

# The Torch

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LANE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SINCE 1964

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FEBRUARY 5, 2009

## Was there a spy among us?

### LCC student faces charges of conspiracy, espionage, money laundering

★ Oct. 26 or 27, 2006  
San Francisco, Calif.  
\$5,000

★ Dec. 12-17, 2006  
Mexico City, Mexico  
\$10,000

★ July 9-12, 2007  
Mexico City,  
Mexico  
\$9,080

★ Dec. 10-13, 2007  
Lima, Peru  
\$7,013

★ Dec. 8-14, 2008  
Nicosia, Cyprus  
\$9,500

### DATES, LOCATIONS, AMOUNTS OF ALLEGED ILLEGAL ACTIVITY

Graphic by RYOKO FUJIHARA/The Torch

By **LANA BOLES**  
Editor in Chief

Nathan Nicholson, 24, appeared to be an average college student: he interned at Burton Saw, attended classes at LCC, dressed up for anime conventions with his friends and planned for his future in mechanical engineering at Oregon State University — until his arrest on Jan. 28 for allegedly committing conspiracy, espionage and money laundering.

In what FBI Special Agent David Miller called “an amazing case,” Nathan is believed to have been working on behalf of his imprisoned father, supplying classified information to Russian agents in a series of meetings that spanned two years.

Nathan’s father, Harold “Jim” Nicholson — former CIA agent nicknamed “Batman” —

is currently serving a 283-month sentence at the Federal Correctional Institution in Sheridan, Ore., for a 1997 conviction of conspiracy to commit espionage.

“Harold James Nicholson, a convicted spy, was allowed to serve time in a federal prison in Oregon to be near his family. Without regret, he used that proximity to his family to continue contact with the foreign country for which he was previously convicted of spying,” Miller stated.

Nathan and his father face two counts of conspiracy, one count of acting as agents of a foreign government and four counts of money laundering. Both Nicholsons have pleaded not guilty.

The maximum prison sentences for conviction are five years for conspiracy, 10 years for acting as an agent of a foreign government and

20 years for each count of money laundering.

The indictment also seeks the forfeit of funds received by Nathan from the Russian Federation, which the indictment allege are profits from his father’s past espionage activities.

Nathan’s cousins, Danielle and Dustin Rogers, spent nearly everyday with him and both said they believe Jim manipulated his son. Nathan was “family-orientated,” Dustin said, and “naïve.”

“I think that’s why my uncle chose him,” Dustin said. “He was unreasonably generous to a fault.”

“I think his dad made him believe it was the right thing,” Danielle stated. Danielle said Jim is a really smart and nice guy and can’t

See **Spy**, Page 4

#### NEWS

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## KLCC hosts annual Microbrew Festival, music sale

LCC station, local  
NPR syndicate aims  
for successful off-air  
fundraising

By **TARYN ACKELSON**  
News Editor

Over 50 microbreweries, spanning the United States and representing European nations, will be at KLCC’s 2009 Microbrew Festival on Feb. 6-7, the eighth annual fundraiser for LCC’s community-sponsored public radio station.

“It’s our biggest off-air fundraiser of the year,” KLCC Marketing Director Gayle Chisholm said. Each year, between 3,500 and 4,000 attend KLCC’s Microbrew Festival, which receives about \$65,000 in net profit. “This is just \$65,000 we don’t have to go on air and ask for,” Chisholm said.

Two days of beer tasting provide entertainment for the public and financial support for Eugene’s radio station, 89.7 FM. A souvenir glass and two three-ounce beer samples are included in the \$15 admission. Additional samples cost \$1 each.

“Every penny made at this Festival helps to

See **Microbrew Festival**, Page 5



Photo by CURTIS MCCAIN/The Torch Archives

## From the islands to Eugene

### ‘An Evening of Aloha’ brings Hawaii to the mainland for cultural festivities, workshops

By **NOA STARK**  
Reporter

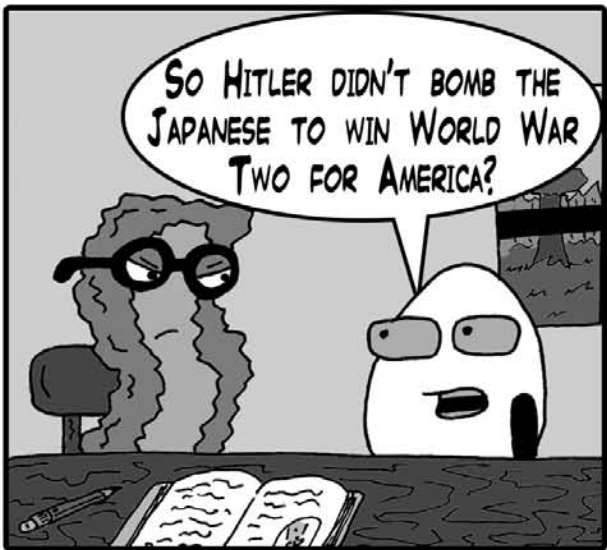
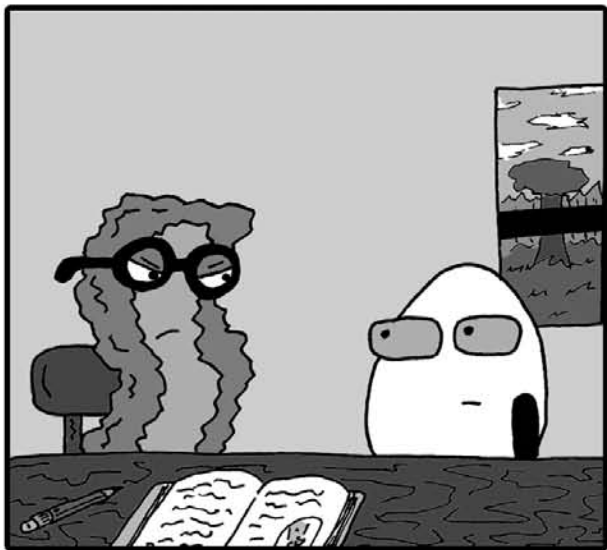
An Evening of Aloha 2009 will kick off a weekend full of Hawaiian events, as part of the 24th Annual Asian Celebration.

An Evening of Aloha starts at 6:30 p.m., on Feb. 13. It will be held at the Lane Events Center at 796 W. 13th Ave. Sponsored by Mele

See **Hawaiian Event**, Page 12



## BACON AND EGG IN 'IF I HAD HANDS, I'D PUNCH YOU IN THE FACE'



Cartoon by TOMMY HARBOUR/The Torch

## 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

### Give them the tools to protect us

I must first congratulate your publication on providing an objective and unbiased story about the very controversial issue of weapons on campus. However, after reading the article I was appalled that LCC has not put forth greater effort to protect its students by issuing weapons to its public safety officers. It is clear that most Public Safety officers have the background training and skills necessary to competently operate a firearm in the defense of students, and are only crippled from doing so because of the college's policy, which is derived from "financial and liability issues."

If and when a school shooting does occur, "financial and liability issues" do not seem to provide a very good excuse to the parents or loved ones of a deceased student or Public Safety officer, when the tragedy could have been prevented in the first place.

Furthermore, it is clear from the student interviews regarding this topic that many people have not been in situations where their lives have been put at risk by a person with a deadly weapon. Many people think of guns as scary, black, explosive symbols of evil that go off and kill people at random, rather than realizing a gun is just a tool.

Gun control, and particularly gun control on campus is a tough issue to tackle, especially with the relative infrequency of school shootings it is easy to get complacent. However, if you have not

considered the issue beforehand and taken measures to prevent the tragedy, when the situation actually arises, it's already too late.

Gun control is similar to seat belt use: you may not need to use your seatbelt every time you get in your car, but that one time you get in an accident, you are going to be thankful you wore it.

*Dan (no last name given)  
LCC student  
Eugene, Ore.*

### Stimulate it

On Jan. 31, the Register-Guard published a letter to the editor from Mary Bruggenkamp stating that the attempt to stimulate the economy will fail and that the way to stimulate the economy is to return to the Republican practices of the Bush administration of cutting taxes for the rich and deregulating businesses.

