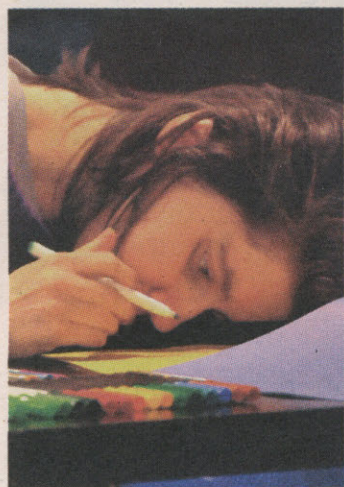




COMMUNITY SKATES FOR AIDS AWARENESS



Event focuses
on education
and discussion
about HIV, AIDS

BY KYLE CHASE
REPORTER
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AIDS Awareness Week culminated on Dec. 1 with a nighttime AIDS Skate, which organizers said was a fun to way to raise awareness about a serious subject.

The event was co-organized by the XYZ Club, the Black Student Union and ASLCC.

"Student leaders on campus are really willing to work together," XYZ President Norma Osborn said.

Approximately 30 attendees, dressed mostly in red, circled the rink at Skate World to the sounds of Michael Jackson, Ke\$ha and LMFAO, among others.

"This is an all-ages event, so we're trying to reach adults, teens and kids alike," Osborn said. "When you're able to talk about (HIV and AIDS) in a laidback way, people don't



feel like you're attacking them, like you're preaching to them. ... There's still a lot of misconceptions about HIV/AIDS."

According to statistics published by the World Health Organization, some 34 million people are living HIV-positive, while 1.8 million died of AIDS in 2010.

"The numbers are staggering. It's astronomical," Osborn said, but that Oregon has an extremely low rate.

Still, Osborn said she stressed the need for education.

"People learn about it after it's already happened to them," Osborn said.

XYZ member Christian Moody, a first-year student at LCC, said he wore a red dress to make "a bold statement" that would draw attention to the cause.

Tak, a first-year student at LCC, was proud to have made it one hour without injury.

"I haven't kissed the floor yet," Tak said.

Osborn said XYZ Club initially considered hosting a drag-show fundraiser, but the



LCC performance facilities were booked Dec. 1, and it was important they host the event to coincide with World AIDS Day.

The night was marked by an 8 p.m. candlelight vigil to honor HIV and AIDS patients, and crafting materials were available to those who did not want to skate.

Vashti Selix, ASLCC's gender and sexual diversity planner, said the AIDS Skate was a step forward for local AIDS awareness.

"This is the first year I know of that we did this, which is really cool," Selix said, adding that she doesn't know of any other schools with such an active effort to raise AIDS awareness.

On Nov. 30, XYZ Club offered free HIV testing in the LCC cafeteria. Prior to the AIDS Skate, BSU secretary Eric Richardson and his band, The Invisible Arts Project, played a



free concert in the cafeteria.

"We were at the south end of the cafeteria, ripping up the Yu-Gi-Oh! players," Richardson said.

Richardson's daughter, Nina, said her fifth-grade class watched educational videos that taught her "how HIV kills T-cells, and the T-cells die, and the virus comes in and harms the body."

"HIV is under the radar, and it's taxing our healthcare system. It's still one of the only incurable diseases we know of. It's the silent epidemic," Richardson said.

Richardson said he frequented Skate World, where the event was hosted, in the late 1970s.



PHOTOS BY TURNER MAXWELL / THE TORCH

Skate World in Springfield hosted a fundraiser put on by the XYZ Club, the Black Student Union and ASLCC on Dec. 1 to raise HIV and AIDS awareness.

Many people dressed in red to show support for the event. AIDS Awareness Week is marked every year around the world during the last week of November and concluding on Dec. 1, World AIDS Day.

Benchmarks revision to give students second chances

BY SEAN HANSON
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At the end of summer term, LCC Financial Aid revised its benchmarks to determine whether to extend financial aid to students the following term, a move intended to improve retention rates.

Previously, satisfactory academic progress — a measure of a student's completed credits weighed against attempted credits — was evaluated on a term-by-term basis. Students who failed to complete 67 percent of credits attempted in a single term were placed on financial aid suspension.

According to the new guidelines, students must complete 67 percent of credits attempted throughout their academic careers at LCC. A dip below this baseline triggers financial aid probation.

The change to cumulative evaluation was calculated to give students a second chance, LCC Enrollment Services Adviser Michael McCullough said.

"We do hope it will reduce the number of students who are suspended. It's kind of ... an averaging," McCullough said. "In effect, the advantage to students is, you can no longer have one bad term lead to ... suspension."

Due to the newness of the change,

McCullough said it's too early to identify a solid trend. At the end of summer term 2011, some students who did relatively well but still came beneath the transcript-wide threshold were placed on financial aid probation, but McCullough said, "It helped more students than it did the other way."

While students could theoretically abuse the system by registering for classes, receiving a financial aid payment and withdrawing from classes, McCullough said in his experience, students are far more likely to withdraw due to family or medical emergencies.

"With any system, people are going to find ways to abuse it," he said, but his

department has not identified financial aid abuse as a significant trend.

"It won't help them by attempting credits and not completing them. It will catch up with them eventually," McCullough said.

Sylvia Sandoz, a research associate in Institutional Research, Assessment and Planning, said the statistics provided by her office suggest a steady trend: term-to-term retention varies slightly, from 89.3 percent in fall term to 88 percent in spring.

Full-time students have the highest retention rates, although Sandoz's

SEE BENCHMARKS ON PAGE 5

ANTHROPOLOGY INSTRUCTOR

wants to change
the way you look
at faith, culture and
everything.

PAGE 11



WITH ONE VETERAN PLAYER,

this year's women's
basketball team is
looking forward
to a fresh start.

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EDITORIAL

Public meetings laws must be upheld for transparency

Oregon public meetings law exists to keep governing bodies fair and honest, and most importantly, to allow the media to report on public information.

By abandoning these laws we risk violating the sanctity of democracy and the integrity of journalists, who would not be able to properly fulfill their role as a government watchdog without the ability to attend and accurately report on public meetings.

On Nov. 22, the news broke that Oregon University System Board and OUS officials had privately discussed the termination of UO President Richard Lariviere before putting it on the agenda for a public meeting. Matt Donegan, the board president, and board member Allyn Ford told Lariviere of the decision to terminate his contract four days before the board scheduled a meeting to publicly discuss that termination. The board also issued notice for this meeting on its website at 6:06 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 26, the day after Thanksgiving, when all campuses were closed. The meeting was scheduled for the following Monday, and this can hardly be considered reasonable notice to the press for such an important event.

Donegan said that prior to speaking with Lariviere, he polled the board members for their opinions and consulted Gov. John Kitzhaber, who later released a statement supporting the termination.

Last month, 60 UO faculty members filed a complaint with Oregon's Government Ethics Commission, requesting an investigation into whether the OUS's actions violated public meetings law.

We agree with those faculty members: the private discussion of Lariviere's termination and the board's failure to provide reasonable notice of their meeting violated public meetings law.

Donegan admitted to The Register-Guard that he polle board members about their stance on Lariviere's employment status before any official action was set to take place, which shows that this board doesn't take public meeting laws seriously.

Lane County commissioners learned this lesson recently, after Coos County Circuit Judge Michael Gillespie ruled that by discussing voting matters through emails and other private means, they violated the law.

