

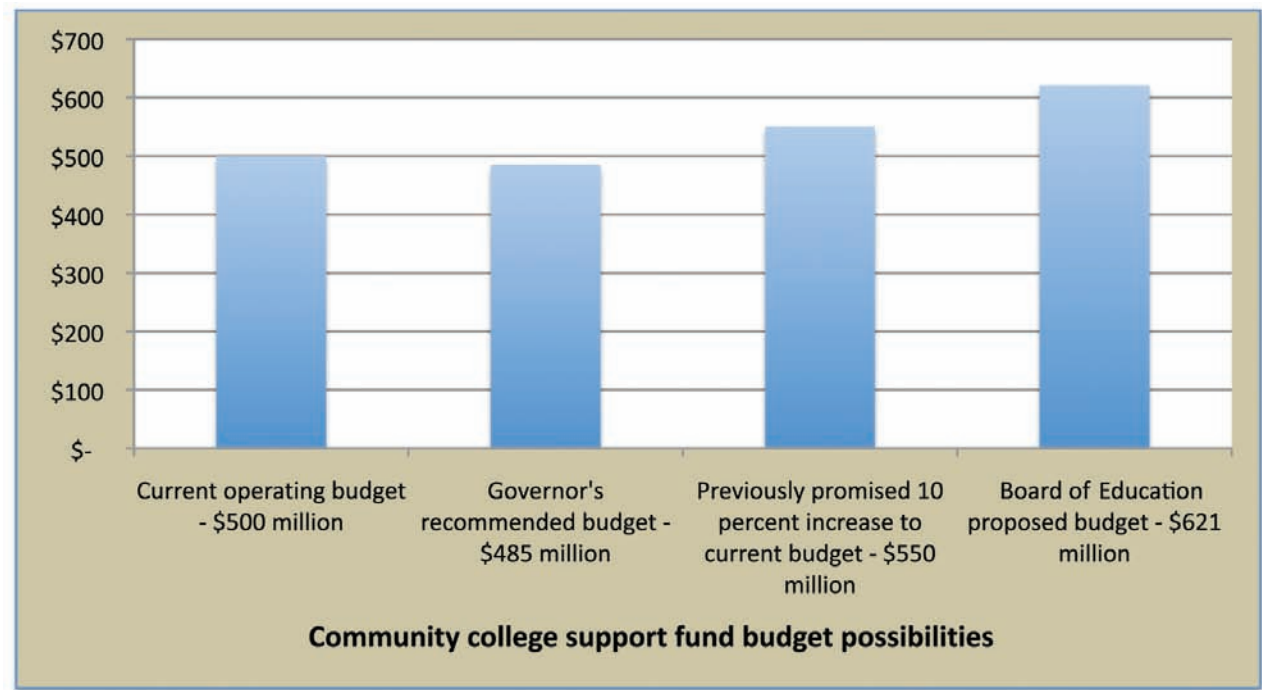


LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SINCE 1964

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JANUARY 15, 2009



State budget projects problems for Oregon community colleges

College reacts to Governor Kulongoski's financial proposal to reduce funding by \$15 million including \$2 million for LCC

By TARYN ACKELSON
News Editor

LCC President Mary Spilde told staff to "prepare for the worst" and "work for the best" after the publication of the governor's recommended budget for 2009-11 proposed a three percent decrease for the Community College Support Fund. This would send the fund, which supports 17 colleges statewide, plunging from the current operating level of \$500 million to \$485 million.

The reduction forecasts tightened purse strings in a time when the economy is already placing a strain on LCC, which made \$737,000 in budget reductions after

state-ordered cuts were issued due to revenue loss.

If the proposed budget is adopted, LCC would see losses of at least \$2 million. Presently, Spilde aims to maintain the current staffing level and recommends no immediate reduction in staff or services due to the slimmed down budget.

Public schools, grades kindergarten through 12 and the Oregon University System received increased budgets as proposed by the governor for the next biennium.

"The governor's budget is only a starting place and it is clear that we have a lot of work ahead of us in the legislative session," Spilde stated.

During the upcoming legislative session, Governmental and Community Relations Coordinator Brett Rowlett will advocate for LCC by coordinating lobbying efforts to increase state funding for the Community College Support Fund. The CCSF "helps keep tuition down," he said.

Rowlett will work with the classified employees and faculty unions, management and student groups throughout the legislative session to voice the LCC's needs to legislators. Student stories are "taken seriously by legislators," Rowlett said. He added that legislators want to hear from students on issues they feel are

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Women's team starts strong in preseason games

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Men's team looks forward, learns from non-conference play

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LCC ticket-purchasing options move online

Department institutes new Internet-based services

By LANA BOLES
Editor in Chief

Gone are the days of phoning the college box office for advance tickets. As of Jan. 15, tickets for LCC's annual Oregon Jazz Festival Show can be purchased online. After that, Godspell tickets can be bought online, as well as Collaborations tickets, and so on.

By accessing the LCC website, anyone can buy tickets through the Performing Arts page or at <http://lanecc.edu/tickets>. E-mail receipts need to be printed to serve as the ticket.

In the past, advance tickets were purchased over the phone, which sometimes left individuals at the mercy of the answering machine and staff availability.

"It's the 21-century way of doing things, you can buy every-

See Online box office, Page 14



Advance tickets to LCC performing arts events can now be purchased online via <http://lanecc.edu/tickets>. Photo illustration by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

Bond planning moves ahead

College begins scheduling, sequencing of projects

By WILLA BAUMAN
Managing Editor

After Lane County voters passed LCC's much hoped-for Bond measure on Nov. 4, the college has had little time to celebrate. Now it's time to decide what specifically to do with the money.

LCC President Mary Spilde explained that the college is preparing several documents to address to the Board of Education concerning the sequencing of LCC's prospective renovations. "We're working with the bond council on the timing for selling the bonds, we're working on our decision-making

See Bond update, Page 15

Hit and Miss superhero small talk

by Kenneth Ashcraft



The Torch

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The official student-managed newspaper of Lane Community College is published every Thursday. Up to two copies per person per issue of The Torch are free; each additional copy is \$2.

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

Letters to the Editor

Economic fix needed

I am a retired economics instructor and I serve on three different budget committees, one of which is the budget committee for Lane Community College.

As both an economist and a budget committee member, I am very disappointed that the governor's budget shows an increase for both K-12 and the universities but not for Oregon's 17 community colleges.

Oregon presently has one of the nation's highest unemployment rates as reported in the media, but the figures do not tell us what type of unemployment we are having and what is needed to reduce it. There are two major

types of unemployment. One is CYCLICAL which goes up and down depending upon whether the economy is in a recessionary or expansionary part of the cycle. Since the U.S. and Oregon are in the recessionary phase of the cycle the cure is to use expansionary fiscal policy and that is what the U.S. Congress is doing. However, there is a second major type of unemployment called STRUCTURAL, which will not be cured by this type of policy because it occurs when people are unemployed because they lack marketable skills. The best way to reduce structural unemployment is to retrain people, and that is exactly what Oregon's 17 community colleges are the best-equipped part of Oregon's education system to do. As an

example, one of the few areas of employment that is growing in Oregon is in the health industry. Lane Community College offers a wide variety of such courses.

The Oregon Legislature is now in session and if you want to help Lane and other community colleges get more money for workforce development, I would suggest that you contact Brett Rowlett, the Director of Government and Community Relations for Lane Community College. His telephone number is (541) 463-5850 and his e-mail is rowlett@lanecc.edu. He can tell you who to contact in Salem.

G. Dennis Shine
Springfield, Ore.

ASK THE TORCH

I am psyched for the upcoming inauguration. But I voted for McCain.

Despite this, I am glad that the country has a clear winner chosen by the people with no chance of a prolonged debacle to recount and recount. You know, like what went on in Minnesota.

If people actually talked to me, they would know that even though my candidate did not win, I did not take it personally and am quite excited for the change that is coming in Washington politics (hopefully).

So with all of this in mind, why do people give me crap about supporting McCain? The election is over. Obama Won. I personally made sure that I did not condemn people who voted for Obama and my friends can attest to this. So what is the point in rubbing it in my face? Was this country not built on the proposition that all men are created equal? Is this really the method local Obama supporters want to use to bring both sides to the table?

I thought this only happened with politics in Washington, you know, unlike how here those actions and words can have a meaning?

Sincerely,
Annoyed

Annoyed,

The blunt truth is, politics are all about good old fashion flip-flopping. So, stand by your right to change your mind. After all, as Americans we have several rights that allow us to think, speak out and write on our opinions, even when we change them.

After a horse race, it's poor sport to rub dung in the face of those who bet on losing ponies. I'm glad you saw this and held back any desire to fire back.

To local loyal Obama supporters and critics: I sincerely hope that everyone is able to take on a new attitude as we anticipate the inauguration of President-Elect Barack Obama on Jan. 20.

Taryn Ackelson

As annoying as it may be, Annoyed, people love to stick their noses in other peoples' business. I really think the best way to deal with this kind of behavior is to shrug it off. Let them say what they want, who cares? You know you supported your candidate all the way, that's all that matters. Once they see they're not getting to you, they usually stop.

But remember the election is over now. It's no one's business but your own to know who your vote went to. If you know you will get that kind of reaction from people but tell them who you voted for anyway, you can't really blame them.

Dillon Blanks

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

Bacon & Egg

believe that my model can accurately estimate the time gross of a successful book adaptation based on the opening weekend gross. The film takes a similar result to the opening gross (w/ the same time

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Cartoon by TOMMY HARBOUR/The Torch

UO advisers offer transfer resources

One-on-one sessions provide LCC students with tools for transition

By **TARYN ACKELSON**
News Editor

Partnership between LCC and the University of Oregon academic advising and counseling services build connections and bridge the gap for transfer students planning to attend UO.

For the past three years, UO advisers have come regularly to LCC's Main Campus Counseling Office in Building 1 to speak with students about making the academic switch.

"We feel fortunate to be able to work closely with the advisers and

counselors at Lane," UO Academic Adviser Terrie Minner said.

The one-on-one sessions take place once a month, and twice a month in the spring. They provide LCC students with opportunities to address individual questions and concerns about transferring with UO advisers.

Each year a representative from a different area of the university is added to the service. This has included UO admissions advisers, financial aid advisers and a representative from the UO Multicultural Center.

"We can help students address the multiple issues they're looking at as they're preparing to transfer," LCC Math and Science Academic Adviser Shirley Lukacs said.

Minner believes there is great importance in creating and maintaining connections with community college students as they make the switch to a four-year university. "The students that feel more connected are often more successful," Minner said.

The most common issues addressed include aid in completing admissions forms, classes required for transferring and deadlines for admissions and scholarships. The UO adviser is able to walk students through the process of filling out admissions applications.

Minner feels that community college students are not always informed of important deadlines like March 15, which is the last day to submit applications in order to receive eligibility for Transfer Day on May 18. Transfer Day will include academic advising, orientation and the opportunity for early registration. The orientation is available to transfer applicants accepted for Fall term, but they must submit applications by the deadline to sign up for the service and register before the incoming freshmen class and other new students.

"I always encourage students to visit with the advisers at the institution they're going to transfer to. You should always double check

UO ACADEMIC ADVISERS WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE FOLLOWING TUESDAYS

Jan. 20
Feb. 3
Feb. 10
March 10
April 14
April 28
May 12
May 26

To schedule an appointment visit the Counseling Office in Building 1

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

March 15
Fall 2009 admissions applications must be in to qualify for Transfer Day

May 18
Transfer Day for students admitted for Fall 2009

with what your adviser is saying to make sure everything's lining up the way you expect it to," Lukacs said.

The service is free for LCC students. Appointments to meet with

the UO advisers can be made at the Counseling Office front desk. Students who have not scheduled an appointment may be able to speak with the adviser on a walk-in basis depending on time and availability.