While I agree with the view expressed by Congressman Pete DeFazio that the present stimulus proposal would be more effective if it contained more spending on infrastructure and less in the form of tax cuts, I do believe that it is possible to stimulate our economy by the use of expansionary fiscal policy of the type passed by the Congress.

Government spending on things such as bridges and roads in Oregon will create jobs in a time when our unemployment rate is 9.5 percent. The pay received by those so employed will be largely spent on goods and services in Oregon's private sector, which in turn will generate further jobs and further spending. Therefore, the

impact of every dollar of government spending has an impact on Oregon's economy in excess of the initial dollar of government spending.

This is known as the multiplier effect in economic terms. So yes, Ms. Bruggenkamp, it is possible to stimulate Oregon's economy by the use of fiscal policy.

As to the impact of tax cuts, it depends on the income level of the recipients. If the cuts were to the taxes of the rich, then Ms. Bruggenkamp may be correct as they may save rather than spend this extra or marginal revenue. However, the present bill would direct that those cuts be made in taxes paid by those who, because of the high unemployment rate, are likely to spend this extra money, which would generate a multiplier effect, too. However, direct government spending is acknowledged to produce a higher multiplier effect because it is all spent. As to her desire for deregulation, I can only cite the bonuses just paid to employees of Wall Street firms who recently received taxpayer money and the hedge fund frauds.

I doubt if this letter will convince people like Ms. Bruggenkamp to change their minds, but economic reality does not support her view as expressed in her letter.

*G. Dennis Shine  
Springfield, Ore.*

### Global farce

I am seriously questioning the man-made global warming theory. The earth recycles and cleanses

itself. Global warming happened before thousands of years ago, thousands of years before pollution, industry, auto emissions and hair spray.

If Al Gore has made millions of dollars exploiting created fears of global warming, then perhaps he should donate the funds earned to buy every family those special earth friendly light bulbs that also happen to produce mercury poisoning to whomever is unfortunate enough to break one in close proximity.

Ironically, Al Gore uses massive carbon emissions (more than 100 regular families in a year) every time he flies for global warming speaking engagements in his two private Lear jets.

I'm sure some of these politicians are laughing their asses off about how easy it has been to dupe the sheep, meaning, the masses of non-elite regular citizens.

Also, I am wondering why the scientists who oppose the "party line" always seem to end up shut up and unemployed?

Decide what you will, but I prefer to investigate and research things like this before reaching any kind of rational conclusion and closing the book. Until then, I'm thinking the earth will outlast us. So let's do something we actually can control like halting nuclear proliferation from irresponsible parties like Iran. Doing that would give me that warm, fuzzy, feel-good pat on my own back that some people get from chronic recycling.

*Tom Busch  
Former LCC student*



## Extreme Vlogging



Cartoon by RICK CHU/The Torch



# OSPIRG reaches out to campus for support of winter, spring campaigns

LCC student group works for lower textbook costs, global warming awareness; continues to feed the homeless through food drive

By **JESSE GRAY**  
Reporter

The LCC Oregon Student Public Interest Research Group, fresh from its successful Winter term kick-off, is planning several major events for the rest of the school year. Some events include a homeless food drive, the continuation of a campaign to address global warming and a campaign to lower the cost of textbooks.

Part of the textbook campaign took place in the first few weeks of Winter and Fall term, when OSPIRG encouraged students to sign cardboard placards stating how much money they paid for textbooks. “It’s a good way to see the totally ridiculous amount students pay for books,” LCC OSPIRG Chapter Chair Charles Denson said.

OSPIRG’s textbook campaign encourages instructors to use open source textbooks in their classes, which can be downloaded for free online or bought for a lower price than regular textbooks. Many of the campaign’s events focus on raising awareness of the high price of textbooks.

OSPIRG is funded by student incidental fees, and tackles a number of issues related to students and the community, such as hunger, homelessness, global warming and environmental issues, textbooks prices, and lobbying in the legislature for

more state funding for higher education.

While the exact number of volunteers varies depending on the event, OSPIRG members report that they have been in contact with over 2,000 LCC students and 700 have expressed interest in helping out.

LCC OSPIRG Chapter Coordinator Ben Ramsden-Stein attributed this term’s higher degree of interest primarily on higher enrollment. “Part of it is increasing enrollment,” he said. “We also stayed on top of class raps [this term]. There was just a lot of interest. It was great.”

Ramsden-Stein and other interns and volunteers tabled in the cafeteria and outside the LCC Bookstore several days a week in Fall and Winter terms.

They also hosted the OSPIRG winter kick-off, which was the biggest one in three years. “It wasn’t Lane’s record,” Ramsden-Stein said, citing the record at 100 attendees, but he was still excited at the 52-individual turnout.

As for campaigns, OSPIRG encouraged instructors to participate in the global “teach-in” on Feb. 5 to raise awareness of global warming by infusing their lesson plans with global warming themes.

While he wasn’t sure of the exact number of participating instructors, Denson said he’s expecting “a pretty good turnout.”



OSPIRG volunteer Kayla Hendricks chalked an LCC walkway with an announcement for the student group’s winter kickoff event in January. **Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch**

There will also be a panel comprised of teachers and experts from the fields of health, environmental science and economics to discuss how global warming applies to their respective fields.

Other campaigns include an on-

going food drive for the homeless that has already raised 250 pounds of food, and a campaign to work with legislators and teachers to lower the cost of college textbooks.

OSPIRG is always looking for more people to help out with a number

of projects and campaigns. It is planning a trip to Salem, Ore., in March to speak with legislature regarding a number of issues. Any questions or comments can be answered at the OSPIRG office, located in the basement of the Center Building.

# Culinary Arts, French Departments team up to serve three days of foreign cuisine

Students line up to purchase crepes; cooks run out of batter, double the amount for following days of fundraiser

By **TARYN ACKELSON**  
News Editor

Crepes, thinly cooked, egg-based pancakes of French origin, were served to participating students as a fundraiser for the French Department and a celebration of La Chandeleur, a French holiday equivalent to Groundhog Day.

“It was created from the idea that it’d be fun to get together for this event,” French Instructor Karin Almquist said.

Culinary arts students made sweet and savory crepes in the cafeteria from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Feb. 3-5.

“They asked us if we’d be willing to turn the omelet bar into a crepe bar,” second-year culinary arts student Laura Waters said from behind the busy crepe bar.

The profits were split to support both programs. Almquist said proceeds will help fund the French Department’s weekend immersion program that takes place each Spring term. Each crepe costs \$2.

“Tuesday was a success,” Division Dean of Language, Literature and Communications Susan Carkin stated. Colleagues told Carkin that, “the culinary students ran out of batter while there was still a line of students waiting for crepes,” on the first day of crepe sales. The amount of batter was doubled the next day to meet demand.

“We just walked through the Center [Building], and we saw them,” student Carolyn Westbrook said. “I’m a crepe lover. I like

them sweet. I like the fruit, definitely. It’s nice to put some Nutella or some chocolate on there, with something creamy like whipped cream or the sabyon.”

Although Westbrook’s favored Nutella was not available, there was fresh-made sabyon, a sweet heavy cream sauce akin to custard. Other toppings included raspberry and pear compote.

Customers could also select from a variety of savory toppings such as red and white onions, cheese, peppers, tomatoes and mushrooms.

It was important to Culinary Arts and Hospitality Instructor Clive Wanstall that the crepes remain as authentic as possible.

“This is the first year we have done this. We want to repeat it if it’s a success,” Almquist said.

Professional pans made cooking the crepes easier for the culinary students, Waters said. Challenges faced during the preparation process for the new dish were deciding on different fillings and learning the right moments to flip the crepe.

Two second-year students supervised a group of students who were new to the omelet bar, in a teaching-and-learning opportunity set up by the Culinary Arts Department. “We’re teaching and we’re also learning at the same time, so that’s a challenge,” Waters said.

Wednesday, French students handed out French proverb cards. It was offered that French students could

## ..... CREPE RECIPE .....

### Ingredients

- 1 cup flour
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons melted butter



### Step one:

In a large bowl, whisk together the flour and eggs. Gradually, add the milk, then the water. Continue mixing and add the salt, then the butter.

