

# THE TORCH

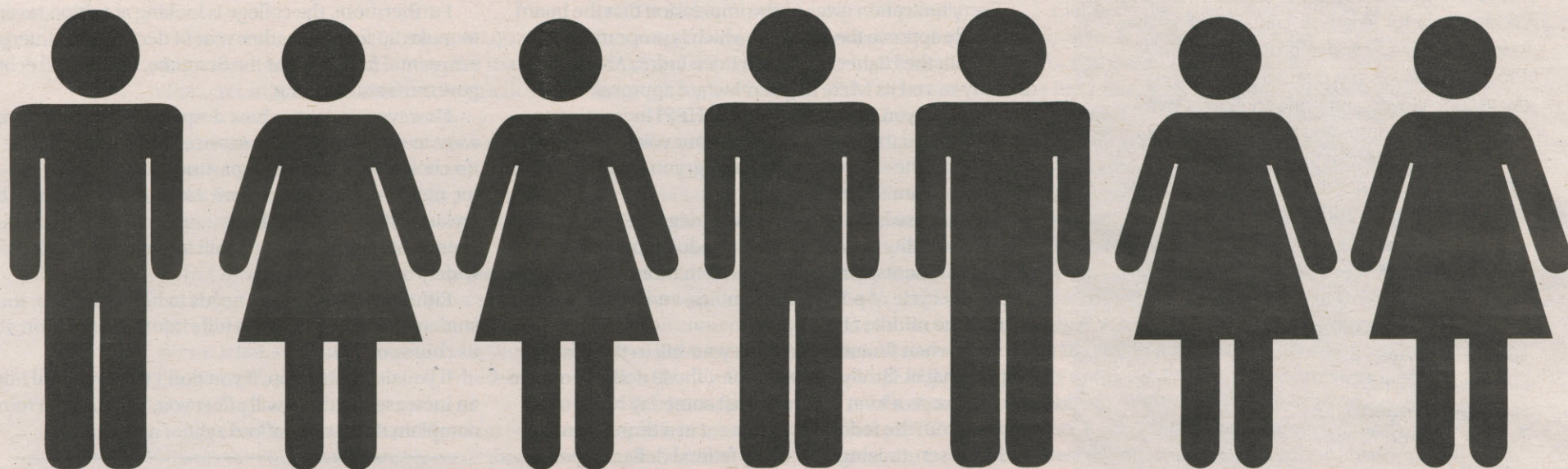
LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

LCCTORCH.COM

VOL. 49 NO. 15  
2.6.13

## *\$EERING ARRANGEMENT*

*Website opens up new  
earning possibilities for students*



**TUITION VOTE  
FOR BOARD** / p. 3

**BUDGET  
BREAKDOWN** / pp. 6-7

**KEEPING GOOD  
'COMPANY'** / p. 11



# THE TORCH

LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

LCCTORCH.COM

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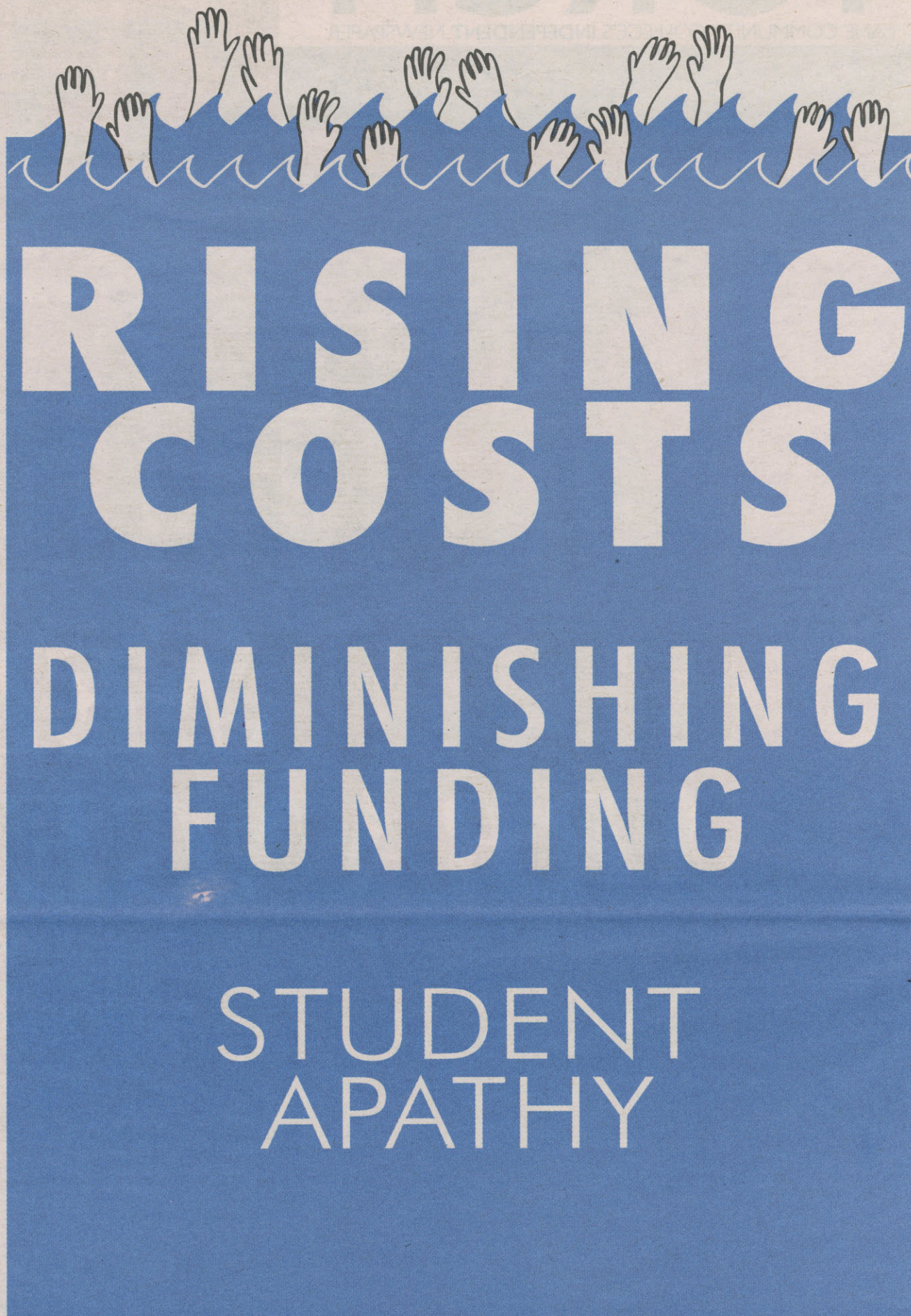
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## Board needs input for informed decision

