



Lane coach Grady O'Connor talks to his women's running team after the Women's 800 running event at the Titan Track and Field Complex. "He brings our team together," Mace stated.

Photos by Christopher Palanuk / Photo Editor

# Coach leaves legacy

10 time coach of the year  
transitions from coaching to  
full-time faculty

ELIZABETH COMISKEY  
FEATURES EDITOR

Lane Community College announced April 26 that track and field coach Grady O'Connor will be stepping down at the end of the season on June 24. O'Connor has led Titan track and field and cross country teams for 19 years.

When asked how many students O'Connor felt he had coached throughout the 19 years he approximated 600-800.

"I came here because he is a really good events coach in hurdles. The news was a really big blow and I guess I am going to have to transfer now to somewhere that has a better program," Lane athlete Seth Andres said.

Many students have been successful in athletics and other aspects of their future due to O'Connor's method of coaching.

"My philosophy has changed since I have gotten older," O'Connor said. "Now I look toward more student contact, not only the flash. My sport psychology is to strive for one-on-one time with students, student connection is more important than improving performance."

O'Connor was hired as an assistant coach at Lane in 1998 and named interim head coach in 1999, taking over the program in 2000. He is trying to look forward, trying to move from the initial

shock of shifting to full-time teaching from coaching.

Coach O'Connor has helped several students move onto bigger things past Lane. Former Lane students Dakarai Hightower, Cyrus Hostetler and Jordan McNamara, joined the many track and field athletes to compete in the Olympic Trials. Hostetler went on to compete in Rio. O'Connor mentored the athletes along the way to the trials.

"It's pretty rare that you have an athlete in the Olympic trials competing for any college, let alone a community college," O'Connor told The Torch in 2016.

There is uncertainty about who will take over the coaching position for track and field and cross country.

"There is always an unknown with someone new coming in that we don't know. We don't know who that's going to be and with the budgetary cuts; the college is in a very difficult spot," Lane baseball coach Josh Blunt said.

Lane Track and field is competing in the NWAC Multi Event Championships hosted by Lane May 1 and 2. "I want the current team to stay on goal, win the championship and develop character in the process," O'Connor said.

The end of the season is June 24 and O'Connor will then transition to teaching full-time.

"I am looking towards the future," O'Connor said. "I am trying to look forward, trying to move from the initial shock of the oncoming shift from full-time coaching to full-time teaching."



Lane athletes (from left) Gabriella Mace, Matteline Wilson, Olivia Lane, and Sarah Curran pose with their coach Grady O'Connor for photographs after the Women's 800 running event on May 2. "We worked hard for you, Coach," Mace stated after the run to O'Connor.

## NEWS

## theTorch

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STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF  
LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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'80s music  
meets classic theatreModern re-telling breathes  
new life into old epic

JULIANNA RATHSACK  
REPORTER

The Lane Student Production Association presents The Oresteia Project, based on a three-play trilogy by Aeschylus, a famous Greek playwright and the "Father of Tragedy". The original trilogy included

Agamemnon, The Libation Bearers and the Eumenides.

With the work of students, faculty and community members the trilogy was modernized. The play features 80s rock and roll style, from music to costumes on the characters. There were some special effects used in the show. The goddess Athena had been brought down on a lift to her spot on the stage. It was an unexpected surprise.

Coming into the performance hall there were short biographies of each

cast member explaining a little about their major and how long they've been with the company. Those biographies showed the diversity of the cast and shows that anybody can participate in the theater.

The Oresteia Project has a couple more showings left before closing night on May 4, 5 and 6 at 7:30 p.m. and May 7 at 2:00 p.m. in the Ragazzino Performance Hall. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$5 for seniors and free for students and Lane faculty.

## Early Childhood Education in jeopardy

Lane's budget committee proposes to  
eliminate instructional program

ALEC EBERT  
REPORTER

Many programs at Lane Community College are facing elimination or budget cuts this coming fiscal year, but one program currently proposed to be eliminated will also affect members of the community, students and staff.

The Early Childhood Education Center is one of the programs that not only serves student teachers and faculty but also hundreds of children who attend the ECE and the day care center year after year. Many of whom's parents go to school just across the yard.

Currently the ECE is costing Lane \$371,910 per year. This is the second highest expense for a single program on the proposed chopping block, coming in second to counseling which currently costs Lane almost \$3 million a year.

According to student teachers and staff involved in the program, early childhood education is often overlooked in higher education.

Kathleen Lloyd, ECE Co-Op coordinator and instructor is greatly concerned with the programs elimination because of the multitude of effects it may have on the college and community members involved in early childhood education. She stressed the importance of lab schools that ECE offers.

"The academic program here is really strong in terms of childhood development, positive guidance and curriculum. We have so many great academic opportunities for students, but then students get to practice in the lab school and that's unique. There are other community colleges that have early childhood education programs but they don't have lab schools," Lloyd said.

Lloyd emphasized that the most important thing about the lab teachings is the hands on ability for student teachers to interact with children. The combination of students working directly with kids coached by instructors enriches the learning experience for student teachers. Lloyd also explained that this teaching style makes it easier for the instructors to assess and adjust curriculum to fit the needs of the currently enrolled children.

In terms of the curriculum and teaching styles Lloyd explained that the most important thing for students is to learn how to test their tolerance with children. Since most of the kids are not old enough to understand why a certain instruction is needed, often times extra engagement is required that is tailored towards

focusing in on the child's intellect.