### Step two:

Add a small amount of oil to a large griddle or frying pan. Heat at medium to medium high. Pour 1/4 cup of batter onto the pan. Rotate the pan in a circular motion to evenly coat the surface of the pan.

### Step three:

Let cook for about two minutes, until it begins to lightly brown and appear dry. Flip with a spatula and cook the other side.

**Serve hot.**  
**Add desired toppings.**

translate and provide pronunciation of the proverbs, but as of noon on Wednesday, no students were present.

The French program also holds weekly meetings on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. in the northeast corner of the cafeteria. “Café Francais” welcomes students of all levels who are interested in practicing their linguistic skills, “even if you speak only ‘un peu’” the French program suggests.

Almquist offers an informal French con-

versation group every other Friday at Cozmic Pizza from 5:30-7 p.m. The group will meet Friday, Feb. 6.

The immersion weekend in the spring takes place on Main Campus and offers students the chance to “live in French,” Carkin stated. The weekend consists of collaborative meal planning, cooking, small talk and games all conducted in French.

“We want to surround them with French culture as much as we can,” Almquist said.



SPY, From Page 1

understand why he put his son, Nathan, at risk.

Jim was an Army veteran and served in the CIA for 16 years, becoming one of the youngest officers in the position of station chief.

At the time Jim was sentenced, he had sole custody of his three children, Jeremiah, Astralena (Star) and Nathan, then 12.

The children were left in the care of their grandparents, Marvin and Betty Nicholson until the children’s mother moved them to Corvallis, Ore., five months later.

After high school, Nathan went to Oregon State University for a term, before joining the Army. He served 18 months in the Army, Marvin said.

“He was in the 82nd airborne, a paratrooper,” Marvin recalled. “He served 18 months and jumped out of an aircraft and his equipment failed.” This accident resulted in a back injury. Nathan was medically discharged from the Army in October 2004, returning to Eugene, Ore.

Nathan enrolled in classes at LCC in 2005, originally working towards a drafting degree. When he didn’t pass a physics class, he shifted course towards a degree in mechanical engineering.

Nathan was collecting disability for his injury and using Army benefits to pay for classes. He worked at Pizza Hut, then later at Burton Saw — an internship he secured through LCC.

Danielle said he planned to attend OSU in the spring.

In a conversation with Star on Sept. 7, 2008, court-authorized surveillance of Nathan’s telephone recorded Star asking Nathan whether he will continue school and pursue a degree in architecture.

“I’m just sort of like waiting for more excitement to happen, waiting for more big changes in our lives,” Nathan replied.

Star responded that she didn’t like big changes and Nathan assured her that it wasn’t “bad stuff.” It’s good stuff, “like winning the lottery or something.”

The Federal Correctional Institution in Sheridan, Ore. — where Jim is being held — provided the FBI with a letter Jim wrote Nathan, dated Aug. 31, 2008. “Although it might be a while before we get rolling, when the time comes where we can save significant amounts, it would be wise to put at least half in Euros. The U.S. [dollar] is precarious. So, just in case you win the lottery as you hope, you can use this tip.”

Danielle reported that she, her boyfriend and Dustin spent nearly everyday with Nathan. They had no idea that he was possibly involved in illegal activity until one month ago, Danielle said “10



Nathan Nicholson

FBI agents” showed up at their home to question the group.

“As far as we know, or as far as [the FBI] know, it wasn’t secrets. It wasn’t espionage, like his dad. It was just maybe like communication between his dad and [Russian agents],” Danielle said.

October 2006, Rogers and her boyfriend accompanied Nathan on a trip to San Francisco, Calif. — the same trip the indictment alleges Nathan visited the Russian Consulate in San Francisco. During this visit, Nathan told his friends he needed to be dropped off to meet “an old Army buddy,” but allegedly delivered information to a representative of the Russian Federation on his father’s behalf and collected \$5,000.

The indictment also reports that Nathan was given further instructions to meet Russian agents at Mexico City, Mexico, in December of 2006.

After this initial meeting, Nathan allegedly met with agents of the Russian Federation on four instances, in Mexico City twice; Lima, Peru; and Nicosiya, Cyprus, recovering a total of approximately \$40,593.

In his alleged contact with the Russian Federation, Nathan used an e-mail address — Jopemurr2@yahoo.com — and code names Dick, Eugene and Nancy to communicate in coded messages.

The indictment indicates that this e-mail was allegedly accessed from Nathan’s apartment complex on several occasions, and at least once from the LCC library.

Nathan visited Jim in jail every other week. Friends said he always had his phone on and near him, just in case Jim called.

“Of course I wasn’t looking for anything suspicious, but I didn’t hear any conversation” that was out of the ordinary, Danielle said.

Alleged timeline of events according to the FBI indictment



Graphic by RYOKO FUJIHARA/The Torch



Associated Students of Lane Community College

ASLCC Events

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

• February 26th  
Oregon Student Association Lobby Day

• March 4th 10am-4pm  
Open mic in the Northeast end of the cafeteria

• March 4th 6-8:30pm  
Lane preview night

ATTEND LCC LOBBY DAY IN SALEM ON APRIL 9TH

If interested in these events and/or Student Gov’t:  
CONTACT: Meghan Krueger 463-3171  
<http://www.lanecc.edu/aslcc>

Council of Clubs  
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 [lrosadiaz@gmail.com](mailto:lrosadiaz@gmail.com)  
or Bette Dorris at (541) 463-5365

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## MICROBREW FESTIVAL, From Page 1

keep public radio station, KLCC 89.7 FM, financially healthy,” the KLCC webpage reads. Two-thirds of KLCC’s budget comes from community donations, the remaining third comes from LCC and local business support.

Musical performances will include Americana vocals from the Ashleigh Flynn Band, Friday at 7:30 p.m. The Essentials will take the stage on Saturday, at 7:30 p.m. to present rhythm, heavy brass and soulful sounds to brew fest attendees.

A music sale will take place in conjunction with the brew fest. CD and record donations collected up to the day before the event will be sold for \$3 for CDs and \$1 for records. Chisholm said that the low prices allow browsers to purchase new music at low cost, allowing them to take chances with music they may not have purchased otherwise.

Five local breweries: Ninkasi, Eugene City Brewery, Steelhead Brewery, Oakshire Brewing and High Street Brewery, came together to create the 2009 collaboration brew, Sasquatch Ale. “It’s a tribute beer for the late Glen Falconer, former owner of the Wild Duck Brewery,” Ninkasi co-owner Nikos Ridge said.

“We — as one of the breweries here in Eugene — organize and meet up with the other four breweries and decide on a beer to brew for the year,” Chris Althouse, original co-founder of Oakshire Brewing, formerly known as Willamette Brewery, said.

“It’s great to be part of the collaboration beer,” Ridge said. “As a newer brewery, we get to carry on the tradition.”

The five breweries use the same ingredients in brewing

the collaboration beer, with just one difference: the use of each brewery’s house yeast. Althouse said it is common to tell the difference between the five versions of the beer because the different yeasts will change the flavor profile of the brew.

Although there is a wide variety of the crafted beverage, some specialty beers may run out before the festival ends. A handful of specialty and seasonal brews may only be available in one keg. KLCC assures there are well over 100 different brews to sample and “there are lots of other brews to try.”

In addition to established microbreweries, there will be a home brew competition judged on the first day of the event. Results will be announced on Feb. 7.