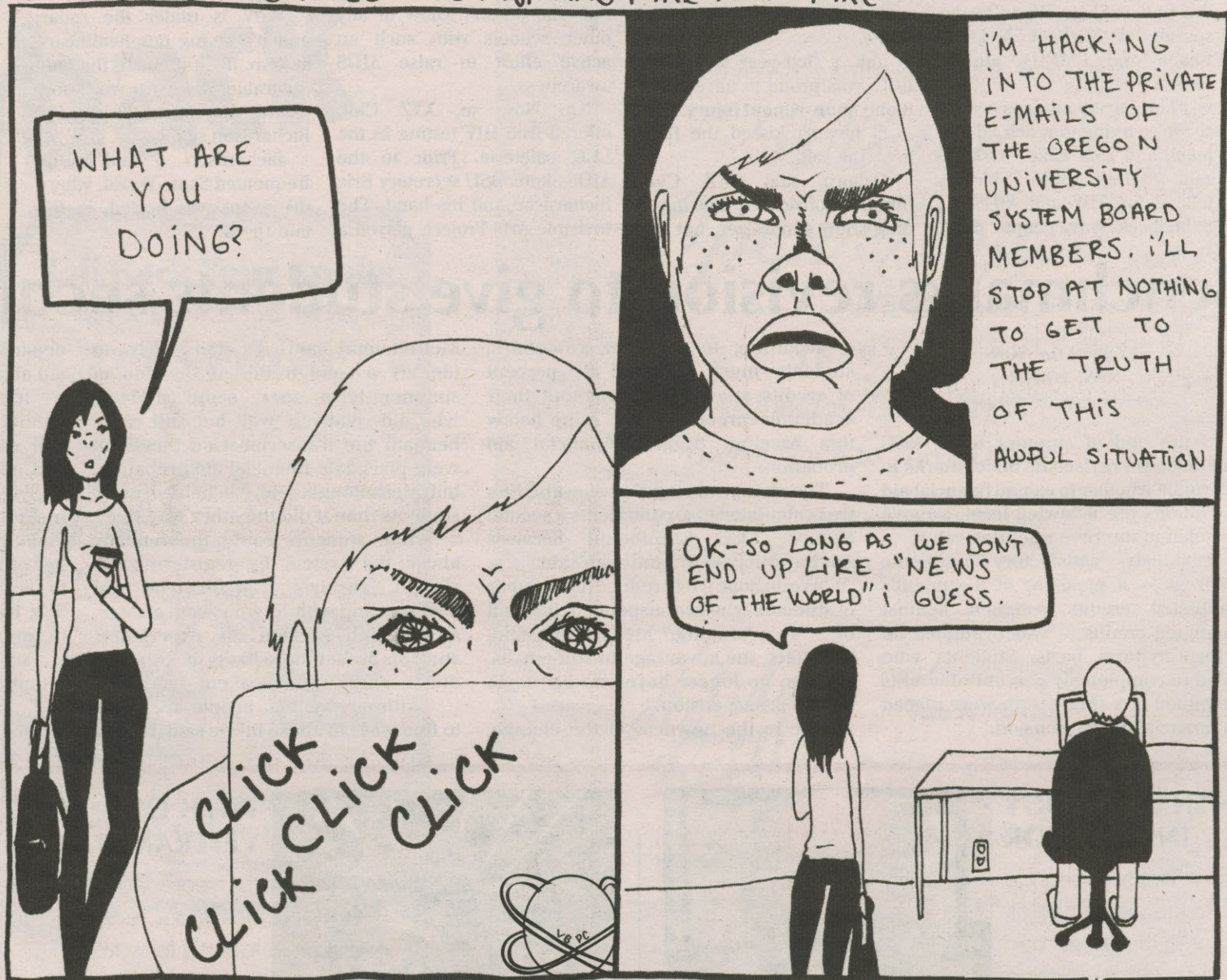
The laws are so explicit in detailing the proper methods of conducting public meetings because without these laws, governing bodies could be blackmailing or paying people off for certain votes, passing items based on hidden agendas and ruling on matters without hearing public input.

As journalists, we here at The Torch would like to see the violators of these laws held accountable in all cases. Without holding those officials to abide by these statutes we risk violations on all levels: in colleges, cities, counties, and at the state and national levels.

We can't be watchdogs without governing bodies giving proper notice of their meetings, and voting in compliance with the meetings law.

We can't hold our college to these strict policies if that same standard is not expected from the UO, so we ask that the investigation of the higher-education board's misconduct continue in the public eye.

OUS VIOLATIONS LEAD TO FIGHTING FIRE WITH FIRE



anna pearson

DR. HAT

Powwow provides a different kind of healing

More than 1,000 visitors from Lane County and across the Northwest packed the LCC gymnasium on Dec. 3 for this year's annual powwow.

There were vendors and spectacular Native American food, with a mix of traditional American food.

As I entered the gymnasium, I was greeted with smiles. It was almost as if I were stuck in a really good dream with positive energy flowing through my body. The vibes from those who came to show respect and indulge in a spiritual activity resonated with the crowd — even for those who may have found themselves outside of their comfort zone.

My spirits were at an all-time high as I wandered through the gymnasium, shaking hands with complete strangers. There wasn't a frown in the entire crowd.

The powwow opened its doors early to allow guests to get comfortable with the surroundings. There was an opening ceremony and blessing at approximately 1 p.m. that sent chills down my spine as I tried to embrace all that was in front of me.

The blessing shared a celebration of life for both elders and newborns. Organizers welcomed and thanked the veterans, guests and those who made the powwow possible.

For some, including myself, the event was the first time people had seen Native American dancers in action. Drummers packed the right side of the gymnasium and kept a constant beat — one after another. Both young and old filled the dance floor in the middle of the gymnasium and formed a dancing circle.

I decided to let myself go and partake in the dancing. A kind NASA member, Wesley Smith, who worked at the powwow, told me to “feel the beat and let the heart dance.” I did exactly that, but only after taking a deep gulp and swallowing



JON FUCCILLO
Features Editor

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my anxiety.

There was a sense of calm and collectiveness throughout the powwow. The LCC gymnasium's motto — “feel the power” — made complete sense. The power and positive energy flowing throughout the early evening was very apparent. Strangers became family in a matter of minutes.

The writing was on the wall: This powwow was created for people from all backgrounds and differences to come together, dance and leave

negative energies at the door. Just as James Florendo, Native American Student Program coordinator and instructor, told me prior to the powwow, “You dance for those who can't. ... You dance for those in prison. You dance for the really young that can't dance. You dance for the very old that can't dance. You dance for the sick that aren't in attendance.”

They did exactly that. People danced for all sorts of reasons.

The constant theme of spiritual healing kept creeping in the back of my mind like I was counting sheep to go to sleep. I had no idea what I was getting myself into until I entered the powwow.

Was I shocked? Sure. But I wasn't surprised by the excitement.

I was honored and overwhelmed by the amount of respect and joy that I felt.

I had entered the powwow as a lost soul, and left feeling more whole than ever — thanks to the great people that make up this community and the surrounding Pacific Northwest.

To cap off the first of two powwow sessions, they had a meal prepared by the culinary students at LCC. It included fine salmon donated by the Warm Springs tribe, mashed potatoes, green beans and a Peruvian side dish.

I left the powwow one happy camper, with a full belly and, more importantly, a full spirit.



PHOTO BY EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

Features Editor Jon Fuccillo dances during the Dec. 3 powwow's dance circle with friend Mike Bianco (left).

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WAYTOGO

A SLCC approved the Council of Clubs bylaws after three weeks of deliberation and ratified four new clubs: the Veterans Club, the Jewish Student Union, the Collaborations Club and the Lane Jazz Club.

When a student left his dog tied to a truck on a rainy day, public safety kept the dog in its office until the owner came a-calling, at which point officers served him an order to appear before the vice president of academic and student affairs.

Only then did they return the dog. Now that's justice, LCC-style!

The LCC honors program is offering two new courses winter term, PS 297: Environmental Politics and MTH 243: Probability and Statistics, and will be expanding course options even more for spring term to include art, design, philosophy and anthropology courses. Through academic rigor, honors students receive a transformative learning experience that develops their critical thinking skills and intellectual curiosity.

HELLNO

The Board of Education will convene on Dec. 14 to discuss what is probably the hot-button issue of the year, possible faculty layoffs. Problem is, classes are not in session, and there are far fewer people on campus to attend the meeting.

A SLCC is working towards organizing a committee to put on the third annual Lanestock, even after President Mario Parker-Milligan said the \$10,000 event received a significant number of complaints last year.

Apple has received numerous complaints from iPhone 4S users about the new cutting-edge application Siri. The artificially intelligent personal assistant directs users who ask for help locating abortion clinics to anti-choice “crisis pregnancy centers” instead — even when the user is right outside an abortion clinic. And when users ask for help obtaining an assisted suicide, Siri directs them to mental health facilities. Note to Apple: giving AI political opinions is a surefire way to kickstart a Terminator-style apocalypse.

ASLCC

NOV. 21

Secretary appointed; funds request approved

BY KYLE WEBB
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ASLCC met Nov. 21 to edit Council of Clubs' bylaws, appoint a secretary and approve \$12,500 in funds requests.

One \$12,000 funds request would allow six more LCC students to attend the 42nd Annual Grassroots Legislative Conference and Student Lobby Day in Washington D.C.

ASLCC Chief of Staff Merriam Weatherhead lobbied again for the funds request, which the senate tabled last week. She insisted the open spots would be allocated outside of the senate.

"I think it's really important we leave this open, and not just let it be ASLCC," Weatherhead said.

The funds request passed unanimously.

Tracy Weimer, ASLCC treasurer, said she was acting outside of her capacity by lobbying for a \$300 funds request to supplement donations to the Giving Tree, a gift-buying charity that Weimer said helps students in need.

"Donations don't quite meet the need," Weimer said.

"This is a wonderful way student government can give back," ASLCC Senator LynDel Simmons said, before moving to increase the funds request from \$500 to \$500. The money for this fund request comes from the ASLCC-operated snack shack in Building 1.

The funds request was passed unanimously.