"In order to be able to work with children, you have to have your patience tested. You have to learn how to not react but rather you have to learn how to respond and practice those skills," Lloyd said. "You do that through engaging their intellect and their interest because children only misbehave when they are bored."

Lane's ECE has a variety of classrooms and outdoor play areas that are used daily to teach young children in a playful and strategic way. Two of the classrooms have one-way mirrors and audio listening so student teachers and parents can observe children reacting to the environments they have been placed in. Lloyd explained that these aspects of the program offer an outside observatory perspective for student teachers in combination with a hands on one. The school has also provided an art room with paint, crayons, colored pencils and other art supplies for children to express their thoughts through color and paper.

A few student teachers shared their perspective on the program as well, elaborating on what the most enriching part of the program is for them and why they are concerned about how the fate of the ECE is hanging in the balance.

"The whole community is going to suffer, I feel like my identity has been slashed to the core with this recommendation, but it's not really a personal attack on me as much as it is on the community because these children are our future," Corey Coffield, a second year ECE student, said. "We don't have anyone else to invest in the future, removing this program would be detrimental to these children."

Coffield is also greatly concerned about how, without the ECE, many of the children who should have the opportunity to learn from this program will suffer later in their education if the program is eliminated.

"These kids would not be ready for kindergarten or elementary school and even high school," Coffield said.

Lane student, Nikola Forschner, is working through the program focusing in speech therapy. She shared similar concerns with Coffield. If the program is cut instead of eliminated all together there will still be negative consequences for the program.

"Teachers have said that there will still be classes and it will be possible for us to graduate but it won't be the same. I don't want to just take the classes that I need to graduate. I want to learn everything possible that I can about the children and their parents and the community," Forschner said.

No decisions have been made regarding the fate of early childhood education at Lane, however the board will have to come to a conclusion by the first of June on whether or not to eliminate or cut the program.

**"The whole community  
is going to suffer, I  
feel like my identity  
has been slashed to  
the core with this  
recommendation..."**

— Corey Coffield  
Student teacher

Do you have something to say about  
a story published in The Torch?  
Write a letter to the editor. Keep it to  
300 words or fewer.

## NEWS



A cameraman films Lane students as they protest the proposed budget cuts outside of Building 19 before the Board of Education meeting on April 26.

Photos by Hunter Ruland / Multimedia Editor

## Proposed budget threatens Lane's future

### Public forums end as budget talks persist

ALEC EBERT  
REPORTER

Lane's budget deficit continues to loom over the Board of Education like a dark rain cloud moving in from the coast. No matter which way it's cut, some students and faculty will suffer losses.

On April 19, the board held the first public forum for faculty, students and other members of the community to express opinions about the proposal. Over 200 people came to ask the board to consider other options. The meeting began at 4:30 p.m. and so many individuals signed up to speak that the meeting ran until 11:30 p.m. and still not everyone got a chance.

On April 26, the board held another

forum in the Center for Meeting and Learning to continue the public comment period. Following this portion of the meeting the board reviewed their budget message to further discuss options related to making up the \$10 million deficit.

This time significantly fewer individuals spoke but the concerns brought to the podium were relating to programs that speakers argued significantly impact student life, like counseling and the honors program.

Judy Gates, an academic advisor at Lane who works with over a thousand students every term, advocated for the counseling department which, under the current proposal, may be forced to cut two more full-time counselors.

"Lane counselors serve students who face constant stressors and when a student reaches their tipping point they often seek help from counselors. Our counselors assist our students with suicidal issues, substance abuse, domestic violence, mental health and much more," Gates said.

Gates went on to highlight the impact this would have on students and how difficult it would be for students to access counseling, should the board eliminate the two positions.

"I hope that we look into other areas to make these cuts counselors are vital to the student protection services we have in place," Gates said.

Emma Reid is a student who advocated for Lane's honors program, sharing similar concerns with the faculty who spoke before her. Due to low enrollment in the Honors Program, the budget committee has recommended to eliminate the program.

"When I first joined Lane's Honors Program I was a striving student who was struggling with personal issues," Reid said. "The reason the Honors Program played a significant role was because of the deeper engagement in learning. I would not have been aware of all of the resources available at Lane without the Honors Program."

Reid went on to explain that the Honors Program has positively impacted her but many other students as well. She also

explained that the Honors Program does not get enough attention.

"The solution in my opinion is not to cut the program prematurely but rather provide an outreach to students through honors student volunteering. If students were to enroll in honors more early on, they may benefit from a more enriching learning experience here at Lane," Reid said.

Erica Goulding is a former Lane student, now currently a special education Ph.D. student at the University of Oregon. She showed up to say her piece in regards to the cuts that the philosophy and religion department is facing and what impact the program has made on her life.

"The philosophy courses have taught me that it is possible, moreover preferable, to work with people with whom I disagree and the religion courses have vastly increased my cultural competency. From both the students and the instructors I have learned about pressing contemporary moral issues that I would have never otherwise known about," Goulding said.

Goulding made a point to highlight the diversity of skills someone can take away from these courses. She continued to explain how at first glance they may not seem that important but in reality many of the lessons can permeate into other fields of study.

"These classes have enabled me to vastly increase my awareness of the moral and religious views in our community which will enable me to deliver culturally responsive instruction," Goulding said.

Goulding was the only person who came to advocate for the philosophy and religion program, however her words presented a very in-depth reasoning for why the board should not cut the program.