The Lane Board of Education will meet in the Building 3 board room, to vote whether or not to increase the cost of tuition by \$2 per credit Wednesday, Feb. 6.

Every indication gives us the impression that the board will likely approve the increase, which is proportional to a bump in the Higher Education Price Index. ASLCC has already waved its white flag in reluctant approval.

However you may feel about the HEPI increase, you should attend the meeting and let your voice be heard. It's easy. At the start of every meeting, you can address the board from the gallery.

An increase in tuition can have a negative impact on the accessibility of post-secondary education for low-income students, making it that much more difficult to break the cycle of poverty for families, and in turn further erodes the middle class.

Even when financial aid foots your bill in the absence of personal or family contributions, those dollars come in two forms: as a loan that you must someday repay or as a grant from the federal government at a time when the public is scrutinizing how every federal dollar is spent.

The amount awarded through Pell Grants was already reduced in 2011, and further cuts are never off the table. If that money runs out, how many of us would be able to afford to pay almost \$100 per credit to gamble on a brighter future?

Admittedly, the college may need the income a HEPI increase would afford. Service standards are a concern,

especially with an expanding economy, shrinking enrollment and decreased government funding. The college may flat out need the money.

Furthermore, the college is looking at tuition revenues to make up for yet another year of decreases in intergovernmental funding. For the first time, tuition will eclipse governmental funding.

However, no matter how desperately the college may want to maintain current service levels, there may be no choice but to shrink departments and staff to better, more appropriately, serve the number students that are actually enrolled at Lane ... unless, of course, Lane expects students to foot the bill for services that aren't widely used.

Either way, the college needs to hear from you, the student, in order to make a fully informed decision about its course of action.

If you don't show up, if you don't tell the board how an increase in tuition will affect you, you have no room to complain if you can't afford school next year.

**CORRECTION:** In its Jan. 23 and Jan. 30 issues, The Torch incorrectly reported Lane would be asking the Board of Education for a second tuition increase in June. While the ASLCC reluctantly endorsed a \$2 per-credit tuition, it did so in the event that board members consider a second increase — not because Lane has concrete plans to seek that increase. The Torch regrets this error.



# TUITION DECISION

Board's vote could impact  
tuition price Summer 2013

BY MOHAMMED ALKHADHER  
*Reporter*

Members of Lane's Board of Education will vote Feb. 6 on whether to raise next year's tuition by \$2 per credit. The increase in tuition would take effect July 1, if it passes.

None of the four board members interviewed by *The Torch* revealed their positions on the increase in advance of the meeting.

"The board has just received their board packets, and we will not be collaborating until we meet at the next board meeting," board member Robert Ackerman said. "In this instance, the tuition increase is on the agenda for our next board meeting."

The board must decide whether to raise tuition to keep pace with a rise in the Higher Education Price Index. The HEPI is a national average of the change in costs for goods and services most commonly purchased by institutions of higher learning, such as Lane. The price index is compiled by The Commonfund Institute, a nonprofit organization that monitors college and university endowments.

A \$2-per-credit increase would put Lane's tuition at \$92 per credit.

The ASLCC reluctantly chose to support this increase to give student leaders leverage to mount an opposition should the board consider a separate increase before the end of the school year.

Board members said they would consider student opinions during their deliberations.

"As always, the board will be mindful of the students at Lane Community College when we are faced with any possible tuition increase," board chairwoman Sharon Stiles said.

"There will be considerable discussion at the board meeting, both pro and con," Stiles said. "I'm glad (students) will be there to hear it."

The board also plans to review the draft findings for the three-year, \$35 million upgrade to the Center Building. Preliminary plans include remodeling the Center Building and the plaza on its left side, and building a separate headquarters for the Titan Store.

The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Building 3 board room.

To learn more about the Higher Education Price Index go to: [tinyurl.com/b7fneod](http://tinyurl.com/b7fneod)

To learn more about Lane's 2012-13 budget go to: [tinyurl.com/bklj79k](http://tinyurl.com/bklj79k)



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**WELCOME  
TO THE  
MEETS  
MARKET**

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## Website redefines 'terms of endearment'

BY TAYA ALAMI

Some say they want a house or a car. Some want nice clothes. Some want to pay their student loans. Some want \$10,000 in cash.

A few Lane County students are using a website, *seekingarrangement.com*, to exchange their companionship for money. According to a Seeking Arrangement press release, the site boasts a user population of more than 1.7 million.

Men and women sign up for accounts with the website Seeking Arrangement, where attractive people are grouped with generous people with money (or sugar) to spare. So-called "sugar babies" have the option of paying extra money to become certified as college sugar babies. From there, members are encouraged to begin "mutually beneficial relationships," which usually consist of the sugar baby receiving a monthly stipend from a "sugar daddy."