Living Voices: history brought to life

Actress, teacher presents stories of immigrants, women's rights, Anne Frank

By **TARYN ACKELSON**
News Editor

A picture is worth 1,000 words. How valuable does that make a performance that combines technology, spoken word, visual aids and historical facts?

Teaching artist and actress Susanna Burney blended all of these devices in three performances at LCC on Tuesday, Jan. 13, as part of Living Voices.

The event, co-sponsored by the LCC Diversity Council, Women's Program, Student

Life and Leadership and the Office of Diversity brought Burney to Main Campus as part of her short tour through Oregon.

"As far as the Lane Community College population, it's been wonderful. The turnout has been really good, too," Burney said. "All day long it's been a real pleasure. I think it helps when teachers bring their classes."

Discussion was led by a panel of community members following the morning and afternoon performances.

"Through the Eyes of a Friend" featured Burney as Anne Frank's "best friend" in Building 17, Room 308, at 10 a.m. Panel members for this session included Sabena Stark, an author and poet who was raised in a Yiddish-speaking home.

Stark is also the youngest daughter of Nazi internment camp survivors. Charlotte Brown, a Kindertransport survivor, and community members Tova Stabin and Ruth Morgan filled out the morning panel.

Burney presented a more intimate session in the Women's Center at noon as she portrayed Jane Adams's fight for women's suffrage in "Hear My Voice."

"I thought it was lovely. I like how she used media and interacted with it," student Becky Thompson said. "It was very visual and gave more meaning to it." Thompson is part of Ellen Cantor's writing class that attended "Have My Voice."

The 1 p.m. performance was directed back to Building 17 for "The New American."

"I think it's a real, powerful story for Americans because the immigrant story in American history is really the history of America. It goes all the way back to the Mayflower," Burney said. "What I always sort of finish on is, ... 'unless you are 100 percent Native American, you came from someplace else.'"

The panel for discussion following the last performance included Professor Marcela Mendoza of University of Oregon's Anthropology

Department and Guadalupe Paz, an immigrant activist with CAUSA, Oregon's immigrant rights coalition.

The Living Voices programs are presented mainly to middle schools and high schools. However, Burney said Living Voices has also performed for many community colleges, universities, community groups and corporate offices.

Burney said she relates to her character, Bridgette, in "The New American" because of her family history.

"I hope that by hearing Bridgette's story, they might think a little bit more about what their own history is and start to maybe get curious about the history of the people around them. And maybe loosen up their concepts, perhaps, of what it means to be an American," Burney said before taking the stage for "The New American."

Burney has been involved with Living Voices since 2002.

Denali is back in business after short hiatus

New editor selected; next issue to come in May

By **TARYN ACKELSON**
News Editor

A new editor has been selected for LCC's student-run Denali Literary Arts Journal after the position remained vacant since it was briefly filled last May. A new issue of the art magazine can be expected the end of May.

The Media Commission, consisting of LCC staff and students, selected Cheri Browne in December as the new editor. Brown worked as copy editor and served on the editorial board for Denali last year.

This is Browne's third year at LCC. She is working toward an Associate of Arts Oregon Transfer degree in creative writing. When she leaves LCC, Browne intends to transfer to the University of Oregon to continue her studies.

Browne interned in Corvallis, Ore. last spring with a nationally circulated publication, Calyx, which publishes women's art and literature.

"Working with [Calyx] and Denali simultaneously last year really

showed me firsthand the art and madness that the publishing world is," Browne said. "I learned a lot and loved it and knew I wanted to do more."

Plans for Denali include involving LCC satellite campuses, local businesses and Lane County at large. "I would like to get Denali's presence back out in the community," Browne said.

Browne feels the general public has forgotten about Denali since it made the switch from publishing once a term to one larger issue each spring. "However, these larger, annual issues allow us to accept more submissions, with a larger word count, and to include more art pieces as well."

The new editor would like to bring fresh ideas to the campus art magazine like tying in local events and "getting a little more high-tech so we can support other art forms as well."

The deadline for submissions has not been set. Browne said to look for fliers and advertisements on campus and around Eugene later this month for more information about submitting pieces.



Cheri Browne
Denali Editor

For more information about involvement with the editorial board, e-mail Denali@lanecc.edu.

Television will soon be switching 'ears'

The nation to make a change from analog to digital

By **DILLON BLANKS**
Features Editor

Television broadcasts will switch

from analog to digital airwaves Feb. 17, making certain televisions unable to pick up a signal. However, there are ways viewers can watch television even with an old set.

Digital television provides the viewer with better picture and sound quality. It also offers a new feature called multicasting, this will allow stations to air separate broadcasts on one channel. ABC, for instance, can air its normal broadcasts on channel nine while using channel 9-1 for

24-hour news, 9-2 for 24-hour weather and 9-3 for 24-hour entertainment shows.

The Federal Communications Commission's digital tuner rule prohibited the manufacturing of televisions without a digital tuner as of March 1, 2007. Television sets made after that date will pick up the digital broadcasts when the switch happens, analog televisions will not. New

See TV switch, Page 15


NAMI Lane County
National Alliance on Mental Illness

FREE • SUPPORT • EDUCATION • ADVOCACY
For families concerned with mental illness issues

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Student groups take an active role in MLK, Jr. celebration, inauguration

BSU and ASLCC sponsor holiday events, awards, sculpture, racial equality, social justice

By NOA STARK
Reporter

Celebrations of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life will take place Monday, Jan. 19. LCC students, along with local organizations, will be participating in a variety of activities.

LCC's Black Student Union will host an Obama inauguration celebration at the WOW Hall on Saturday, Jan. 17, at 7 p.m. called Living the Dream, Changing the World. This event features Sons of Adam, Yao aka The Champ, DJ! Hero, and Rio of the groups Critical Masters and Parallel Minds.

Mario Parker-Mulligan, internal affairs vice-president for the BSU, said that this event is "to celebrate the influence of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the accomplishment of having someone of color in the presidential office."

"This event is not just a way for the BSU and ASLCC to recoup money, but is also a way to try to get people involved in the community," Parker-Mulligan said.

"It's going to be an all hip-hop

night, so come ready to dance," BSU President Azariah said.

King is an important influence on both Azariah and Parker-Mulligan. "I don't believe the celebration of Martin Luther King Day would be as big of a celebration as it is this year," Parker-Mulligan said. "Dr. King opened the door, and Obama stepped through."

The celebration called Generations: Honoring Our Past, Celebrating the Present, Building for the Future, is sponsored by LCC, the University of Oregon BSU, the City of Eugene, Lane Transit District and the Eugene branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, according to Parker-Mulligan. The event begins with a march through downtown Eugene.

The march begins at 10 a.m. at the Moshofsky Center at Autzen Stadium and will end at the Hult Center. Buses will transport participants from the Hult Center back to the UO campus.

At noon, LTD will rename Eugene Station Plaza after Rosa Parks and a sculpture of Parks — constructed by Pete Helzer — will be unveiled at the downtown station, located at 10th Avenue and Olive Street.

"ASLCC and the BSU donated \$1,250 each to the creation and erection of this artwork," Parker-Mulligan said. Further funding was provided by the Lane Foundation and LTD.

To close the celebration, the Lane Foundation, ASLCC and the BSU will hold a silent auction and reception at the Hult Center.

This event will begin at 4 p.m. followed by a presentation at 6 p.m. by John Edelman, founder of Stand for Children. During this event, presentations will be made for two ASLCC awards and one BSU award.

Students, staff and community members submitted nominations for the 2009 Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards. Information included the name of the person or organization being nominated, a description of how the work of that individual or organization reflected King's efforts for racial equality and social justice, and a brief explanation why the nominator believed this person or organization deserved the award. The names of the award winners will not be disclosed until Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

All events are free and open to the public.

Illustration by CURTIS McCAIN/The Torch

CALENDAR

SATURDAY, JAN. 17

7 p.m.

Living the Dream, Changing the World — A Hip-Hop Celebration the WOW Hall

Performances by:

Sons of Adam
Rio of Critical Masters and Parallel Minds
DJ! Hero
Yao aka The Champ

Admission: \$5 general public
The event is for ages 16 and over

MONDAY, JAN. 19

10 a.m.

MLK March
March from the Moshofsky Center at Autzen Stadium to the Hult Center

Noon

Unveiling of the Rosa Parks commemorative sculpture
LTD Eugene Station at 10th Avenue and Olive Street

2-4 p.m.

City of Springfield's 11th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Contest and Celebration
Springfield Middle School at 1084 G St.

4-5:30 p.m.

24th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration
Generations: Honoring Our Past, Celebrating the Present, Building for the Future
Silent auction and reception
Hult Center

6 p.m.

Program including keynote speaker Jonah Edelman, founder of Stand for Children
Martin Luther King, Jr. award presentations by ASLCC and BSU
Hult Center

LCC will be closed for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Technology enters the world of art

LCC's art gallery gets a taste of 'non-static' art in student show

By BENNETT MOHLER
Arts Editor

Don't hesitate to sit down and try out the video game on display at LCC's Art and Applied Design Art Gallery. It's all part of the interactive experience that the Multimedia Design Student Show is trying to encourage.

"It's a mixed media show," Media Arts Department Coordinator Rick Simms said. "The main push is going to be photographs, but we also want to show an interactive approach."

While photographs are prominent in the show, there are four computer monitors set up in the center of the room to display various multimedia pieces. These include short film projects; feature film clips with soundtracks edited by students; and a full-length flash animation video game designed by Gillian Norton.

"Media arts don't get considered in terms of art galleries," Gallery Director Jennifer Salzman said. "It often gets overlooked for its artistic value."

This type of art has never been shown in LCC's art gallery, at least not by students. The gallery is usually dedicated to paintings, sculptures, photographs and other examples of what Simms described as "static art."

"This gives a chance for us to preview students' wonderful works of time-based media," Simms added.

While this interactive art is a new addition to the gallery, it is fairly usual in the multimedia department. There is a student show at the end of the year for multimedia design students in Building 17. This showcase features many more examples of interactive and time-based art. The show at the art gallery offers a small sample to students in the art department who wouldn't normally be exposed to interactive art.

"We hope to get the traditional artist to start thinking of art as not static," Simms said. "Get them to check out our neck of the woods. We're always recruiting."

Salzman agreed with these sentiments, hoping that art students would accept the use of technology as an artistic medium. "My hope is that students look at this show and if they haven't been exposed to technology in art, it'll open that door for them."

The show also features stills from webpages that students have designed themselves.

"Right now we just have photographs of what the pages would look like," Simms explained. "Hopefully by the end of the show, we will literally load the webpage up on the monitors."

The idea for the Multimedia Design Student Show has floated around for the past two years. Due to complications with the previous gallery director, the show could never get off the drawing board. With Salzman as the new gallery di-



LCC's Art and Applied Design Art Gallery Multimedia Design Student Show is a fully interactive experience. Along with photographs, the gallery features four computer stations where patrons can view films and play games created by students of the Media Arts Department. **Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch**

rector, the show quickly became a reality.

"It's great having [Salzman] on board," Simms said. "She's always on top of things."

This will not affect the end of the year multimedia student show. In fact, some of the works featured in the art gallery will be presented at the year-end show.

Simms intends to keep both shows a regular happening at LCC. However, Simms hopes to include more examples of interactive art in the next incarnation of the show.

"I think we'll be adding more computer stations for the next show," Simms said.

For now, examples of art from the multimedia design students can be seen in the LCC Art and Applied Design Art Gallery through Jan. 29. A reception for the show will be held Thursday, Jan. 15, from 4-6 p.m.

"It's been kind of fun to hear students laughing and responding to the art," Salzman said. "It's a nice change of pace to the quiet gallery I'm used to."

"I love the experimental aspect of the whole thing," Simms said. "Seeing how people interact with the art."



