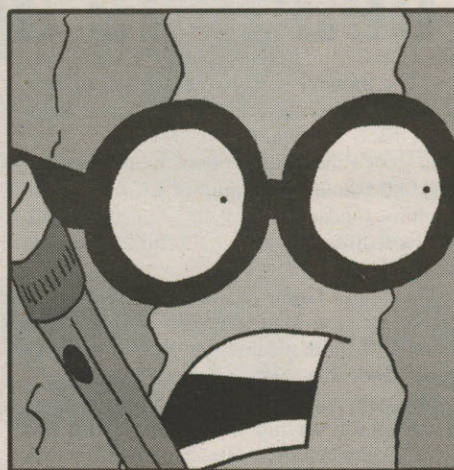
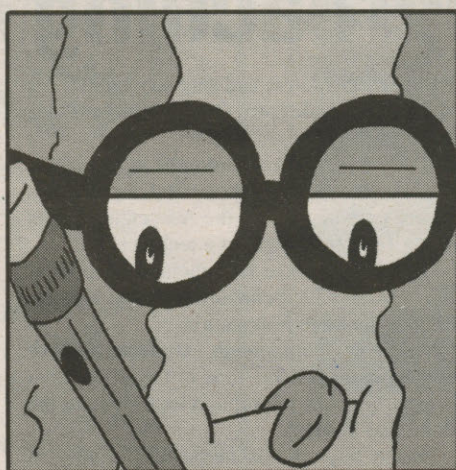
The first thing you said was "I'm in love with a woman that happens to have an extra finger on her left hand." I suggest you ignore the part about the "extra finger" and focus on the "I am in love with a woman" part.

Oh, and you might want to have some cheesecake and an impressive apology ready for when she sees this.

JB Botwinick

To submit questions to The Torch,  
 e-mail askthetorch@rocketmail.com

## BACON AND EGG: MOOSECLUB



Cartoon by TOMMY HARBOUR/The Torch



# Offering supplies for the quiet demand

Project Homeless Connect offers free services to those in need

By LANA BOLES  
Editor in Chief

Last year, Lorrie Hickok was homeless. She needed legal counsel, medical attention and sleeping gear. She needed support. At the 2008 Project Homeless Connect, she found those things and more. Hickok is now enrolled at LCC, working towards a career in human services.

"Project Homeless Connect is a one-day, one-stop event for anyone who is without safe and/or stable homes or at risk of being homeless," Beverly Farfan said. Farfan is an LCC Cooperative Education coordinator and a coordinator for Project Homeless Connect.

The Lane Events Center at the Fairgrounds will again be populated with hundreds of community volunteers and professional service providers offering free services to homeless. The third annual Project Homeless Connect outreach takes place Friday, March 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Project Homeless Connect links the homeless and individuals at risk with services and goods including vision, medical and dental care; hot meals; haircuts; bike, cart and wheelchair repair; clothes; pet care supplies; and personal hygiene items.

More than 80 local agencies will be available to provide information about the public services, education,

employment, legal counsel, and drug and alcohol treatment.

LCC faculty, students and staff will be volunteering at the event including individuals from Human Resources, Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group, the nursing program and massage therapy.

Hickok will be volunteering at the event, one year after it helped change her path.

"They gave me that boost to get off my butt and start taking care of things," Hickok said.

Not only will there be students and staff volunteering at the event, some of the guests in need of services will be LCC students as well, Farfan said. "I think it's really important that we recognize that there are people at Lane that are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless," Farfan said.

Last year's event served 1,158 individuals.

This year's one-night homeless count by Lane County Human Services Commission found rates of homelessness up 27 percent from last year, so Project Homeless Connect organizers expect a higher turnout.

The count found that on any given night, 2,673 people in Lane County are homeless.

"This snapshot in time underestimates the total number of homeless people in Lane County on any given night," Human Services Commission supervisor Pearl Wolfe said. "We know that 11,784 individuals who sought services from HSC funded programs were homeless at some point during the year and 1,664 students were homeless in our school system last year."

Free transportation to and from the event will be provided by Lane Tran-



Bike maintenance is one of the many services offered at Project Homeless Connect on Saturday, others include medical and dental care; free food, clothes and personal hygiene products; haircuts; and legal advice. Photo courtesy of PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

sit District and the City of Eugene. The City of Eugene will have van shuttles at First Place Family Center at 1995 Amazon Parkway, Looking Glass New Roads at 941 West 7th Ave. and the St. Vincent de Paul Eugene Service Station at 450 Highway

99. Transportation also will be available to serve people in Oakridge and Florence.

Additional shuttles will take individuals from the event to participating dental clinics. Vouchers for dental services will also be available.



## Event welcomes spring planting

LCC hosts scion giveaway, seed swap

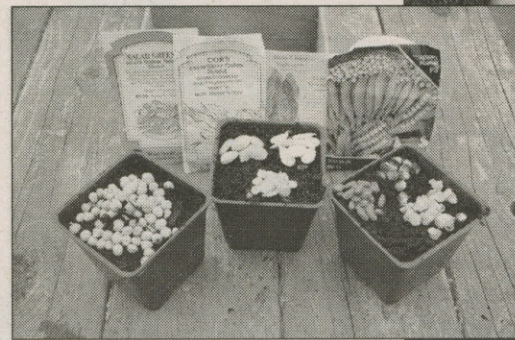
By WILLA BAUMAN  
Managing Editor

Spring is on its way, and on March 14, LCC students and the greater community will have a chance to celebrate. The Spring Propagation Fair, hosted by the Eugene Permaculture Guild and the LCC Learning Garden Club, provides an inexpensive way for individuals to grow their own fruit trees and vegetables.

"It's a combination of the annual seed swap hosted by Eugene Permaculture Guild and the scion giveaway," Learning Garden Club organizer Brendan Lynch said. "It's a great way for someone who wants to experiment with growing some of their own food or to learn how to do so."

At the Propagation Fair, individuals can buy rootstocks, the part of the tree that determines size, for a nominal fee of \$3-5. The rootstocks come in three sizes: dwarf, which stands six to eight feet; semi-dwarf, 10-14 feet; and full-size, which can stand up to 30-40 feet.

After picking out a rootstock, grafters will be on hand to graft scions onto the rootstock. Scions determine what kind of fruit a tree will bear, and is an 8-12 inch cutting from the growth shoot of a tree. Attendees can choose from a variety of scions.



"Opportunities do exist to graft your own scions," Lynch said, explaining that a listing of grafting workshops will be presented at the event.

The event will also feature guest speakers, including the Seed Ambassadors, who travel the country collecting seeds that could "revive Oregon's food industry," Lynch said. A variety of free seeds will also be distributed at the fair.

"It's a way in one place to get vegetable seeds and a fruit tree," Lynch said.

"The event is to promote home orchardists as part of a community effort to solve food security issues, and help people take more interest in the food they eat," he said.

Lynch said he's expecting about 200 people at the event, which takes place Saturday, March 14 in the LCC Cafeteria. The event and seeds and scions are all free, and Lynch stressed the Spring Propagation Fair is an inexpensive way to grow food in the backyard.



Saturday, March 14, the LCC Learning Garden Club and the Eugene Permaculture Guild will host The Spring Propagation Fair in the LCC Cafeteria. Free seeds will be given to anyone in attendance in the hopes of increasing local food production. Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

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# Lane music faculty, friends perform

Barbara Myrick celebrates her birthday with music

By BENNETT MOHLER  
Arts Editor

"Mendelssohn's Piano Trio #1" has always been one of music instructor Barbara Myrick's favorite musical pieces.

"I've wanted to do it ever since I was little," Myrick said. On Friday, Mar. 6, Myrick will be performing the piece along with several pieces by Astor Piazzolla at the Lane Faculty Music Performance. This day also happens to be Myrick's birthday.

"It seems kind of selfish, but it's really a birthday present to myself ... getting to perform this piece," Myrick said.

Myrick started the Lane Faculty Music Performance in 1975, a few years after she began teaching at LCC.

"We've been doing it for years now," Myrick said.

The Faculty Music Performance is one of the three major faculty performances at LCC including the Faculty Voice Performance and the Faculty Jazz Performance. These performances give students a chance to see their instructors in their element.

"It's nice when we get a chance to show our work," Myrick said. "Plus, students can see where we're coming from."

Myrick will perform the two pieces accompanied by Yvonne Hsueh on violin and David Straka on cello. Because "Mendelssohn's Piano Trio #1" is a very heavy and brooding song, the group will also play three Piazzolla pieces, "Libertango," "Oblivion" and "Muerte del Angel" to give the performance a more dynamic feel.

"We wanted to do something lighter to balance the heavy piece," Myrick said.

Music instructor Ron Bertucci put the next group together. This group, along with Bertucci, includes Hsueh and Straka and several other musicians.

Not all performers in this group are LCC faculty. Some musicians are individual lesson instructors and others are just active musicians in the community.

"It's a nice breadth of people," Myrick said.

One of the musicians interested in the event is former LCC instructor Nathan Cammack. Cammack has been instrumental in the music department at LCC before he retired in 1992. He still performs with the Eugene Symphony.

"He's been with us since the beginning," Myrick said. "He basically built the music department here."