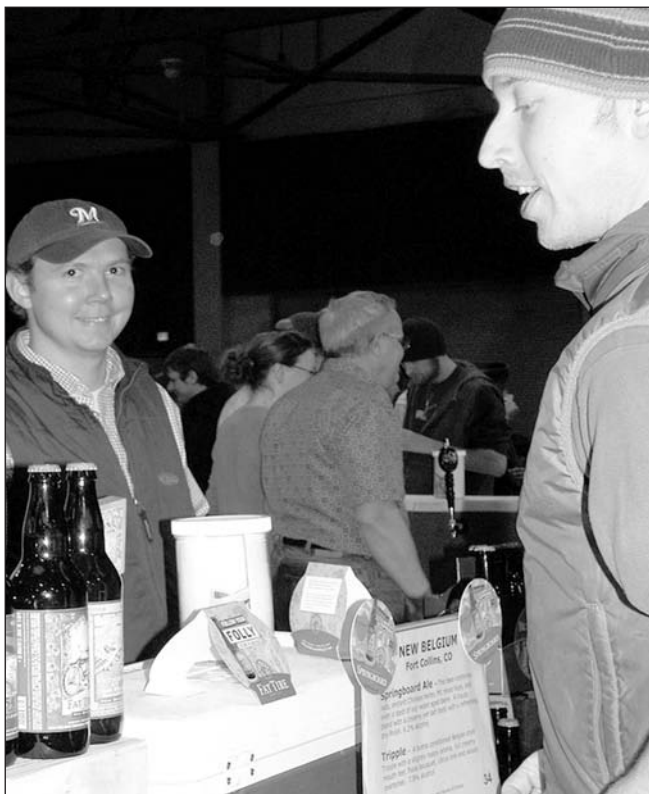
KLCC Member Director and Special Events Coordinator Kris Fox organized volunteers for the event, receiving over 300 volunteers. She approximates that half of this year’s volunteers have helped at the Microbrew Festival in the past. Pouring beer will be the main job for volunteers, filling tasting glasses at brewery booths. Fox attributes the new online signup option for the large number of volunteers that committed to giving time to the event.

“This year, I have plenty, which usually doesn’t happen,” Fox said. “We couldn’t do it without them. There are so many things to get done.”

“It’s a great community event that people want to be a part of,” Fox said.

The festival is a 21-and-over event.

KLCC features a mixture of NPR News, regional and local news and a wide range of music, serving western and central Oregon.



The KLCC Microbrew Festival features over 100 different brews for attendees to sample throughout the event on Feb. 6-7. Proceeds of the fundraiser benefit 89.7 FM, LCC’s public radio station, which relies on two-thirds of its funding from community support. Photo courtesy of ROGUE ALES

KLCC SPRING MEMBERSHIP DRIVE  
IMPORTANT DATES

Thon Busters begins in late February, following the Microbrew Festival.

Current members will receive e-mail followed by mailers reminding them of the opportunity to donate.

On-air Member Drive begins Thursday, April 2, and ends April 9.

KLCC relies on the community to provide two-thirds of its budget.

OSCC conference on  
community college  
campus for first time

Gathering features over  
70 workshops; connects  
more than 300 students

By TARYN ACKELSON  
News Editor

For the first time on a community college campus, LCC will host the Oregon Students of Color Coalition conference, bringing dynamic workshops to college students from across the Northwest from Feb. 6-8.

Hosting the conference at a community college for the first time symbolizes the issue of access to education Associated Students of LCC President Josh Canaday said. “Community colleges are an access point, and we have a more diverse student population with non-traditional students,” Canaday said.

Seventy workshops will be divided into a full week-end of seven sessions, including topics such as campus politics, lobbying, pop culture, race issues, gender dynamics, privilege and sexual orientation.

This conference “emphasizes the need to pull up our sleeves and get involved,” Multicultural and Events Coordinator Liza Rosa-Diaz said.

“It’s a chance for the campus to see how involved students actually are on a political and social level across the state,” Rosa-Diaz said. She hopes the event will empower campus clubs and organizations to do more and open their eyes to the current conditions of American society.

There will be time to network and socialize beyond the seriousness of the workshops at a dance on Saturday night. Conferences serve as networking opportunities for the leadership of colleges and universities throughout the Northwest region.

Registration for the OSCC conference closed Jan. 30.

There are a number of opportunities for students to become involved in social justice issues and politics on and off LCC campuses. Beginning in late February, Student Life and Leadership including ASLCC and Oregon Student Association will visit the state capitol to lobby for student issues. They are looking for increased student participation. Contacting ASLCC and OSA can create “connections to getting involved,” Canaday said. “We’re dealing with social issues others can get involved with.”

## \$2,500 award for staff competition

League for  
Innovation seeks  
nominations until  
March

By TARYN ACKELSON  
News Editor

League for Innovation in the community college is part of “an international organization committed to catalyzing the community college movement,” LCC’s league representative Tamara Pinkas said. It is accepting nominations for the annual all-staff competition: Innovation of the Year.

The league aims to contribute to every level of community colleges, students, staff, faculty and administration. “This competition is directed toward all college employees that have done something innovative,” Pinkas said.

This year, the Lane Foundation is offering a \$2,500 award for the LCC winner of the League for Innovation’s competition. “People have many great ideas but it takes more than just their initiative,” Pinkas said. She reported that the funds come from a “special pot” of money the Lane Foundation has set aside for innovation.

The winner of LCC’s innovation award automatically gets recognized on the league’s Innovation of the Year website.

Past innovations honored at LCC have included the LCC Employee Health Clinic, the learning community “Excavating Creativity: Move-

ment, Image, Text” and an energy management program.

The league for Innovation will accept nominations until March. Questions regarding nominations should be directed to Pinkas at (541) 463-5011.

Art instructor JS Bird was honored two years ago as part of a team of teachers who led a learning community incorporating writing, movement and drawing. He feels that innovation is aligned with creativity. “Innovation is a way of thinking about or presenting, perhaps, information that’s been covered before but to present it in a way that is different than it’s been presented in before,” Bird said.

The class was in place before the nomination. It began as “Investigating the Body,” a combination of three classes focused on “investigating what the body is as a subject,” Bird said.

The class changed names as it evolved into “Excavating Creativity” because the instructors liked the idea of the students discovering pieces of themselves through creativity.

“I think it’s a great way to create community,” Bird said.

The class is not running this year due to scheduling conflicts with one of the instructors. If it resumes in the future, Bird encourages students who are interested in the class to take part in all three courses to allow them to make deeper connections.

“It was just nice to be honored for promoting a class that was not so traditional, not so academic,” Bird said. “It is innovative in the sense of being somewhat of an alternative style of learning, a more experiential based,

discovery kind of learning. It was nice to be rewarded for that approach to teaching and learning.”

LCC’s Employee Health Clinic, an expanded service provided by the LCC Student Health Clinic, received the award in the past for providing employees with voluntary, on-campus, acute-conditions care, and access to lab work.

The service was initiated to save the college money through a back-door process. Care provided to employees at the clinic saves staff a trip to primary care physicians, keeping the visit off record from insurance companies.

Insurance premiums rise at a lower rate if the number of doctor visits remains low. The LCC community saw a six percent increase in the cost of health care last year, when the Eugene-Springfield community saw an increase of 12 percent.

“It seems pretty important to be honored for innovation,” Health Clinic Manager Mona Arbuckle said. “We’re the only community college in the state that has a health clinic.”

The Health Clinic has received other awards for innovation, including the Eldon Shafer Award for keeping automatic external defibrillators on campus and for the Strategic Breathing Initiative, work on asthma care and the presence of an evaluation tool in the clinic, which helps physicians observe airways.

LCC has been a member of the League for Innovation for over 30 years and is one of 19 colleges that sit on the board for the international organization. There are more than 750 board and affiliate members around the world.

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Volifonix was originally known as Rukkus, and after that, The Great Escape. The Forbess brothers had been playing music together for years before they met the “two others” referred to on Volifonix’s official biography. The debut album features tracks previously released on the band’s 2007 demo and the 2008 Eugene EP. **Photos courtesy of VOLIFONIX**

# Local favorites Volifonix are on the rise

## Last Band Standing winners record album, hit the road

By **BENNETT MOHLER**  
Arts Editor

“Two brothers, two others ...” those are the first four words local band Volifonix uses to describe its funk-rock foursome. From humble beginnings in Oakland, Ore., Volifonix is making the finishing touches on its debut album, “Oregonism,” featuring 12 new recordings.

After the album’s release, the band plans to tour this summer to promote the album.

Started by the Forbess brothers — Blake on the drums and Trevor with rhythm guitar and vocals — Volifonix came about in 2005. Trevor met bassist Elijah Medina at Sutherlin High School when the brothers were living in Oakland. Trevor later met lead guitarist Joe McClain at the University of Oregon.

After a few name changes, in 2006, Volifonix stuck. The band quickly gained attention throughout 2006 and 2007.