Mildred Crow and Amelia Beiderwell check out their fellow student's handiwork. Crow watches an audio replacement project while Beiderwell plays an Invader Zim-themed video game. **Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch**

Dancing in the street

Oregon Ballroom Dance Club expands beyond the ballroom

By BENNETT MOHLER
Arts Editor

It could be in a café, a grocery store, Kesey Square or even at Fifth Street Market — the Guerrilla Dance Project could strike at any time. This underground coalition won't strike in fatigues armed with automatic rifles; these guerrillas spontaneously break out into dance at any time, any place in Eugene.

The group came about in response to a waning interest in the Oregon Ballroom Dance Club. Several members of the club put together the

Guerrilla Dance Project as a way to attract people to both the club and ballroom dancing in general. Richard McConochie, dance student and member of the OBDC, spearheaded the project.

Guerrilla Dance Project is also an attempt to provide participants with a chance to have fun with dance. The project accepts dancers of all levels of skill.

"We'll start dancing wherever we are. It's about encouraging people to dance whenever they feel like it," McConochie said.

While still in its early stages, the Guerrilla Dance Project already has a Google Groups and a Facebook account where McConochie posts upcoming events. The events are usually casual and highly unorganized.

"We'll do public dances that aren't even synchronized. It's just all of us breaking into dance at once. The dance is entertaining in and of

itself," McConochie said.

To join, people can look up the Google group or find the Guerrilla Dance Project on Facebook. The Guerrilla Dance Project hopes to encourage membership through its surprise dance attacks.

"If people see dancing on the street, they can be a part of it. We want them to come up and ask us what we're doing," McConochie said.

The OBDC has been around for 10 years. While it has fared well, the last few years have shown a decrease in membership.

"It's not quite bringing enough people in," McConochie said. "It's tragic it doesn't. It's a really great resource for people in this town."

Whether it gets people to dance on the street or follow up a curiosity in dancing, the Guerrilla Dance Project will continue to spread the joy of dance.



"It's sad it doesn't get more attention. It's a great social networking tool," McConochie said.

There are no specific dates of the project's next performance. Like a rare bird, it will just have to be spotted at the right time in the right place.

"Ballroom dance isn't just a physical activity," McConochie said. "It's a social activity."

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All Ages All the Time

JAN 16 Rev. Peyton's
Big Damn Band

JAN 17 LCC Black
Student Union hosts
"Living the Dream -
Changing the
Future" feat. Rio,
Sons of Adam

JAN 18 As I Lay Dying

JAN 20 Meat Puppets
Shaky Hands

8th & Lincoln • 687-2746

Modern dance trio debuts in Springfield



Photo courtesy of JCB DANCE PROJECT

BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER FROM THREE ANGLES

By **BENNETT MOHLER**

Arts Editor

Emily Joyce, Dorene Carroll and Mandy Barba have a few things in common, two of which are an unfettered passion for dance and LCC alumni status. These three former students are known collectively as the JCB Dance Project and are putting on their first production at the Wildish Community Theater this Friday and Saturday.

"We started thinking about putting a project together so that we could continue our art," Barba said.

The trio met in dance classes at LCC. Joyce and Barba met earlier in Winter term 2000.

"Mandy and I — the very first dance class we took at Lane we took together," Joyce said.

Carroll met the two a few years later in 2004.

"I had already spent a few years at LCC before wandering over to the dance department where I met Mandy and Emily," Carroll said.

Interestingly enough, the trio has had no professional dance experience before attending LCC. Joyce attended LCC to learn Spanish and was drawn into the dance department by curiosity alone.

"I was dancing in underground rave scenes in Chicago," Joyce said, "but nothing serious. I tried a few classes at Lane and suddenly it started taking over my life!"

Dancing had never even

crossed Carroll's mind before attending LCC. She was an art major before attending an evening dance performance for a physical therapy class.

"That was my first exposure to modern dance," Carroll said. "I felt so moved by watching them on stage. That was it for me; I was hooked."

"I had never taken a dance class before I was enrolled at LCC," Barba said. "I had always admired choreography. As soon as I started, I fell in love with the teachers."

They stayed with the program for several years, performing in all three of LCC's dance companies. They all received associate's degrees and transferred to the University of Oregon, where they pursued their bachelor of arts degrees in dance. Carroll and Barba graduated UO in 2007. Joyce took a break from school around the same time.

Since then, the three have remained friends and stayed active in the dance community. Barba now works as a local dancer and choreographer. Carroll is a local dance artist and educator. Joyce has performed in various productions in town. While settled in their art, the three wanted to find a medium to continue to express through dance.

"Last spring, I sat down with Mandy and talked about doing some work since we hadn't done that since we graduated," Carroll said.

As it turns out, Joyce was thinking about putting together a proj-

ect with her former dance partners around the same time.

"I always envisioned doing some collaborative work with them," Joyce said. "It turned out we had a similar intention of getting our artistry out there. I proposed my idea when they were in the same consciousness."

The three decided to take on the ambitious task of putting on a dance concert. The three planned the entire event themselves and put it together with support from UO and the community. The trio was able to raise sufficient funds and find personnel to successfully execute the production. The resulting performance is entitled "Triangulation."

"We started to raise some money to rent a theater through bake sales, outdoor car washes, nothing big," Barba said.

The three also worked in collaboration with UO staff in order to recruit student dancers to participate. Members of the dance community also helped with promoting the event.

"It's nice to have such a wide support group," Carroll said.

The three perceive the production not only as a point of focus for translating their talents into a tangible product, but also as an opportunity for artists in the community to work together to help better express themselves.

"We want to facilitate the growth of young artists, particularly dancers," Barba said.

"Triangulation" will predomi-

nately feature the three co-founders. Barba will be presenting two pieces, "For Love of Bubbles," a light-hearted piece, and "The Undertow," a more dramatic piece. Joyce will be presenting a piece on New York.

"I feel dance is especially important now," Joyce said. "People are moving so much less these days, whether it be driving or sitting at their computers. With this piece I explore everyday movements as dance."

While "Triangulation" has drawn much of the JCB Dance Project's focus, all three members have entertained the idea of continuing their collaboration.

"I feel like this is just the beginning," Joyce said. "I definitely think we all have the interest to keep creating venues to put our work out."

"We're really focused on this now," Carroll said. "But, I'd like to continue working in the same vein we have been with the community."

"Triangulation" will be performed at Wildish Community Theater in Springfield on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 16 and 17, at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the door, \$5 for students and \$10 for general admission.

"We want to build a community through the art of dance," Barba said.

"I see art in our community as really changing the way people see the world," Joyce said. "Art is so important in creating shifts of consciousness."

11th Annual Oregon Jazz Festival sticks to its roots

LCC, UO, special
quests take to
the stage

By **BENNETT MOHLER**
Arts Editor

The Oregon Jazz Festival is the biggest highlight for music students at LCC and has become a highlighted event for members of Eugene's music community. The festival takes place on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 23 and Jan. 24.

"I started the Oregon Jazz Festival 11 years ago in '98," LCC Jazz Ensemble Director Ron Bertucci said.

The festival started off small with only local guest artists participating, although such artists as Gary Versace and John Gross had already been established musicians across the nation.

Back then, the festival was referred to as the Lane Jazz Festival as it only involved the LCC Jazz Ensemble. Five years ago that changed when the University of Oregon became involved by adding its ensemble to the performance.

Before that, UO had its own similar jazz festival entitled the Oregon Jazz Celebration since 1989. UO Jazz Ensemble Director Steve Owen coordinated the event from its inception. The two festivals operated parallel to each other for several years before Owen and Bertucci decided to join forces.

"What I wanted to do was have a jazz festival that wasn't competitive. Ron started up a festival that was very similar. It made a lot of sense to just put them together since our goals



Ron Bertucci began the Lane Jazz Festival in 1998. It wasn't until 2004 that Bertucci and Steve Owen decided to join forces and combine their respective ensembles in what is now called the Oregon Jazz Festival. **Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch**

and interests were so similar," Owen said.

Before the merge, Owen's ensemble participated in the Lane Jazz Festival, as Bertucci's ensemble played in the Oregon Jazz Celebration. It was easier to have both ensembles participate in one big event.

The featured guest artist this year

will be Don Braden, a jazz saxophonist and composer from New York. Braden will be performing with Randy Porter, Dave Captein and Gary Hobbs — the same trio that performed with Luis Bonilla, last year's guest artist.

Last time Braden played in Eugene was the early 1990s.

"It'll be fun to see what he remembers of Eugene," Owen said.

The festival has expanded and attracted bigger and bigger names in the jazz community, but Bertucci insists on keeping the event scaled down to ensure quality.

"It's a big event, as far as bringing in names. We don't want it much bigger," Bertucci said. "We don't want

to interrupt the intimacy between the artists and the students."

"We really try to keep the focus on having fun," Owen said. "We want to keep the artists in touch with the students. We're always trying to find more time between the groups and the clinicians."

The festival doesn't just include performances, but also music clinics and workshops. Several bands ranging from high school ensembles, to college bands, to local performing groups attend the event.

"We have 26 participating bands and two clinicians for each band," Bertucci said.

Bertucci and Owen hope that the number of groups doesn't exceed

much more than this for economic reasons and for the sake of quality time with the artists.

"We'd like more clinics, more one-on-one time for students, and expanded performance length," Owen said.

The last two years, the festival has been held completely at LCC due to construction at the UO campus. In previous years, the performances were held at LCC while the workshops and clinics were held at UO. This wasn't very convenient for the groups involved.

"We are working on keeping everything in the festival in one place," Owen said.

"We're probably looking at alternating the site between UO and Lane each year," Bertucci said.

For this year's festival, the UO and LCC Jazz Ensembles will be performing Friday night in the Performance Hall.

The clinics and workshops will be held during the daytime throughout Building 6 on Saturday. Braden will be performing at the Main Performance Hall Saturday night.

"So far it's been pretty successful," Owen said. "It's always fun trying to bring people to our neck of the woods that the people here wouldn't see otherwise."

"This is a festival that schools look forward to year after year," Bertucci said.

“

It's a big event, as far as bringing in names. We don't want it much bigger," Bertucci said. "We don't want to interrupt the intimacy between the artists and the students."

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— **Ron Bertucci**
LCC Jazz Ensemble Director



Saxophonist Don Braden will be performing in Eugene for the first time in 14 years. **Photo courtesy of JOHN ABBOT**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Institute of Portland • Corban College • Eastern Oregon University • George Fox University • Linfield College • Linfield College — Continuing Education • Marylhurst College • Northwest Christian University • Oregon College of Oriental Medicine • Oregon Institute of Technology 	 <p>THE FOLLOWING COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE IN THE LCC CAFETERIA ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, FROM 10 A.M. - 1 P.M.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oregon State University • Pacific University • Portland State University • Southern Oregon University • University of Idaho • University of Oregon • University of Portland • Western Oregon University • Western States Chiropractic <p><i>In addition:</i> Oregon Scholarship Commission/Ford Family Foundation</p>
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‘Finishing Machine’ isn’t done yet

Former UFC fighter’s life before, during, after the ring

By **DILLON BLANKS**
Features Editor

He worked as a sniper for the United States Marine Corps, competed in 16 professional cage fights, traveled the world to study with martial arts experts, choreographed fight scenes for a Pamela Anderson film and was sponsored to fight by NBC’s former Fear Factor host Joe Rogan. He now owns a Mixed Martial Arts gym in Springfield.

“It was a neat way to do what I loved to do, and still make a living doing it,” former Ultimate Fighting Championship Cage Fighter Gerald Strebendt said. Strebendt owns the Northwest Training Center, a gym designed to teach MMA.

“It’s hard work,” he says. “If you work really hard it’ll come back. You’ll get what you put into it.”

“He’s really nice and he loves people,” Jake Tupper, 11, a student at Strebendt’s gym, said. “He gets along with everybody and if you don’t know something he’ll help you ... he’s pretty much the best guy I’ve ever met.”