Cammack and Ed Ragozzino organized the Performing Arts Department in 1968. Cammack handled the music end of the department, while Ragozzino handled drama.



Instructors (from left) Yvonne Hsueh, Barbara Myrick and David Straka rehearse for the Faculty Music Performance, which starts at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Mar. 6, in the LCC Performance Hall. The faculty performance was started in 1975 by Myrick and has given instructors a chance to show their students their level of talent.

Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

"As I retired, Ron Bertucci took my position there," Cammack said. "We stay in touch and he asked me to join his group for this."

This is Cammack's first performance with the Lane Music Faculty Performance since his retirement.

Bertucci's group, known as the Lane Faculty and Friends Ragtime Ensemble will be performing several Scott Joplin tunes from "The Red Back Book" as arranged by Gunther Schuller of the New England Conservatory of Music. These selections in-

clude "Sun Flower Slow Drag," "The Chrysanthemum" and "The Cascades."

"They're really good arrangements," Cammack said.

Proceeds from the performance will go into paying for music scholarships at LCC.

The performance will be held at the Performance Hall on Friday at 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door, or online at <http://www.lanec.edu/tickets>.

"All the people involved are really extensively involved in the music community," Myrick said. "I think it's great to see them all come together like this."

—Review—

## Restaurant bar offers free jazz, variety, ambiance

Kenny Reed rocks Jo Fed's every Tuesday night

By NOA STARK  
Reporter

Tuesday nights are free jazz nights at Jo Federigos Hour House in the downtown 5th Street area. The Kenny Reed Free Jazz Comedown put on a special flapper show last week, and will do more shows on future Tuesdays.

An advertisement for the band dares listeners to "witness the uncanny and sometimes miraculous potential of disciplined improvisational music."

Though the band labels itself as "free," it does take voluntary donations of \$2-8. "Free is a form of jazz, not what pays the bills," drummer and bandleader Kenny Reed explained.

Last Tuesday, the bar was packed. The crowd was a mix of college-aged and older individuals. A variety of fast-moving waiters and waitresses provided table service.

The basement performance space and bar offered an intimate setting. The band was set up in front of a wall of mirrors, giving a sense that the audience was sitting both inside and outside.

Acoustically, the forum did not offer anything outstanding as far as music was concerned.

Differentiating between the different instruments and occasional vocals was difficult.



Kenny Reed employs a regular roster of musicians. This includes Jack Neidermann on bass, Samuel Adams on piano, Shawn Mediaclast on saxophone and Rick Iannacone on guitar. Reed also brings up guest musicians, vocalists and poets. Kenny Socolof, above, contributes guest drums from time to time. Photo by JAVIER MAGALLANES/The Torch

The draw was in the band. Reed is a long-time jazz drummer who was born in St. Louis, Mo. and spent the bulk of his life in Chicago. He is also a Vietnam War veteran. "I started playing jazz when I was 12 or 13," Reed said. He said that he and his sisters "have played with James Cleveland, the Blind Boys of Alabama and Billy Preston" at his church.

Other musicians changed throughout the evening. Because Reed has been in the Eugene area for the past 20 years, he works with a large selection of musicians.

Sam Adams played piano dur-

ing the first segment of the set. He moved to Eugene from Fort Wayne, Ind. in September 2008. Adams is a classically trained pianist, and has played jazz piano for the past four years. "Eugene is a big improvement from Fort Wayne," Adams said.

LCC music department alumnus Jack Neidermann played bass.

Reed's wife, Marilyn, pianist and singer, said that Neidermann "is Kenny's favorite bassist." Neidermann said that he has played jazz bass "for 20 years or so," and 10 years with Reed. He said that he also "plays piano, but only at home."

Rick Iannacone moved to Eugene

from Philadelphia where he had been involved in the jazz scene. He played guitar during the first set at Jo Fed's. He said he was "surprised at the music scene in Eugene," and had not expected such a thriving and diverse music environment when he moved here.

The audience applauded the band for playing a song that has been a hit on YouTube, "Hey Obama." During this performance, Susan Urshan and Lisa Peterson sang the chorus, while much of the crowd sang along.

A video of the song, also featuring Adams and Neidermann, produced by Equus Pro and Frank-

street Productions, is available on YouTube.

Peterson said that she sings whenever she can. "I appreciate that Kenny lets me sing my heart out," Peterson said.

Urshan said she loved singing, and that "Kenny gives me a great opportunity to sing and dance. What more could I want?"

After intermission, musicians and instruments changed. Iannacone played a Fender Telecaster. Another guitarist played a Carvin electric model, which added a "fat" jazz sound.

The musicians clearly enjoyed playing. Reed smiled broadly throughout. Adams threw himself into the music. The guitarists' hands ran freely up and down the necks of their guitars.

Reed sang, performed scat, and saluted African-Americans by reciting poetry from a collection titled, "Black Man in the Image of God."

He chatted with the audience and waved to friends during and between songs. He also performed some comedy.

In describing the history of the blues, Reed said, "Barry Coleman said that the key to becoming a great blues artist is having a disability and a fruit." He said, "Look what you can come up with: Blind Pineapple Bush."

People came from around the area to see Reed perform. Al Borgen, from Wilsonville, was in Eugene for a wine symposium and was surprised to find "great jazz" in Eugene. "This is great music. I really appreciate it," Borgen said.

Every Tuesday night at 8:30 p.m., the Kenny Reed Free Jazz Comedown will play Jo Fed's.



"It's just so sad to me now to think about his death and the climate of discrimination and prejudice that America has fallen prey to. A son of an illegal immigrant sacrificed his life for a country that wants to build walls between Mexico and America."

— Candace Nicol  
artist

## Behind the wall of fire

Galleries all around the world have displayed Candace Nicol's work. Now her series known as "Firewalls," comprised entirely of prints made on layers of Plexiglas, is being shown at LCC's Art and Applied Design Art Gallery.

Her unique style of printmaking can be found in the Boise Art Museum; Corcoran College of Art and Design; Rutgers Center for Innovative Print and Paper at Rutgers University; Southern Graphics Council Archives; The Kinsey Institute; National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts; and Painting and Sculpture Museum Association in Istanbul, Turkey.

"Her use of materials is unique. The multi-layer effect is really cool," Amy Graves, gallery security, said. Indeed, Nicol's style is unusual in the printmaking community. Her prints are comprised of several transparent layers to give the images a three-dimensional effect. The images are created by putting screen prints and collagraphs on Plexiglas. Nicol started off printmaking in college and has since learned and synthesized several different methods of printmaking to create her own style.

"It sort of developed over time," Nicol said. "I like to play and experiment."

"Firewalls" was inspired by the death while serving in Iraq, of Nicol's cousin Raul "Chato" Bravo Jr. "I did all the pieces last summer... It was a direct response to my cousin's death," Nicol said.

The show is a testament to the social boundaries she finds rampant in America. "It's just so sad to me now to think about his death and the climate of discrimination and prejudice that America has fallen prey to," Nicol said in her artist statement. "A son of an illegal immigrant sacrificed his life for a country that wants to build walls between Mexico and America."

Originally, Nicol proposed a show of resin wall-reliefs for the gallery. However, the tragic loss in the summer of 2008 inspired her to take a new direction with the show. For Nicol, these pieces "represent the psychological restraints we put upon ourselves and others."