The majority of sugar babies are female and the majority of sugar daddies are male. Sugar babies seek a variety of arrangements and set a wider variety of conditions. While some sugar babies said they are looking for companionship, others impose a no-touching rule while others remain open to anything. Two women who share an account said they don't like to do anything without each other and they "love to just let our hair down and get wild."

According to the website, Seeking Arrangement is engineered for men who make a good living but may not be the most handsome, suave or outgoing.

"As the cost of living rises and tuition hikes continue, co-ed sugar babies continue to flock to Seeking Arrangement in search of sugar daddies," Seeking Arrangement spokeswoman Jennifer Guinn says.

One student, who calls herself Loyalbabygirl in her

Seeking Arrangement ad, is a 23-year-old Springfield resident who, with five years of service in the military, is also an aspiring actress and model. In her ad, Loyalbabygirl wrote she's "looking for my Hugh Hefner — and yes, it's OK if he's younger (winky-face)."

"I just haven't been receiving the support I need from my previous sugar daddies," Loyalbabygirl wrote in her ad. "I'm hoping to find someone who's generous and giving without making me jump through hoops to get what I need."

What Loyalbabygirl said she needs, exactly, is monthly cash payments of anywhere between \$5,001 and \$10,000.

According to Lane's website, the estimated three-term cost of attendance for an in-state student is \$9,595 while the cost for an out-of-state student is \$14,653. The U.S. Census Bureau reports the median household income for Lane County residents is \$42,621.

Loyalbabygirl is asking for \$60,012 per year, minimum.

Lane Dean of Cooperative Education Al King said he was shocked to learn that students are advertising such services online.

"Boy, I really just hope these students are being safe," King said. "There's no judgement at all on their character. I'm just concerned about safety."

"They're college-aged. They're no longer children," Seeking Arrangement spokeswoman Angela Jacobs-Bermudo said. "We're offering an alternative to getting a part-time job, full-time job or dropping out of school altogether."

Singapore native Brandon Wade founded Seeking Arrangement in 2007, 11 years after he graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Sloan School of Management. Wade said his site promotes traditional values, such as men picking up the tab for

dinner — values Wade believes may have been lost in the commotion of women's liberation.

"I joined it not as a career," aspiring sugar baby Julie B. wrote in an email. "I'm tired of dating guys (when) I always end up paying for everything."

While the website describes its sugar babies as sophisticated, ambitious women, Wade wrote the website offers a variety of potential partners.

"They truly are sugar babies," Wade wrote via Twitter, "although we do have a mix of new and experienced sugar babies."

Wade's company also owns *whatsyourprice.com*, a similar website that divides its userbase between "generous" and "beautiful," and *seekingmillionaire.com*. Wade argues that being a sugar baby is a legitimate way to make a living.

Jacobs-Bermudo said that for college students, being a sugar baby is better than a part-time job.

"For anyone going into an opening level part-time or full-time job, you're going to start off either at a minimum (wage) or a dollar or two above the minimum," Jacobs-Bermudo said. "That adds up to between 20 to 40 hours a week, and for college students, that affects their potential for achieving their academic goals. A certain amount of time is necessary to succeed as a student."

ASLCC Senator Adam Brown said with tuition rates rising and financial aid stagnating, "it makes sense that this would be happening here."

Guinn agreed.

"If you have been following the news on college students, the Millennial Generation, Generation Y or the Lost Generation, then this really shouldn't come as a shock to anyone," she said.

### Palestine & the BDS Movement

Robin Kelley, Ph.D.  
UCLA Professor of  
American History

Saturday, February 16  
3:30 - 5:00

Gumwood Room  
Erb Memorial Union  
University of Oregon



Admission free but pre-registration advised for Sat. 3:30-5 p.m. session at <http://tinyurl.com/ah4nzwb>

Learn why Dr. Kelley serves on the USACBI board advocating the academic and cultural boycott of Israel

Dr. Angela Davis connected the dots:  
"Justice for African Americans is organically linked to justice for Palestinians."

Sponsored by  
Al-Nakba Awareness Project &  
UO Social Justice, Real Justice Conference



# BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Lane's 2012-2013 adopted budget and  
where the college spends money

See the complete budget at: <http://tinyurl.com/bklj79k>

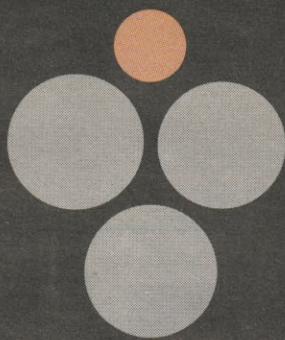
**Students** now pay more toward the  
Lane General Fund than all forms of  
**public support** for the first time ever (p. 27)

Public support \$40.06M

Tuition \$40.08M

**\$90**

per credit for tuition

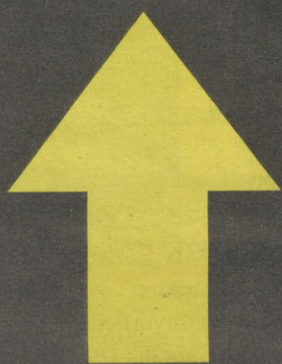


**\$0.76**

of every \$1 in the general  
fund is spent on personnel

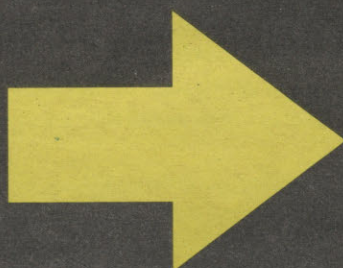
**\$4.65M**

in instructional fees go to the  
general fund, in  
addition to tuition



**\$7**

per-credit  
tuition increase  
in July 2012



**\$1.05 M**

more **tuition** revenue expected  
in 2012-2013, since 2011-2012  
(p. 27)

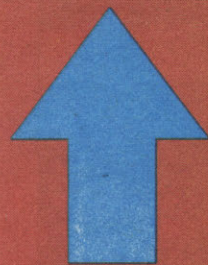
All numbers rounded to nearest 10 thousand



# GENERAL FUND I

## \$100.26M

Accounts for the majority of the college's daily operations, including instruction and student services.