“The gigs just kept on coming,” Trevor said.

Volifonix won the UO’s battle of the bands competition two years in a row. It also opened for New Monsoon at the WOW Hall in January 2008.

Volifonix was planning to record its debut album in March 2008 at Sprout City, but the result wasn’t satisfactory.

“It was a good learning experience,” McClain said, “but we couldn’t use it. We just killed it. We gave it away to friends, put some songs on our MySpace.”

“We realized it’s a much better experience when the person produc-



Volifonix recorded its album in a beach house in Newport. The band members lived in the house, which was transformed into a sound studio for most of December and January. **Photo courtesy of VOLIFONIX**

ing the music is really into it,” Blake said.

Despite the botched album attempt, Volifonix didn’t lose momentum. It caught a big break when it won Last Band Standing in the summer of 2008. On top of winning a van and thousands of dollars worth of sponsor prizes, it secured some studio time with producer James Book of Top Secret Records. Book had enjoyed a brief stint of fame with his former band, The Flys, and their top-10 hit “Got You (Where I Want You)” in the late ‘90s.

The resulting recording was the Eugene EP, featuring three of Volifonix’s songs.

“The Eugene EP was basically our prize for winning Last Band Standing ... that and the van,” McClain said.

Book was impressed with the group after working with them. After

the EP was completed, Book was already talking to the band about producing a full-length album.

“We really liked working together and started talking about making a record,” McClain said.

Book initiated finding a recording space. He decided not to use a professional studio since he had most of the necessary equipment to produce a professional sounding album. All the group needed was a space.

“We just wanted a nice quiet place that we could play all night,” Medina said.

Book is the owner of Rebel Surfboards and had a connection in Newport for a summer rental home. The rental was large and secluded, making it an ideal place to create a makeshift studio.

“He brought all his equipment there and we turned the house into a

studio,” Blake said. “The living room was where the computer and mixer was, [and] we had one room set up just for drums. There were amps in the bathrooms, it was awesome,” Blake said.

From early December to the end of January, Volifonix lived in the house, dedicating that time to recording its album.

“We’d sleep in ‘til about noon, then wake up and just play music ‘til midnight. Over time, we’d get up later and later, but that was pretty much every day ... noon to midnight with dinner breaks,” Medina said.

For two months, the four were sleeping on futons and air mattresses and spending most of their time in soundproofed rooms, with a few exceptions.

“We came home for Christmas and New Year’s,” Blake said. “That

was about it.”

The band enjoyed some time on the beach as well. Being the owner of a surfboard company, Book was able to accommodate the four with surfing equipment.

“All of us went surfing,” Medina said. “We got hooked up with wetsuits and surfboards.”

Sessions for the album were completed on Jan. 30. Artwork is complete for the cover. Next on the agenda is promoting the album on the road.

“There’s definitely a summer tour in the works,” Medina said.

The band plans to take off as soon as school is out. McClain is still enrolled at UO, and Medina is attending LCC. The band plans to tour most of the Pacific Northwest, up to Seattle and as far south as San Francisco.

“We have to be in Oakland [Calif.] by July 9, because my sister is getting married on the eleventh,” Blake said.

As for the release of the album, the band is predicting a late February to early March release, although the album could be released as late as the first week of April to coincide with a specific event that the band will not disclose at this time. Volifonix confirms there will be a CD release party in Eugene when the album is released.

“We’re not going to play in Eugene till the album’s finished,” Medina said.

While the album may be available to the public digitally, it won’t be available on hardcopy until the party.

The band does have one show scheduled before the album’s release in Noti, Ore. on Valentine’s Day. Volifonix plans to play some shows before the CD’s release where they will debut new songs from the album, but Eugene won’t see the band again until its first album is finally revealed.

“The tracks sound really supreme,” Medina said. “It’s going to be awesome!”



# The girls want to dance with the girls

**‘Girls Aloud’ provides a safe space for women to party**

By **BENNETT MOHLER**  
Arts Editor

While downtown Eugene has bars and nightclubs to spend an evening drinking with friends and dancing to loud music, some say the bar scene doesn’t offer a welcoming environment for the female community, especially the younger community. Laura McNamara hopes to change this by creating an all-girl dance party social.

“The idea is to provide a non-threatening environment for women,” McNamara said.

McNamara chose Cozmic Pizza as the venue for her social, known as “Girls Aloud.” The choice of location is mostly because it was where McNamara, along with co-founders Teri Schlesinger and Sonya Mandel first thought up the idea. It is also one of the few all-ages venues in Eugene that provides a lounge-like environment.

“We wanted to find something to bring all ages together,” Schlesinger said. “There are the younger groups that get together or the older groups, but we wanted them all in one place.”

“There’s no negative connotation attached to [Cozmic Pizza] like at a bar. It’s already established in Eugene as a family-friendly place,” McNamara said. “The food is good, the beer is wonderful. We wanted to stick by that same vibe.”

McNamara came up with the idea while attending a show at Cozmic Pizza. She overheard Schlesinger and Mandel, both of whom she had never met before, talking about how nobody was dancing to the band.

“I overheard the comment, ‘why was nobody dancing,’ and I suggest-



DJ Amanda will be performing at “Girls Aloud” every month. The event is described by Laura McNamara as a “dance party social,” giving women of all ages the chance to dance, meet new people and have a good time. **Photo by JAVIER MAGALLANES/The Torch**

ed that we get up there and dance,” McNamara said.

McNamara had seen Schlesinger and Mandel dancing at various clubs, but had never been formally introduced. That night, the three began talking about the possibility of an all-girl dance club.

“I said I wanted to start something here,” Mandel said.

“It was really just a chance encounter,” McNamara said. “It started as a spontaneous small conversation that’s come to fruition and now it’s a reality.”

“Girls Aloud” is held at Cozmic Pizza on the last Saturday of every month. McNamara, Schlesinger and Mandel have rented out the entire space of The Strand for the event. This includes Theo’s Café and In-

dra’s Internet Café.

“We’ve taken over the whole building,” McNamara said. “We felt it important enough to create those walls of security.”

Besides providing a safe place for women to have a fun night out, “Girls Aloud” also aims to bring the community of women together regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation or age.

“It seems that more often than not we tend to segregate ourselves,” Schlesinger said.

“We want everyone there regardless of orientation,” McNamara said. “We hope to draw everyone in. We want to see mothers coming with their daughters, daughters coming with their grandmothers, anything!”

While the event is largely fund-

ed by private investment, the three founders hope to bring in donations from anyone willing to be so generous. They are also putting a cover at the door that’ll help support the future of “Girls Aloud.”

“We plan on taking the money and putting it right back in,” McNamara said. “We’re doing it pretty grassroots.”

“Girls Aloud” will also be spreading awareness of Sexual Assault Support Services and collecting food for Food for Lane County. The cover is \$2 if individuals bring in cans of food.

The first “Girls Aloud” that occurred last Saturday, Jan. 31, was a success. More than 150 people showed up, filling the venue to capacity.

“Even to midnight, we still had women out there dancing,” Schlesinger said.

“I thought it was a real success,” Mandel said.

The “Girls Aloud” event lasts from 8 p.m. to midnight the last Saturday of every month. This February, however, the event will be on Feb. 14 to coincide with Valentine’s Day.

“We’re going to make an exception since it’s so cool that Valentine’s Day is on a Saturday this year,” McNamara said.

The event is 18 and over. Cover charge is \$7 or \$5 with food donation.

“We girls in Eugene have a place to boogie down for a while,” McNamara said.



“Girls Aloud” collects food for Food for Lane County and collects money for Sexual Assault Support Services. The event started with a chance encounter between co-founders Laura McNamara, Sonya Mandel and Teri Schlesinger at Cozmic Pizza. **Photo by JAVIER MAGALLANES/The Torch**

The next  
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—Review—

# S.P.A. put a spell on you



Godspell, the first musical completely produced by the S.P.A., premieres on Friday, Feb. 6, at 8 p.m., with shows every Friday and Saturday through Feb. 21. Using comedy and song, the production explores the place of Jesus in Jewish history along with several parables from the New Testament. Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch

## LCC produces first-ever musical

By NOA STARK  
Reporter

“Godspell,” a 1960s musical, is the first musical to hit the Blue Door Theater that is entirely produced by the Student Productions Association. It will start Friday, Feb. 6 and run for three successive weekends.