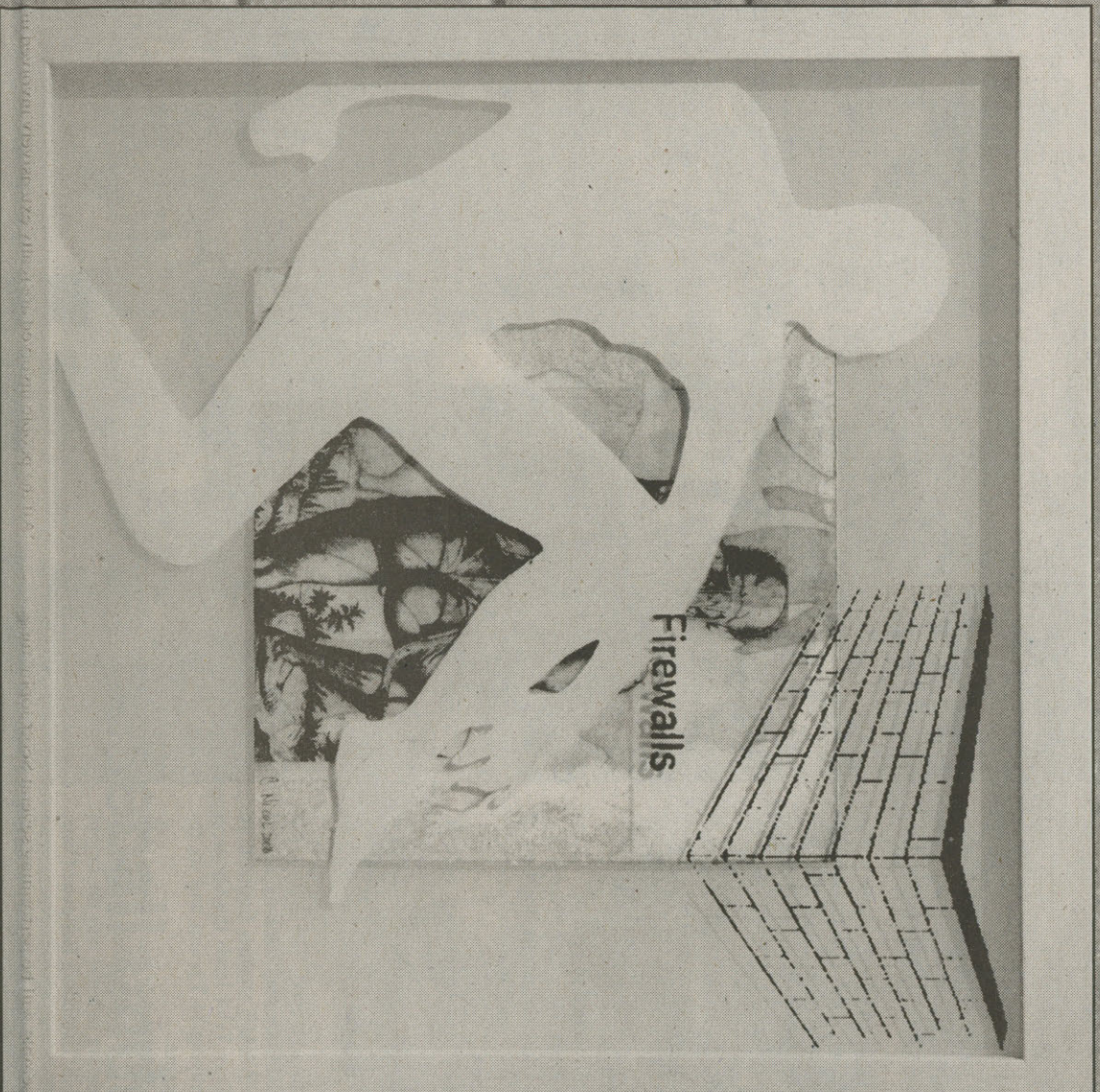
Nicol is a native of Nevada and currently teaches art at Truckee Meadows Community College in Reno, Nev. Unfortunately, she will not be able to make an appearance at the LCC show.

"Nicol is one of several non-LCC affiliated artists who will be featured at LCC's gallery this academic year. This is due to an open call for artists that the art department put out two years ago. On some months, guest artists from outside the school and sometimes outside the community will be featured in the space.

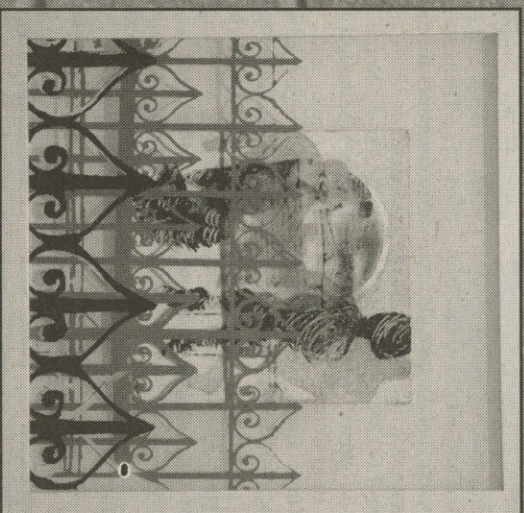
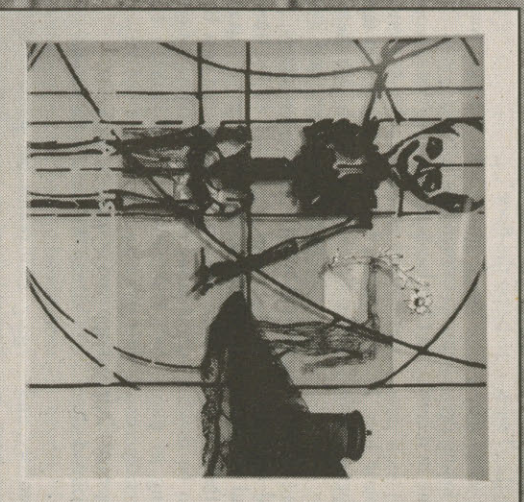
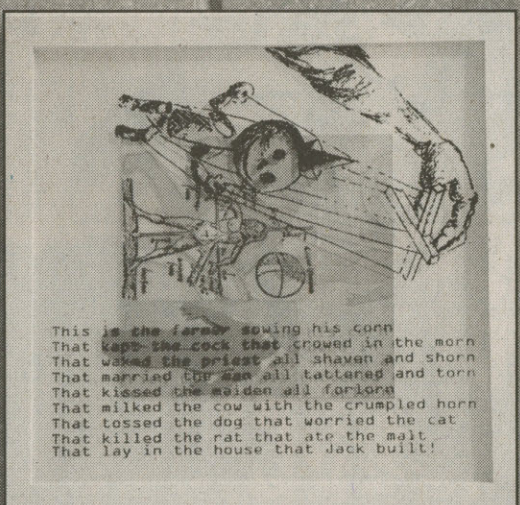
"I think it's kind of cool," Graves said. "Anytime you bring in new ideas, you expand on everyone else's artistic ability."

Nicol is a Sierra Arts 2008 Artist Grant recipient and was recently awarded the Nevada Arts Council 2009 Artist Fellowship.

"Firewalls" will be on display at LCC's gallery until March 12.



On display in LCC's Art and Applied Design Art Gallery through March 12. Candace Nicol's show "Firewalls" depicts social boundaries in America. She layers images to create a sense of depth and dimension.



Story by BENNETT MOHLER  
Arts Editor



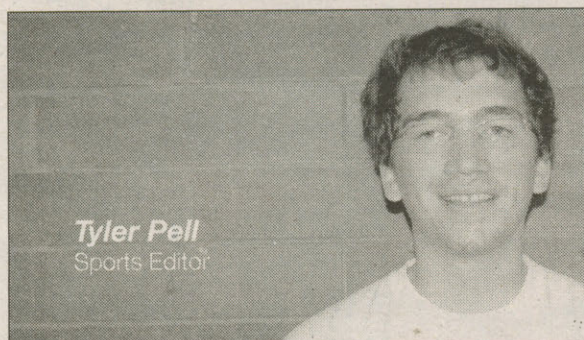
## SPORTS LINE

Yankees,  
schmankees

I have a certain loathing for the New York Yankees that is not easily put into words. It's not just that I have a general dislike for all things Yankee: the front office, the players, the grounds-crew, the parking-lot attendants — everybody. (George Costanza is the lone exception.)

Unfortunately, my hatred is far less healthy. I realize how useless it is to judge people you don't know. Yet I still feel completely justified when I see a stranger wearing a Yankees jersey to think, "Look at that guy. What a dick!" The Yankees just make my world a little bit darker.

Luckily for Yankee haters like myself, the past few seasons for the Yankee's organization have been some of its most pathetic — although not necessarily in terms of wins and losses. The Yankees have been pathetic the same way a 2009 Rolls Royce Phantom with its hood up on the shoulder of the highway is pathetic. Is that really the best you can get out of the most expensive team in the history of sports?



Tyler Pell  
Sports Editor

Which is why I am less than impressed by the Yankees latest spending spree. The Yanks spent a staggering \$218 million on a team that finished third in 2008 — in its own division! The next closest payroll was the Detroit Tigers' \$138.6 million, followed by the New York Mets' \$138.2 million. Astronomical payrolls isn't the only thing those teams have in common; none of them made the playoffs either. Oddly, the Philadelphia Phillies and their \$98 million payroll beat the Tampa Bay Rays' minuscule \$43 million payroll in the World Series.

Clearly, high-priced players and winning don't go hand-in-hand, but shhhhhh — I don't want the Yankees to hear.

After the Yankees posted a laughable .549 winning percentage in '08. It was evident something had to be done. And from how the free agency period shook out, it was clear the Bronx brass conversation went something like this:

GM Brian Cashman saying, "OK guys, we have a baseball team that resembles a huge pile of money, and unfortunately only performed slightly better than how an actual pile of money could have. What should we do?"

Hank Steinbrenner responding, "We will throw even more money on the pile! It's the Yankee way, dammit!"

Next, the room fills with a chorus of "Good thinkin', Hank," and a raucous ovation.

After the Yankees gave Alex Rodriguez a 10-year, \$275 million extension last off-season, the Yankees made an even bigger splash this off-season. First it was CC Sabathia's seven-year, \$161 million contract — the largest ever for a pitcher, a 400-pound one at that. Next came A.J. Burnett, another pitcher, and his \$82 million over five years. First baseman Mark Teixeira eclipsed them both, signing for \$180 million over eight years.

These are absolutely huge sums of money at any time, but keep in mind this was done in the backdrop of the biggest economic recession since you know when. So, while other teams were trying to shed payroll or at the very least put it into consideration, the Yankees were spending money like M.C. Hammer.

With this all-world team the Yankees have apparently put together, am I worried about the prospects of seeing some clown on the bus wearing a "Yankees: 2009 World Series Champions" shirt? Hardly. I'm actually just looking forward to the Yankees crashing and burning with and even bigger payroll.