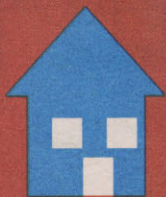


**3%**  
from 2011-2012



**\$24.06M**

from Oregon legislature

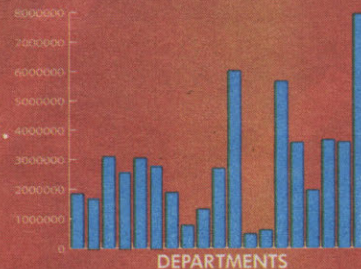


**\$16M**

from property taxes

**19 departments**

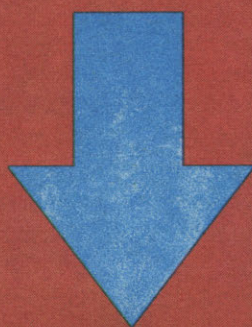
use **56%** of General Fund I to pay for instruction. This is the largest general fund expense (p.28).



## Financial Aid Fund V

### \$108.29M

Resources for this fund are largely intergovernmental and include transfers from other Lane funds, interest income, scholarships and local grants. These funds are given to the college to be disbursed.



Public funding to Financial Aid has decreased

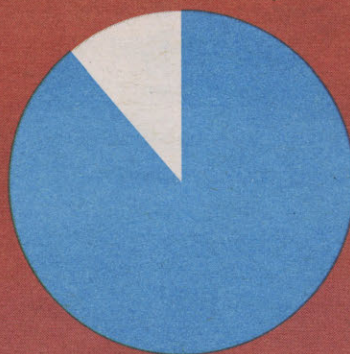
### \$10.35 M

from 2011-2012  
(p.47)

## Restricted Fund IX

### \$14.47M

Fund comprised from specialized fees, transfers and other revenue sources for programs and services.



## 89%

of funds from Fund IX go to student support and include programs such as:

Child and Family Education  
Flight Technology  
Specialized Support Services  
ASLCC  
Athletics  
Student Health Services  
The Torch  
(p.36)

## ALL FUNDS BUDGET

### \$309.32 M (p. 24)

### Operating Revenues / Funding

Comes largely from intergovernmental support (66.4%), tuition (13.2%), sale of goods and services (5.3%), fees (3.9%) and fund transfers (3.2%)

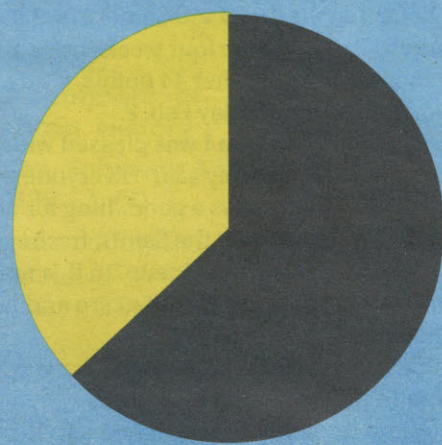
### \$328.66 M (p. 24)

### Operating Expenses

Includes financial aid (32.9%), instruction (22%), plant additions (14.2%), student services (9.8%) and college support services (5.6%)

## 1/3

of Lane's total budget is used in the general fund. Another third is represented by financial aid disbursement (p.23)





# Titans begin second half of region play with victory

Lightning strikes twice for Lane as the Titans engineer another 44-point spread



Left: Lane freshman guard Tori Mahaffie catches a rebound in a game against Southwestern Oregon Community College Lakers Jan. 16 in Eugene. The Titans won 106-78. Above: Sophomore guard Kersey Wilcox shoots a free throw while sophomore forward Megan Shields watches.

EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

BY RYAN KOSTECKA  
Sports Editor

It was like déjà vu for the Lane Titans women's basketball team.

After defeating the Mt. Hood Saints 87-43 in their first Southern Region game four weeks prior, the Titans downed the Saints by another 44 points, 83-39, to begin the second half of region play Feb. 2.

"We played really well so I was pleased with that," Titans head coach Greg Sheley said. "Everyone got to play in the game, which is always a good thing for us."

When the Titans last met the Saints, freshman Renee Lucero was in Lane's starting lineup. In this match, freshman Tori Mahaffie replaced Lucero and had a strong showing.

Mahaffie hit four three-pointers on her way to a game-high 14 points and six rebounds.

Sophomore Kersey Wilcox also had a well-rounded game, stuffing the stat sheet with six points, three rebounds, five assists and two steals.

"It was a real good game for us because we were able to slow things down a bit and really focus on some other things," Wilcox said. "We have some big games coming up so being able to work on what we needed to was good."

The Titans began the game with an 8-0 run and never relenting, outscoring the Saints by 31 points to take a 51-20 lead at the half.

In the first half, Lane shot the ball well, shooting 47 percent (21-for-45) from the field, including a solid 40 percent (6-for-15) from the three-point range.

Lane's defense came to play, limiting the Saints to a measly 24 percent shooting in the first half, including only six baskets made total. The Saints shot four baskets from deep to account for 12 of their 20 points.

The second half saw the Titans cool down considerably, but not enough to let the Saints get back into the game.

Lane shot only 36 percent (12-for-33) in the second half but continued to shoot well from three-point range, knocking down five more to account for 15 of their 32 points.