The senate first moved to appoint a new secretary to replace Jasmine Rivera, who was appointed to a vacant state affairs director position at the Nov. 16 meeting.

Two candidates campaigned for the vacant secretary position: senators LynDel Simmons and Blair Adams. ASLCC allotted floor time to each of the senators to deliver statements and answer questions from their fellow senators.

Simmons used her time to underline her experience as secretary for the regional Head Start chapter.

"If you want to go back 40 years, I was secretary at my high school," Simmons said.

Adams promised accuracy and diligence, should she be elected secretary.

"Both are very capable," ASLCC Senator Thomas Fiorelli said before the closed-ballot vote.

ASLCC Vice President Jenny Lor voted by proxy for Senator Veronica Rodriguez, who was absent from the meeting. ASLCC Senator Oliver Mainland abstained from voting.

Exact vote counts, which were tabulated by ASLCC Vice President Jenny Lor and Senator Corinne Mooney, were not disclosed, but Lor quickly announced Adams' victory.

"I hope I can make everyone happy, and I'll do the best job I can," Adams said later in the meeting.

After reviewing a draft of the bylaws revised by ASLCC Multicultural Programs Coordinator Tajo Ouermi, senators debated the verbiage of the bylaws, before unanimously tabling future discussion until the Nov. 30 meeting.

"This may not be the best use of our time," Fiorelli said, referring to the possibility that the Council of Clubs might alter the draft as well. "I would like to flip it and see what Council of Clubs says about it."

Senators said they would offer more revisions at the Nov. 28 afternoon work session, which would allow Council of Clubs to review the draft as well.

NOV. 30

Four clubs ratified unanimously

BY SEAN HANSON
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In another series of unanimous votes, ASLCC ratified four clubs at its Nov. 30 meeting.

The Collaboration Club, Jewish Student Union, Veterans Club and Lane Jazz Club are the latest to join the roster of ratified student clubs open to LCC students. ASLCC also took the first steps toward forming a committee to plan the third annual Lanestock, a music and arts festival previously held during spring term's dead week.

Collaboration Club representative Davey Romero said his club's goal was to serve as a sort of super-club, partnering clubs to bring collaborative events to LCC.

"I've been thinking a lot about bringing students together," Romero said, "so they can work together on projects and build a community."

The club was ratified unanimously.

Jewish Student Union representative Ariel Weinstein said the goal of the JSU was to promote a better understand-

ing of Judaism.

Weinstein said the group wasn't able to organize an event in time for Hanukkah, but it had events planned for future Jewish holidays.

The JSU was ratified unanimously.

During a short question-and-answer period, Veterans Club representative Anthony Payne said the club aims to provide a place where veterans can "hang out and do homework or whatever."

"They'll know it's a good spot to go, and it's not weird or crazy or stressful," Payne said.

ASLCC senators Alfonso Macias and Thomas Fiorelli thanked Payne for his service before the Veterans Club was ratified unanimously.

The Lane Jazz Club did not send a representative to the meeting, but ASLCC Multicultural Programs Coordinator Tajo Ouermi spoke in favor of ratification.

"They didn't show up. They showed up yesterday," Ouermi said. "They're doing good things but right now, they're just kind of starting."

"One of the reasons they might not be here is because

SEE ASLCC PAGE 5

Winter Term Final Examination Schedule For the week of Dec. 5 - 10

To find exam time, find the day, then the time the class is held

Class Days: *MWF or M, W, F, MW, WF, MTh, MTu, MTuW, MTuTh, WF, MTuWThF, MTuWTh, MWThF, MTuThF, MTuWF, WTh*

<u>Class starts at:</u>	<u>Exam Day:</u>	<u>Exam time:</u>
7:00 a.m. or 7:30 a.m.	F	7:00-8:50 a.m.
8:00 a.m. or 8:30 a.m.	M	8:00-9:50 a.m.
9:00 a.m. or 9:30 a.m.	W	8:00-9:50 a.m.
10:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.	M	10:00-11:50 a.m.
11:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m.	W	10:00-11:50 a.m.
12:00 p.m. or 12:30 p.m.	M	12:00-1:50 p.m.
1:00 p.m. or 1:30 p.m.	W	12:00-1:50 p.m.
2:00 p.m. or 2:30 p.m.	M	2:00-3:50 p.m.
3:00 p.m. or 3:30 p.m.	W	2:00-3:50 p.m.
4:00 p.m. or 4:30 p.m.	M	4:00-5:50 p.m.
5:00 p.m.	W	4:00-5:50 p.m.

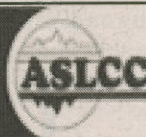
Class Days: *TuTh or Tu, Th, TuWThF*

<u>Class starts at:</u>	<u>Exam Day:</u>	<u>Exam time:</u>
7:00 a.m. or 7:30 a.m.	F	9:00-10:50 a.m.
8:00 a.m. or 8:30 a.m.	Tu	8:00-9:50 a.m.
9:00 a.m. or 9:30 a.m.	Th	8:00-9:50 a.m.
10:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.	Tu	10:00-11:50 a.m.
11:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m.	Th	10:00-11:50 a.m.
12:00 p.m. or 12:30 p.m.	Tu	12:00-1:50 p.m.
1:00 p.m. or 1:30 p.m.	Th	12:00-1:50 p.m.
2:00 p.m. or 2:30 p.m.	Tu	2:00-3:50 p.m.
3:00 p.m. or 3:30 p.m.	Th	2:00-3:50 p.m.
4:00 p.m. or 4:30 p.m.	Tu	4:00-5:50 p.m.
5:00 p.m.	Th	4:00-5:50 p.m.

Evening (5:30 p.m. or later) and Weekend Classes: Examinations scheduled during regular class times.

This schedule does **not** apply to Downtown Business Education Center Classes.

M-Monday T-Tuesday W-Wednesday Th-Thursday F-Friday



Associated Students of
Lane Community College

Your Student Government

Meetings:

- ASLCC Senate meets every Wednesday at 3:30 pm in Building 3, Room 226
- Council of Clubs meets every Tuesday at 2:30 pm in Building 1 Room 206

Conferences:

The United States Student Association 43rd Annual Grassroots Legislative Conference & National Student Lobby Day. Event runs from March 23rd-26th. Completed Applications are due by 12 pm on Wednesday, December 7th, 2011 to ASLCC President Mario Parker-Milligan. For more information, please visit the ASLCC Office, Building 1, Room 210.

PAID FOR BY ASLCC

BENCHMARKS FROM PAGE 1

statistics suggest they often take longer than three years to complete their degrees.

"It looks like the full-time students are more likely to stick around than the part-time people," Sandoz said. "The trend seems to be: The longer they're here, the better they get at it."

Adviser and instructor Dawna Willoughby said she's optimistic that changes in the benchmark will improve retention.

"If you pass all these classes and flunk math, you're going to be OK," Willoughby said. "I love giving them the good news, running the new calculator."

To students harboring thoughts of withdrawal, Willoughby said frequent communication with instructors is the first step towards a solution, and followed up by speaking with academic advisers.

Should a student be suspended, Willoughby said there's an appeals process that takes approximately two weeks to

complete, in which suspended students must fill out a form and provide evidence that extenuating circumstances preempted their academic success.

According to statistics published by LCC, the completion rate — the percentage of students who complete a two-year degree within a three-year timeframe — hovers around 7 percent.

McCullough said LCC's proximity to UO, and the reasons students attend LCC, might be factors in the completion rate, but at LCC he sees a lot of students who leave college when they're young, gain life and work experience, and return as successful students.

Still, McCullough said, the 135-credit limit — at which point students must submit a plan for completion to continue receiving financial aid — exists for a reason.

"Personally, I call it the Van Wilder rule. College isn't supposed to be the best seven years of your life," McCullough said.

ASLCC FROM PAGE 4

juries are happening all this week," Adams said.

She explained that juries, in which music students play individually before instructors, are the music program's equivalent of finals.

"I don't think we need to make excuses for why they're not here, but I'll move to ratify," Mooney said. The club was ratified unanimously.

After a four-week struggle to approve club policies, during which ASLCC members proposed changes in workshops and public sessions, the Council of Club bylaws were adopted unanimously.

ASLCC Treasurer Tracy

Weimer, who organized last year's Lanestock, briefed the ASLCC on the concert's purpose: to alleviate student stress during spring term's dead week.

Brandon said Weimer single-handedly organized last year's Lanestock.

"It was super-fun and super-cool," Brandon said.

"The cohesion from one term to the next wasn't great" last year, Weimer said.

Weimer said the ASLCC should get a head start forming a committee to plan Lanestock 2012.

Fiorelli said the proposed committee should hire more local food vendors next year.

"Sounds like you should be on the committee," Lor said.