On a more positive note, the inevitable (insert Yankee player) annual steroid apology has become one of my favorite events of the year. It's come to be something of a springtime rite of passage. We are to the point where we can actually rate all the different steroid apologies we've heard from Yankee players.

The latest installment of "Apologies of a Cheater" was the less-than-convincing Alex Rodriguez steroid apology. I mean, at least he apologized, but A-Rod would like us to believe that he was young, naive and under immense pressure to prove himself after signing the richest contract in sports, way back in 2000. So, like a lot of other major leaguers, he took steroids, admittedly from 2001-2003 when he was with the Texas Rangers. Understandably so, because we all know how tough that Arlington media can be. (I feel weird just writing that.)

My question is: why would A-Rod stop taking steroids in 2003 when he was traded to the Yankees? It's not like that pressure to perform was all of a sudden lifted, in fact in the New York spotlight it probably increased 1,000 fold. He went from the best player on a below average team to the best player on the New York Yankees, a franchise that counts success in championships. But yeah, I'll go along with it: after being thrust into one of the most pressure-packed places anywhere, A-Rod found a conscience and decided enough was enough.

## LCC preps for NWAACC

New faces, same results

By TREY CALDWELL  
Reporter

The LCC Titans women's team is about to embark once again on what has become an annual quest for a Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges championship on Thursday, March 5. The Titans will travel to the Toyota Center in Tri-Cities, Wash. to take on the Whatcom Community College Orcas in the opening round of this year's NWAACC tournament.

WCC comes into the tournament as the North region's No. 3 seed. The Orcas finished with a regular season record of 15-9, 11-5 in conference, and won eight of their last 10 games.

"We are all excited to be here," Orcas Head Coach Piper Nims said. "Not everyone is able to make it into the top four of their region. We want to show everyone why we are here."

"From what we have been able to gather, they are not extremely talented, but they play hard and they run their offense well," Head Coach Greg Sheley said. "They crash the boards well on both ends."

The Orcas averaged 57.5 points per game in conference play, ranking 22 out of the 32 NWAACC teams. Sophomore forward Tiffany Tyler leads the Orcas in scoring, averaging 11.7 points and six rebounds per game.

WCC did not make the tourney last year. After a 7-7 start to this season, the Orcas suffocating defense was the key to their 8-2 finish. Excluding Bellevue Community College, the North's No. 4 seed who were swept by the Orcas, WCC went 0-6 against teams that have qualified for NWAACC.

"Our quickness on defense is our strength," Nims said. "We force a lot of turnovers with our pressure 'D' and we have a lot of girls with quick hands."

The Titans have the South region's No. 2 seed after losing to No. 1 seed Umpqua Community College on the final day of the regular season. LCC finished with a record of 23-5, 12-2 in conference.

The Titans tip-off against WCC on Thursday, at 10 a.m.

"Some might look at having an early game as a disadvantage, I say I would rather have the one seed at 10 [a.m.]," Sheley said. "Of course, I wish we could have got the one seed, but a 10 a.m. tip-off means the players do not have to wait around all day. We can play our game, and if we are fortunate enough to win, we can relax by noon. We can focus on watching our competition play."

In last season's tournament, the Titans lost to Spokane Community College in the semi-finals 59-55. SCC did not make the tournament this year, finishing fifth in the East region. Columbia Basin Community College is the defending champion, and made the tourney this year as the East's No. 4 seed.

LCC won consecutive championships in 2006 and 2007, and played in the final game the year before that. Despite the loss to UCC, the Titans enter this tournament with momentum. LCC won 14 of its last 16 regular season games, losing only to UCC and Clackamas Community College in that span. Those teams are currently ranked No. 1 and No. 4 in the Horizon Air Poll.

"I am 'confident,'" Theresa Brown said. "We have to use our strengths to our advantages. Hopefully, we can bring home the trophy."

LCC has built a well-respected women's basketball program with Sheley's arrival. However, many people outside the LCC campus predicted the Titans were about to slide this year, mainly because the team lost all five starters from last year's team.

"I would not say people went out of their way to say it, but there was definitely a tone, like, 'Oh, you guys lost five starters. You guys are going to take a step back,'" Sheley said. "I think they under-



Starting guard Sheena Cole has been one of the Titans' most consistent contributors all season. In the Southern region, Cole ranked fifth in scoring, fourth in assists, third in free throws attempted and first in steals, at 3.5 per game.

Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch



Freshman wing Shimeea Jordan dribbles past a Chemeketa Community College defender earlier this season. Jordan is part of the Titans excellent freshmen class that has kept LCC near the top of the NWAACC, despite having just three sophomores. Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

estimated who we brought back. It was a really good season. Five new starters, nine new faces ... it was just nice to get everybody to buy into it."

LCC's initial start of the season only added to the perception that the Titans would be down a bit from their usual standards. The Titans started 1-2, losing consecutive games for the first time in recent memory.

"After the South Puget Sound loss, I think people thought for sure that we were down," Sheley said.

"The biggest growth for this team this season was when they started to understand our program's history, and buying in to what we are doing. I told them, look, people think you are going to be down. Other teams are always going to play well against you, because of our success. I think those losses kind of opened their eyes. I think they were disappointed after that weekend."

The Titans found their chemistry, and look to be the force they have been in the past. Some highlights of the season include keeping alive their record home win streak, which currently stands at 71, and being the only team to defeat UCC in conference play. LCC defeated the Riverhawks 89-81 on Jan. 21.

"We started off with a lot of newcom-

ers," Brown said. "We played in some early tournaments against some bigger teams. We have grown a lot, and our chemistry is much better. When we play now, we know where everybody is going to be on the floor."

"As a group and a team, we have grown tremendously," Sheley said. "Sheena Cole has been amazing this season. She was banged up a little at the beginning of the season, but she really came through down the stretch. Sarah Whitfield has been steady and confident, and has improved because of her confidence. Jennifer Kimbrow plays hard all the time; she is so unique in that she is so strong and quick. Brown has improved just by understanding the physical nature of college ball, and that it is okay to pound ... I could just go on and on. Each of our players has improved in many ways."

Carmen Williams is the Titans' leading scorer heading into the tournament, averaging 15.9 points per game. The Titans finished third in the NWAACC conference play in rebounding, averaging 50.7 rebounds a game, led by Brown's average of 9.2 rebounds per game. Cole led the team with an average of 2.5 assists per game. LCC comes into the tournament averaging 87.9 points per game on 44 percent shooting as a team.





Freshman decathlete Kevin Godfrey clears the bar in the high jump event. Godfrey finished sixth in the high jump at the Willamette Opener track meet last Saturday, Feb. 28, in Salem. Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

## Generals out; track, baseball underway

### SPORTSBRIEF

By TYLER PELL  
Sports Editor

#### EUGENE GENERALS

The Eugene Generals' season ended in disappointment, as they were swept in three games in the 2009 NorPac Pacific Division semifinals. The Generals lost the best of five opening round playoff series to the River City Jaguars of Beaverton.

The Generals finished second in the NorPac season standings with eight more wins than the Jaguars. However, the Jaguars dismantled the Generals in the first two games. Losing 7-4 on Tuesday, Feb. 24, then 10-2 the following night. The Jaguars closed out the series in Eugene on Friday, Feb. 27. The Generals 6-5 overtime loss ended its 2008-09 season.

The Jaguars will now face the top-seeded Seattle Totems in the Pacific Division finals.

#### TRACK AND FIELD

On Saturday, Feb. 28, the LCC track and field team started its run for another Southern region title at Willamette University in Salem for the Willamette Opener meet. An event Head Coach Grady O'Connor called, "a great first meet."

Sophomore hammer thrower Tyler Lindgren broke a 21-year-old school record in the meet. Lindgren's throw went 187 feet, beating the mark set by Nic Anastasiades in 1988 of 186-4 3/4 feet.

LCC also received a strong effort from its women throwers. Tauni Powell won the Javelin throw with a 142'10" throw. Rocks Miller dominated the other throwing events, taking first in shot put, discus and the hammer throw.

LCC also controlled the 4x400 relays, with both the men and women taking first.

Larry Ragsdale won the 400 hurdles with a time of 56.08, and teammate Richard Arnold finished second with a time of 57.81.

LCC also took home a pair of pole vault wins. Robby Fegles mark of 14'11" earned him first place. Mary Vaughn's mark of 11'5 3/4" was also good enough for first.

#### BASEBALL

LCC's 2009 baseball season got off to a good start on Saturday, Feb. 28, with a 7-2 win over Treasure Valley Community College. Sophomore catcher Kyle Hansen had three hits, three RBI's and two stolen bases for the Titans. Sophomore right-hander Matt Bellando got the win for the Titans, and freshman left-hander Reed Nicholson picked up a four-inning save.

In its following game against Skagit Community College, LCC lost 5-4 on a walk-off home run. Freshman Larsen Kohler took the loss.

The Titans played Treasure Valley again on Sunday, March 1. This time the Titans got in a hole early, down 3-0 in the first inning and ended up losing 5-2.

The Titans' fourth game of the weekend was an 8-7 loss to Skagit



Sophomore thrower Rocks Miller gathers her strength before unleashing her throw. Miller dominated the Willamette Opener, taking first in shot put, discus and hammer throw.

Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

on Sunday night. Head Coach Rob Strickland said it was a great game, despite a lot of miscues on both sides.

Both Skagit and Treasure Valley are ranked in the top 10 in the Horizon Air preseason poll. Despite losing three out of four games, Strickland said it was an "excellent opening series" for his team.

The Titans game against Concordia College's JV was scheduled for Friday, Feb. 27, but has been rescheduled to March 13.

#### WOMEN'S SOCCER

After the departure of Dean Smith, LCC hired Dave Ellis to be the new women's soccer head coach. Under the direction of Ellis, Clackamas Community College won the Southern region title and made it to the semifinals of the NWACC tournament in 2008. Ellis has previously coached club teams in Portland and Corvallis. He also has experience with the Oregon Olympic Program in Beaverton.

In Smith's two years as head soccer coach, he led the team to two playoff berths.

### SPORTSFIX

## What to watch: the upcoming week in sports

March 5 -11

#### Eugene Sports:

##### Oregon Ducks

##### Women's Basketball at home:

- UCLA  
Thursday, March 5, 7 p.m.
- USC  
Saturday, March 7, 2 p.m.

##### Men's Baseball at home:

- Santa Clara  
Friday, March 6, 2 p.m.
- Santa Clara  
Saturday, March 7, 11 a.m. (DH)
- Santa Clara  
Sunday, March 8, 1 p.m.

##### Women's Lacrosse at home:

- Vermont  
Sunday, March 8, 1 p.m.

## Editor's TV picks:

#### NBA Basketball:

- Blazers vs. Nuggets  
Thursday, March 5, 7:30 p.m.  
TNT
- LeBrons (Cavaliers) vs. Celtics  
Friday, March 6, 5 p.m. ESPN
- Lakers vs. Blazers  
Monday, March 9, 7 p.m.  
KEVU LP (ch. 4)

#### NHL Hockey:

- Rangers vs. Bruins  
Sunday, March 8, 9:30 a.m.  
NBC

#### NCAA Men's Basketball:

- No. 1 Connecticut vs. No. 4 Pittsburgh  
Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m.  
CBS
- Oregon vs. No. 17 UCLA  
Saturday, March 7, 12:30 p.m.  
ABC
- No.7 Duke vs. No. 2 North Carolina  
Sunday, March 8, 1 p.m. CBS

#### UEFA Champions League

- First Round Games  
Tuesday, March 10, 12:30 p.m. ESPN

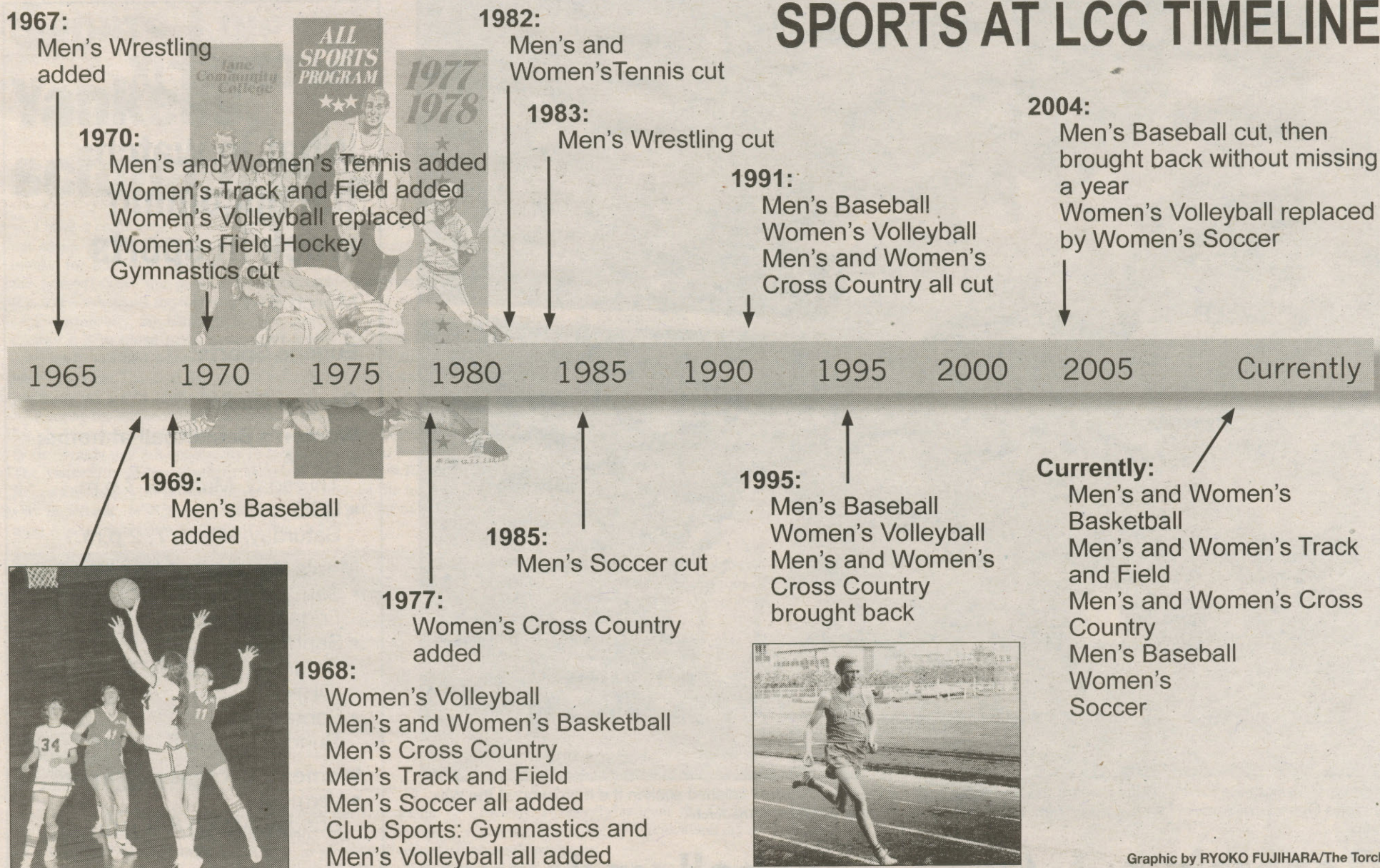
#### UFC 96

##### Main Event:

- Rampage Jackson vs. Keith Jardine  
Saturday, March 7, Pay-Per View



## SPORTS AT LCC TIMELINE



Graphic by RYOKO FUJIHARA/The Torch

## SPORTS HISTORY, From Page 1

rent Saunders on the outside looking in at the LCC athletic program.

Saunders, who played soccer for a season at Southwestern Oregon Community College and more recently played on a local team which has won The University of Oregon World Cup soccer tournament the past two years, would jump at the chance to play soccer for LCC.

"I think if they had a program going on at school I think they'd get a lot more enrollment. A lot of kids I know would go to Lane just to play on a team. Even if it was just like a club team a lot of people would come to play," Saunders added, "That's why I went to SWOCC, and there were a lot of other kids who went there for the same reason."

Club sports, or at least the way they were previously organized, were eliminated in 2003, because, "Let's face it, they're expensive," Ellison said.

Unfortunately, a bad situation became even worse in April 2003 when the LCC Board of Education moved to eliminate the baseball and volleyball programs, which, according to the Register-Guard, was due to a \$3.1 million budget shortfall in the schools 2003-04 general fund.

Fortunes quickly changed, however, with the help of a local booster group led by Eugene residents Dale Hartley and Dean Hansen.

"Dale [Hartley] and Dean [Hansen] took the charge to help keep the baseball and soccer programs alive here. They did a lot of fundraising for us and really helped us out for a few years," Health and Physical Education division Dean Roger Bates said.

At the time, Hansen's wife had been teaching at the college for 25 years and the two also fund an academic scholarship at LCC. Hartley was an assistant baseball coach from 1995-99.

"Approximately four years ago, because of budget cuts, the Board of LCC decided to drop men's baseball and women's volleyball as a cost-cutting measure," Hansen said. "When I heard [the cuts] were coming it made me sick to my stomach, Dale Hartley felt the same way."

"In essence, we came to the Board in 2003, and we came up with a proposal to save baseball. And we were willing to pledge personally, a certain dollar figure, to bring those sports back," Hartley explained.

For Hartley, his motivation was clear. "Baseball was my access to a college education. Growing up in a single parent home, I wouldn't have been able to do the things I've done without athletics. I know how important that is, I just thought the kids in this community deserved the opportunities I had when I was young."

They brought in something in the neigh-



Although the two-tone uniforms are long gone, the Titans are still playing rival schools like Umpqua Community College, just like they did back in 1969 when this photo was taken. Photo courtesy of LCC Archives

borhood of \$120,000 a year, Hartley said, and raised \$700,000 in a five-year period. The money they generated was divided between the baseball and soccer programs as well as administrative costs.

The Hansen/Hartley group is no longer directly related to any fundraising activities, although there is still an imprint from their time here.

"Now that they have moved on, we've been able to do some other things with fundraising and maintain some of the things they started," Bates said, alluding to the ads that still are present on the outfield walls of the baseball field and the teams' annual citrus sale.