Mahaffie and sophomore Jordan Wilcox were both key players in Lane's long-range game, going a combined 7-for-11 while the rest of the team went 4-for-15.

For the game, the Titans grabbed 30 offensive rebounds that led to 27 points. By comparison, Mt. Hood was limited to only four offensive rebounds but failed to convert those to points.

Lane also outscored the Saints 40-18 in points off the bench, led by sophomores Madison Moore and Jordan Wilcox with 11 each and Danielle Schmidt with eight.

After posting 14 points and a season-high 15 rebounds in the Jan. 5 victory, sophomore Megan Shields put up 10 points and nine rebounds to complement her four steals and two blocks.

## LOOKING AHEAD

The Titans return to action Feb. 6 when they travel to Albany to face the Linn-Benton Community College Roadrunners at 5:30 p.m. The Titans previously defeated the Roadrunners at home Jan. 9 with a score of 85-60. Freshman Simone Thompson led the way with 19 points while Shields added 16 in the victory.

Linn-Benton is led by freshmen Madeline Kiplinger and Michelle Bromagem with 15.50 and 11.55 points per game respectively.

"While both teams are better than Mt. Hood, I still think we'll be able to work on some things when we play Linn-Benton, but we better prepare for Chemeketa," Kersey Wilcox said.

The Titans face Chemeketa Community College Feb. 9 in their first home game in two weeks at 2 p.m. Chemeketa is currently ranked sixth in the latest NWAAC polls and sits in third place in the Southern Region, only one game behind the Titans.

Lane defeated the Storm 95-79 just three weeks ago while also beating them back on Dec. 30 in the final round of the Chemeketa Community College Tournament 92-68.

Chemeketa is led by sophomores Jordan Klebaum and Kim Tillery with 13.90 and 13.74 points per game respectively.

"Linn-Benton is tougher at home so we need to be ready to play," Sheley said. "We have played Chemeketa twice already, so we know what to expect and hopefully we'll be ready to go."



# Titans suffer third regional loss

BY RYAN KOSTECKA  
Sports Editor

This wasn't exactly how the Lane Titans men's basketball saw themselves beginning the second half of Southern Region play.

The Titans began their Feb. 2 game against Mt. Hood Community College Saints tied for first place in the region, but after suffering an 84-72 loss to the Saints, Lane fell into second place, one game behind Chemeketa Community College.

"It wasn't the greatest of games, but now we have to refocus with Linn-Benton up next," Titans head coach Bruce Chavka said.

This was the third game in a row in which the Titans had failed to score their season average of 81 points per game. The Saints held the Titans' leading scorer, sophomore Tyler Coleman, to nine points, six below his season average.

With the loss, Lane drops to 5-3 in Southern Region play and 17-5 overall while the Saints are 4-4 in the Southern Region and 8-12 overall. The Titans are still ranked No. 4 in the latest NWAACC polls, leading Chemeketa by three spots.

Lane played well in the first half on the offensive side of the ball but struggled defensively. Although the Titans allowed the Saints to shoot 60 percent (12-for-20) from the field, Lane led 41-36 at the half by taking 12 more shots than Mt. Hood and shooting 47 percent (15-for-32) themselves.

The second half was a runaway for the Saints, as Lane could not stop Mt. Hood from hitting its stride.

While the Titans were able to match the Saints' hot shooting in the first half, Lane went cold in the second half. The Titans struggled when shooting the ball, especially from three-point range.

Lane allowed the Saints to shoot 63 percent (12-for-19) in the second half while the Titans only connected on 39 percent (10-for-26) of their shots, including 25 percent (3-for-12) from three-point range.

As the game continued, a discrepancy between the teams' free-throw shooting grew apparent. The Titans were whistled for 26 fouls, yielding 39 free-throw attempts by the Saints. Conversely, the officials held Mt. Hood responsible for 15 fouls, allowing Lane 21 attempts.

In the second half, Lane went 8-for-11 from the charity stripe while Mt. Hood shot 21-for-28. The 13-point difference exceeded the 12-point spread in their final score.

For the game, sophomore Alex MacNeil and freshman Keynan Middleton led the Titans with 15 points each while freshman Jarred Kelsay added 11.

Coleman added five rebounds and four assists for the Titans while Kelsay added five steals.

Mt. Hood was led by freshmen Blake Updike with 24 points and Landon Rushton with 14.

## LOOKING AHEAD

The Titans travel to Albany Feb. 6 to take on the Linn-Benton Community College Roadrunners at 7:30 p.m. The teams last met Jan. 9 in Eugene, when the Titans defeated the last-place Roadrunners 93-78.

Sophomore Adam Hastings leads Linn-Benton with 16.33 points and 9.52 rebounds per game. Also chipping in for the Roadrunners is freshman Samuel Stafford with 15.35 points per game.

Lane returns home Feb. 9 for its biggest game to date when it look to exact revenge against the Southern Region leading Chemeketa Community College Storm at 4 p.m.

"We can't look ahead to Chemeketa," Chavka said. "Linn-Benton is our next game so that's who we are focused on."

Chemeketa handed Lane its first loss in the Southern Region Jan. 12 by a score of 95-71. The Titans were thoroughly outplayed that game and saw the Storm hit 70 percent (19-for-27) of their shots in the second half to run away with the game.

The Storm have four players averaging double figures and are led by sophomores Trevor Phillips and Gavin Kauffman with 16.25 and 12.95 points per game respectively. Phillips also averages a team-high 6.81 rebounds per game.

"Hopefully, playing Chemeketa for first place will make it that much more exciting," sophomore Alex Coleman said. "That's our 'Jam the Gym' night so we'll have a nice crowd and hopefully be able to dish out some payback."