Oregon Student Association organizer Philip Shilts, who was present in the gallery, and ASLCC Chief of Staff Merriam Weatherhead, said the committee should consider throwing Lanestock prior to dead week, as the loud music interferes with classes. ASLCC President Mario Parker-Milligan said he received a lot of complaints about Lanestock last year.

ASLCC senators suggested the committee hire didgeridoo player Tyler Spencer's newly formed band, after Weimer described her reaction to his performance last year.

"O-M-G, it was freaking awesome," Weimer said.

No further action was taken.

Fashion show displays student designs, work

BY MAYGÁN BECKERS

REPORTER

mayganbeckers@lcctorch.com

LCC staff and students will put on the sixth annual fashion extravaganza at the Richard E. Wildish Community Theater in Springfield, Dec. 10, at 6:30 p.m. The event will feature a wide variety of fashion styles.

Ross Jackson, continuing education program coordinator, said that men's suits and shirts, women's dresses, a wedding dress, and children's clothing will be included in the show.

"I don't think there's anything they don't design. Our designers have models, and they have to create a certain number of outfits and then have to show them," Tina Reyes, instructor coordinator specialist for continuing education, said.

Students have been working on the pieces at least since the beginning of fall term, and some have been working on them for approximately a year.

"It's a career training program. Therefore, it qualifies them for entry-level positions in fashion design," said Jackson.

Reyes said students participate for a variety of reasons.

"They're inspired because they want to learn to sew, or they want to become designers. When the students see the fashion show, it opens up the door and they say, 'Oh I didn't know I could do that,'" said Reyes. "Some people think that it's

just a sewing class, but it's fashion design. You learn how to create those fashions by hand."

Five students participating in the show will graduate from the program this year, and will receive an award of completion at the show. Another five students in levels one through six will also participate. Anyone in the program who wants to be involved in the show is welcome to be a part of it.

"We had roughly the same number of fashion designers showing. We had roughly the same number of outfits," said Jackson. "I expect more people, and it's grown every year."

So far, 21 students in the fashion design program are taking part. Ten designers are each presenting approximately ten different outfits. One hundred and two models (which includes family and friends who want to join the show) will be modeling the outfits.

Jackson says that one of the primary reasons for the show is to promote the fashion design program to the public, as well as to honor those who are graduating and finishing the program.

Last year, more than 200 people attended.

"The only thing we hope to gain is people recognizing that we have the fashion design program down here, and entice more people to come, and offer them additional information on the fashion show," said Reyes. "If you're interested in sewing and designing clothes, this is a good place to start."

NEWSBRIEFS

Bookstore conducts open house charity raffle

The LCC Titan Store will host an open house and charity raffle on Dec. 7 from noon to 3 p.m. Prizes include an Xbox 360, a Kinect, a Wii, a digital camera, an Applebee's gift card and a gas card. Tickets are \$1 each, or six for \$5. Winners will be announced at 3 p.m.

Giving tree 'going strong'

The annual giving tree in Building 1 is accepting donated gifts through Dec. 9. Those who would like to donate are advised to call Administrative Support Specialist Bette Dorris at (541) 463-5365.

Fitness center adjusts hours

The LCC Fitness Center will adopt a modified schedule from Dec. 5 to Jan. 6. The center will be open Dec. 5 and 6 from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Dec. 7 from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed Dec. 8 to Dec. 11; open Dec. 12 to Dec. 16 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; closed Dec. 19 to Jan. 2 and open Jan. 3 through Jan. 6 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Health clinic closes for winter

The LCC Health Clinic will be open Dec. 9 until noon and closed Dec. 10 to Jan. 8. The Health Center advises patients seeking refills to consult the refill policy at <http://tinyurl.com/7on6xg4>.

Kampanatsanyakorn selling wristbands for Thai flood relief

LCC Administrative specialist Bimb Kampanatsanyakorn is selling \$5 wristbands to benefit victims of regional flooding, and the Royal Thai Air Force airmen, who are assisting with the flood relief effort. For more information, contact Kampanatsanyakorn by phone at (541) 844-2335 or by email at bimbk@yahoo.com.

Wilkes selling honey to benefit Lane Foundation, OSU

LCC nurse Nadine Wilkes is selling honey at \$14 per quart. Profits will go to Lane Foundation and to OSU honeybee research. For more information, contact Wilkes by email at wilkesn@lanecc.edu.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

Between Oct. 27 & Nov. 1, 8 a.m.

Titan Store, Burglary II

Public safety investigated the theft of a Cyber Acoustics speaker. Without suspects, public safety suspended the investigation.

Nov. 17, 2:35 p.m. / Lot L, Animal Neglect

A student left his dog tied to his truck on a rainy day. Public safety sheltered the dog until his owner came to claim him, at which point the student was issued an order to appear.

Nov. 22, Between 12 a.m. and 1 p.m. Center Building (Rm. 217), Criminal Mischief III

Graffiti on a bathroom stall door and wall read: "Smile more" and "a Mesacan wrecked my s---." Without suspects, public safety suspended the investigation.

Nov. 22, Between 1:30 and 5:15 p.m. / Lot A, Theft II

Public safety investigated the theft of a gym bag from a student's car. Without suspects, public safety suspended the investigation.

Nov. 23 / Building 3, Disorderly Conduct

A possibly mentally ill female created a disturbance and refused to identify herself. Public safety asked her to leave campus.

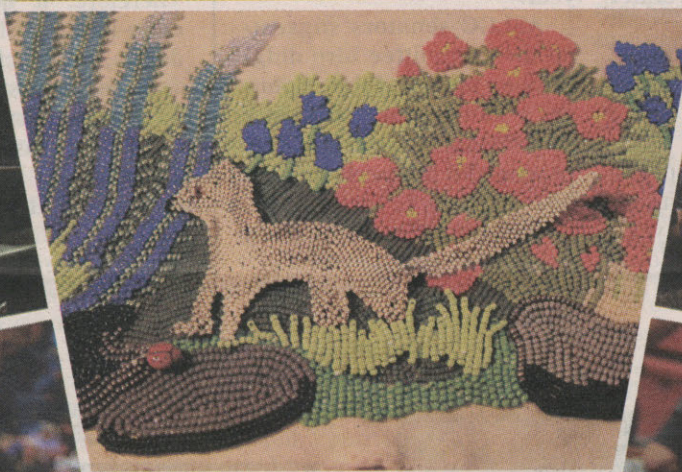
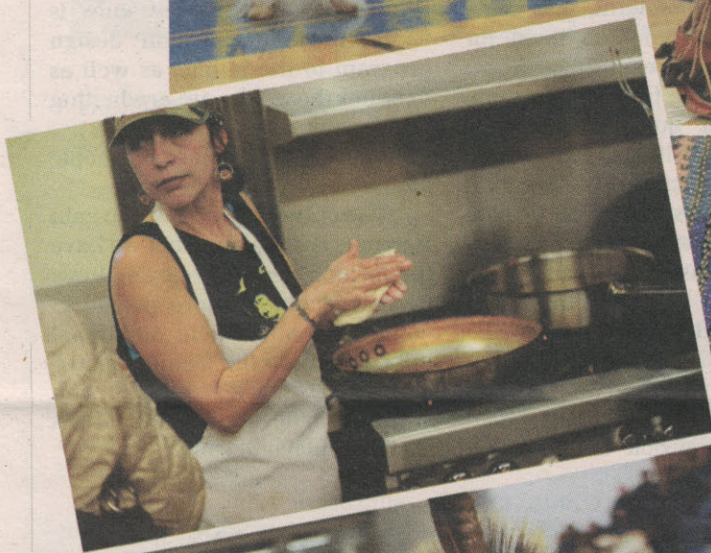
Nov. 23, 11:55 a.m. / Building 16 (Rm. 193), Harassment

Two female students engaged in a physical altercation with undetermined causes were issued orders to appear. The incident remains under investigation.

Nov. 28, 11:20 to 11:23 a.m. / Parking Citation

A student received his fourth citation for the same offense: parking in a reserved space. Due to the repetition of offenses, public safety issued to the student an order to appear before the vice president of academic and student affairs.

Public safety officers are on campus 24 hours, 7 days a week and can be reached by calling (541) 463-5558 during business hours. The after-hours and emergency contact number is (541) 463-5555.

A CELEBRATION *of* LIFESTORY BY KINLEY PHILLIPS / THE TORCH
PHOTOS BY EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

The Native American Student Association transformed LCC's gym into a ceremonial stage on Dec. 3 for the annual Lane Powwow, where drummers, dancers, vendors, students, instructors, administrators and their children came to celebrate Native American culture and give thanks to their elders and community.

Master of ceremonies Frank Merrill introduced the powwow with a mission statement and a prayer. "Let's dance for the ones

who can't dance for themselves, let the signers sing for those who have lost their voices," he said.