Through it all, LCC has been one of the most decorated community colleges in the northwest. LCC teams consistently qualify for postseason play, and some teams, like track and field and women's basketball, have proven to be among the elite programs in the NWAACC. The women's volleyball program was also a successful one. In its final year of existence, the team placed third at the NWAACC tournament. Perhaps the most impressive feat during this time

was a 2004 NWAACC title for the baseball team. The team captured the championship in a season that would have been the last — if Hartley and Hansen hadn't stepped in.

The baseball program was officially dead after the team's NWAACC title, however news of Hartley and Hansen's move broke in a June 2004 Register Guard story.

In that story, Head Baseball Coach Rob Strickland had this to say about the resurrection of his program "I'm happier now than I was when we won the NWAACC championship."

Today, the athletic program features eight intercollegiate teams: men's and women's basketball, track and cross country; baseball; and women's soccer. And their success on the playing field continues to be a positive for the college.

Citing a study from earlier in the decade, Brent Ellison said the athletic department found that roughly 60 percent of the coverage the college received from the Register-Guard was related to athletic programs.

Despite the positives that athletics provides the college, LCC is facing the realities of an unprecedented economic recession. So, will there be room for sports in LCC's budget moving forward?

"There are no plans to reduce athletic programs anymore than anything else," Chief Financial Officer Greg Morgan said. He added, "Having said that, the significant reductions in the state funding forecast demands that significant cost reductions or price increases be made in order to balance the budget for next year. All programs will be looked at and some hard choices will be made. I don't know at this point what those might be."

Even Athletic Director Greg Sheley remains in the dark on the future of LCC's athletics.

"With the ambiguity of the budget, that's really over my head. I'm really hoping that we won't be losing sports ... we are just trying to make the sports we already have as viable and successful as we can."

To do so, Sheley has begun to fill void left by Hartley and Hansen.

"I started a group this fall called the Athletic Leadership Committee. It's not really an advisory board, what it is were trying to get people involved from our community who have an interest in athletics to help support our program, people who understand the value of athletics and value of them at LCC."

Sheley was quick to say he doesn't expect any miracles, or immediate returns. "If it takes hold and in five to 10 years can grow into something more than that, that would be great."

Despite the dire economic climate, Strick-

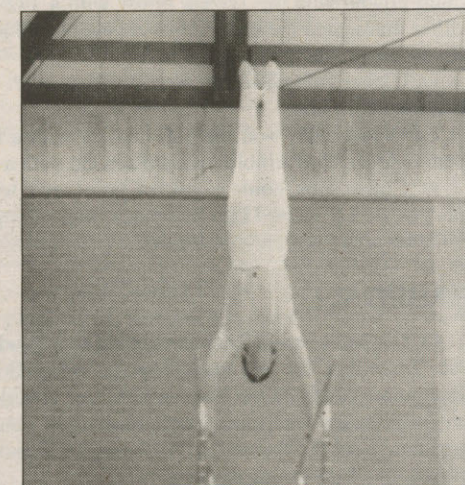
land remains positive about his baseball team. "Are we still in flux? I would say so. Is there positive momentum here, at this institution as far as athletics? I would say without a doubt."

LCC's track and field program hasn't had to deal with budget uncertainties quite like the baseball program has this decade. However, they haven't hosted a track meet in four years because of the poor quality of the track. Even still, LCC's track and field program has become as good of a reminder as any for why community college athletics are important for the area.

A point Hartley is happy to point out.

"There are kids coming out of high school, whether it's a grade issue, a maturity issue, who just aren't ready to play [Division I athletics.] But if those kids have a chance to go to school at a place like Lane and still pursue their chosen sport, if their body grows, improve their grades, whatever, they could become outstanding student athletes. Just look at the guys who have come through the track program. Hell, they've had Olympians come through that program, what if Lane hadn't had a track program for those kids? That's what's so important for me."

Despite the murky future of intercollegiate athletics at LCC, the past two decades have shown that even when the finances appear bleak, teams have usually, one way or another, found a way to keep taking the field. And for the first time since the mid 1980s, tennis will be back as a club sport in Spring 2009.



Gymnastics was introduced as a club sport in 1968, the same year LCC's main campus opened. Although the gymnastics team was short lived, lasting less than a decade, it is very much a part of the school's rich sports history. Photo courtesy of LCC Archives



## Axis Magi: Becoming a man

Men's group offers support,  
training for modern day warriors

By JAMES ANDERSON  
Reporter

Axis Magi is about transformation; it is about facing the shadows and defeating them, making a transition from boyhood to being a man. The group is mentored by LCC art instructor JB Bird. The ultimate goal is to help transform adolescents and young men into confident, mature men.

Group members must complete a weekend-long initiation workshop that takes place on campus before attending the weekly men's meetings.

The group name — Axis Magi — implies the process of becoming centered and the magic of transformation.

Bird addresses men's shadows, which come from their wounds, often due to a lack of a positive father figure and other emotional scars. The transition from young man to a mature man requires an initiation process.

"Young men do it for themselves in this culture," said Bird. "It's basically boys initiating boys. This keeps alive boy energy, not man energy."

Gangs and sports are common replacements for what was once a sacred ritual.

Bird sees young men daily who wear "masks" and are afraid to face their truth and remembers what it was like for himself.

"Boy energy acts out of fear," said Bird. "A mature man is strong enough to be in his own truth and wants to empower another man to be powerful and stand in their own magnificence."

Mature men are differentiated from the immature masculine by conduct. Axis Magi seeks to develop masculine men who can empower, not overpower. Mature men are expected to be more emotionally available in their roles as fathers, partners and servants for causes.

"Mature men aren't going to hurt women," said Bird. "The immature masculine damages others, not the mature masculine. It's the boy energy inside the man that creates the petty tyrant. That which is afraid must make others smaller."

Bird is motivated by his own experiences as a young man. The son of an alcoholic father, he had his share of anger and drug addictions. He attributes part of his turn-

around to art. Another significant experience consisted of a vision quest and involvement with other men's groups.

Bird constructed the weekend initiation workshop with imagery and concepts from "Return of the Jedi."

In the third Star Wars movie, Luke Skywalker is on a quest to find the "force," which he later realizes exists within. His search takes him to a swamp to meet Yoda, who represents a shaman in traditional rights of passage ceremonies. Obi-Wan Kenobi represents a warrior self. Skywalker can't realize his full potential until he receives the blessing from the magic and the sword. He then confronts a man dressed in black, which represents men's shadow self, personified in the Darth Vader character. The story is symbolic of a young man facing his shadow, his father, which is where many young men's shadows come from.

Bird guides his initiates through the story of the process with the utilization of this imagery. "Since the training, I have been working on a level of truth that I have only witnessed and admired in others," workshop graduate Nate Beard said. "By recognizing my source, my wounds, my strengths, I have been able to live more boldly."

Once an initiate completes the workshop, they become an official member of the group. Every Wednesday night they gather to "honor their truth and honor each other. The older man blesses the young man's journey."

"Our group is practice for the real world," Axis Magi member Micah Weber said. "It's a place to hone skills."

The process is compared to a soldier training with targets before entering the real experience of battle. The battle for which Bird is training his pupils is an honest life filled with leadership and service.

"It's not about 'how much stuff can I get,' but how much I can do for others," Bird said. "That's where the warrior comes in. The warrior can fight for the environment for the oppressed with integrity, not through greed."

Through Axis Magi a man can learn how to transcend toxic masculinity and step forward as a man without apologizing for who he is, stewarding that energy with compassionate intent.

The next session will take place on LCC campus on April 24-25 and will accommodate eight to 12 initiates for \$40 each.

"A mature man is strong enough to be in his own truth  
and wants to empower another man to be powerful  
and stand in their own magnificence."

— JS Bird  
Art instructor



Men's group Axis Magi focuses on overcoming one's shadows and transitioning into manhood. The group meets weekly to discuss personal battles and offer constructive criticism on life issues. Before attending weekly meetings members complete an initiation weekend modeled after concepts from Luke Skywalker's personal journey in "Return of the Jedi," a metaphor for transition from boy to man. Photos by JAVIER MAGALLANES/The Torch



## Renaissance Room and Omelet Bar offer alternative cuisine

Culinary Arts students gain cooking experience by providing food options on campus

By **DILLON BLANKS**  
Features Editor

LCC Culinary Arts students run the Renaissance Room and a restaurant called the Renaissance Room bar three days a week in the Center Building cafeteria, giving culinary students experience preparing and serving food.

The Culinary Arts program at LCC is a two-year course for students interested in working in the food industry. The program gives students experience preparing a variety of food, from running a restaurant to cooking buffet meals for more than 300 people. The Renaissance Room has been at LCC for over 10 years, and offers students restaurant experience.

"It is a student-run restaurant," LCC Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management instructor Lisa Aherin said. "We have culinary arts students that are first year and second year, and they get a real world working experience when they actually get to take orders. We collect money [and it] all goes toward funds to support the program, so they get to apply what they're learning in class and kind of 'bring the peddle to the metal,' so to speak."

The Renaissance Room offers dishes for inexpensive prices. The menu consists of soups, salads, desserts and five different entrees to choose. Some of the dishes have salmon, pork or grilled buffalo, and they're all priced under \$10.