Strebendt describes himself as a loner, or a “backwoods kid” when he was enrolled at North Bend High School.

“There’s a lot of teachers that had a big impact on me there that are a big part of my success,” he said. “I was kind of on the fence; I was either gonna go bad or good. It was kind of up in the air, like tossing a coin.”

Rich Armstrong, a retired teacher from North Bend High School, was one of the teachers who had an impact on Strebendt’s life from the moment he grabbed him by the collar and put him to work on his property.

“He used to talk to me about fishing, and I never understood how wonderful it was until I caught my first steelhead. Now we talk about it every day,” Strebendt said of his former teacher.

Strebendt didn’t have a lot of money growing up so he joined the Marines when he was 18 to pursue his education and grow as a person.

“It made me really respect what I have. Like tonight I get to go home and I have a clean warm house to sleep in. Not everybody has that.”

Strebendt worked as a sniper and a platoon sergeant in the Marines. Later, he worked in Afghanistan as a bodyguard and was stationed at a women’s school. Some time after that, the school was burnt to ashes and the principal was murdered.

“I would just like to see people have ... rights across the border,” Strebendt said. “Regardless of who they are [or] where they come from, they should still have a right to an education.”

When Strebendt’s service in the Marines came to an end he needed to find another way earn an income.

He participated in his first cage fight about a month before getting out of the Marines and has continued competing ever since.

“You got to do what you’re good at. I’ve been training in martial arts for a couple years in the marines and I wrestled in high school.”

One day he got a phone call from Frank Shamrock, “one of the best fighters that’s ever lived.” Shamrock asked Strebendt if he could fight in seven days, leaving him little time to prepare. Strebendt accepted the offer, flew to Phoenix, Ariz. and won his first professional cage fight against Aaron Herring.

Strebendt won a number of fights after that, usually within the first round, earning his nickname, “Fin-

ishing Machine,” from trainer Eddie Bravo.

Strebendt trained in Hollywood under Bravo’s instruction and received financial support from Rogan to fund his training.

Strebendt befriended Pamela Anderson’s brother, Jerry Anderson, and got a “big culture shock” when he surfed with him in Malibu by her house. Through that connection, he was able to choreograph and act in some fight scenes for her movie “No Rules.”

Strebendt has fought in 16 professional cage fights, and for him they don’t get any easier.

Strebendt’s been injured on more than one occasion. He’s had his knees torn and has gone in for surgery. He can feel bone chips floating around in his elbows and shins from Thai boxing.

“My body’s telling me ‘stop,’ and my hearts telling me ‘no, you can still do one more fight.’” Despite the physical toll MMA has taken on Strebendt’s body, he continues to practice the sport. He makes more money with every fight, owns a gym based on MMA, and has a 20-person fighting team.

“I feel an obligation to show them I’m still in the game; I’m still in the top food chain of my weight class. I’ve got that feeling of obligation, so that’s why I keep fighting.” Strebendt has a lot of responsibility running his gym, so his fighters help with classes. Occasionally, he gets the chance to take a break and go fishing. He fishes from southern Coos Bay to northern California.

“It’s just the most wonderful thing I’ve discovered, steelhead fishing. That’s what I do to get away ... when I come back I’m refreshed and ready to train again.”

Strebendt has won his share of fights, but he’s also lost some. One major loss was against Sean Sherk for the UFC world title in the extreme challenge. Sherk was the UFC champion in the 155-pound weight class. Strebendt flew out to Sherk’s hometown in Minnesota for the fight.

“I got beat senseless for four minutes,” he said. “The crowd was cussin’ me. It was rough. It was hostile.



Gerald Strebendt coaches a student on fighting techniques. Strebendt has a 20-person fight team which that competes in cage-fighting matches. **Photo by BEN LUNDBERG/The Torch**

But I walked out to ‘Sweet Emotion’ by Aerosmith, so that was pretty cool; I got a little respect from the crowd for that.” Going into other fights Strebendt felt more comfortable, since he’s “been in there with the worst.”

Strebendt lost a match by knockout against Josh Thompson. When Thompson hit him with a spinning back fist to the temple Strebendt tried to stay standing but lost his balance and fell down. Thompson then chased Strebendt around on the floor, wailing on him as he tried to roll away. When the referee pulled Strebendt to his feet and asked if he was okay, he replied by saying “yeah, what happened?” Hence, the knockout.

Strebendt has had his share of wins during his fighting career. He described one fight where he was “cuttin’ ‘em loose” on another fighter. The referee was forced to stop the fight since Strebendt had “beat the man out of his mind,” and won with a technical knockout.

“When your adrenaline is going full speed ... there’s a flash of light and a sting of pain but it’s not what you would think watching it.”

“It’s exciting, it’s the only real sport there is,” Strebendt said. “When you watch cage fighting it doesn’t get any more real than that ... people fight and the right person always wins.”

“Going through the army and

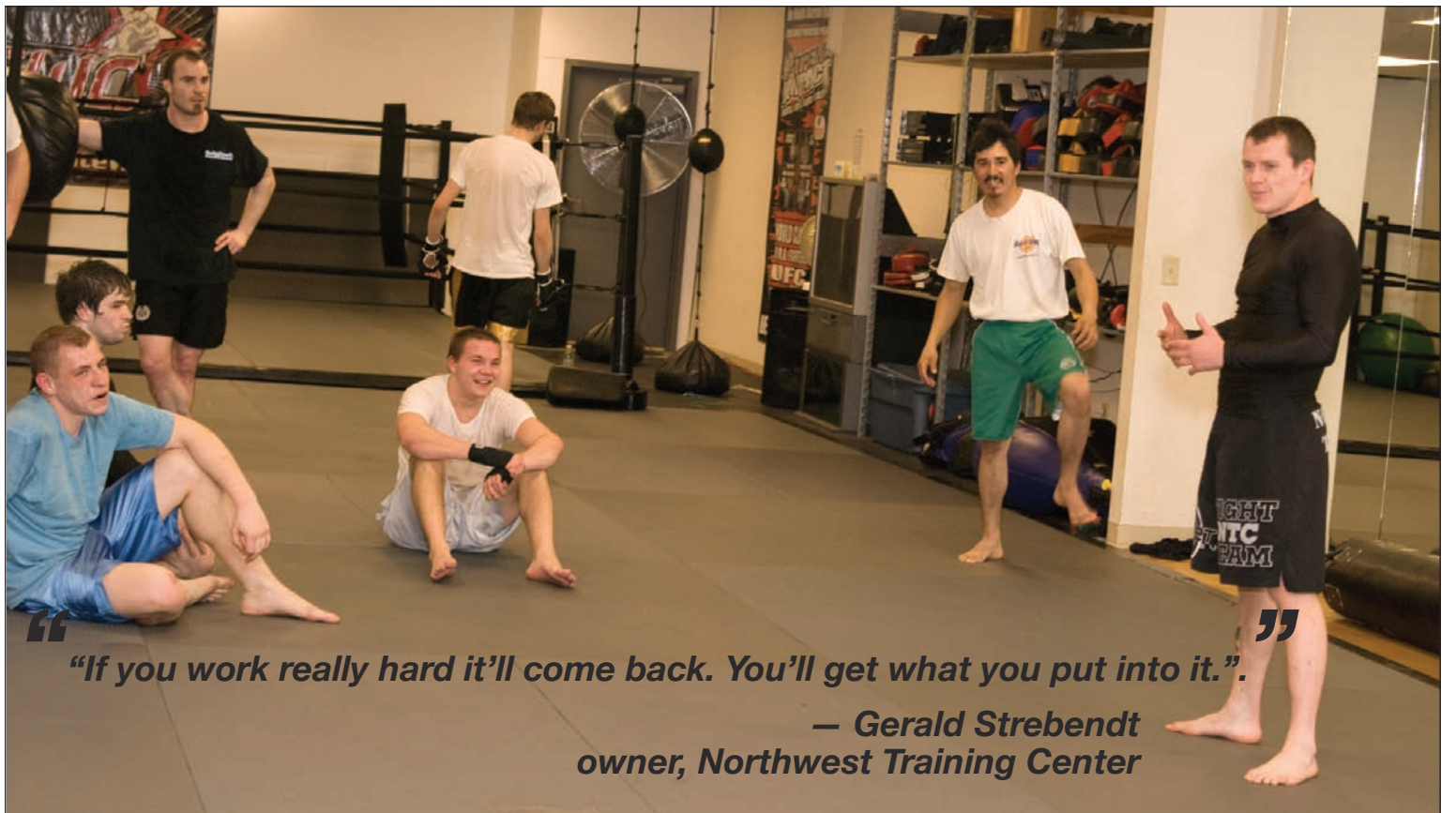
the things he’s gone through; people should really look up to somebody like that,” Northwest Training Center student Mike Dewitt, 22, said. “The things that he’s accomplished just in fighting are very significant.”

Strebendt is taking geography and a wilderness first aid course at LCC. He isn’t working toward a degree but will receive Red Cross certifications for his first aid course.

“More than anything, I’m just doing it to have fun,” he said.

Strebendt has been to many countries all over the world, but his favorite place is southern Oregon.

“If I had my choice I would live in Port Orford, on a ranch,” he said. “And wear cowboy boots.”



“If you work really hard it’ll come back. You’ll get what you put into it.”

— Gerald Strebendt
owner, Northwest Training Center

At Strebendt’s gym, Northwest Training Center, students listen attentively to instructions on cage fighting technique. Strebendt is taking two courses at LCC. **Photo by BEN LUNDBERG/The Torch**



Lone officer patrols the parking lots and empty buildings after dark

As the only public safety officer on his shift, it's Bill Speicher's job to check every nook and cranny of the LCC Main Campus, a task made all the more dangerous by his solitude. From 3 p.m. to 1 a.m. he handles all public safety responsibilities including monitoring the heating systems. **Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch**

Working on the night shift

By **JB BOTWINICK**
Photo Editor

Providing safety and protection for thousands of students, staff and faculty on a 60-acre campus can be a daunting task. With people in need of help with everything from a dead car battery to a life-threatening emergency, a lot of responsibility falls on LCC's Public Safety department. From 3 p.m. to 1 a.m., Wednesday through Sunday, that responsibility falls squarely on the shoulders of Bill Speicher.

Speicher has been a public safety officer at LCC for five years. He was hired shortly after he retired from the Eugene Police Department after a 21-year career as a police officer. Speicher first got involved in law enforcement when — after finishing a term of service in the Air Force — he was reminded of the famous quote by John F. Kennedy, "ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country."

"I saw a great deal of social strife in America at that time," Speicher said. "I had just gotten out of the service and was looking for a career and I remembered what John Kennedy said and I said, 'well, maybe I can make a difference.'"

Working an after-hours swing shift is not always a cheery prospect. The campus is a drastically different place at night. With most people at home, the atmosphere is in stark contrast to the normal hustle and bustle. Although there are less people at LCC after hours, the swing shift can be one of the busiest times of the day for public safety as well as the most dangerous. Armed with only a flashlight, pepper spray and an expanding baton, Speicher single handedly responds to all calls as the only officer on this shift.

Most officers work the day shift to handle

the multitude of people on campus and one or two work the swing and graveyard shifts. Unfortunately, one or two officers usually end up being just one.

During an average workday, Speicher patrols the entire campus. He makes regular checks on the parking lots and service roads, patrols the center of the campus and checks every door of every building.

All this is done between calls, which range from helping an instructor get into a building to apprehending suspected criminals.

Facing any law enforcement situation can be extremely dangerous. For Speicher it is even more dangerous because he faces it alone. "You have to get creative with how you deal with certain situations because you know you don't have anybody to help you," Speicher said. "You're here by yourself, dealing with someone who has the potential of doing great bodily injury to you, and it's disquieting to be in that situation, but you just have to deal with it."