LCC NASA coordinator and instructor James Florendo drummed with his brother Brent Florendo, who is an instructor and Native American studies program coordinator at Southern Oregon University, in the group Dancing Spirit, which performed the grand opening.

NASA had a table at which it sold raffle tickets, T-shirts and information. Stone River Community, a twelve-step program incorporating Native American philosophy, also had a display and

bake sale, part of the proceeds from which went to a Native American family whose house burned down, to help give them a Christmas.

Merchant tables displayed a wide array of Native American crafts, organic herbal remedies, regalia, flutes, furs, blankets, drums, dream catchers, CDs, DVDs, supplies for making regalia, and fry bread — one can't forget the fry bread.

See full article at lcctorch.com

I learned how to walk around the drum, and I've been drumming ever since.

Chet Clark Navajo Johonaaieei drummer



Ballet III students perform during the Dance Department's Open Show on Nov. 29 in the Ragozzino Performance Hall.

PHOTO BY JOSH ROSE / THE TORCH

Tap, rap, bang to the end of the term

BY CHELSEA VAN BAALEN
A&E EDITOR
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While you're squinting over a final exam, students from the performing arts department are squinting under the spotlight.

Hitting their notes

Taking the stage at Ragozzino Performance Hall, LCC's music department prepared to show their stuff to the audience, but Symphonic Band and Jazz Ensemble director Ron Bertucci said they get more than the experience of performing.

"So much of life is showing up," Bertucci said. "Being confident, self-assured — being someone others can rely on."

And as the Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble, LCC's choirs, Jazz Vocal Ensemble and Chamber Orchestra performed for the end of term concerts, they had the opportunity to grow as performers.

"It really lets you know where you're at when you're performing," said Aaron Cole, a third-year student and alto saxophone player for the Jazz Ensemble.

Part of the performance is working together as a group as well.

"It's really fun. We really help each other with the parts and dialing it in so it sounds good as a group," sophomore Mike Mazza, who sings bass in Concert Choir, said.

Sophomore Anna Petrick, who plays tuba in the Symphonic Band, said students are given sheet music within the first week of class as part of preparing for the final show.

Thomas Reyna, sophomore flutist for the Chamber Orchestra, said "I practice anywhere from two to three hours a day, not to mention rehearsals... afterwards you're just elated if it was a good performance."

Showing their moves

With roughly 600 performers dancing to everything from Lady Gaga to the sound of rain falling, the Open Show gave almost every student from the dance department their moment in the spotlight.

Included in the performance were Balinese dance, dance basics, ballet, modern, jazz, hip-hop, African dance, dance improvisation, musical theater and dance composition.

"I like performing because you get to share what you've been working on with the rest of the school," Heather Humphrey said. Humphrey is in her final year at LCC and performed both in the hip-hop and jazz numbers.

Ballet dancer Junemei Kashnig, a community member enrolled in Ballet III, said that Open Show highlights the hard work the students do all year.

"Every class we're training our bodies to do different things, and ballet is the hardest thing I've put my body through," Kashnig said.

Bonnie Simoa, the director of the dance department, said that students in dance class are required to perform in Open Show.

"Dance is a performing art, and Open Show provides an opportunity for students to hone their performance skills in an informal, fun atmosphere," Simoa said.

Giney Anderson said that Open Show reflects the feel of the dance department as a whole. Anderson is a sophomore and performed in the tap dancing number.

"I really like the community the dance department has," she said. "Doing this makes you feel like part of the family."

Taking their stage

The Student Productions Association's Shakespeare Showcase

gave students the opportunity to bring the works of The Bard to life and perform on the Blue Door Theater stage.

Students in the Acting Shakespeare class, as well as other interested students, cast themselves in roles from a variety of Shakespeare plays, regardless of gender. Plays such as "The Tempest," "Hamlet" and more were represented at the showcase in a medley of acts and scenes.

Each term, students in the course are given the chance to either perform a piece in front of the class or in the showcase.

Freshman Donnarynn Nightshade opted to take the stage, reviving the role of Rosalind from "As You Like It." This is Nightshade's first LCC performance, one she greatly anticipates.

Nightshade said performing in the showcase allows the students to have more stage to work with and the fun of being fully dressed in costume.

Students also had the opportunity to participate in the S.P.A.'s Blue Door @4, an informal variety show that displays not just theater, but dance and music as well.

With improvisation, monologues and dances, Blue Door @4 is about students performing what they enjoy, rather than what they're assigned or cast in.

"It's a rare opportunity," Tim O'Donnell, S.P.A.'s student activities coordinator, said.

Freshman Jason Garcia and sophomore Justine Bojersky are in Dance Improvisation and wanted to practice the skills they learned in their class.

Garcia heard about Blue Door @4 from a fellow classmate and was interested.

"I like to perform, I like to be on stage," he said. "I learned a lot from the class, so I'm more confident."

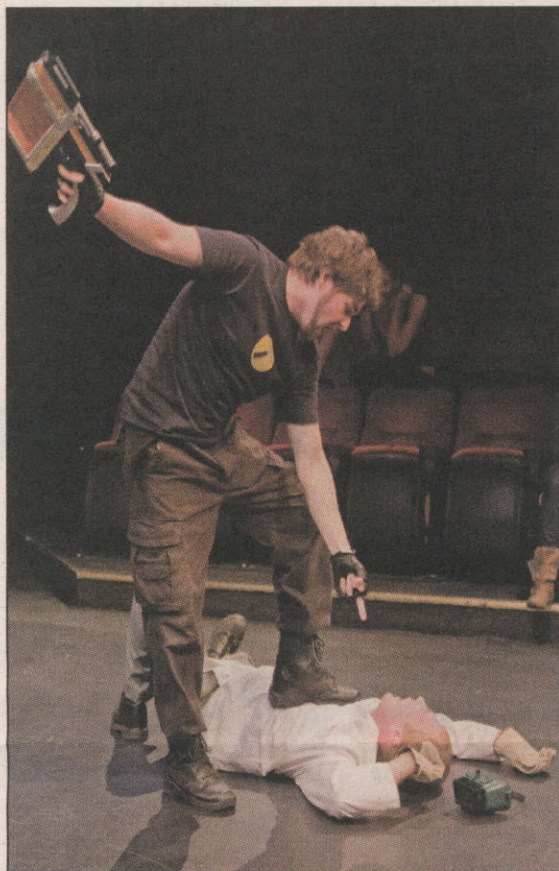


PHOTO BY JOSH ROSE / THE TORCH

Top: Students perform during the Nov. 30 Blue Door @4 in the Blue Door Theater.
Left: The Jazz Ensemble performed in the Ragozzino Performance Hall on Nov. 18.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

OUTSIDE THE BOX

'It's time to light the lights' as The Muppets return to the silver screen

Jim Henson is quite nearly a fairy godfather for our childhoods. The late creator of The Muppets wooed us with his creations of everything from Sesame Street to a Beach Boys' cover of "Kokomo." He took Kermit the Frog from the television screen to the silver screen, from posters to plush toys. And now, Henson's muppets have been brought back to life, with the new film The Muppets.

The familiar muppet faces take on an uncharacteristic sense of realism that makes them more like relatable peers than the plushy puppets of the past. Instead of fuzzy creations, the muppets are very much real, with jobs at Vogue, plumbing franchises and even a lounge act in Reno, Nev.

Set to lose their beloved Muppets Theater, the gang reunites for a telethon to raise \$10 million dollars, with the urging of Gary (Jason Segel) and his girlfriend Mary (Amy Adams.)

Humorous and heart-felt, the film returns you to part of your childhood you forgot you loved. Remember when The Muppets' Christmas Carol seemed like the most accurate adaption of Dickens' work? Or singing along to "Kokomo" with your family in the car? You will after seeing this show.

There's music, laughter, Miss Piggy's

amorous affections, Kermit's voice of reason; everything you loved and more has returned.

But let's be clear, this is not a children's film. It was created by adults for adults, an homage to childhood in a vein similar to Spike Jonze's Where the Wild Things Are. People of any age can see this movie without feeling the need to bribe their youngest cousin to see it with them, in the name of maintaining their street cred.

The marketing campaign alone reached out to its viewers with a welcoming hand. OPI, a famed nail polish brand, released a series of

Muppets-themed varnishes. Clever names like "Gone Gonzo!" and "Rainbow Connection" had me hooked. Trailers for the film parodied films like Paranormal Activity, the Batman trilogy, The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, and every chick flick you've ever seen. Audiences knew they would be seeing a film unlike any other, and that their childhood memories were safe in the hands of Segel and Co.

It's often said that the things of our childhood are lost or tarnished with our age and life experiences. The Muppets prove to be timeless, not a relic but a fine work of art, something to be appreciated by those young and old. See it once, see it twice, buy the DVD, just enjoy the show.