Shortly after the public forum the budget committee began their deliberation on the adjustments and improvements made to the current proposal. Brian Kelly, vice president of College Services, and budget office staff member Jennifer Steele took to the podium to present the board with the



Brian Kelly, vice president of college services, explains the new budget proposal to the budget committee.

updated version of the plan and address questions the board had asked to be clarified at the previous meeting.

"It is my honor to present the proposed fiscal year 2017-2018 budget for Lane Community College. The total proposed annual budget is \$218,133,874. The proposed general fund budget totals \$87,703,200. Lane's budget reflects the prioritization and allocation of resources to support the college's vision, mission and strategic directions," Kelly said.

Kelly went through the budget message step by step, addressing all of the major points that the board must focus on. When he concluded speaking the board asked a few clarifying questions and then concluded the meeting. The public forum meetings are now over, however the board will be meeting again on May 3 in Building 19 Room 104 to further their discussion on how to resolve the budget deficit.



Budget office staff member Jennifer Steele listens to Brian Kelly's presentation as he addresses the concerns over the proposed budget cuts.

## NEWS



Photo courtesy of Abdullah Khawaja / LCC Athletics Department

### Students break school records while winning NWAC award

KIRA JONES  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

For the past few years Lane Community College's track and field student athletes have been gaining success among their community college peers. As a part of the Northwest Athletic Conference, community college student athletes have the opportunity to be chosen as the Under Armour athlete of the week.

So far this year Lane has had a fairly significant presence amongst this list with four out of the total fifteen being Lane students. Two of these four students have even gone so far as to break two decades-old school records.

NWAC is the "governing body for two-year college athletics in Washington and Oregon with two additional schools in Idaho and Vancouver, BC," according to the organization's Twitter account. To start off the process of selecting an athlete of the week, all the coaches in the NWAC division send in nominations for who they think

should win. The submissions then go to NWAC where the winner is chosen.

Lane sophomore Meg Jackson was the first of the four chosen this term with a lifetime record in the hammer throw of 135 feet 11 inches according to the NWAC website.

Jackson has plans to go to Oregon State University next year and hopes to score at least 30 points in the NWAC championship a few weeks from now.

"I'm doing really well this year. I've PR'd [personal record] in all my events from last year and I've had just a lot more time to practice," Jackson said.

A school record-breaker, Tristan James, was also selected as the men's athlete of the week for the week of April 13. James, a Lane sophomore, recently broke a 22-year-old school record with a triple jump distance of 49 feet, 4.5 inches.

On Saturday, April 19, James won the triple jump and set the meet and facility records at 48 feet 5 inches at a meet at Oregon State University.

"I always want to jump farther, get stronger, faster, all of the above," James said. "My goal is just to stay healthy."

More recently, Lane sophomore Emily Viukhola also broke a school record and was selected as the women's athlete of the week for the week of April 13. The school

record for the 800 meter was set at 2:13.84 in 1972. On April 29, Viukhola broke that record with a time of 2:12.15, winning the race at OSU.

"I'm trying to run, by the end of the season, a 2:08 and right now I'm running a 2:14 so I have a little ways to go but hopefully I'll be able to accomplish that," Viukhola said.

With the NWAC championships starting, on May 1 and 2 the Lane Titans claimed both first and second place in the NWAC multi-event championships for the decathlon. Grant Shurtliff got first with 6,731 points and Wyatt Thompson-Siporen got second with 6,635 points. The next meet will be on May 5 at the U of O.

**"I always want to jump farther, get stronger, faster, all of the above..."**

— **Tristan James**

**Record-breaking track athlete**

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FRIDAY  
MAY 5

**DOC MARTIN  
(SUBLEVEL LA)**

**Andrew Mataus  
(Urban Mystic)**

SATURDAY  
MAY 6

**CASHMERE CAT  
Kingdom**

SUNDAY  
MAY 7

**COM TRUISE  
Clark**

TUESDAY  
MAY 9

**ODDISEE &  
GOOD COMPNY**

**Olivier St. Louis  
B.K.A. Iz**

SUNDAY  
MAY 14

**MOTHER'S DAY  
SQUARE DANCE  
WITH GOSSAMER  
STRING BAND**

TUESDAY  
MAY 16

**VOLUNTEER  
ORIENTATION  
7:00 PM**

## FEATURES

## THE FORCE IS STRONGER THAN EVER

*'Star Wars' franchise celebrates 40 years*

HUNTER RULAND  
MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

On May 25, 1977, filmmaker George Lucas released his third feature film, "Star Wars," to only about 32 theaters nationwide. The film would go on to play in over one thousand theaters in its prime and gross over \$300 million at the box office in its original theatrical run. "Star Wars" became the highest grossing film of all time until the release of Steven Spielberg's "E.T." The film later received ten Academy Award nominations, including Best Picture, and won six awards for its technical achievements.

Forty years later, "Star Wars" has become more than a film franchise, but a cultural phenomenon that's spawned many novels, videogames and countless other merchandising products. It's easy to think that "Star Wars" was destined for greatness, but the story about the making of the original film isn't so glamorous.