In one potentially dangerous situation, Speicher spotted several individuals dressed in black on an ATV making their way towards an LCC building. With headlights off, Speicher

was only able to spot them by the brake lights as they drove through a parking lot. He tailed the ATV to an area where Facilities, Management, and Planning kept a large receptacle for copper wire, and turned on his overhead lights in an attempt to stop the would-be thieves. After a high-speed chase, the ATV made its way to the wooded area surrounding LCC and made an off-road escape.

After comparing notes with a representative from Bonneville Power, Speicher found that Bonneville Power had been the victim of copper wire thefts, perpetrated by individuals riding in from the woods on an ATV.

Although happy to prevent a theft, Speicher wonders if giving chase was a good idea. "If I would have stopped them, who knows if they were armed or not? I don't know what they would have done," Speicher said.

With situations like this occurring, Speicher and the rest of Public Safety have asked for more help from LCC's administration. "We — I'm speaking for all of the public safety officers — we don't feel like we have adequate equipment for what we have to contend with. We don't feel that we have adequate updated training, and we are way understaffed. There

“ You have to get creative with how you deal with certain situations because you know you don't have anybody to help you. ”

**— Bill Speicher
Public Safety Officer**



Speicher returns to his vehicle after assisting a student with car trouble. **Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch**

should be at least two [public safety officers] here," Speicher said.

According to Speicher, the current working environment at the Public Safety department has affected how many officers are willing to continue working for LCC. He cites the resignation of a highly qualified officer who left LCC for Portland Community College after deciding that the conditions were not safe.

While unhappy with current conditions, Speicher continues to perform his duties to the best of his abilities. Providing safety and protection for an entire campus is a very large responsibility for just one person, but whether he is surrounded by fellow officers or on his own, he said he would continue to serve and protect LCC and his community just as he has for the past 26 years.

Two alternative ways to watch television

LCD and plasma televisions offer viewers different features

By **DILLON BLANKS**
Features Editor

Analog airwaves will switch to digital Feb. 17, 2009. Liquid crystal display and plasma televisions built after March 1, 2007, have a digital tuner and are ready for the switch. Analog TVs don't have a digital tuner,

but will work with an analog-to-digital converter box.

LCD televisions use the same liquid crystal display technology as in cell phones, camcorder viewfinders and computer monitors. LCDs use backlighting to bring up the image so they work best in a well-lit room. With LCD television the viewer won't see a glare on the screen even in bright indoor settings.

If the LCD is viewed at an angle the viewer will see a gray, washed-out effect on the screen. LCDs often blur fast moving objects on the screen. For example, if the viewer watches a golf game it may appear as though a white blur is moving across the screen in-

stead of a golf ball. Because of this, plasma televisions are better suited for watching sports.

"LCD televisions are smaller if you're looking for a smaller TV," Circuit City Home Theatre Professional Andrew Lewis said. "Plasmas usually don't start until about the 37-inch range."

Plasma televisions are best for viewers who like a cinematic display. Plasma has a higher contrast than LCD TV. Plasma televisions produce colors from the deepest blacks to the brightest whites. They're slightly less expensive than LCDs, are thin, slick and can be mounted on a wall or sit on a table.

Although Plasma defect rates are at an all-time low, they still have problems with ghost images. If a still picture is left on the screen for too long — like when a game is put on pause for instance — it leaves traces of the image when the viewer watches other things.

"Plasmas have the best colors, and are better with motion," Lewis said. "LCD's are brighter and better for high light situations. They don't reflect light and they use less energy."

Since Plasma TV's are self-lit, they use more energy, making them produce more heat. Plasma's use the most energy when displaying bright images like whites, this sometimes

makes the television produce an audible whining sound.

Plasma televisions don't appear dim when viewed from off-center like LCD's do. Since the plasma's light is self-powered, a glare can appear on the screen in a well-lit room, whereas LCDs don't have this problem.

"It's based off of what room you watch it in," Lewis said. "If you have a bright room you definitely want to put an LCD in it."

Prices for Plasma televisions have fallen more than 30 percent over the last two years. LCD manufacturers produce a lot of small sets, while plasmas are made in larger screen sizes.

Slow start for Titans puts team in a tough spot

Team now winless through first three conference games

By TYLER PELL
Sports Editor

The road to the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges tournament just got that much tougher for the men's basketball team. After a less than stellar preseason, the Titan's first three conference games have left them with a disappointing 0-3 record.

The Titans kicked off the conference schedule with a disappointing 64-61 overtime loss against rival Linn-Benton Community College. The tough loss was apparently still hanging over the Titans head when they took on Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham. LCC shot just 32 percent from the field and the Saints annihilated the Titans, 90-47. In Wednesday's home game against the Southwestern Oregon Community College Lakers the Titans struggles continued. The team scored just 61 points and they suffered yet another double-digit loss.

"Overtime loss to Linn-Benton on the road, was tough. It was a tale of two halves. First half we played great defense, held them to 16 points, second half we were pretty flat, and we got tight," Head Coach Bruce Chavka said.

Assistant Coach Brian Stamme said the defense the Titans played in the first half was the best he has seen since he's been with the program, but the Titans couldn't carry it over to the second half. LBCC tied the game at the end of regulation, took their first lead of the game in overtime, and never looked back.

"They're a lot improved this year, and they're just right up the road, so it's a little rivalry we got going with those guys. It's always nice to pick up a win on the road, and that game was one we should have had," Chavka added.

The Titans traveled to Gresham three days later to take on the Mt. Hood Saints, one of NWAACC's top teams.

"Going to Mt. Hood, one of the best teams in the NWAACC, after the OT loss was kind of a letdown game. We got down early, and when we got down we could never get back into it," Chavka admitted.

The Titans were out-rebounded by MHCC 50-30, which lead to more opportunities for the Saints. The Saints took advantage of those extra chances, getting off 16 more shots from the field, and 11 more free throws than the Titans.

"Our effort level was not very good, that's always something, as a coach, you struggle with, playing back-to-back road games. But regardless, on the road, on vacation, wherever, you got to bring the effort level, and it was disappointing not to have that effort, the defensive effort, the rebounding effort — they killed us on the boards," Chavka said.

In the Titans most recent loss on Jan. 14, the team got in a hole early they just couldn't get out of. Trailing by 14 at halftime, the Titans cut the lead to 10 with 11 minutes to play, but couldn't get over the hump. Brent Jones led all scorers with 12 and Cody Britton added three 3-pointers, all in the second half.

Although it may look like time to panic, the Titans don't see it that way.

"We have to really focus on our home games, make sure we come away with wins, but we have to start bringing it on the road also, try to come up with a couple road wins," Jones said. He added, "I think we're gonna surprise some people later on. And as the season goes on, hopefully grab that last playoff spot is basically our goal now, considering what we've been through so far."



Brent Jones of Tualatan, Ore. glides to the hoop and puts in a finger roll during the first half of the Titans' 79-61 loss in the Jan. 14 game against Southwestern Oregon. Jones leads the Titans in scoring at 16.6 points-per-game. Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

Coach Chavka wouldn't call this challenge daunting one, but rather a chance to see what this team is made of.

"It's time to draw a line in the

sand and see who we are. I mean, this not having effort and not being on the same page is not where we anticipated being in January."

The Titans will look to get into the

win column in Salem when they take on Chemeketa Community College on Jan. 17. The Titans will the host Umpqua Community College next Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 7:30 p.m.

Titans look to rebound from poor start in league play

Team isn't fazed by surprisingly lopsided preseason record

By TYLER PELL
Sports Editor

The LCC men's basketball team's 12-game non-conference schedule didn't go exactly as they'd hoped, coming away with only three wins in the first 12 games. The rocky preseason came to a close on New Year's Eve, with a fifth straight defeat coming in the form of a 75-65 loss at home to the College of the Redwoods.

Injuries became a reoccurring theme during the Titans' early season schedule. Sophomore Jake Wiles, starting center Stephen Christensen and the Titans' leading scorer and rebounder Brent Jones, all missed significant time.

"A couple of starters were out so we kinda started off slow, but basically we just struggled. We were 3-9 in the preseason, and with 5 returnees that was not what we were looking for," Jones said.

Assistant Coach Brian Stamme considered the injuries to not just hurt the team's depth, but also their chemistry. "Having three guys who didn't start the season with us, who all came in near the end of the non-conference schedule, made it a little difficult for our team to mesh."

Injuries or not, Head Coach Bruce Chavka wasn't exactly overjoyed with his team's performance. "I would say the fall was pretty inconsistent. We were up, we were down, we were all over the map really." He added, "we went 3-9 in preseason, which wasn't what we expected. We wanted to get out of the gate fast, and we didn't do that, but we're optimistic. This is a long season."

Stamme felt similarly. "The most frustrating thing in those first 12 games was we always played great in one half, but we couldn't put together two good halves, which is what you need to do if you want to close out games the way you're supposed to."

One issue that the Titans will have to resolve in order to compete in the second half of the season will be the team's scoring. Averaging just 63 points a game, the Titans are dead last in scoring against teams that play in any of the Northwest Athletic Association of Community

Colleges regions. Despite the Titans' slow start and low-scoring games, Chavka and Stamme agree the preseason wasn't a total loss.

"We definitely learned a lot about each other, which is what preseasons are good for ... we learned about each other, learned about our team and we learned who we can rely on," Chavka said.

Stamme said the slow start will benefit the team in conference play. "We worked a lot of things out, like which guys played well together, and a lot of the guys figured out what they can do to help the team the most."

Despite their disappointing preseason, the Titans appear poised to put their record behind them and focus on earning a berth in the NWAACC tournament. Luckily for them, their post-season hopes rest strictly on their conference record. So even though the Titans are set to begin what looks to be a very challenging conference schedule, they also have the benefit of a fresh start, which seems to be exactly what this team needs.

"The team is excited to start fresh in the conference. I think our attitude is good, our energy is good ... Southern Region is a challenging region. You really have to be your best every

night. And that's the thing I'm excited about. We have 14 tests, and it's our goal to be the best we can in each of our 14 conference games."

"Obviously, none of us are happy with our record, but the team is looking to build on it. Right now, it's 0-0. Everyone starts out conference play with a clean slate, and we just have to worry about working hard and getting to the NWAACCs," Stamme said.

Chavka, however, is quick to acknowledge that it will not be an easy ride to the NWAACC tournament.

"Conference schedule will be more difficult, the Southern Region is one of the best around. It will be a great challenge for us, but we've had some great practices since we got back from New Year's."

One advantage the Titans' coaching staff will have in the second half of the season is the benefit of a fully-stocked roster, because for the first time this season everyone appears to be healthy.

To get an idea of how serious the Titans' injury problems became, they have even spilled into their coaching staff, as Stamme is still nursing a knee injury, which keeps him largely immobile.



Freshman guard Sarah Brolsma Whitfield (33) formerly of South Eugene High School drives the ball through traffic while fellow freshman Theresa Brown (30) fights for position.
Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

The journey begins

Titans now 3-0 in league play

By ERIK OLDFSON
Reporter

With the Titans preseason wrapped up, the journey for a seventh straight trip to the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges tournament has officially begun.

The Titans began Southern Region play with a blowout road win against Linn-Benton Community College on Jan. 7.

Three days later, the Titans headed to Oregon City for a match-up against Mt. Hood Community College, which once again, resulted in an easy Titans win. On Wednesday, Jan. 14 the Titans hosted the Southwestern Oregon Community College Lakers, and the result was more of the same as the Titans cruised to a 102-65 victory.

"In league play we expect to compete for a Southern Region Championship each and every season. This season is no different. Our biggest competition for the League title will

be Umpqua and Clackamas," Assistant Coach Kevin Grumbley said.

The Titans 75-44 route of LBCC was spearheaded by a defensive effort, as the Titans held LBCC to an abysmal 29 percent shooting, and just 18 first half points. LCC also came out with a balanced scoring attack, with four players recording more than 14 points.