Lane's Athletic Department is hosting its annual 'Jam the Gym' fundraiser Feb. 9 during the women and men's basketball games beginning at 2 p.m.

The department will be accepting canned food donations to be given to Food for Lane County. Admission is free with a donation and the first 500 fans will receive free t-shirts.



EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

Lane sophomore guard Alex MacNeil completes a layup despite the defense of sophomore post Colby Mitchell from Mt. Hood Community College during a Jan. 5 home game. The Titans won 93-56.

February Valentine's Special

Students  
Welcome

FREE  
LUNCH

With the purchase  
of another lunch

Valid during the month of February 2013

Renaissance Room

Presented by the Culinary Arts Students of Lane Community College  
For Reservations (541) 463-3533

Walk-ins Welcome • Seating from 11:30 to 12:30 Tuesday - Thursday  
Find us on Facebook for Menu, Specials & even More Great Coupons

50 Breweries!  
100 Craft Beers!

KLCC Microbrew Festival

February 8 & 9

Fri 5-11 pm • Sat 1-11 pm

Lane Events Center  
796 W 13th, Eugene  
21 & OVER

♪ Fri - Sol Seed  
♪ Sat - Sallie Ford &  
The Sound Outside

\$12 advance - sold at klcc.org, includes glass,  
3 beer tickets & separate entrance!

\$15 at the door - includes glass & 3 beer tickets!

MEGA MUSIC SALE! Used Records & CDs!



www.klcc.org

DENALI

Literary & Arts magazine  
Get published!

Fine art  
Literature  
Submit by April 1!  
Photography  
Jewelry

lanecc.edu/denali



# #BRIEFLY

@lcctorch

## #lanetransitdistrict

ASLCC Vice President Tajo Ouermi said he's looking into a number of different ways to fund a weather cover for LTD's No. 82 bus line at the downtown station. Ouermi recently met with Lane Transit District chairman Greg Evans, who said both LTD and Lane don't have the money to fund the project.

## #boardofed

Lane's Board of Education will meet Feb. 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the Building 3 board room. Members will be voting on an inflationary increase in tuition. The board will also review the draft findings for the three-year, \$35 million upgrade to the Center Building. Preliminary plans include remodeling the Center Building and the plaza on its left side, along with building a separate headquarters for the Titan Store.

## #clubsfair

ASLCC Multicultural Coordinator Anayeli Jiminez said the Council of Clubs has set dates for its Clubs Fair from April 17 to 18, the same week as the Peace Symposium and ASLCC elections.

"It should be a very productive week and I'm really excited about it," Jiminez said.

## #councilofclubs

The Oregon Student Association presented a brief history of tuition equity and what state legislative bills affect tuition at the Feb. 5 Council of Clubs meeting.

The council suspended its bylaws to approve a \$1,000 funds request from the APISU. The council unanimously passed the request, which would help fund a Feb. 21 lecture at Lane by Mahatma Gandhi's grandson, Arun Gandhi.

## #livemusic

ASLCC has approved a funds request to launch a program to have local and student musicians perform acoustically outside of the Center Building.

## #documentaries

The Council of Clubs and ASLCC will screen a range of documentaries in Building 1, Room 222, every Thursday from 5 to 7 p.m.

This documentary series will begin Feb. 7, when student leaders will screen *Capitalism: A Love Story*. The event is open

to all students, and organizers hope to spark a discussion after the viewing.

Admission is free.

## #klccbrewfest

KLCC will be hosting a micro-brew festival at the Lane Events Center Feb. 8 and 9. Proceeds will benefit KLCC. The event will offer live music from Sol Seed Friday and Sallie Ford & The Sound Outside and the Porch Band Saturday.

## #titansbasketball

The Lane men's and women's basketball teams return to action Feb. 6 when they travel to Albany to take on Linn-Benton Community College. Tipoff for the women is at 5:30 p.m. The men play at 7:30 p.m.

## #homecourt

The Lane basketball teams return to Eugene Feb. 9 for their first home games in two weeks when they host the Chemeketa Community College Storm. Tipoff for the women is set for 2 p.m. with the men playing at 4 p.m.

## #jamthegym

The Lane Athletic Department

is hosting its annual Jam the Gym fundraiser Feb. 9 during the Lane basketball games starting at 2 p.m. Admission is free with a donation and the first 500 fans will receive free t-shirts.

## #signees

The Lane men's baseball team has signed five players to its incoming class for the 2013-2014 school year. Those signed are Gaje McDaniel, Shane Quarterly, Kyle Watson, Travis Boggs and Jackson Bertsch.

## #taxtime

The AARP will be providing free tax help to all students in the cafeteria from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays through April 12.

## #studentart

Lane's art gallery will present the Student Juried Art Exhibit, a showcase of the best artwork from Lane students. The show will run Feb. 11 to March 15 with a reception Feb. 21 from 3 to 4 p.m. Admission to the gallery and reception is free.

## #tieli

Lane's art gallery will also be presenting the art of Port-

land artist Tie Li from Feb. 11 to March 15 with a brief lecture on Feb. 14.

Admission is free.