A&E Editor Chelsea Van Baalen can be reached at chelseavb@lcctorch.com, on Twitter @chelseavb or at (541) 463-5657.



CHELSEA VAN BAALEN
A&E EDITOR

TITANS LOOK TO REBOUND



PHOTO BY EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

The men's basketball team circles up in the LCC gym. The team is preparing for its upcoming season.

BY RYAN KOSTECKA
SPORTS REPORTER
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The Lane Community College men's basketball team is back and ready to improve on last season after narrowly missing out on the Northwest Athletic Association of Community College playoffs.

With only four returning players and 10 incoming freshmen, Head Coach Bruce Chavka is looking for his team to come together during the preseason.

"We need to gain toughness and get experience for our many freshmen," Chavka said. "We need to continue to grow in the preseason, get better, and along the way we hope to find our identity."

The Titans will be led by their three returning sophomores, who were all starters at some point last season. Also on the starting lineup are the freshmen Coleman brothers — Tyler and Alex — though they have played football at the collegiate level before.

Sophomore Darrell Breazell is returning for the Titans to resume the starting point guard role. Breazell finished last year averaging 20 minutes per contest to go along with a team high of three assists per game.

"My personal goal is to make sure we make it the NWAACCs this year," Breazell said. "If I do what I need to do to help the team then that shouldn't be hard for us to do."

Fellow sophomores Nick Lindsey and Daniel Ketchum are back to lend the Titans their long-

range shooting abilities, after they both shot more than 40 percent from the field last year.

"I'm really excited about this upcoming season," Breazell said. "We have a bunch of new guys who are good and really want to win."

Tyler, a former McDonald's All-American nominee, played one year of football at Portland State, before playing three years at Eastern Washington University. He will be at looked to bring competitiveness and maturity.

Tyler's younger brother Alex played two years of football for College of the Siskiyous in Weed, Calif., and will be looked upon to help bring defensive stability to the Titans.

Also expected to be a part of the rotation are freshmen Levi Green, Richard Seamster, Levi Strandberg and redshirt Tyree Newman.

With so many new players vying for playing time, Chavka said it will be hard to have a regular starting lineup, and that practice will determine who will start each game.

"I told the guys that we will probably lead the country in different starting lineups," Chavka said. "For the most part though, practice will be what determines our starters."

The Titans will focus mainly on their defensive pressure and force opponents into turnovers. The men are hoping that they will be able to press a lot and push the tempo.

Lane will play in three tournaments during the month of December before opening up conference play on Jan. 7 against the Mt. Hood Saints. Their first conference home game will be on Jan. 14, when they play host to the Chemeketa Storm at 6 p.m.

Freshmen meet their leader

BY ALAN K. FOX
SPORTS EDITOR
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The Lady Titans will be hitting the hardwood with only one returning player from last year's team, which finished fourth place in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges' playoffs last season with a 24-6 overall record.

The team also sent five players to Division I and National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics universities.

"Expectations are high, but they are modified high — as far as with 13 freshmen and only one returner — we still expect to be a contender for the Southern Region and when you do that you will be a contender for the NWAACC title," Head Coach Greg Sheley said.

Reed Levings, who played high school basketball in Cottage Grove, will be the only returner on the court for Sheley this season, and he expects her to take a firm grasp of the leadership role.

"She has done a tremendous job of being a leader and taking on that role and really helping these kids try and figure things out," Sheley said.

Sheley has never had fewer than three players return to his team during his 11 years at Lane, so this year could be challenging for the Lady Titans' leader.

Reed Levings

There haven't been many challenges that Sheley and his teams could not overcome during his tenure at Lane. Since he has been head coach, the team held the nation's longest home winning streak for all of women's college basketball — including all NCAA college programs — and the team has been crowned NWAACC champions three times.

Sheley has never had a losing season at Lane, and has led his program to a 268-53 record.

New additions to this year's team include the Wilcox twins, Kersey and Jordan, from Mountain View High School in Bend.

In the preseason exhibitions, Kersey has already had a 22-point game against Tacoma on Nov. 20 and was named to the All-Tournament team at the Everett Basketball Classic in Everett, Wash.

"Kersey is doing well; I have challenged her to do what I expect out of my point guard," Sheley said. "She has been scoring well, but I want her to take more of a leadership and ownership role."

The Lady Titans will participate in two tournaments over winter break and will start Southern Region play on Jan. 7 when they travel to Gresham to play the Mt. Hood Saints. PHOTO BY TURNER MAXWELL / THE TORCH



THE FOXTROT

The long wait is over; the NBA is unlocked for Christmas

After a long, drawn-out offseason, the NBA Lockout has finally come to an end. Following 149 days of negotiations, both sides came to a tentative agreement, and we should see the players back on the court on Christmas Day.

There was a time when it looked as if there was not going to be a NBA season this year, but both sides were able to put greed aside and shake hands — which will give the fans a Christmas present they have been waiting for.

There is something special about the Christmas Day games, and without them the day could have a different feel. It would be like Thanksgiving Day without any football, or New Year's Day without any bowl games.

Sure, the NBA lost hundreds of

regular season games in this process, but the truth is a lot of fans feel the season is too long in the first place. Most fans don't really get into the NBA season until the NFL and college football seasons are coming to an end.

The season will now have a 66-game season instead of the regular 82-game season.

Hardcore fans don't worry — you are only missing 16 games. It could have been a lot worse.

All the madness is right around the corner. Both free agency and training camps start the second week

of December, and just a couple of weeks later, the season will be in full action.

The lockout may have helped some players as well. Players like the Lakers' Kobe Bryant or the Trailblazers' Brandon Roy have had extra time to rest their knees and

other injuries that could have slowed them down later in the season.

If they weren't out playing in charity games or just out playing around, they have had extra time to rest, try to heal up and get ready for the season that lies ahead.

The free agency period should be fun, but not as crazy as the NFL's after

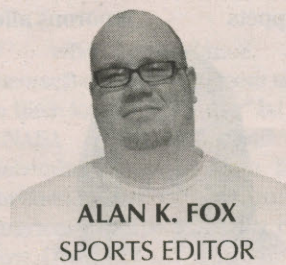
its 127-day lockout. That is due to the rosters in the NBA being much smaller than the ones in the NFL.

It will still be an exciting few days watching where players end up after signing new deals, and there should be multiple trades before opening day.

There has been a lot of talk about superstars like the Orlando Magic's Dwight Howard moving to new teams via trade, and a lot of NBA fans will be glued to the television watching ESPN and NBA TV waiting on the newest transactions to pop up.

Thank you, NBA for the early Christmas gift. Fans cannot wait for the day to get here.

Sports Editor Alan K. Fox can be reached at alankfox@lcctorch.com on Twitter @alankfox or by calling (541) 463-5657.



ALAN K. FOX
SPORTS EDITOR

Features

EDITOR Jon Fuccillo | jonfuccillo@lcctorch.com

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Student dreams of teaching ...

ART IN EVERYTHING

LCC art student Doug Wiltshire works on a project on Nov. 28

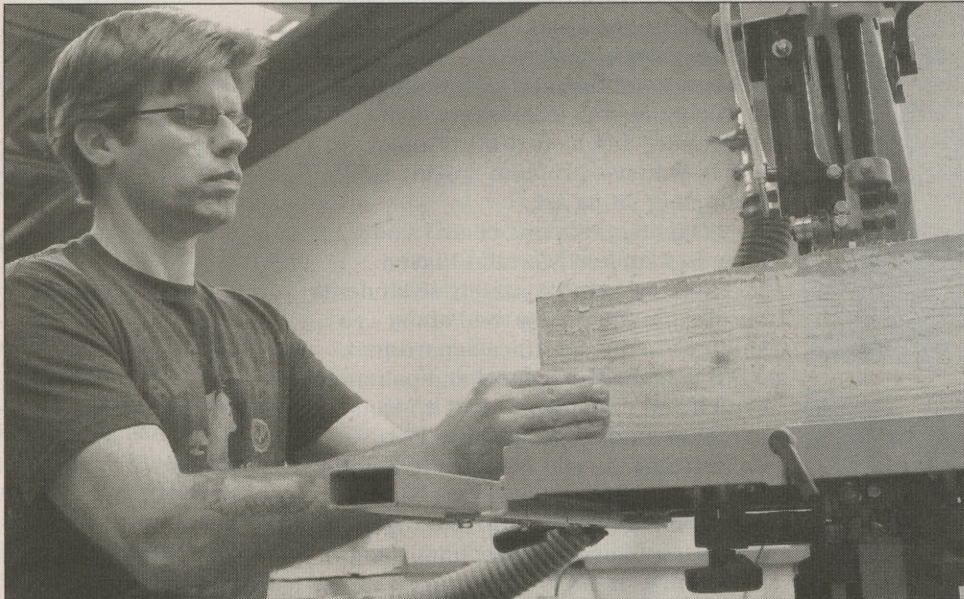


PHOTO BY JOSH ROSE / THE TORCH

BY JON FUCCILLO
FEATURES EDITOR
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LCC first-year art student and Portland native Doug Wiltshire made jewelry for 20 years before getting laid-off from his job managing a local fine jewelry store.