Lucas and his producer Gary Kurtz had a difficult time getting funding for the film until they met Alan Ladd Jr., the

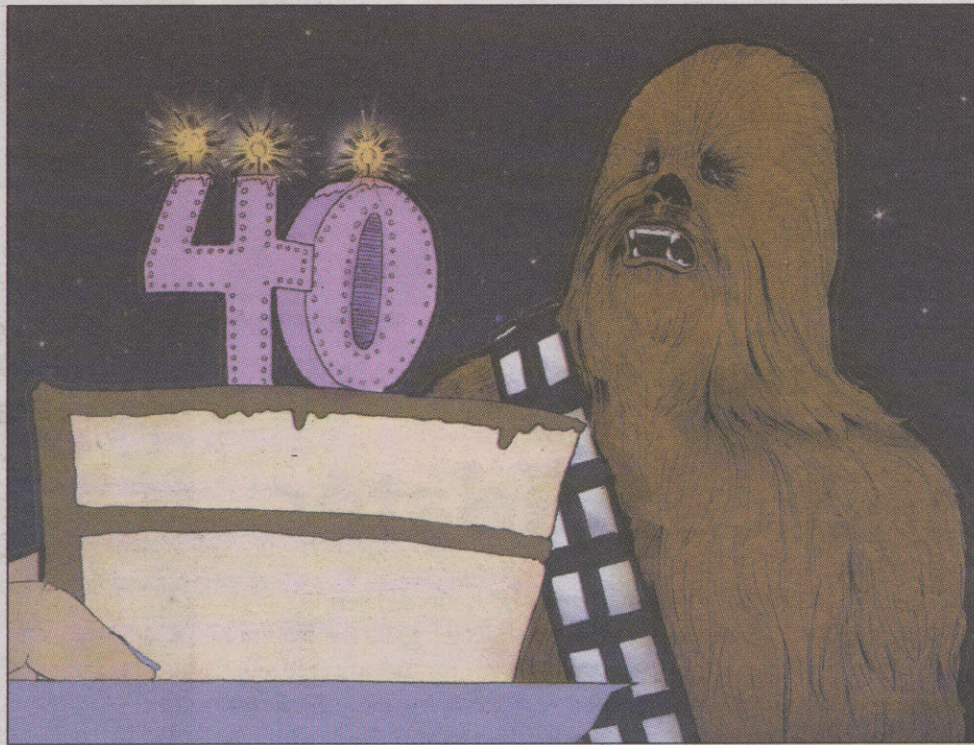


Illustration by Cat Frink

head of creative affairs at 20th Century Fox, who was a fan of Lucas's previous film "American Graffiti." Ladd convinced 20th Century Fox to greenlight the project with a budget of \$8.25 million. Even with the backing of a major studio, filming proved to be challenging. Mechanical props malfunctioned and nasty weather conditions

pushed filming past its original schedule and budget.

Upon completing the film, Lucas had planned a trip to Hawaii fearing that "Star Wars" was going to be a flop. One day, he was having lunch near a movie theater and saw that there was a long line of people. He went over to ask what movie they were

waiting to see. The answer was "Star Wars."

After the massive success of the film, Lucas earned an enormous profit, since he waived his director's fee in favor of distribution and merchandising rights. He used his earnings to help finance "Empire Strikes Back" and "Return of the Jedi."

The impact of "Star Wars" went larger than what Lucas, or anyone involved in the production, could've expected. The franchise would inspire many generations of children to pursue careers in science, such as Holly Griffith, a Flight Controller at NASA. There have even been a few organisms named after characters and creatures from "Star Wars," such as a species of moth called the Wockia chewbacca.

The future of the franchise shows no signs of slowing down. After Lucasfilm was purchased by the Walt Disney Company in 2012 for \$4.06 billion, it was announced that not only was there going to be a new trilogy, but that there would also be spin-off films to satisfy Disney's goal of releasing a new film every year. These new films will be made by filmmakers who were inspired by the franchise. After the success of "Episode VII: The Force Awakens" and "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story," the next film, "Episode VIII: The Last Jedi," will be released on December 15 of this year.

## STUDENT ELECTIONS May 9-11!

ASLCC

SAFC

Vote for the 2017-18 ASLCC Student Government, ASLCC Revised Constitution, and Student Activity Fee Committee!

There will be 2 ways to vote! Visit the polling station 8am-5pm May 9-11 in the Center Building Food Court, or on a computer via Orgsync.

Find out who is running for ASLCC and SAFC! Check out the new ASLCC Constitution! Access the Elections portal on Orgsync here.

<https://orgsync.com/85655/chapter>

Any credit student at the main campus who pays the Student Activity Fee is eligible to vote.

Lane  
Community College  
ACHIEVING DREAMS

Sixth Annual

# Grad Fair

May 10  
10am-3:30pm

Center Building 1st Floor

- Free Graduation Swag Bag with first 25 Caps & Gowns Purchased.
- Free Stole of Gratitude with purchase of Standard Cap & Gown Package (while supplies last - limited quantity).
- Refreshments
- Prize Wheel & Drawings
- Cap & Gown Sales
- Representatives for:
  - Miners Graduate Services
  - Student Life
  - Lane Oregon Promise First Year Experience
  - University Frames

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- First opportunity to purchase your cap and gown
- Win great prizes
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- Order announcements
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- Pick up Veteran's Cord (for Armed Services Grads)

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## OPINION

## Letter to the Editor

Do you have a response or feedback for The Torch?  
Send your letter to the editor to  
letters@lcctorch.com

Illustration by Cat Frink

## Advocating for accomplished candidates

I read the recommendations for the candidates running for elective office on May 16, 2017. I know some of these people and am impressed with the backgrounds and experience such as Melanie Muenzer and Emilio Hernandez, who chose to run for an office that doesn't pay a salary when they could have taken a paying position.