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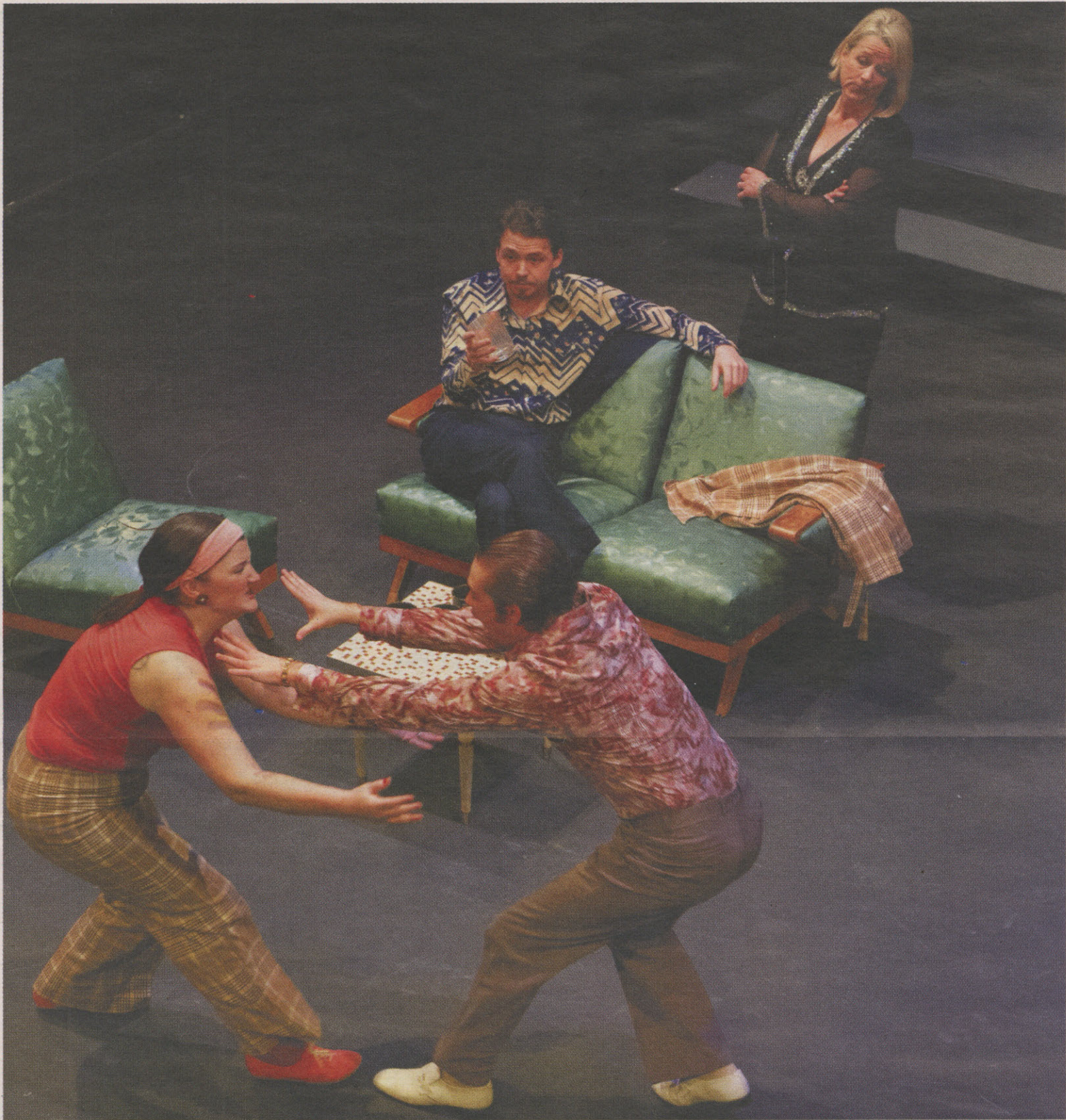
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# Company stars shine at Blue Door Theatre



EUGENE JOHNSON / THE TORCH

Sarah (Ruth Ames Langstraat) demonstrates a karate technique to Harry (Jordan Nowotny). In the background, Bobby (Trevor Eichhorn) and Joanne (Sue Schroeder-White) watch during a scene of the Student Production Association's rendition of Stephen Sondheim's *Company* playing in the Blue Door Theatre. The play runs until Feb 16.

REVIEWED BY KYLE WEBB  
Features Editor

To wed or not to wed? That is the question ... or at least it is for Bobby, the main character in the Lane Student Productions Association's rendition of *Company*.

*Company* is a musical comedy based on a book by George Furth with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. SPA's production is directed and choreographed by community theater artist Michael Watkins.

In *Company*, Trevor Eichhorn plays Bobby, a single 35-year-old New Yorker who struggles to comprehend why he should get married, why people would want to get married and, hardest of all, whether he wants to get married.

The time and setting is middle-class New York in the 70's, but that is only made clear through the costuming. As Watkins points out in his director's note, however, the themes are timeless. There will always be men and women finding themselves at age 35 and wondering if they will ever settle down.

The size of the Blue Door Theatre is the show's Achilles' heel, which limits the

choreography. It forces the actors to turn and face the audience depending on their location, which means actors frequently face away from some audience members. Watkins did take this into account in choreographing scenes with all 14 actors on stage at once by breaking them into three groups, each facing one seating section, but more often than not, you are listening to someone talk or sing staring at their back.

From the overture to the denouement, the play succeeds as a musical, with solo pieces full of heart and multiple song-and-dance numbers staged with the full cast. The comedy ranges from subtle facial expressions to a blatant butt-joke between Marta (Mollie Clevidence) and Bobby.

"You know how you can tell the uptown people from the downtown people?" Marta asks Bobby.

"Their asses!" She snorts, making an open circle with her thumb and index finger before quickly tightening it up.

Marta is an oddball — a drifter of sorts — who believes New York is the center of the universe. Clevidence, in her first stage appearance in six years, plays Marta quite

well with a mild amount of sass and the no-guff attitude of any "New Yorkah."

Eichhorn plays the lovable Bobby and his character never leaves the stage during the two-and-a-half hour performance in which he has multiple solos, group numbers and a tapdance. During the denouement, Eichhorn delivers an emotion-filled solo piece in which he confesses what he has learned and what he will do now.