Against MHCC, forward Jennifer Kimbrow and guard Carmen Williams each scored 21 points to lead the Titans. But once again, the story of the game was the Titans' defense. Lane held MHCC to just 28 percent from the field, compared to the Titans, efficient 44 percent. The Titans also got the free throw line 35 times, resulting in 23 points.

In the Titans first home game since they began league play, they showed the home crowd why this is one of the best teams in the Northwest.

Led by another spectacular performance by Williams, who scored a season-high of 33 points, the Titans outplayed the Lakers in every facet of the game.

Lakers Head Hoach, Mike Herbert was clearly not happy with his

teams' performance, "We couldn't rebound, and we can't allow them to rebound as much as they did, and on top of that let them shoot 64 percent. We just can't do that."

However Herbert was quick to point out that Williams' deadly mid-range jump shot was too much for his team to handle.

"She's pretty good. We were right there in her face all night and she kept knockin' down shots," Herbert said.

After the Titans' first three conference games, they have been largely unchallenged. That should change quickly. Next week's match-up with top ranked Umpqua Community College should be a good barometer for how good this team really is.

"We are very excited about the potential of this team and I look forward to the progression of the league play and into the NWAACC Championship tournament," Grumbley said.

Up next for the Titans is a road game in Salem against Chemeketa Community College on Jan. 17, at 4 p.m. Chemeketa is 4-10 overall and 0-2 in the conference. Wednesday, Jan. 21, the Titans host top ranked Umpqua.



Forward Shimea Jordan takes the ball hard to the hoop while being guarded by a Lakers defender in first half action from Wednesday's 102-65 route of Southwestern Oregon. Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

Titans barrel through preseason after a slow start

Freshman laden women's basketball team is ready for conference play

By ERIK OLDFSON
Reporter

The Titans women's basketball team concluded its non-conference schedule by beating Everett Community College of Longview, Wash.

on Dec. 31, bringing its preseason record to 11-3. Despite increased competition within the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges southern region, the Titans' solid preseason should keep them on the short list of contenders for the southern region crown.

LCC dropped two of its first three contests but closed out its preseason schedule, winning 10 of its final 11 games — highlighted by a four-game stretch in which the team's average margin of victory was 33 points.

"We started out a little slow and have come together over the past month. I thought we would be a little bit further along in understanding our

offensive and defensive concepts, but we do have nine freshmen and four of them are starting," Head Coach Greg Sheley said.

Having won 122 out of the team's last 134 games, expectations are sky high for the Titans, and deservedly so; the women's program may be the best in the state. This season, the Titans are second best rebounding team in the NWAACC and fourth in total scoring, helped in large part by their NWAACC leading with 386 free throw attempts.

Standing in the Titans' way, however, are two heavyweight contenders: Umpqua Community College of Roseburg and Clackamas Commu-

nity College of Oregon City.

"They are ranked No. 1 and No. 2 [respectively] in the NWAACC and we are ranked No. 4. Both of those teams are very good, and we will have to play much better than we are playing right now if we want to beat them," Sheley said. He added, "I am satisfied with the team's effort so far, but I am not satisfied with our overall level of play."

A major reason for the Titans' preseason success has been the excellent playing of their freshman. The team's experience was questionable heading into the season since only three players are returning sophomores. Four of the Titans' five starters are freshmen.

Freshman players are leading the charge. Guard Carmen Williams of South Eugene High School is pacing the Titans with a 16 points-per-game average. Forward Theresa Brown of Sheldon High School is the Titans' second-leading scorer, and best rebounder, snatching over nine a game. Another freshman guard, Kourtney Parks, is also leading the team in assists.

The Titans are looking to capture their fifth straight Southern Region title this year, and have sights set on their sixth consecutive appearance in the NWAACC final four. If their early season play is any indication, the Titans are on their way.

SPORTS LINE
B[c]S

Since Chris Berman joined ESPN a month after its founding in 1979, his unique ability to infuse insight with humor has helped him become the National Sportscaster of the Year six times. My favorite of his catch phrases might be his most clichéd: “That’s why they play the game!” Berman says in his bari-tone voice before he delves into a highlight serving one last reminder that sports are a tool for competi-tion, not prognostication ...

... Not that we should need that reminder. In sports, like in life, things rarely work out like they do on paper. Does anybody still expect the expected? Only 12 months ago, the seemingly invincible and 18-0 New England Patriots were denied a perfect season in the Super Bowl by the supposedly inferior New York Giants. Yet, somehow the powers-that-be in college football have taken the human element out of sports, reducing college football to a word problem. If you don’t think there is anything wrong with that, just think if the Revolu-tionary War had been decided on paper.

The Bowl Championship Series began in 1998 and since its incep-tion it has been the most polarizing, not to mention asinine, aspect of college sports. In theory, the BCS is designed to use a combination of polls and computer rankings to give the top two teams in the land a chance to compete in a national championship game. Sounds fantas-tic, until you remember that the past 150 years of organized sports has been on the playing field. (Hence Berman’s catch-phrase.)

It seems, to me at least, that the few people keeping the BCS afloat are concerned more with dollars and cents, than with actual sense.

It’s not a secret the BCS is predicated on money, and when teams qualify for one of the five BCS bowl games — which includes the national championship game — they earn around \$17 million for their respective conferences. But there is a catch: the BCS is set up so each of the six BCS-affiliated conference champions is guaran-teed a spot in a BCS bowl. The four other spots are reserved for at-large bids, which can come from any conference, although more teams from BCS conferences usually fill these spots. Teams from non-major conferences occasionally pick up one of the at-large bids, but no team from a non-major conference has been selected to play in the national championship game. Despite nu-merous undefeated seasons from teams in mid-major conferences, mid-major schools are more or less stuck watching the national cham-pionship games through a glass ceiling, while the “upper class” of college football gets paid more for doing the same job.

Stunningly, that may not even be the BCS’s biggest flaw. It seems every season there is at least one deserving team that doesn’t get an opportunity to compete for the national title — which happened to Oregon in 2002. Most recently, the BCS bogusly concluded that the 12-1 Florida Gators and 12-1 Oklahoma Sooners would play for

the BCS National Championship. Oklahoma “earned” its spot in the national championship game even though their Big-12 rival Texas also had just one loss and beat Oklahoma on Oct. 11. Florida propelled itself into the national championship game by narrowly defeating No. 1 ranked and previ-ously undefeated Alabama in its conference championship game. Which seemed justified at the time until the 12-0 Utah Utes, represent-ing the non-BCS, Mountain West Conference, destroyed Alabama in the Sugar Bowl. USC capped off its own one-loss season by embar-rassing an overmatched Penn State team in the Rose Bowl. In the “na-tional championship game,” Florida wound up proving it was a better team than Oklahoma, beating them 24-14. But did Florida really prove it was the best team in the nation?

I’m not saying Florida isn’t the best team in college football. I just think that if people are still debating the national champion after the “national championship game” has been played, the victory is hollow. As long as the BCS is in place, Florida, or any other team may be crowned as the best team in the country, but it’ll never get the chance to actually prove it.

Bottom line: college football needs a playoff. It’s what fans want, it’s what players want, and for the most part, it’s what coaches want. Logistically speaking anyway, it’s more than plausible.

Why not shorten seasons to 12 weeks, end the regular season in the second week of November, and give them seven weeks until the na-tional championship game is played the first week in January? That’s more than enough time to have the country’s eight best teams compete in a single elimination tournament. After all, the tournament concept isn’t exactly foreign in college athletics. The epic 64-team college basketball tournament dubbed “March Madness” might be the best sporting event on Earth. So what the hell is college football waiting for?

Perhaps the reason we aren’t seeing a change in the BCS system is that the presidents from the major conferences set up the BCS in the first place. True to form, they are in no hurry to replace their finan-cially rewarding system, a system designed to keep the scales tipped in their favor.

Hypothetically speaking how-ever, it’s hard to imagine any of those money-grubbing presidents losing any money if there were a playoff. Fans would be far more interested in watching a college football playoff unfold than the BCS quagmire; if the fans aren’t going anywhere, neither are the cor-porate sponsorships. Besides, with as much interest as there is in col-lege football, who wouldn’t watch a legitimate national championship game? As far as the U.S. market is concerned, it would be second only to the Super Bowl.

Unfortunately, the BCS contract won’t expire anytime soon, but have faith sports fans, because change is coming. Oh yes, even President-elect Barack Obama is an outspoken critic of the BCS. So come on, Obama, I know you’ll have a lot of executive orders to undo on Jan. 21, but couldn’t you squeeze undoing the BCS in there somewhere also? Chris Berman and I are begging you.



Student program offers affordable family activities

An introduction to the LCC rec-reation program

By JAMES ANDERSON
Reporter

Out of the \$46.25 per term stu-dents pay for student activity fees, \$8 goes into the recreational sports and athletics program.

This program pays for the LCC community and drop-in sports, a registered athletic trainer, discount family activities for the students and their immediate family and free admission to several Lane County events.

Students can get tickets for free admission into local family-oriented events such as ice-skating, roller skating, bowling, wave pool swim sessions and the Science Fac-tory Children’s Museum and Plan-etarium.

“[These activities] are designed for students with children so they can be able to do things free of charge. If we have swimming at Splash, we might have 150 people attend. They are mostly families, but everyone can go,” Director of Student Recreation Brent Ellison said.

The ticket window for these events can be found in the lobby of Building 5, next to the gymnasium.

“The [recreational] sports pro-gram here is awesome and it’s unlike the programs you’ll find elsewhere, where students can get involved for free,” Ellison said.

Ellison promotes the program in Building 5 with fliers. Since the facilities that host the respective events have limits on how many

people can be let in, Ellison urges students to get tickets only if they plan to attend.

The program also provides stu-dents with discount tickets for other businesses and activities.

Ellison gets discounts for pur-chasing tickets in bulk quantity for Ben and Jerry’s ice cream, coffee shops and the Oregon Zoo.

“If you’re planning on going anyway, check with me first,” El-lison said. “It costs you \$6 for \$10 worth of movie bucks. These are good at the \$1.50 theater.”

This term Ellison is putting together a ski trip. “For \$37 we’ll drive you up and back and give you a lift ticket. You just need to own your own equipment.”

Other program-sponsored dis-counts include University of Ore-gon lacrosse and softball admission tickets for \$1.

The admission is free for the LCC sports events.

“The women’s basketball team has had the longest winning streak of any college or university in the nation. The winning streak was 64 games at the beginning of the sea-son,” Associate Dean of Student Affairs Barbara Delansky said.

In the Bi-Mart sponsored, up-coming game against Umpqua, the top-ranked basketball team in the Northwest, the first 300 through the door get a free T-shirt.

First 100 children get an over-sized foam finger. The second an-nual Jam the Gym Night, Wednes-day, Jan. 21 is free for everyone. The women’s game begins at 5:30 p.m. and the men’s starts at 7:30 p.m.

For students who are more in-terested in participation in sports than watching, the program offers both drop-in sports and community

leagues.

Students have access to badmin-ton, tennis courts and the weight room on campus. Basketball and volleyball are also available during tims when classes aren’t using the gym.

“We have a lot of students who want to use our facilities for drop-in activities,” Ellison said. “As an example, we have weight room open times from 3-5 p.m. for stu-dents that want to use it.” There is also weekly badminton.

There is a schedule of events in the recreation booklets that can be picked up at the window of the recreation office of the athletics de-partment.

LCC works with adult com-munity leagues around the county to form teams for students who are enrolled in at least one LCC Main Campus credit class.

When he gets enough partici-pants to form a team, Ellison enters them in community leagues and provides them with LCC Titans jerseys. He’s done this for soccer, basketball, softball and volleyball.