Emilio has an impressive background, including a Ph.D in education and experience on the Oregon State Board of Education and has been endorsed by the Register Guard among others. I met him in Salem while I was serving as the Springfield representative on LCC's Board of Education.

Melanie Muenzer has a long list of education-related

credentials and experience and is already serving as an LCC Board member. She was selected to fill the Florence area vacancy because the member for that area retired. I suggest that anyone who wants to know more about her read the profile of her published by the Torch which is LCC's newspaper. (The number is 541 463 5655.)

These school district positions are extremely important as indicated by the rankings of Oregon's schools published by the Register Guard in the April 29<sup>th</sup> issue.

If you care about the education of Oregon's children, you should vote in the May 16 election

G. DENNIS SHINE  
SPRINGFIELD

## TITAN

## SAFETY BLOTTER

## "Hanging" out at Lane

April 30 — Main Campus

A Public Safety officer observed two children under ten hanging off the railing of the second story of TRiO, dangling above the Student Services Center. Public safety was able to confront them and walk them to their parent, who was located in Building 19.

## Evading the police can be a real drag

April 30 — Main Campus

The Lane County Sheriff's Office contacted LCC Public Safety and warned of an armed and dangerous man who had recently evaded police and been tracked to Lane's main campus. The sheriff's office reports that the man had once been pulled over following a routine traffic stop before fleeing and dragging an officer by his vehicle in the process. LCC as well as Lane County deputies patrolled the campus and surrounding woods, unable to locate the suspect.

## New phone, who dis'?

April 27 — Main Campus

A student reported their her smartphone had been stolen from the Food Court at Lane's main campus. The phone in question had been left unattended for a time not exceeding five minutes. The theft was reported to Public Safety and has yet to be recovered.

## Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Antiballistic Missile (abbr.)
  - Son of Ruth
  - Heddles of a loom
  - Shaft
  - Dismiss
  - US dam
  - Tier
  - Winglike
  - Chateaubriand heroine
  - Delirium tremens (abbr.)
  - Variation (pref.)
  - Blaubok
  - Time period
  - Ecclesiastic box
  - Abridged (abbr.)
  - Atl. Coast Conference (abbr.)
  - Dismal
  - Beam
  - Before

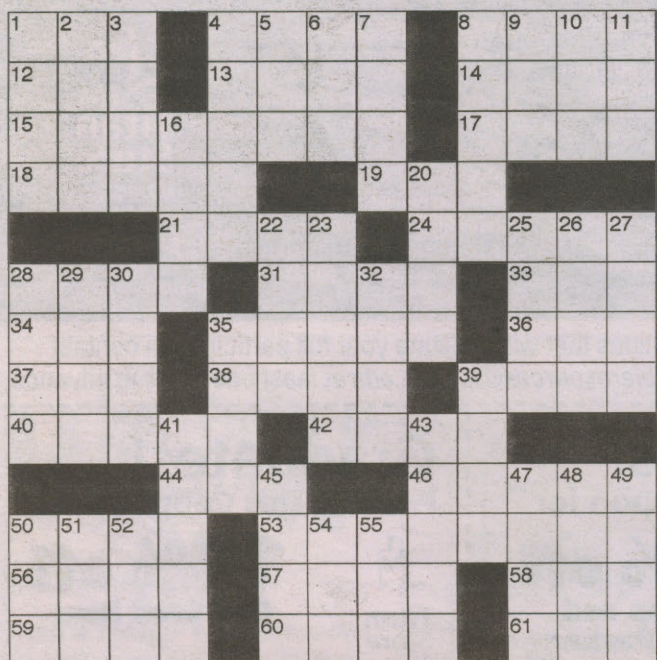
- Burden
- Middle (pref.)
- Eradicate
- P.I. tree
- Gelderland city
- Viper
- E. Indian fiber plant
- Can
- Open
- Initial (abbr.)
- Bronze (Lat.)
- Languish
- Rattan
- Bacon, lettuce, and tomato (abbr.)

- DOWN**
- Harp (Ital.)
  - Entice
  - Talking bird
  - Refuse
  - Life (pref.)
  - Slip
  - Title of property

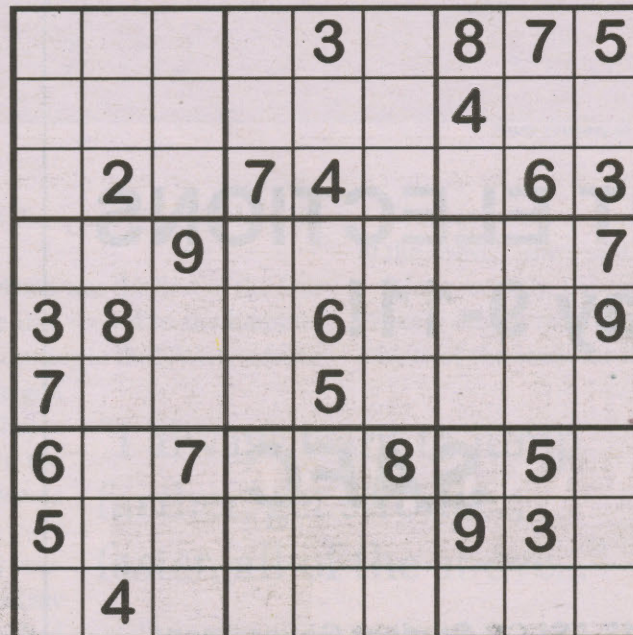
## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| J | A | C | A | D | E | C | I | B | A | N |
| A | D | A | M | E | X | E | A | L | A | E |
| D | E | M | E | A | N | O | R | L | A | R |
| E | N | E | P | I | D | A | N | N | E | P |
|   |   | B | I | M |   | M | E | A | D |   |
| A | T | A | L | A |   | N | I | B | L | I |
| B | A | B | A | W | A | C |   | I | S | A |
| S | O | U | R | S | O | P |   | S | E | H |
|   |   | N | E | A | R |   | I | N | N |   |
| F | A | D |   | I | N | O | N | U |   | A |
| A | G | A |   |   | O | U | T | B | R | E |
| L | A | N | A |   | U | S | E |   | A | R |
| A | L | T | I |   | T | E | R |   | J | I |