"We want to give the students more of the casual fine dining experience," Aherin said. The students make everything from scratch, from the salad dressings and bread, to the Caesar salads and entrees.

The Renaissance Room is open to everyone.

"Students can come," Aherin said. "A lot of students think they're not

"We want to give the students more of the casual fine dining experience."

— Lisa Aherin  
Culinary Arts and Hospitality  
Management instructor



Second year Culinary Arts student Erica DeSantis addresses the Renaissance Room staff of Michael Hanson, Ben Gralch and Austin Hopper, before they open for lunch. The Renaissance Room is a student run restaurant on campus that, along with the daily Omelet Bar, provides valuable food service experience and good food at affordable prices. Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

allowed to come in but they totally are." The Renaissance Room serves faculty, students and residents of retirement homes.

"This term has been insane," Aherin said. "We've been busy every single day, like turning people away busy ... I guess we're doing a good job, we're getting in a good reputa-

tion, but we definitely need to grow."

Aherin hopes the Renaissance Room will expand in the next five years because of funding from Bond Measure 20-142.

"We're going to redo it," Aherin said. "It's a part of the big bond that got approved not too long ago. It's to redo the bottom floor of the Center

Building, so the Renaissance Room hopefully will be doubled in size because our program has been expanding so much that we are outgrowing our facilities."

The Renaissance Room doesn't accept the food cards used in the cafeteria, but it does accept debit and credit cards, a new feature added to

### THE RENAISSANCE ROOM

Three course meals for under \$8

Reservations must be made  
Open Tuesdays through Thursdays  
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### OMELET BAR

All items on menu under \$4

Open Tuesdays through Thursdays  
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Next week is the last week both services will be open. Times and menus change for Spring term. Both are located in the cafeteria.

the Renaissance Room this term.

"How do you recreate that in a classroom?" Aherin said. "You can talk about what it means to be slammed — to be super busy — but then when they actually have to do it, it totally changes everything and they can see if they like it or not."

The Omelet Bar is also open three days a week in the cafeteria, and is run by the LCC Culinary Arts students.

Everything on the Omelet Bar menu is less than \$4 and prepared on the spot. Customers choose what vegetables they want in their omelets, and have a choice of adding a side of bacon with home fried potatoes.

The Renaissance Room is open Tuesdays through Thursdays 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Reservations need to be made at least a week in advance. The Omelet Bar opens at 10:30 a.m. and closes at 12:30 p.m.

## Parlez-vous français?

Café Français meets weekly in the cafeteria to chat, practice French

By **RYAN GREGORY**  
Reporter

For the better part of the last decade, French instructor Fey D'Ambrosia has been holding Café Français, a weekly gathering that provides the opportunity for practicing French in a casual environment.

Although Café Français was originally developed for students, D'Ambrosia said it's become "a place to discuss the world over coffee for anyone." It's a nice place to sit and chat, regardless if someone can speak French or not D'Ambrosia assured.

Eric Anderson has worked in the Industrial Technology Department at LCC for the past 15 years. Anderson is Mormon and spent two years on missions in France. After returning to the United States, he discovered that not many people speak French as a first or even second language. Café Français is "like a life-preserver to hang onto," for Anderson.

"There are not tons of people to speak French to in the area," Anderson said. Because of the casual format

of Café Français, Anderson can give at least part of his Tuesday mornings to the dialogue.

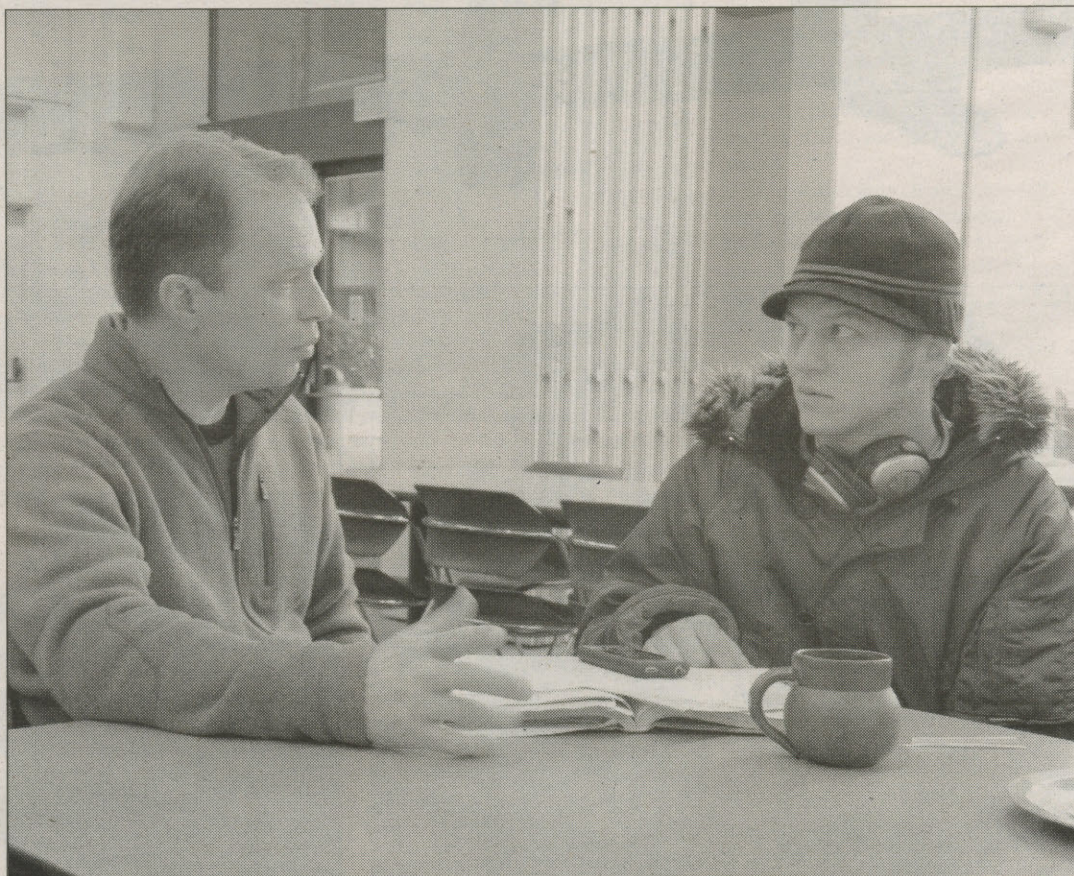
Karen White studied as an exchange student in France for five months and teaches mathematics on campus. White makes it to Café Français as often as her schedule permits. "It's way fun," White said.

There are no requirements or prerequisites to be part of Café Français, although a little knowledge of the French language is definitely encouraged.

Anthony Harlan, a LCC student majoring in French, is working towards transferring to the University of Oregon to get a degree in education so he can teach French. He attends Café Français to get a feel for how French is spoken and learned in a less formal environment than a classroom. Also, some of the French classes "give extra credit just for having coffee," Harlan said.

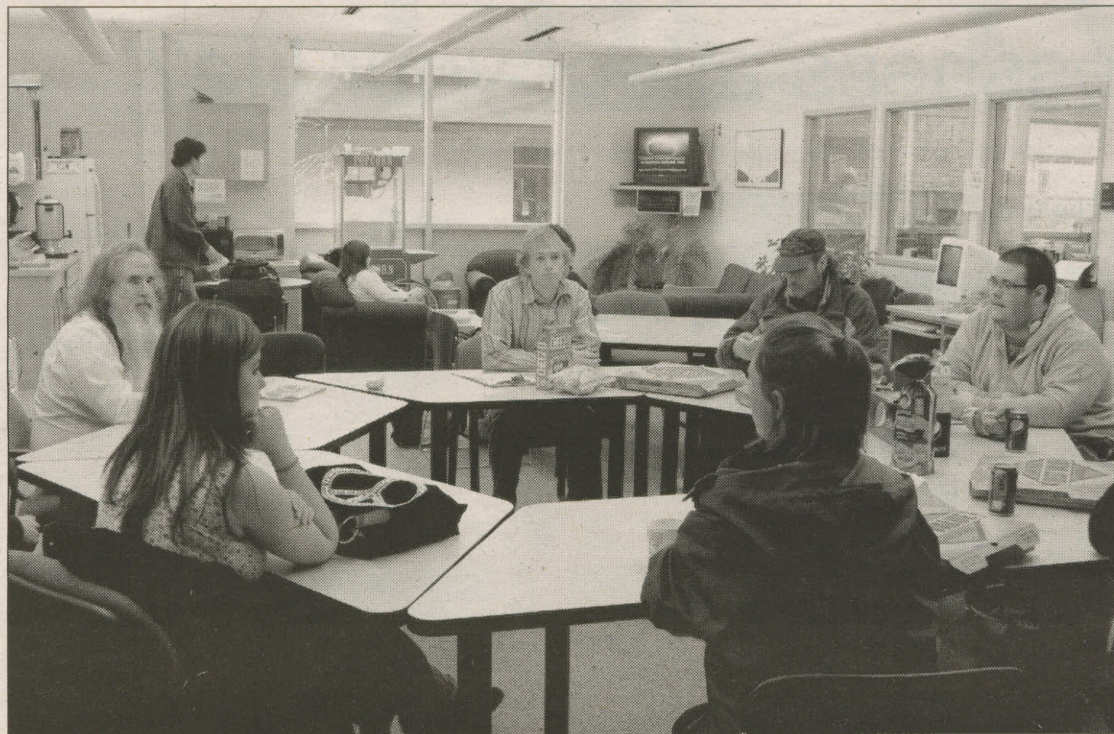
"C'est l'heure," D'Ambrosia said, as she put on her coat and picked up her coffee. In English, it roughly translates to "it's time to go."