Student performers come from a variety of academic disciplines, and a wide variety of religious practices, but were able to collaborate on “Godspell.”

“We were able to find talented, capable actors who were able to do musical theater,” Chris Pinto, “Godspell” director, said.

“We really have a wide variety of people in this performance,” Assistant Stage Manager Rachel Pasley said. “Some have been performing for much of their lives, others have absolutely no theater, dance or singing experience at all.”

Pinto opted to stay close to the original “Godspell,” written by Stephen Schwartz and John-Michael Tebalek, but he did make some allowances to relate the play to more modern times. One of the ways Pinto strayed from the original version was his decision to portray Jesus with 12 disciples, instead of nine.

“We split John the Baptist and Judas Iscariot into two characters,” Pinto said. “Thirteen voices sound better than nine,” he added.

“We have seven men and six women, who sound great together,” he said, attributing this sound to the direction of Vicki Brabham, musical director for “Godspell.”

During evening rehearsal in the Blue Door Theater, a live band and sparse stage greeted the actors. Nathan Alef, 17, led the band on piano. Cast member Mark Mullaney played saxophone.

The set was comprised of a graffiti-covered cinder block wall, a chain link fence, a few barrels, sawhorses and boards.

The players made good use of the sparse staging. Large dance numbers took place on multiple levels, and in appropriately shaped lines across the Blue Door stage, a horseshoe theater that is more intimate than LCC’s main performance hall.

In the opening act of the play,

John the Baptist, played by S.P.A. President John Heritage, blows a horn traditionally blown to bring Jews to Rosh Hashanah repentance. Heritage plays an enthusiastic John the Baptist, singing and dancing with skill.

Singing opens the first act and continues throughout the show. The choral arrangements are performed with gusto and excellent tonality. Audiences who have seen this play before will likely be surprised by the excellent musical presentation of songs like “Day By Day” and “God Save the People.”

The cast’s dancing is just as outstanding. Dances range from freestyle to pseudo-ethnic and row dances. The cast did an excellent job of moving as an ensemble.

Jordan Nowotny plays Jesus. He found it was difficult to portray the character. Jesus is supposed to be a “humble, sinless being and he has this infinite knowledge, but he’s stuck in this human body,” Nowotny said.

Nowotny said he “grew up extremely Protestant,” and found it difficult to deliver lines without sounding like he was giving a sermon.

In the musical, Nowotny plays both leader and ensemble member. His non-singing parts are delivered from crates above the rest of the ensemble with appropriate emotion. Sometimes his tones were extremely quiet, however, which could make it difficult to hear him in a packed theater.

Nowotny plays the full-range of New Testament emotion. He explains Jesus’ place in Jewish history, he teaches with parables and comedy, and he gets angry when challenging tax collectors or the disciples who fall asleep before Jesus’ crucifixion.

These spoken parts are sometimes divided by song, and sometimes happen during chorus verses. At each point, the characters seem to work together to ensure that the message is not lost.

Tickets are available online at <http://lanec.edu/tickets>. For the general public, admission is \$12.50. Students, seniors and LCC staff tickets are \$10. On pre-sale tickets, it is important to call the number printed on the ticket to reserve seats.

The musical kicks off Friday, Feb. 6 at 8 p.m., with shows every Friday and Saturday through Feb. 21. The musical begins at 8 p.m. A matinee will be offered at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 15.



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S.P.A. players perform as the “seed among the weeds” in a rendition of the “Parable of the Sower.” Photo by JB BOTWINICK/The Torch



## LANE TRANSIT DISTRICT UNVEILS FIRST ROSA PARKS MONUMENT

By **DILLON BLANKS**  
Features Editor

Her name is recognized across the nation, she's worked alongside civil rights activist Martin Luther King, Jr. and her single act of courage helped mark the start of the modern-day civil rights movement. She has never had a monument built in her name, until now.

Many know Rosa Parks as the black woman who refused to give her seat to a white man on a Montgomery bus in the 1950s. Although she was not the first African-American woman to take a stand like this, her bravery started the Montgomery Bus Boycott. When Parks died, her coffin was placed in the U.S. rotunda for two days, an honor usually reserved for the President.

"It's amazing what happens to people when they're mistreated and misjudged and things are determined by what they look like," LCC student Lacie Heffron, 19, said. "Things happen inside of you and make this courageous build that you didn't think you had."

On Jan. 19, 2009, a commemorative statue was unveiled at Lane Transit District's downtown Eugene Station. The monument features Parks sitting down with her hands held together in her lap and her legs neatly put together while looking off to the side. Heffron modeled for the statue.

"As not only a woman, but also a black woman to be able to do such a courageous thing in such a scary and unfair time is really amazing and honorable," Heffron said. "I don't see how I couldn't look up to her."

Heffron graduated from Pleasant Hill High School and is now a political science major at LCC. Through her high school, Heffron met Pete Helzer's daughters. Later Helzer asked if she would like to pose for the statue.

"It was fun," Heffron said. "[It took] a lot of sitting, and a lot of patience, but it was nice because since she was sitting in the sculpture so I got to sit."

Heffron was chosen to model for the statue because she was similar to Parks in size and lived only three minutes away from Helzer's home. The main focus of Heffron's modeling was on her body, not on her face.

"For me it was just a lot of sitting and he took my measurements," Heffron said. "I didn't have to do anything posing. When I actually came into it, he had already done her face pretty much so it was really basic body sculpting."

Heffron spent time over the summer modeling for the statue two times a week for two-hour periods. Sitting in a single space four hours a week after school may not sound like all the fun in the world, but Heffron didn't seem to mind.

"I pretty much sat, [and] talked to the Pete," Heffron said. "It was fun. He was a really neat guy. I was blessed to get someone so very intelligent and very passionate about what he was doing."

Heffron's favorite civil rights leader is Martin Luther King, Jr., but she still has substantial respect for Parks and what she has done.

"She's my goal," Heffron said. "I shouldn't be any less than that. Even in my everyday life I should be standing up for myself, standing up for civil rights, standing up for equality even in the littlest things."