Now Wiltshire wants to give back to the art community that has given him so much. He intends on receiving a four-year art degree from the UO and becoming an instructor in metal arts and sculpture, someday.

Inspired by his father, 49-year-old Wiltshire, has followed his determination to succeed in the art industry since he was 8.

"I learned from my father, who is a dentist, and did most of his own lab work," Wiltshire says. "So I grew up around the glow of (an) alcohol torch and the smell of melting wax."

Wiltshire, moved to Eugene with his family almost seven years ago, for a job as a store manager at a local fine jewelry store. But times got rough and he was let go.

"Good things come from bad things in life," he says. "Anybody who has ever made it in life, has lost it all. You can't be afraid."

He says that attending LCC was a great opportunity for him to explore the boundaries of work outside of jewelry. Wiltshire says education has been a priority within his family. Both his parents and two sisters have degrees. He said he never felt the pressure to go to school, but decided to give it a whirl.

"You only live once," he says. "I know it's kind of late going (to school). I was always told 'you're too smart not to get a degree.'"

This term alone, Wiltshire is taking 18 credits, and enjoying every moment of it. He's taking wood and figure sculpture in the arts department and plans on taking metal sculpture winter-term.

One of his biggest inspirations was the sculpture casting class that he took last spring with 12-year LCC art instructor, Lee Imonen.

"The sculpture casting class taught me how to gravity pour (instead of using force) aluminum and bronze, and opened up a new world for me," Wiltshire says. "I knew after starting class

and working on projects under Lee's infectious creative zeal, that I was destined to become an instructor."

Wiltshire has done casting for the last 40 years.

He has already trained a number of apprentices professionally on how to become jewelers by trade, and he loves giving students a sense of accomplishment.

"I now know that I would like to do it in an accredited environment, and still work on my own projects in my down time," he says.

He added, "I'm able to take years of on-the-job training and learning new techniques. I'm getting a lot from it even if it's not from my trade. It's still stuff that I can use."

Wiltshire has started at the UO EMU (Erb Memorial Union) craft center as a jewelry casting, stone-setting and ring making instructor, and is "living the dream here at Lane."

Jennifer Hoover, 62, who met Wiltshire during private class lessons last year, says he's one of the best in the business.

"He's one of my favorite instructors," she says. "I liked his energy, that's what drew me in. He listens and he sees, and sees beyond what he sees. It's really important to read body language."

Hoover adds, "Just because you're really good at something, doesn't mean you can teach."

LCC has given Wiltshire a new sense of direction.

"I could be working a job making \$70,000 a year," he says. "But that's not going to feed my soul."

After LCC, Wiltshire plans to attend the UO; the same school he plans to instruct at if the opportunity presents itself.

"I wouldn't mind teaching metal arts at the UO," he says. "It would be neat to get a job at a really good university."

Imonen believes Wiltshire is a teacher in the making.

"He is a born teacher," Imonen says. "He's deliberative of his information and that makes a huge difference. He gets the know-how. He's really psyched about it."

"I think that one way or another if you're good at it and you want to be an instructor you will find a way to do it. He's the kind of guy who (has) the drive. He seems pretty willing to do what it takes and that's how it goes."



PHOTO BY JOSH ROSE / THE TORCH



Wiltshire creates art in a variety of forms, as well as jewelry (shown on right).



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Anybody who has ever made it in life, has lost it all. You can't be afraid.

Doug Wiltshire
LCC student

CLASS — of the — WEEK

CERAMICS: HAND BUILDING

INSTRUCTOR: KATHRYN FINNERTY

Students bring basics back
by creating art in new ways
with their hands

BY COLLEEN MIDDLEBROOKS
REPORTER

colleenmiddlebrooks@lcctorch.com



Students in LCC's ceramic hand-building class work on their projects on Nov. 28.

PHOTOS BY
JOSH ROSE / THE TORCH



Clay has been at the roots of human civilization.

Kathryn Finnerty
ceramic instructor

Have you ever wanted to create, or re-create ancient pottery? Or maybe learn about the fundamentals of using your hands to shape and mold clay? If so, LCC's ceramic hand-building class may be the right class for you.

The class is designed for students to learn hand-forming techniques with clay, as well as learning about the culture and history of ceramics, and how to use problem-solving skills through creating art.

"It's a nice, relaxing class," said ceramics student Mariah Elligsen.

There are approximately 18 students enrolled in the course, and about 110 students in the ceramics department.

"It teaches you control and patience, even if you thought you had it," said ceramics student Sarah-Rose Foxon. Foxon finds the class to be very helpful with a disability in her hands. She said that forming the clay and making art forces her to exercise her hands and use them as tools.

Instructor Kathryn Finnerty has been at LCC for approximately two years now, and has worked with ceramics for more than 30 years. She also teaches many other courses within the ceramics department.

"She's an amazing instructor, with a huge wealth of knowledge," said ceramics student Benny Pezzanl. This class is Pezzanl's first college-level

ceramics course.

"Lane has an incredible ceramics facility," said Pezzanl.

Finnerty said that working with clay requires critical thinking, physics and chemistry, and teaches about the historical and cultural importance of clay building.

"Clay has been at the roots of human civilization," Finnerty said.

Right now the class is working on a final project called the historical vessel projects. Students are required to choose a historical type of pottery to recreate by shape and then they paint the pottery to their own modern-day standards.

Green Chemistry Club works to build interest in science

BY JON FUCCILLO
FEATURES EDITOR
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The Green Chemistry Club is more than just an ordinary club at LCC – it's a way of "saving the world one reaction at a time," as its motto prescribes.

The club has 10 to 15 members attending activities, and is advised by John Thompson, an instructor who's taught at LCC for 11 years.

Kerisha Williams, a sophomore and co-vice president of the Green Chemistry Club, became a member to shine light on science. She says students tend to lose interest in science as middle-schoolers.

"Science can be really dry sometimes," Williams says.

The club has been working on an outreach project with River Road Elementary School in Eugene, demonstrating the Diet Coke and Mentos experiments to fifth grade students.

When combined in the bottle, Diet Coke and Mentos combust into a high fountain of soda.

"The mission is to make science fun for kids," Williams says. "We're trying to make it cool."

Club president Andrew Stratton said the experience has been "an emotional roller coaster."

"I feel great about it because the kids are learning science and math skills and actually show some enthusiasm," Stratton says.

"On the flip side," he says, "it is a glimpse into the current status of an overcrowded, poverty-stricken classroom. An hour a week with the kids never feels like enough."

Thompson suggested the club team up with River Road Elementary, beginning last winter because his son was a fifth-grader there. The idea was to help create a fun and safe environment for kids.

"The outreach started last fall when I was on sabbatical," Thompson says. "I volunteered to help out my son's fifth-grade teacher with science during my sabbatical, and she gladly accepted."

Thompson says the Diet Coke and Mentos

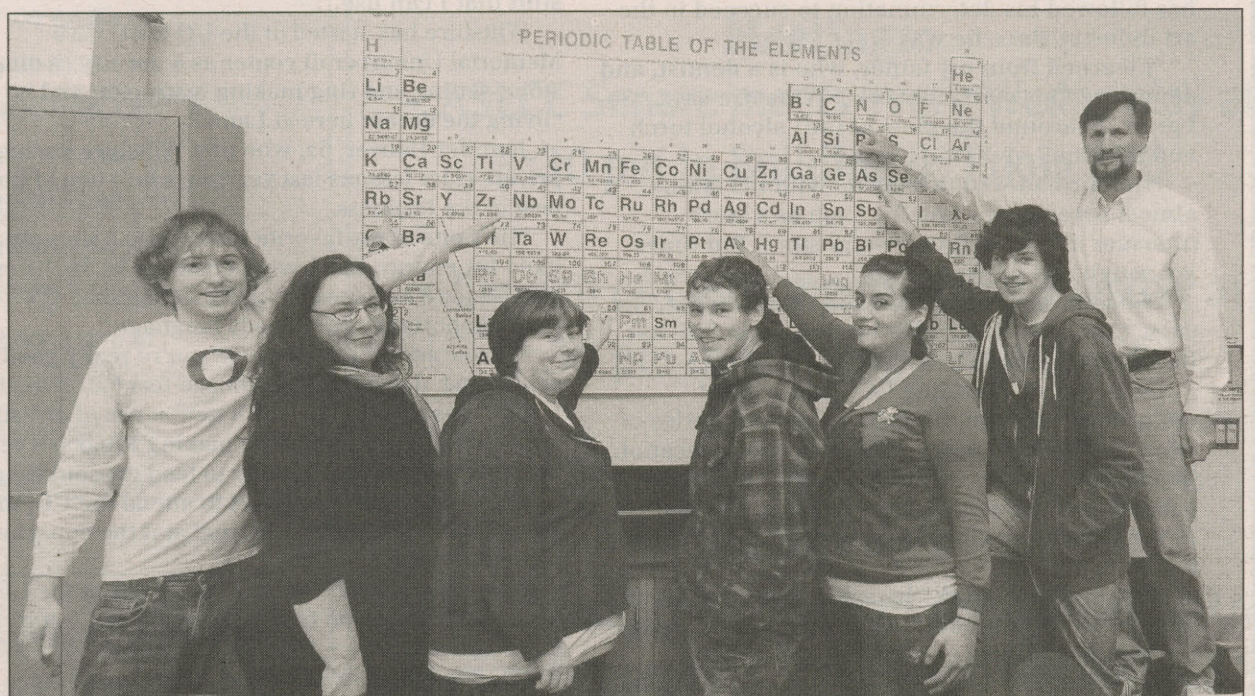


PHOTO BY EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

The Green Chemistry Club members point to their favorites on the Periodic Table of Elements before class on Dec. 2.

experiments were selected because the students thought that would be interesting science.