If all of this isn’t enough for \$8 a term, students also have access to a registered athletic trainer on campus.

“The Center for Sports Medi-cine is something that a lot of stu-dents don’t know about,” Delansky said. “Any current student can ac-cess those services and a trainer will take a look at you.”

An athletic trainer is knowl-edgeable in the prevention and care of activity-related injuries and can give instruction on rehabilita-tion. The trainer is available to the general student body on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3-5 p.m., and Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. until noon.

UPCOMING LCC RECREATION ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Tickets can be picked up M/W/F 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or T/Th 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Building 5, Room 204

Sunday, Feb. 1.
Science Factory (Children’s Museum)
2300 Leo Harris Pkwy.
10 – 4 p.m.
Cost: Free (limit five)

Saturday, Feb. 7.
Willamette Pass Ski Trip
6:45 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Cost: \$37
Age limit: 15 and over

Sunday, Feb. 15.
Swimming
6100 Thurston Rd.
1 – 5 p.m.
Cost: Free (limit five)

Sunday, Feb. 22.
Ice-Skating
Lane Ice Center at the Fairgrounds
2 - 4 p.m.
Cost: Free (limit five)

Saturday, Feb. 28. – Sunday, March 1.
Roller Skating (Skate World)
3188 Gateway Loop, Springfield
Noon to 4 p.m. Saturday
1 – 4 p.m. Sunday
Cost: Free (limit five)

Drop-Ins/Community Sports

Badminton
Friday’s only: 8:45 - 9:45 a.m.
Jan. 9 – March 20
Building 5, Room 203

Tennis
M-F: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Jan. 15 – March 20 (cancelled between Jan. 19 – Feb. 16)
Tennis courts

Weight Room
M-F: 3 – 5 p.m.
Jan. 15 – March 20 (cancelled between Jan. 19 – Feb. 16)
Building 5, Room 130

Video Games
Building 5, Lobby
Open during normal campus hours
Coin-operated machines

Volleyball
Regional Sports Center 200 South 32nd St., Springfield
Saturday, Jan. 17, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
\$3 per person.

Notice: Basketball and volleyball are un-available this term due to the gym being completely booked with P.E. classes.

SPORTS FIX

What to watch: the upcoming week in sports

JAN. 15-21

LCC Men's basketball:

- At home vs. Umpqua. Wednesday, Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m.

LCC Women's basketball:

- At home vs. Umpqua. Wednesday, Jan. 21, 5:30 p.m.

Eugene Generals Hockey:

Lane Ice Center at the Fairgrounds

- At home vs. Puget Sound. Friday, Jan. 16, 7:35 p.m.
- At home vs. Puget Sound. Saturday, Jan. 17, 7:35 p.m.

Oregon Ducks:

- Men's basketball at home vs. Washington. Thursday, Jan. 15, 7 p.m.
- Men's basketball at home vs. Washington St. Saturday, Jan. 17, 11 a.m.



Editor's TV picks:

NFL Playoffs:

- NFC Championship game Eagles vs. Cardinals. Sunday, Jan. 18, 12 p.m. FOX
- AFC Championship game Ravens vs. Steelers. Sunday, Jan. 18, 3:30 p.m. CBS

NBA Basketball:

- Hornets vs. Cavaliers. Friday, Jan. 16, 5 p.m. ESPN
- Suns vs. Celtics. Monday, Jan. 19, 5 p.m. TNT

NHL Hockey:

- Rangers vs. Penguins. Sunday, Jan. 19, 9:30 a.m. NBC

College Basketball:

Men's

- No. 12 Georgetown vs. No. 2 Duke. Saturday, Jan. 17, 10:30 a.m. CBS
- No. 8 Syracuse vs. No. 1 Pittsburgh. Monday, Jan. 19, 4 p.m. ESPN

Women's

- No. 1 UCONN vs. No. 2 North Carolina. Monday, Jan. 19, 4 p.m. ESPN2

Editor's Internet picks:

Premier League Soccer:

- Manchester United vs. Derby County. Tuesday, Jan. 20, 12 p.m. ESPN360.com (free if Internet provider is affiliated with ESPN360)



the woman who changed a nation

Rosa
PARKS
1913 - 2005

*"I would like to be
remembered as a person
who wanted to be free...
and other people would
be also free."*

Join us in CELEBRATION

Rosa Parks Plaza

Dedication

Monday, January 19

12:00 Noon

LTD Eugene Station

10th & Olive

Other Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Events:

10:00 a.m.

March begins from Moshofsky Center at Autzen Stadium, ending at Hult Center

12:00 noon

Unveiling of Rosa Parks commemorative sculpture at LTD Eugene Station

2:00 - 4:00 p. m.

Springfield MLK Celebration
Springfield Middle School

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration

Hult Center for the Performing Arts

4:00 p.m. Reception and Silent Auction

6:00 p.m. Program



HOW TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

...in One Day! FREE!

featuring:

Lane Community College's
Annual Scholarship Workshop
and College Goal Oregon

when:

Saturday, January 24th
8:30 am - 3:30 pm

where:

Center for Meeting and Learning,
Main Campus, Building 19, Room 100

LCC students register with
CRN: 32317

Community members call
Continuing Ed. 541-463-5252



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If you need disability accommodations in order to attend or participate in this event, please contact Disability Services (541) 463-5150 (voice) or 463-3079 (TTY)



Students take the issues to the legislature

Groups want more funding for schools, students, childcare

By NISSA CARSCALLEN
Reporter

Members of the Oregon Student Association will begin bringing issues to the attention of the Oregon State Legislature Feb. 26. Two other student groups, Oregon Students of Color Coalition, and Oregon Student Equal Rights Alliance will be lobbying additional student rights issues.

“OSA always has three main issues that they address and two of them are always the same,” which are student tuition and student parent childcare, Associated Students of LCC communications director Meghan Kreuger said.

Student officials from OSA are asking the governor for \$5.5 billion in funding to help schools keep up with increased enrollment: 10.3 percent for Oregon community colleges and 5.2 percent for the Oregon University System.

“We’d actually seen a disinvestment in [state] post-secondary education for 10 years,” Kreuger said. “2007 was the first time we saw a re-investment.”

The money would allow colleges and universities across the state to expand their facilities to accommodate students as well as help lower the cost of tuition.

The funds would also be used to hire new full-time teachers and provide many current teachers with raises.

OSA is also lobbying on behalf of students who are parents, asking for \$1.5 million in funding for students who pay for childcare while attending school.

Members of OSA are also asking for \$163 million to help fill in the gaps left between the financial aid students receive from the federal government and actual cost of school.

State officials recently decreased the maximum amount of aid students can receive from the Oregon Opportunity Grant. The current cap on money given to a full-time student is \$2,600 for those at community colleges and \$3,200 for those at universities. Starting Spring term each amount will drop by \$80.

Students who attend at the part-time level



Students gathered at the Oregon State Capital in Salem on Feb. 6, 2008 in support of the issues OSA brought before the legislature last year. Photo courtesy of OSA

will also be eligible to receive increased aid.

OSOCC is asking for \$1 million to fund a statewide database to track students from kindergarten through college.

Student education tracking currently stops after a student finishes high school. Continued tracking would allow the state to ascertain why certain students do not continue their education through college.

Plans to improve the current database have already made it to the legislature as part of a bundle of programs known as the Student Success Package.

OSERA is lobbying to add specification and methods of enforcement to anti-bullying and harassment laws already in place. Currently, the state has no method for tracking or ensuring that the laws are upheld.

Other students who have been personally

affected by the issues accompany student lobbyists to tell their stories in front of members of the legislature.

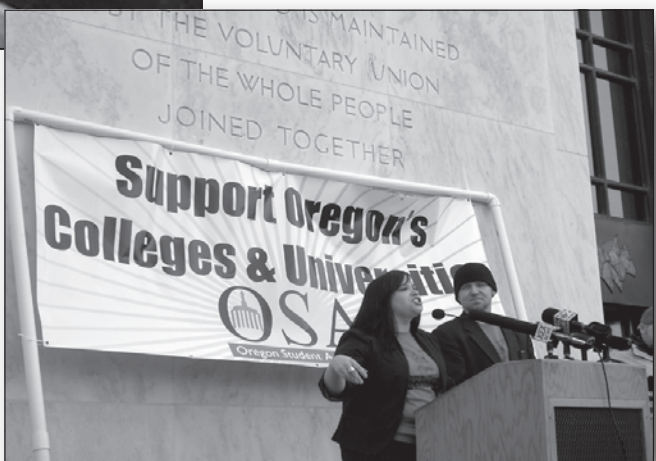
“People get so caught up looking at papers and policy numbers all the time,” Mara Ventura, LCC Campus Organizer for OSA, said.

“I think it’s really humanizing to see students standing in front of a legislator, explaining that without this funding, they can’t afford to stay in school.”

Legislators will decide on budget and policy issues by June 30.



Funding for tuition and student services, such as access to student-parents child care, are two of OSA’s continued campaigns. During legislative sessions OSA and other student groups go to Salem to lobby for these issues. Photo courtesy of OSA



Speakers stand before student lobbyists and supporters at an OSA event on the steps of the Oregon State Capital. Photo courtesy of OSA

Transfer Students

Northwest Christian University announces a new competitive scholarship for transfer students with a 3.5 transferable GPA or higher. \$2000 per year, guaranteed renewable. Find out more and apply by visiting www.northwestchristian.edu/admissions/Transfers.

Eugene, Oregon
www.northwestchristian.edu
 541-684-7201
 877-463-6622

STATE BUDGET, From Page 1

important and that student involvement in lobbying has impacted legislators’ decision in the past.

The \$15 million cut is anything but harmless for community colleges and does not match up with remarks made by the governor on Dec. 1, 2008. Earlier in the year, the governor also promised a 10-percent increase for all education sectors that never came to fruition.

“I’m holding all of education — not just K-12 — harmless in the first year, and we will find additional funding — if necessary — in the second year,” he stated.

The Board of Education requested to increase the CCSF to \$621 million. Instead, community colleges face reduced funding if Oregon’s legislators do not fill the gap.

“We expected fair and equitable treatment,” Spilde said. “Reducing community college funding is inexplicable at a time when workers and students need job training and affordable access to college more than ever.”

Higher enrollment at community colleges due to unemployment indicates that LCC can expect to add to the 13.7

percent increase experienced Fall term 2008. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in November 2008, Oregon held an unemployment rate of 8.1 percent, up from 7.2 percent in October of the same year. Unemployment was slightly higher in Eugene and Springfield at 8.4 percent in November 2008.

Revenue forecasts in March and May could show worse conditions for LCC, the third largest of Oregon’s 17 community colleges. “I can’t guarantee the government won’t come in or the legislature won’t come in with further cuts at this time,” Spilde stated.

Community colleges took a hit due in large part to the calculation of the Essential Budget Level. Flaws in the application of the EBL to community colleges were addressed in 2005 and acknowledged by the governor; however, no changes or corrections were made beyond recognizing in an executive order in 2007 that additional detailed information is needed “in order to adequately plan future budgets.”

ONLINE BOX OFFICE, From Page 1

thing in the world online now,” marketing and house manager for the Department of Music, Dance and Theater Arts John Watson said. “We needed to get there we needed to get rid of these out-moded, understaffed, phone sales.”

This new system will streamline the ticket process for everyone.

“In the past all tickets have been sold at the door, which is stressful for our ushers and has caused problems at our heavily attended shows,” Student Productions Association Vice President Lilith Lincoln-Dinan said. “Selling tickets online will hopefully minimize confusion about reservations and help us keep a more accurate attendance count.”

Not only will the new system make it easier for those interested in buying tickets, it reduces the risk associated with storing large amounts of money.

“Sometimes money comes in and it has to sit around these offices in here two or three days till school opens again and we can get it to the Foundation office where they keep it,” Watson said.

The new system minimizes potential security issues because it minimizes the amount of money that is kept on hand.