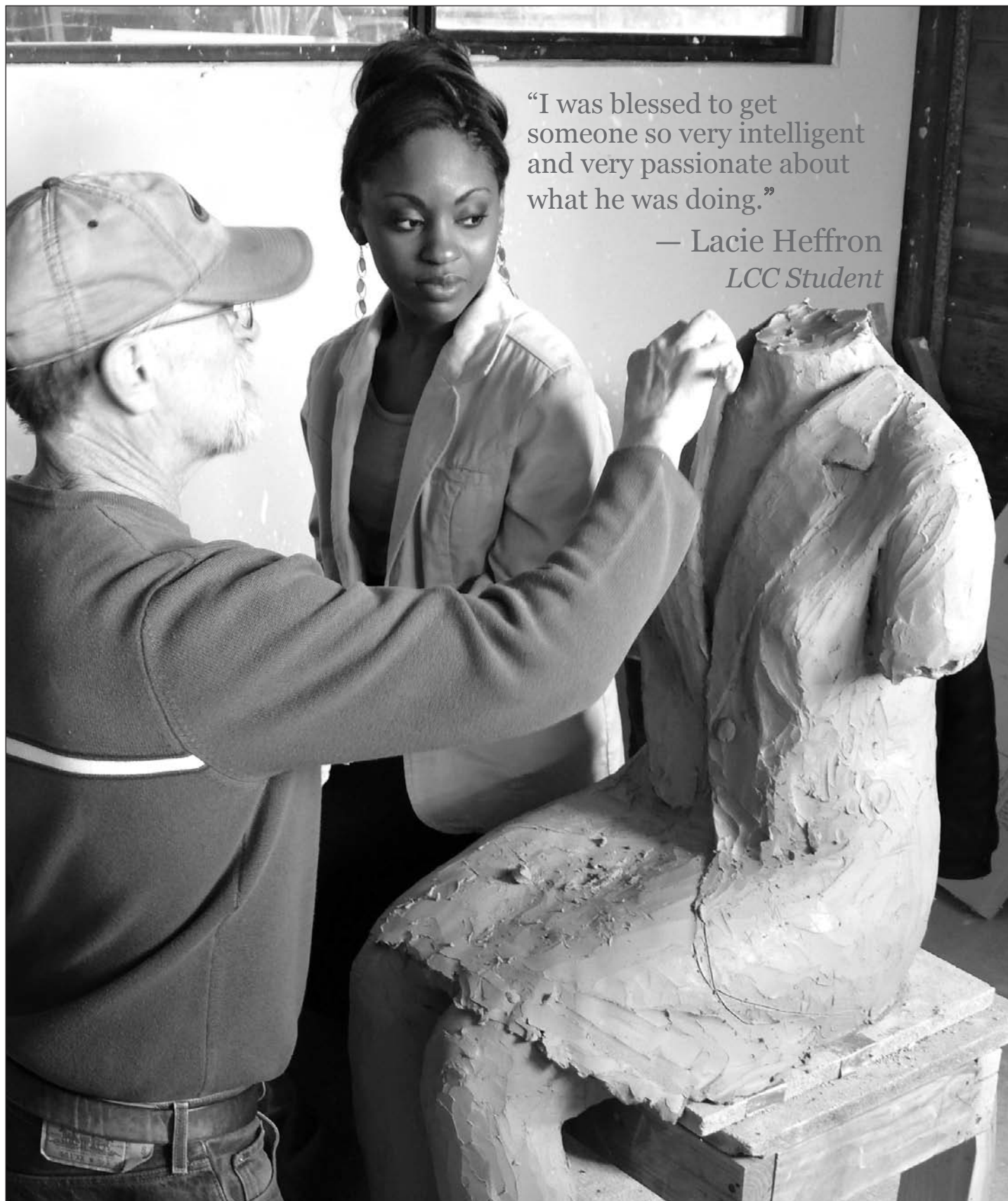
Helzer read Parks autobiography as he was working on the statue. "The further along I got, the more I started realizing it wasn't just fun and interesting; it was also important, because she's such a strong symbol and she carries such a powerful meaning to so many people," Helzer said.

"You can't help but be impressed by somebody of principal, courage and compassion, and she had all of those elements. She's sort of an easy person to pick for a hero."

Helzer has been sculpting for 30 years and made over 100 sculptures in Oregon. Some of his more notable work in the Eugene-Springfield area is the Ken Kesey statue located in Kesey square, and the 525 crosses in the new River Bend hospital's patient rooms. Helzer has been working on the Rosa Parks statue off and on for a year.

An entire event was held for the unveiling of the statue on MLK Jr. day, starting with a march from Autzen stadium to the LTD station.

Former Lane County Commissioner Bobby Green and University of Oregon English professor Edwin Coleman gave speeches and the



"I was blessed to get someone so very intelligent and very passionate about what he was doing."

— Lacie Heffron  
LCC Student

Lacie Heffron, 19, spent her summer modeling for Pete Helzer's Rosa Parks statue. Heffron is a political science major at LCC. Photo courtesy of PETE HELZER

statue was revealed. The LTD plaza at West 10th and Olive Street was renamed The Rosa Parks Plaza.

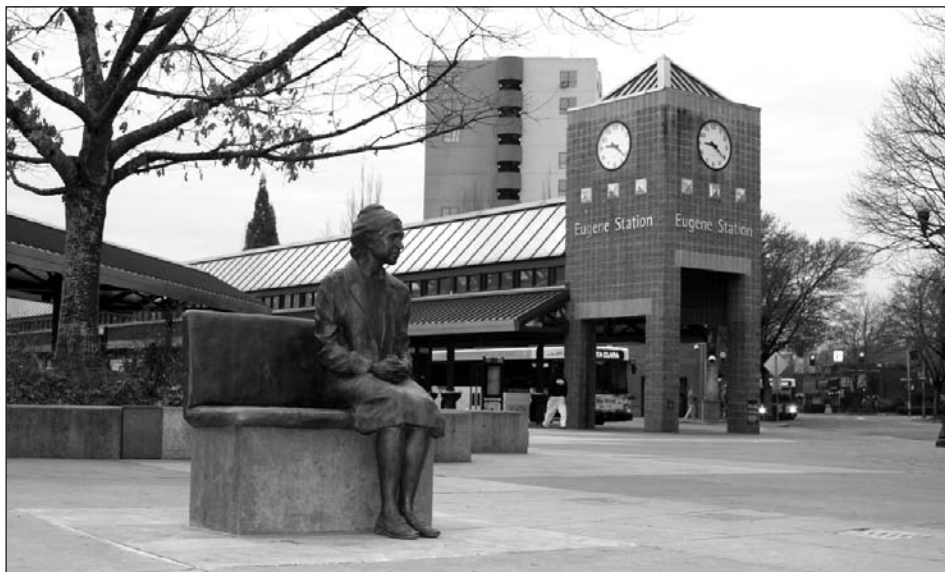
"It was amazing, we showed up and there was lots and lots of people around the sculpture," Heffron said. "We unveiled it and there was lots of people taking pictures and doing interviews and it was really amazing, even more amazing than I would've imagined."

"I felt really honored that I was chosen for the project," Helzer said. "It was a great day. Lots of sunshine, lots of people, and lots of little kids climbing all over it and that was great. I felt really good about this project."

"I was so excited and happy and everyone was hugging each other," Heffron said. "I didn't see any tears, just lots of smiles."

"I think it was really well received by the community, several hundred people went out to the unveiling of the sculpture," LTD Marketing Representative Angie Sifuentes said. "It was a very moving dedication [and] people were touched by it. It was very exciting for us to be the very first property to have a statue of Rosa Parks at a transit station." Sifuentes served on the committee that conducted fundraising and advertising for the project.

"I'm really excited that Eugene was the first community to have a Rosa Parks statue in its public bus station," LCC English Instructor Jef-



The Rosa Parks statue is displayed at the LTD downtown station plaza, on the corner of West 10th and Olive Street. Photo courtesy of PETE HELZER

frey Harrison said. "I think it's an honor that it's not only her memory that does us good, but [also] to remind ourselves of the hard work and risks people have taken to get us to where we're at now."

"It's a great thing for Eugene," Pete Helzer's wife and LCC Anthropology professor Margaret Helzer said. "I think it's fantastic. Rosa Parks was an incredibly historic figure for all of us, so it's wonderful that we can honor her."



## SPORTS LINE

# Smoke on the water

I realized, watching the Beijing Games last summer, that you don't even have to be a sports fan to appreciate the Olympics, just a fan of the human body and the things it is capable of. And in all honesty, it doesn't even have to be the Olympics. I can watch the world's best do anything. I don't care if it's teeth brushing, egg scrambling, cabinet making or gas pumping. If you're the best at what you do, you've got my attention. I can barely pass up watching Iron Chef.

That's what makes the Olympics so special. Every four years, for four weeks we get to watch the most gifted athletes the human race has to offer do things few humans can. And certainly the best part of a fantastic 2008 Olympic Games was watching Michael Phelps' quest for eight gold medals. Every night for two weeks, millions of other Phelps-backers and I couldn't wait for NBC to begin its nightly swimming coverage. Quite simply, it was "the" sports story of the summer.

I'm too young to remember Bruce Jenner, Jackie Joyner Kersey or Carl Lewis. So Phelps was the first Olympic hero I saw earn a spot on a box of Wheaties. And like the Olympic heroes that came before him, Phelps came through for us in every way. He didn't just get eight golds, he got eight golds in the most viewer-pleasing way possible. Whether it was an amazing comeback in a relay, or a margin of victory of one-hundredth of a second, following Phelps we saw it all. And his quest for eight golds wasn't just his dream come true, it was America's.

Phelps' wingspan, flipper-like feet and lungs-of-steel were a testament to the strength of the human species and how far 250,000 years of evolution had taken us.



Usain Bolt's lightning-fast time in the 100-meter dash was also spectacular. You could even say his performance trumped Phelps' quest for eight gold medals, though it was Phelps' quest that captivated the entire U.S. audience and gave us all something to rally around.