- Shore
- Mulberry of India
- Exclamation
- Sea (Fr.)
- Axillary
- Tree
- New sugarcane shoot
- Mountain nymph
- Berne's river
- Down with (Fr., 2 words)
- Freezing (pref.)
- Bookbinding style
- Pale brown
- Maple genus
- Arabian judge
- Ran
- Created
- Kind
- Sip
- Heroic
- Dull yellowish brown
- Daredevil Knievel
- Peace of mind
- Weaken
- Silkworm disease
- Bobbsey twins
- Genetic letters
- A (Ger.)



## Sudoku



Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9

Note: there is only one valid solution to each puzzle

## Answer to Sudoku

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 9 | 5 |
| 9 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 6 |
| 8 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 7 | 4 |
| 2 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 3 |
| 6 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 9 |
| 3 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 2 |
| 5 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 7 |
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# OPINION

## DON'T DRINK THE HEMLOCK Save Philosophy and Religion at LCC

The Administration at Lane Community College has proposed virtually eliminating the Philosophy and Religion program in order to balance the budget. From a financial standpoint, it doesn't make much sense. As a full-time instructor of 17 years, my "break-even" is 13 students. For some part-time faculty, the number is 6. Class sizes are either 30 or 40. I actually make a profit for the college through tuition alone, apart from State funding.

Due to some logistical issues having nothing to do with demand, our enrollment has been down a little more than other Social Science disciplines, but we've gotten it back up. This term we're filled to 93% capacity, and I'm submitting a plan for keeping these numbers up as we move forward.

But what's disturbing to me, and ought to be disturbing to everyone, is the idea of getting rid of Philosophy and Religion to close a budget gap. Certainly college is about preparing for work. Lane has many professional and technical programs which serve that function. But college is about more than finding a job. It's about learning how to think critically, wrestling with ultimate questions, understanding the world and being a well-rounded human being. As Winston Churchill put it, "The first duty of the university is to teach wisdom, not a trade; character, not technicalities. We want a lot of engineers in the modern world, but we do not want a world of engineers."

Philosophy is, literally, "the love of wisdom," and the original academic discipline. Philosophers use data from the sciences, art, literature and human experience to draw conclusions about the nature of knowledge, reality and moral value. Philosophy teaches broad, conceptual thinking. It also directly addresses Lane's first two "Core Learning Outcomes" of (1) Think critically and (2) Engage diverse values with civic and ethical awareness.

The academic study of religion is essential to understanding history, culture and modern geo-politics. You cannot understand the rise of ISIS, the migrant crisis in Europe, or the attitudes of American evangelicals about gay rights and abortion without understanding religion. And the study of religion, particularly non-Western religions, has the added benefit of cultivating tolerance and understanding of those different from us.

Eastern religions contain "wisdom teachings" which are what I like to call "practical philosophy." The Hindu concept of "detachment" suggests a way of living without lurching back and forth between hope and fear. "Mindfulness" is at the heart of a large and growing therapeutic movement in psychology. Our Buddhist Meditation Traditions course offers students lifelong techniques for dealing with the pressures of modern life. These are things which will be with students long after they've forgotten that mitochondria are the powerhouse of the cell or how to use the quadratic equation.

If the Administration has its way, Lane will be left with at most two philosophy courses a term and no religion courses. I, a tenured faculty member, will lose my job; they can't fire me, but they can eliminate my position.

It is disappointing, but not surprising, that no real management cuts are being proposed. The Faculty Association has an alternative proposal, which balances the budget in part by restructuring management, giving faculty greater responsibility in governing the college. This offers a long-term solution; lopping off major academic disciplines does not.

Half the courses I teach are online, reaching beyond Lane's limited local pool of students. They also reach people who otherwise wouldn't be in college: students with young children or those who have found work in an

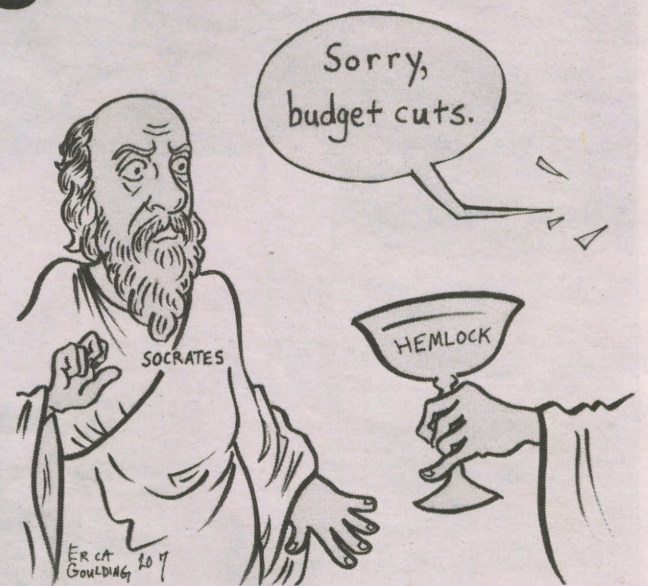


Illustration courtesy of Erica Goulding

improving economy, but want to continue their education. The administration would be wise to use people like me as a resource for expanding enrollment and thus, revenues, rather than cutting us.