"By the end of fall quarter, we had successfully planned and completed a few experiments, but I had ideas for several more," Thompson says. "I volunteered to continue on."

"The kids and teacher loved it, and the classes' performance on the OAKS science exam was above normal," Thompson says. "We decided to continue the Diet Coke and Mentos science this year with both the fifth-grade classes at River Road Elementary with the hopes of having a bigger impact on science education."

The Green Chemistry Club was designed for

students to expand their knowledge of green chemistry and to do community outreach.

"Each year, the students in the club do slightly different things, depending on the group of students involved and local opportunities," Thompson says. "We have worked at developing a biodiesel plant on campus and producing biodiesel from the waste cooking oil from the campus kitchens."

The club is planning a trip to the Science Factory near Autzen Stadium at some point in the year.

"The most rewarding factor of this club is the potential we have," Stratton says. "I would like to see more students with at least a slight interest in science."



PHOTO BY EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

Anthropology instructor Dr. Don Addison sits with his service dog, Nizhooni.

Changing the Tide

Anthropology instructor builds a foundation with faith and culture to overcome obstacles

BY LEAH AVERETT
REPORTER
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Dr. Don Addison feels at home in his office, surrounded by his collections from other cultures. The shelves that line one wall hold well-worn videos and books. The Choctaw Nation flag boldly claims a place next to a colorful African tapestry. He wears one of his signature Native American ribbon shirts, and a dramatic turquoise and silver necklace.

He points to the prominently framed Baha'i temples, and talks of plans for a pilgrimage to the Baha'i World Center in Haifa, Israel. His fondness for other cultures, and his strong Baha'i Faith, provide a strong foundation today, but he remembered early challenges.

Addison has been an instructor at LCC for over 18 years, and teaches anthropology and ethnomusicology. Jeff Harrison, a literature teacher at LCC, said, "He is a widely brilliant person with an amazing range of knowledge in linguistics."

A Choctaw Indian elder, Addison speaks four Native American languages, and has participated in the Native American community as a drummer, dancer and singer. Ken Murdoff, the dean of Social Sciences at LCC said, "Don is a dedicated teacher who brings a unique perspective ... he's not just a scholar, as he grew up in the culture."

Addison says that being "part Indian and part white" made him feel he never belonged anywhere. During childhood, he "showed a traditional necklace I made to a student, and she told me it was dumb and stupid. She broke it by throwing it on the playground."

He recounts a second, more upsetting incident, when he told his grade school buddy's mother that he was a Choctaw Indian.

"Are you serious?" she replied, "You don't look Indian."

"That's what Mom says," he told her.

"Get out; get off my property. I don't want anything to do with you ever again. Indians are dirty and are going to hell," she said.

Addison said, "I'll never forget it. She had always been nice, yet those were the last words she ever spoke to me. I hid it for many years afterward."

He found solace in the Baha'i Faith's commitment to preventing prejudice and started embracing

his heritage again. He says the Baha'i beliefs in the oneness of all humanity and religious systems coalesce with his fascination for other cultures. "When studying human behavior you can get disillusioned, but there is always the opportunity to see something so magnificent."

He speaks of current Native American stereotypes. "We are in a strange place because many people lump us together not realizing we are of many different tribes. They expect us to be walking encyclopedias for all things Native American, or think we are all spiritual guides, and we aren't."

"We cannot live in a society any more where guns make decisions; where prejudices overrule the qualities that make us human."

Dr. Don Addison
anthropology instructor

"Many people think that Indians are not patriotic because we were removed from our land, but it's just the opposite. We love America, because we live on this land. At every powwow there is an American flag right up front."

One important accomplishment for Addison was earning his Ph.D.

"Obtaining my Ph.D. meant something to me," Addison says, "because many Indians have drunks, alcoholics and criminals in their family, but I can change that tide...and our society can change; we can develop freedom from prejudices."

He talks of his own personal struggles and troubled family history. Addison reveals that he never met his grandfather, a Choctaw Native American, who was in prison for a murder conviction. He doesn't like to discuss his biological father, who was

not Native American, only disclosing that, "He was clueless... not a real father, and had problems."

"I found a real father in the army. Thomas Raschel taught me how to grow up, respect women, and how to care about kids and the elderly."

Like Addison, Raschel was from a bi-ethnic, and troubled family and shared the Baha'i Faith. Their time together during the war became more cherished after Raschel was killed in Saigon, Vietnam just weeks before coming home.

Addison's "only family" and service dog, Nizhooni, (which translates to "she is pretty" in Navajo) is always at his side, and obeys commands in Navajo. Due to Addison's back pain, Nizhooni was trained to provide a stabilizing counterweight if he starts to lose balance. He has not fallen since her training.

Addison peppers the conversation with morsels of cultural syntax, "Mitakuye oya'sin means 'interconnectedness' in Lakota. I want to awaken something and teach the students that we are all interconnected. My love for them is genuine. If all I had to do was to lecture it would be so insufficient."

His afternoon anthropology class buzzes with energy, and the intensity of his voice changes frequently to emphasize particular words, sounds and syllables. A positive, nonjudgmental atmosphere is created by his frequent remarks such as, "You guys make me so happy!" and "We are on the right path."

James Baker, an archeology major, described him as "a jolly kind of a guy, never angry, never a bad attitude. It's not an easy class. You have to work for it, but I learned so much."

Wesley Smith, a human services major, said, "He really wants to get the information into our brain, so he tells it many different ways, so it will relate to other things we have learned."

Returning to his office, Addison reflects about one of his current preoccupations, which is increasing awareness of the persecution of the Baha'i students and educators in Iran. He talks of his desire for LCC students and faculty to recognize and join the worldwide effort to end discrimination and incarceration.

He leaned forward, put his hands on his knees and said, "We cannot live in a society any more where guns make the decisions; where prejudices overrule the qualities that make us human. I'll quote Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Baha'i Faith, 'To live and act as beasts of the field is no longer acceptable.'"

Festival provides opportunities for female musicians

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Throughout the month of November, Grrrlz Rock artists and musicians have been rocking the house at many Eugene businesses and venues.

Grrrlz Rock is a month long festival, created in 2006, that celebrates and supports local female artists and musicians. The festival is devoted to increasing female participation in music and arts by providing performance and promotional opportunities for women of all ages.

The events are managed and coordinated by Martrisha Armitage, of Tea Time Productions music production. Armitage has been a participant and volunteer for the festival since 2007. Armitage, a musician herself, is the drummer and vocalist of her band, Bajwana Tea.

Nov. 26 was the grand finale of the festival, which featured a handful of local, talented female bands and artists.

"It's really cool to say that we played at a female event," said Sam Howall, the drummer for She's Not Dead, which was one of many bands that played at the Grrrlz Rock finale.

"It's extra special this year because artists are coming to us," said Armitage.

This year, the festival is presented by The Raven Project, which supports young female artists and musicians.

"I love seeing all the upcoming talent," said Ramona Houston, the videographer of the event.

Armitage said her primary goal for the festival is to help women build confidence and celebrate their artistic talents. She also said that there is no contest or competing in the events, and everyone participating supports each other equally.

"We are keeping it family friendly," said Armitage.

Event proceeds raised sponsor local female artists.

THANKFUL FOR GIVING



Hundreds gathered at this year's Whiteaker Community Dinner, where volunteers served Lane County residents a Thanksgiving feast. Doors opened at 9 a.m. and almost 3,000 guests were served until 4 p.m. on Nov. 24.

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JOSH ROSE / THE TORCH



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