Café Français meets every Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. in the cafeteria.



Café Français is a weekly meeting founded by French instructor Fey D'Ambrosia to give students a place to practice speaking French. As years went by, the meetings became a place for all conversing in any language. Group members Eric Anderson and Levi Radcliffe continue in conversation Tuesday, March 3 after the gathering has come to a close. Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch





The new Students for Liberty group conducted its first meeting Feb. 25 in the Student Resource Center. The group hopes to be ratified as an official student group Spring term. Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

## Prospective club offers political alternative

Libertarian students rally together

By WILLA BAUMAN  
Managing Editor

LCC Libertarians can take heart. Students for Liberty had its initial interest meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 25, and hopes to be ratified as an official student club early next term.

"The idea of Students for Liberty is to have a home for people who have a general liberty perspective," Jeff Borrowdale, faculty adviser for the group, said.

Borrowdale, who identified himself as Libertarian with conservative leanings, explained that Students for

Liberty caters to Libertarians and "traditional conservatives." He said the two beliefs shared common ground on fiscal issues. "With the economy the way it is," he said. "These are important issues to think about."

Approximately 13 people attended the interest meeting last week.

Borrowdale explained how Students for Liberty serves as an alternative to the political leanings of most student groups. "It's a support network for anyone who isn't a socialist. That's most college students, either socialist or 'socialist lite,'" he joked.

While the group is very specific in its political orientation, Borrowdale said he welcomed dissenters or "anyone who's just interested in politics. We like talking to people who disagree with us."

For more information about Students for Liberty, contact Organizer Ryan Wilson at (541) 337-7782.

## INFLUENZA SEASON, From Page 1 —

za season seems to be peaking here in February," Betsy Meredith, nursing supervisor for communicable disease at Lane County Public Health, said.

There are several different viruses circulating, Meredith explained, such as influenza A, influenza B and a respiratory illness.

"Given that in three of the last four years influenza activity has peaked in either the last week in February or the first week in March in Oregon, I would not be surprised to see the numbers continue to climb over the next few weeks," public health physician with the Oregon Department of Human Services Public Health Division Ann Thomas said in a Feb. 23 press release. Thomas oversees influenza activity for the state.

While Lane County Public Health does not keep numbers on exactly how many cases of the flu are currently in Eugene, they are aware of influenza's presence and continue to monitor infection rates.

Statewide cases of reported influenza continue to rise, but are well below the baseline for an epidemic, the state of Oregon Public Health reported.

"The flu vaccine only takes two weeks to start working and we have a good match this year," Thomas said. "I would still encourage people to get a flu shot if they have not already gotten one. It's not too late, and the vaccine is still the most effective way to prevent the flu."

The Centers for Disease Control report that every year an average of 226,000 individuals are hospitalized because of influenza and 36,000 — mostly elderly — die.

ODHS reports that almost 450 Oregonians die of influenza every year.

Influenza viruses are passed from

one person to another via large particle respiratory droplet transmission: sneezing, coughing or nasal secretions.

The CDC and ODHS maintain that flu vaccinations are the best preventative, and suggest that persons who are six months to 18 years old, and those over 50 years old, get vaccinated. CDC recommends washing hands frequently with soap and warm water.

LCC does not do flu testing because of the cost incurred in testing, LCC Health Clinic manager Mona Arbuckle stated. However, she reported a lot of people coming in describing "flu-like" symptoms.

Arbuckle states that the types and consistency of cases are "fairly consistent" with those found in the county as a whole.

"Lane County Public Health warned that Oregon may be one of the harder hit flu areas in the country this season," LCC Health Clinic Medical Office Assistant Coordinator Ann Penny stated in an e-mail.

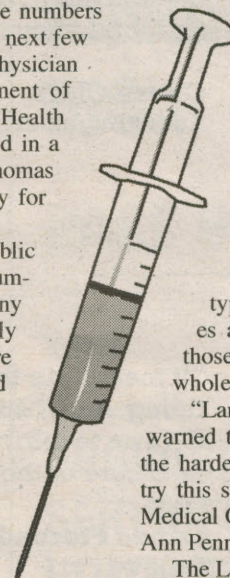
The LCC Health Clinic has the flu vaccine for \$25.

"We at the Health Clinic are concerned that not enough people have been warned, nor are they aware that such serious illness can extremely disrupt their academic career," Penny cautioned.

Penny warned that prevention is especially important for older students and those with children.

Symptoms of influenza are generally more severe than common colds and include fever, headache, sore throat, cough, muscle aches, extreme fatigue and loss of appetite lasting several days.

An appointment can be made at the Health Clinic by phoning (541) 463-5665.



Associated Students of Lane Community College

### ASLCC EVENTS

7 students will be attending the annual Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. over Spring break!

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.lanecc.edu/aslcc>

### COUNCIL OF CLUBS

*New ratified club:*  
**STUDENT ART ASSOCIATION**  
*Congratulations!*

**Green Gardening Club**  
Propagation Fair  
Friday, March 14  
10 am - 4 pm  
LCC Cafeteria  
Come learn to grow!

**Green Chemistry Club**  
BioDiesel Project  
Every Thursday, 1 pm  
Bldg. 10; Room 107  
Everyone welcome!

For more info, contact: Liza Rosa-Diaz  
at (541) 463-5332 or [lrosadiaz@gmail.com](mailto:lrosadiaz@gmail.com)  
or Bette Dorris at (541) 463-5365



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Police Officer Salary: \$48,589-\$61,984 / Annually

### 9-1-1 CALLTAKER/DISPATCHER

Calltaker/Dispatcher Salary: \$37,128-\$52,312 / Annually

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The City of Eugene values diversity in its work force and is committed to affirmative action.



# Think About It

## 'How does homelessness affect your life?'



"One of my close friends was actually homeless. His family struggled a lot through that. Then they joined a local church and they helped them out and found his mom a job. He's just really come up in the world and I think that's cool. I think everyone should have a relationship with the homeless, and not just kick them to the curb and think they're a waste on society."

**Chase Clark**  
Audio Engineering



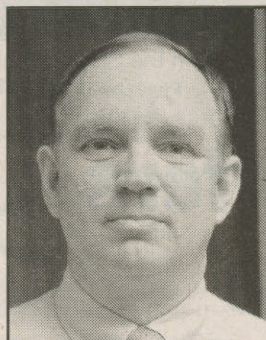
"I was homeless when I was little. I'd say it hasn't affected my life except for the memories. I think that's the sad thing about our culture these days, that we don't recognize it on a daily basis."

**Katelyn Alameda**  
Elementary Education



"It makes me think about things our society isn't doing. And, I suppose, inspires me to a certain degree to inform people, or teach people to take care of those things."

**James Florendo**  
Faculty



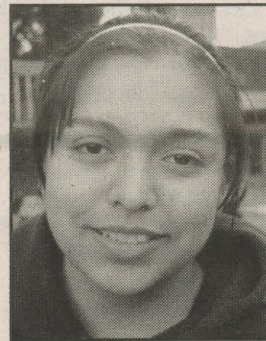
"I think it has an impact on the quality of life of the community as a whole. I think that when someone sees someone less fortunate they have to consider that it may be them."

**Greg Morgan**  
Administration



"There are people around ... me who aren't being taken care of or taking care of themselves. I'm almost homeless 'cause of money problems. I know someone who lives with us that is homeless. He can't find a job and usually can't find food. People end up taking care of him, but it's a good cause to take care of a friend."

**Tiphonie Bohn**  
Aviation Technology



"I really don't know much about homelessness. Right where I live there are a few homeless people, and right by the bridge and where the EmX passes there are a lot of homeless people. It's just sad to see."

**Monica Lopez**  
Music

Interviews and photos by **JB BOTWINICK**

### Classifieds

**Learn Lindy Hop!** Visit our website for videos and a swing dance calendar: EugeneSwing.com


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**Nowhere Love? Now Here Love! NowHereLove.com** 'Tittle8 Radio' & 'Healthy Habits for Healthy Humans' @ www.NowHereLove.com InJoy!

**Tutors** are available through Wednesday of finals week. Tutor Central has a list of locations.

**Straw needed.** We need about 10 bales straw delivered to a Veneta home. Please e-mail raeshinesbright@gmail.com.

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## WHY OIT?

### April Placencia—Renewable Energy Engineering Class of 2010



"After graduation I'm interested in working for an engineering firm, with a job that focuses on improving the design of existing renewable energy technologies and implementing the installation of these systems. I love the small class sizes and the personalized attention from faculty that I experience at OIT Portland."

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