College is more than vocational skills. It is about learning how to think, developing an appreciation for intellectual issues and understanding ethical and civic virtue.

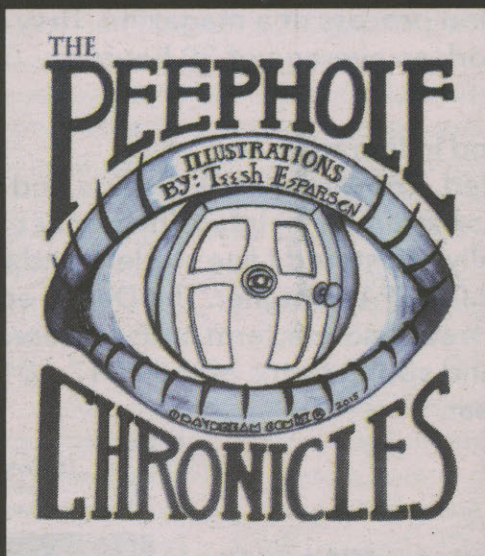
Seventeen years ago, when I first came to Lane, the Administration put forth this same poisonous prescription. The Board rejected it. Since then the Philosophy and Religion program has continued to transform student lives.

Don't drink the hemlock. Urge the Board of Education to save the Philosophy and Religion Program at LCC.

**JEFFREY BORROWDALE**  
FACULTY INSTRUCTOR AND COORDINATOR FOR THE  
PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION PROGRAM

Statements and opinions expressed in these articles and illustrations are solely of the author and may or may not be shared by the management and staff of The Torch.