Other outstanding performances include Cristina Hernandez as Amy, the bride-to-be who gets cold feet and lists every reason in the world why she won't get married, delivering them in the form of a half-song/half-rap that takes a skill many recording artists don't possess. Pianist Jim Greenwood, like Eichhorn, didn't get the luxury of taking a break during the show. However, in both cases, the quality of their performances remained consistent from the opening notes to the curtain call.

The show runs Feb. 8 and Feb. 14 to Feb. 16 at 7:30 p.m., with a matinee Feb. 10 at 2 p.m. All shows are in the Blue Door Theatre in Building 6. Tickets are \$13 for general admission and \$10 for students and seniors.



# SEALED with a smile

BY KYLE WEBB  
Features Editor

Community volunteers and Lane dental students gathered for the 11th annual Free Dental Exam and Sealant Clinic Feb. 2 in the dental clinic on Lane's main campus.

Children 7 to 14 years old received free exams, X-rays, fluoride varnish and sealant. Parents also received free screenings and dental advice.

Mark Portman, Lane County Dental Society executive director, was in attendance, snapping photos for the Dental Society and helping where he could. Portman stressed the importance of getting children into a dental clinic at a young age — the reason this event is in its 11th year.

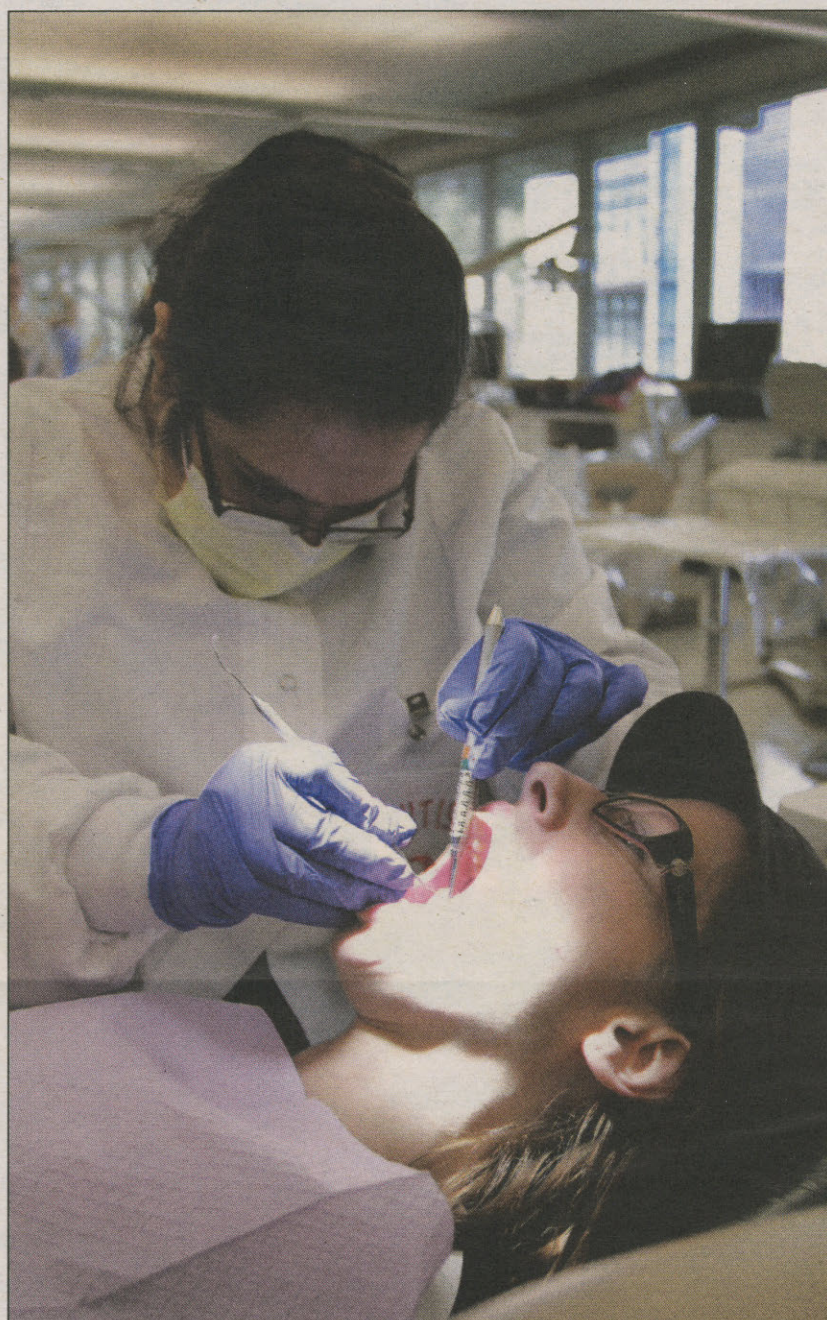
"With young kids drinking soda and eating junk food, they are rotting their teeth from an early age," Portman said. "Not a lot of kids get to a dentist early enough."

Not getting children to the dentist at a young age can lead to further complications with dental health throughout adulthood.

"People don't always know that your mouth and teeth are some of the most important parts of your body," Alyssa Durant said. Durant is a second-year dental hygiene student at Lane.

Along with offering community outreach and assistance, the event is also an opportunity for Lane dental students to earn credit. Students earned two continuing education credits for attending a class two hours before helping at the event.

Lane dental students give free exams to community members



ALEX QUADRINI / THE TORCH

Lacey Geyer, 31, receives a free dental exam from Dr. Mercedes Del Valle. A service offered to the parents in attendance at Free Sealant Day.



ALEX QUADRINI / THE TORCH

Arden Dersham, 7, receives dental services from volunteers.



ALEX QUADRINI / THE TORCH

Laura Roberts dressed up as the Tooth Fairy to greet young patients at Free Sealant Day. Roberts works for Thurston Family Dental.