A limited number of tickets will still be purchased at the door.

Lincon-Dinan stated that S.P.A. is excited for the change. “We have had many people ask about this in the past, and we hope that the availability of online tickets will boost the attendance of our shows,” Lincoln-Dinan said.

“The entertainment out here is accessible and affordable,” Watson said, pointing out the quality of performances, that the college is only five minutes from Eugene and there’s always parking for performances.

Currently, wording on the website states that persons needing special accommodations should call one week in advance. Watson plans to have a checkbox option on the online ticket-purchasing page that individuals with special needs can select, so Disability Services will be notified of their needs.

www.lcctorch.com

BOND UPDATE, From Page 1

within the college, and we're beginning to get the project user groups set up, so the people who live in the buildings will have a say in what the buildings will look like," she continued, estimating that this "planning phase" will be complete near the end of the month.

"The Bond project is a very large project for us and it involves a lot of buildings and a lot of staff and organizing and mobilizing all of those people to focus on their specific projects is a big job," Bob Mention, bond project manager, said.

Mention explained that long before the vote, LCC hired engineers to "assess structural needs, buildings and classrooms, and also assess the status of the buildings and the infrastructure." In June, the engineers developed a Facilities Master Plan to present to the Board of Education in October. The FMP includes projects as diverse as filling potholes in the parking lots to upgrading science labs at LCC's Florence campus.

"Now, we're in the process of more specific planning," Mention said. "Now we're in the stage where we know the projects, and we're trying to schedule it." Both Spilde and Mention expressed a desire to keep the economy in mind — and the new jobs the project would create — in scheduling how soon to start construction. Spilde said that while she'd like to see these new jobs created right away, disruption of the campus is another concern.

"Construction areas will necessarily hinder classrooms, hallways and faculty offices," Spilde said. "We've got to make sure we're not disadvantaging our current students at the same time as we're trying to make progress on the bond."

The nature of a bond also poses some difficulties for the college. The Internal Revenue Service requires that construction must be completed within three years after the sale of the bond. LCC is looking at a 15-year project, given the extent of the repairs and the difficulties of doing construction while classes are in session. Thus, Spilde suggested that the sale of the bonds will probably be staggered to remain in compliance with the IRS, and to get the best rate on bonds.

Lane County Bond Measure 20-142 passed after a previously unsuccessful campaign for a tax levy in 2006. The college learned from its mistakes however, and ran a very different campaign two years later, victoriously garnering 56 percent of Lane County voters.

"We did not take our Lane County voters for granted," Spilde, who personally canvassed and donated hours of her time to phone banks, said. "We worked really hard on two fronts, the information side and the political advocacy side." On the information side, the college launched a massive campaign to educate voters about LCC's place in the community and why it could use the \$83 million. For political advocacy, businesses, organizations and politicians — including both mayoral candidates — endorsed the bond measure, presenting to the community and sending out blast e-mails.

The nation's struggling economy also might have helped pass the bond, Spilde said, as it illustrates that community colleges "are part of economic recovery." They educate those who have lost their jobs, and better prepare the unemployed for getting back into the job market by giving them a new skill set.

Additionally, the bond measure would not mean a tax increase, as it replaces an existing measure passed in 1995.

In campaigning, Mention said he wasn't aware of any organized opposition. Of the approximately 75 people he encountered through the phone banks or door-to-door canvassing, only one opposed the measure.

Spilde said that the greatest difficulty of the campaign was raising enough money. "We got enough to do what we needed to do, but that was challenging because people had already given to another cause." She estimated that LCC raised about \$40,000.

Part of what LCC "needed to do" was garner the support of three more Springfield precincts than it got in 2006 and get more votes from rural areas, especially in Cottage Grove. The three precincts in Springfield did end up supporting the measure, and while the measure still failed in Cottage Grove, there was less of a margin between no and yes votes. "We want to keep our profile hard in the community. We can't just let all that effort go away now," she warned.

The campaign was targeted towards the individual voter, and a great emphasis was placed on personal connections. "I had some fascinating conversations with people on the phone," Spilde reported, "and I said who I was and people would be honest and tell me what they thought and if they didn't support the bond, why they didn't support it. Every one of those contacts counted."

The first renovation will focus on the college's infrastructure, Mention stated. "They're hoping to do a little more, but what that 'more' is, we don't know yet. I thought the intent was the start with major maintenance of utilities."

Utility infrastructure and facility upgrades — first on the Bond 2008 Project List released in the Jan. 15 Board of Education packet — is estimated to cost \$18 million.

Indirect costs, which include design fees, bond sales and administration costs, project management costs, testing services, building permits and the cost of relocation, is estimated at 28 percent of the \$83 million bond levy, or \$22.3 million. Direct costs, which are all costs needed to build the buildings, is estimated at \$60.7 million or 72 percent of the bond levy.



In the campaign leading up to the Lane County elections, posters advocating Bond Measure 20-142 cropped up all over LCC and Eugene. The measure authorized \$83 million for much-needed renovations to the college. **Photo by JB BOTWINICK / The Torch**

Much of the construction will be done during school breaks, to disrupt classes as little as possible. Mention hopes the first project will begin this summer.

"I'm glad the bond passed because I think it will restore some of the grandeur that was LCC," Adam Stockwell, student, said. "Parts of the school are kind of run down. I'm hoping that'll change."

\$2 million grant received to develop student services, aid to retention, student Portal

Federal Department of Education fund will go towards web-page, advising, orientation

By NISSA CARSCALLEN
Reporter

LCC's new \$2 million grant from the Federal Department of Education will increase funding for student services throughout campus. The grant will be used to promote programs that work to engage students in their classes and in the college as a whole.

"The grant is titled: 'Engaging Students' and is a Title III Strengthening Institutions Program funded by the Department of Education," Director of Title III and TRIO Mary Parthemer said.

Parthemer explained that Title III De-

velopment grants are awarded through a competitive process to institutions where a certain percentage of students receive financial aid.

One purpose of the grant is to provide additional funding for "intentional services" such as new student orientations and academic advising.

"We know that students are most successful when they have access to these services," Parthemer said. "The intention [of the grant] is to take these proven practices and expand [them] throughout the college."

The grant will give the college \$400,000 each year for the next five years. From these funds \$80,000 each year will go into an endowment — the Title III grant requires the college to raise \$80,000 in matching funds each year that will be added to the endowment.

Vital student services also include the construction of a student Portal which will be linked to the LCC website.

The Portal is similar to a personalized webpage. Faculty and staff could then provide students with information that is specific to the classes or subjects.

TV SWITCH, From Page 3

19-inch screen television sets start at \$199.99 at Springfield's Best Buy.

Analog televisions will still work for DVDs, game systems, camcorders and VCRs for many years to come, but won't work for television. Buying a new TV set isn't necessary; there are other options. One is buying an analog-to-digital converter box. They run from \$54.99 to \$59.99 at Best Buy and offer the same multicasting capability as DTV in analog quality.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration has been administering \$40 coupons to buy converter boxes since Jan. 1, 2008, households are eligible for up to two coupons. NTIA will stop sending coupons March 31. Coupons can be ordered online. Users are prompted for their whole name, address, how many coupons they are requesting and the details of their TV situation. After the online form is filled out, users will obtain a reference number and an order date. Coupons expire 90 days after the mailing date.

DTV will free up parts of the broadcasting spectrum, leaving available analog airwaves to be used for services such as the police, fire department and emergency rescue. DTV does not mean the program is in high

definition, but that is available.

Viewers who watch TV for entertainment purposes alone may already have a way to watch their favorite shows after the switch. Xbox 360 is hooked up with Netflix, allowing users to purchase episodes for \$2. Movie rentals start at \$4 in standard definition and \$6 for high-definition. PlayStation 3 prices episodes at \$1.99 in standard definition and \$2.99 in high-definition. Movie rentals start at \$2.99 and purchases start at \$9.99.

Internet users can purchase episodes of their favorite shows online as well. Episodes can be purchased on iTunes for as little as \$1.99, and some shows can be purchased in high-definition for \$1 more. Movie rentals start at \$3.99 and purchases are around \$14.99. Amazon Video On Demand offers TV shows and movies for the same prices in streaming quality.

Some websites such as Hulu and Joost offer video content for free. Some TV channels such as ABC and MTV also give viewers the option to watch certain broadcasts at no charge on their website.

To find out more about DTV visit <http://www.dtv.gov/index.html>. To order converter box coupons visit <http://www.dtv2009.gov>.

"It's a way to deliver content that is unique to each student," LCC's Technology Support Services Manager Todd Lutz said.

"Some people think of it as 'Express-Lane plus,'" Lutz said.

Learning Communities and other first-year experience programs will be able to use the Portal to better connect with students outside of the classroom.

"This Portal gives [the administration] a way to communicate better with students," Lutz said.

Parthemer anticipates that the number of students participating in these programs will increase over the next five years.

Plans to build the Portal have been in development for more than five years but have not been implemented because of the lack of funding. The initial licensing fee of \$160,000 was more than what was available from past grants.

"Our goal is around engaging students ... increasing their retention so they are successful," Parthemer said. "The Portal is a tool to increase engagement."

The Portal is scheduled for testing stages by fall 2009.



Associated Students of Lane Community College

ASLCC Events and Openings

• Inauguration Celebration
January 20th @ 8:30am Forum Building Room 307
Refreshments and Snacks

• Oregon Students of Color Conference
February 5, 6, 7

• Make your voice heard in Salem
Visit the Capital with your Student Government

• Get involved in progress at LCC
Contact your Student Government
to learn about Committee openings

If interested in these events and openings:
CONTACT: Meghan Krueger 221-2667
<http://www.lanecc.edu/aslcc>

Council of Clubs Ratified Clubs:

- Black Student Union
- Culinary & Food Service
- Phi Theta Kappa (Honors)
- Native American Student Association
- Queer-Straight Alliance
- Latino Student Union
- LCC Learning Garden
- Green Chemistry
- Students for a Democratic Society
- Fitness Training Club
- Lane Student Democrats
- Human Services Club
- Ceramic Arts Student Association
- Student Productions Association

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

Think About It

‘How has Martin Luther King, Jr. influenced your life?’



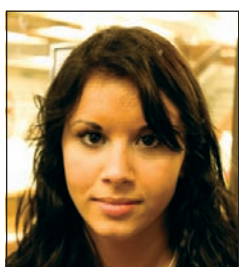
“I have a lot of respect for what he’s done. He accomplished a lot without violence or extreme actions.”

Brandon Marshall
AAOT



“He probably influenced my life in 1,000 subtle ways that we don’t really think about. He shifted the paradigm in a way that us young people don’t think about.”

Patrick Wilson
Crime Scene Investigation



“There’s no school on Monday.”

Brittney Seipers
Art



“I think that he has contributed to the idea of freedom in our country, which is still affecting us today. We are going to have a black president for the first time ... and if it hadn’t been for Martin Luther King, Jr., we might not have been able to do that.”

Lisa Gilbert
Literature



“He did a lot for freedom for everyone, not just blacks or whites or greens or blues. He was a freedom fighter.”

Christopher Paulin
Energy Management



“He’s added to the textural fabric of the country. Anyone can appreciate what he’s done whether or not it affects them personally. Someone whose character that affects the history of the nation is someone that I particularly find to be inspiring.”

Pete Sargent
Undeclared



“He just gives me a lot of pride that he was part of our country’s origin.”

Ryan Snodgrass
Multimedia Design



“He made me not think about race as discriminating people. He helped everyone be equal.”

Bejan Tajipour
Aviation

Photos by **KYLIE KEPPLER**
and interviews by **VICTORIA HOLIDAY**

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FREE tutoring services are available to Lane students. Those who use tutors early in the term have greater success and more fun. Check out Tutor Central (below the bookstore) for a list of FREE tutoring locations.

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