## PEOPLE YOU NEVER WANT TO SEE



AT  
YOUR FRONT DOOR

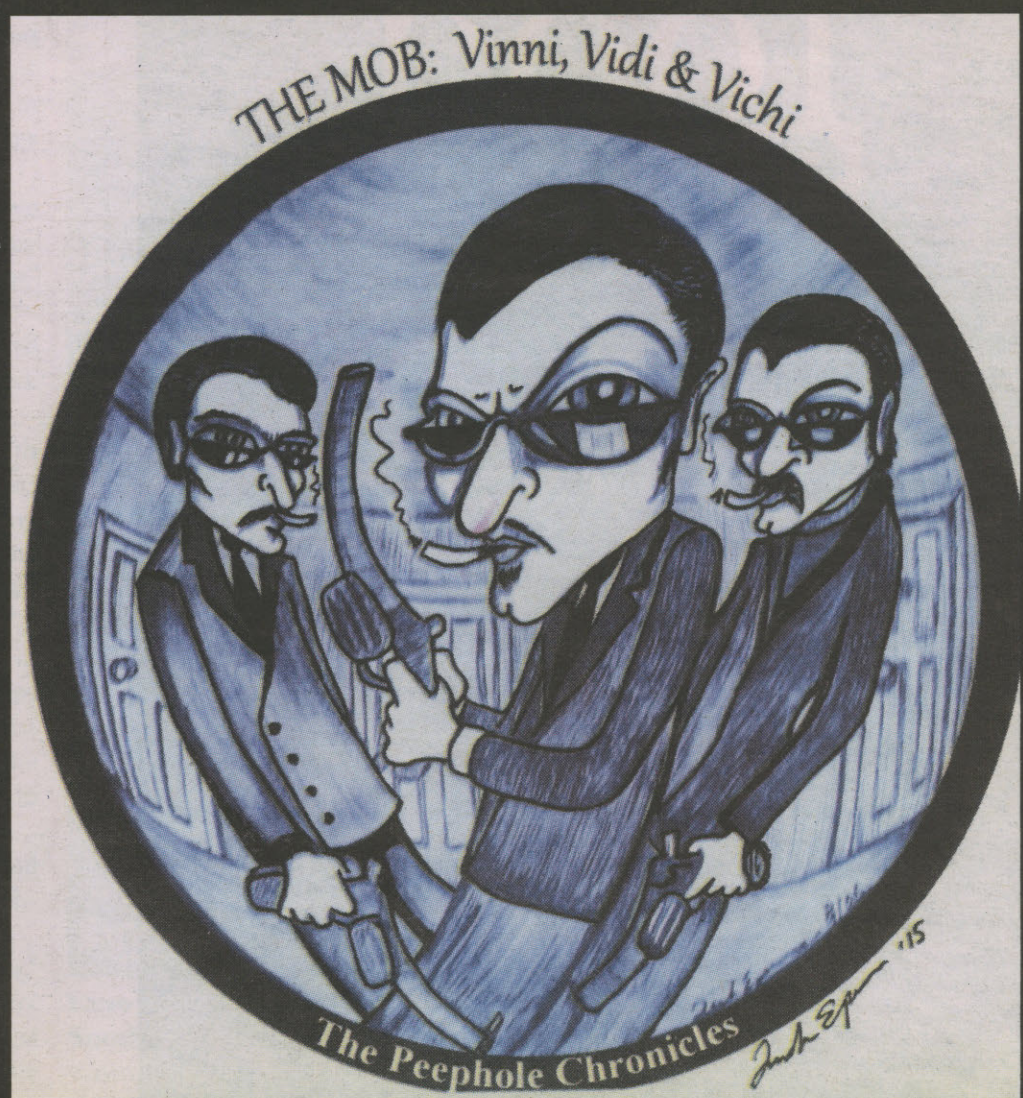


Illustration by Teesh Esparsen

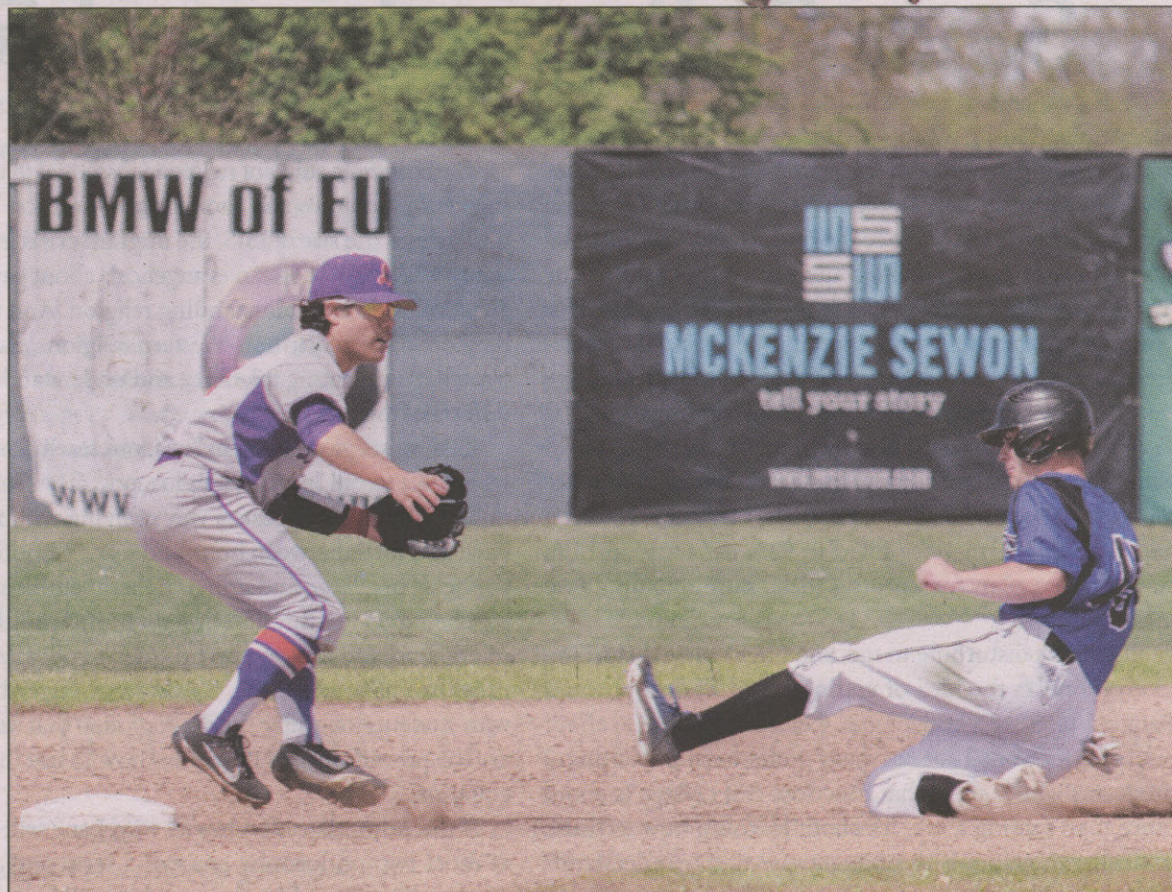
## SPORTS



Photos by Christopher Palanuk / Photo Editor

**Lane pitcher Kyle Keith** talks with catcher Jimmy McDonald on the pitcher's mound during the top of the second inning in game one at Lane's baseball field. Keith, a sophomore who just signed with the Southern Mississippi Golden Eagles, made five strikeouts. Clinching the first game in the bottom of the seventh inning, the Lane Titans defeated the Linfield JV Wildcats 6-5.

## Wash for Wildcats



**Lane left fielder Colton Sakamoto** slides into second as Wildcat outfielder Kaho'ea Akau scrambles as he looks for the ball during the bottom of the third inning at Lane's baseball field. Sakamoto, a freshman from Portland, Oregon, had three times at bat, two stolen bases, and one run. The Lane Titans defeated the Wildcats in the second game of a doubleheader with five runs in the first inning, 5-0.

**food scene**  
-eugene-

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The Denali editor selects and manages the 2017-2018 student staff, organizes a production schedule and has the final word on all matters concerning the magazine.

They must have a concrete understanding of, or the commitment to learn, the technical skills of the production process of a magazine. They can expect to work an average of 20 hours per week.

A background in literature and art is recommended. Knowledge of InDesign and Photoshop is extremely helpful. The editor must be an officially registered Lane student and must maintain a 2.00 GPA or higher. The Denali editor will be paid a stipend per term and will serve fall, winter and spring terms of the 2017-2018 academic year.

**Applications for 2017-2018**  
are available online

**Due** Friday, May 5 at Midnight

[www.lanec.edu/llc/denali/denali-editor-application](http://www.lanec.edu/llc/denali/denali-editor-application)