Naturally, Phelps' Olympic story didn't end in Beijing. Olympic success leads to many good things, like endless endorsement opportunities. And bad things, like endless media attention. That's the going rate for Olympic stardom.

For that reason, I was not the least bit surprised Phelps was caught using his lungs-of-steel for some non-Olympic-sanctioned extracurricular activities. If you haven't heard yet, I'm talking about the pictures that recently surfaced featuring the 23-year-old at a party at the University of South Carolina in November with a bong to his lips. Or was it a water tobacco pipe? Regardless, as a 21-year-old college student, I didn't have quite the disapproving reaction most of the public did. But I'm sorry, I just couldn't get over imagining what Phelps and his world class lung capacity could do with one of those water tobacco pipes.

Phelps' actions were at the very least careless, but I would by no means blame him. Really, how long would paparazzi have to follow him around for before they could find some embarrassing and/or incriminating photos? It was only a matter of time before this 23-year-old with 23-year-old habits would wind up in the tabloids for the wrong reason.

Of course, the rest of the media has already hopped all over this scandal (does that include me, now?), and Phelps' public relations people are surely knee deep in damage control. Unfortunately, Phelps' marketability has already experienced a Wall Street-like free fall, a fall that won't be saved by any stimulus packages. But at least he can prove to the world he still has the drive and the focus to dominate during the next Olympic Games in 2012, right?

Well, maybe not. Although it appears unlikely, Phelps faces the small possibility that his documented "drug experimentations" could lead to a ban in the London games for violating the Olympic drug policy.

This would be nothing short of ludicrous. First off, excluding the best thing that happened to the 2008 Olympics from competing in 2012 would only cheapen a gold medal for whoever did win. Secondly, isn't the point of these drug bans to keep everybody on the same playing field? Just how was Phelps aided by these actions?

I understand banning performance-enhancing drugs—who doesn't? But seriously, since when is marijuana considered performance enhancing?

Hot-dog eating aside, it doesn't matter what sport it is: cannabis consumption can only make things harder for an athlete. (Just ask Ricky Williams). So why not give Phelps a much-deserved pat on the back? For his eight gold medals just got that much more impressive.

I don't mean to make light of the situation—after all, every day thousands of people die because of marijuana. (Wait, what?) I just think this latest pop-culture scandal is even more proof that it's our paparazzi culture and celebrity-driven media that are in need of an intervention, not Phelps and his harmless celebratory activities.



The lady Titans dominated in its home game match-up against the Mt. Hood Saints on Jan. 31. LCC clinched its 67th consecutive home victory with a score of 88-63. Photo courtesy of BETHANY JENNINGS

## Women take another win at home

### Titans streak at 67

By TREY CALDWELL  
Reporter

On Jan. 31, the LCC Titans recorded their 67th consecutive home victory as they defeated the Mt. Hood Community College Saints 88-63.

"We are aware of [the streak], we are confident when we play at home," Head Coach Greg Sheley said when asked about the record. "It cannot go on forever. We just try to win games."

"It is huge, an exciting thing to be a part of my freshman year," Theresa Brown added. "I just hope we can keep the streak going."

LCC used its signature pressure defense to force 29 Saints turnovers, turning those miscues into 25 points. "We have been focusing on applying more ball pressure in the open court," Sheley said. "Instead of waiting, we have been attacking. If we can pressure the ball

well, it allows others to get into the passing lanes."

The Titans jumped out to a 49-26 halftime lead thanks to their defense, and then never allowed MHCC to make up any ground. "This was the second time we played [MHCC], so we had a better idea of what they were trying to do," Sheley said. "We were not able to bust out until about five minutes left in the first half. We hit 25 of our 29 free throw attempts in the first half, and the fouls and turnovers helped us stretch a seven point lead into 23 at the half."

Aside from tough defense, the Titans had a huge advantage at the free throw line. LCC outscored the Saints from the charity stripe 38-8. MHCC had to dig deep into their bench the entire game as three of their starting five were haunted by foul trouble. "Getting to the free-throw line is part of our strength," Sheley said. "Mt. Hood was struggling in their attempts to front the post. They could not guard our perimeter players ... we would get by them. It was either foul us or give up a lay-up."

The Titans shot 42 percent from the field, and excellent defense allowed LCC to take and sustain its early lead. The Saints shot 40 percent and hit seven out of 22 three attempts, but the turnovers and fouls would be too much to overcome. LCC had 20 steals as a team, led by Carmen Williams, who had seven.

The Saints got a good effort from their bench, as the Saints reserves accounted for 73 percent of their offensive production. MHCC had a 46-30 edge in bench production, but a lot of that was reflective of the Saints starters having foul problems. "We wanted to get the ball inside and make sure their big girls got in [early foul] trouble," Brown said.

Sheena Cole, who scored 19 points and had four steals, led the Titans. Kourtney Parks added 13 points, two rebounds, and a steal. Brown had 10 points and seven boards.

Jacki Cunningham led MHCC with 17 points off the bench for the Saints. Cunningham made five of her seven three-point shots. Kathryn Beus added 10 points and six rebounds.



The Titans gather in the traditional pre-game huddle before tip-off. Photo courtesy of BETHANY JENNINGS



# Hole gets deeper for LCC

## Titans struggling to find second conference win

By TYLER PELL  
Sports Editor

Saturday was a bad day all around for Eugene's college basketball teams. Just hours after Oregon State dropped Oregon to 0-9 in the Pac-10, beating them 57-54 in the basketball version of the civil war, the Titans were handed their eighth conference loss at the hands of the eighth-ranked Mt. Hood Community College Saints.

LCC struggled to find a rhythm, and spent much of the night playing catch-up, but to no avail. The Titans' 71-51 loss dropped them to 1-8 in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges Southern Region, and on the outside of the playoff picture.

"We are playing some really good teams. Everybody we've played in this stretch has been real tough," Head Coach Bruce Chavka said. "It's disappointing that we lost, but we played a better game than we did last time."

Chavka was referring to the Titans' first match up against MHCC on Jan. 10. In that game, LCC scored 47 points on 16-of-50 shooting from the field, and lost by 43 points.

This time around, the Titans tried to keep the game close by extending the length of possessions in an effort to limit the Saints' offensive opportunities.

MHCC's Head Coach Rob Nielson applauded that strategy. "I thought Lane did a really good job of controlling the tempo. They wanted to make the tempo go slow and limit possessions, and that's the smart thing to do in their situation."

If the Titans wanted to beat a team as good as MHCC, it would take more strategy. Early on, the Titans struggled to make shots. In the first half they shot just 30 percent from the field on 7-of-23 shooting, but improved to 41 percent in the second half, going 12-of-29. LCC also went 3-of-6 from beyond the arc in the second half.

Even though MHCC won by a comfortable 20 points, Nielson came away impressed with the improved Titans.

"I thought they played really smart. They did a good job; those guys battled hard. I just



Maurice Peterson (30) of Pendleton, Ore., challenges a Mt. Hood Community College shot attempt in Saturday's loss to Mt. Hood. The Titans will go for its second conference win on Saturday, Feb. 7, against Chemeketa Community College. Photo courtesy of BETHANY JENNINGS

thought our guys were a little bit better, and we were able to get out and pressure them a little bit and force some turnovers," Nielson said.

But in the end, Chavka acknowledged the bottom line. "A loss is still a loss."

The Titans have six games left and Chavka believes the team can end the season on a high note.

"We've got six games left, and there's some winnable games on our schedule. We gotta show up ready to roll, compete, improve and try to get some wins," he said.

Chavka suggested the key to the Titans' success lies in the team's effort level.

"We just have to compete for 40 minutes and we're not doing that right now," he said.

Brent Jones led the Titans with 13 points

on 4-of-14 shooting; he also pulled down five rebounds. Cody Britton added 11 points, going 3-of-8 behind the arc.

The Titans did win the rebounding battle, 38-34, led by Jake Wiles, who pulled down six rebounds, in just 15 minutes of play.

Again, turnovers killed the Titans. The Saints forced 26 Titan turnovers that they turned into 34 points.

With the win, MHCC improved to 7-2 in the Southern Region and 16-5 overall.

The Titans will try to capture that elusive second conference win next Saturday, Feb. 7, at home against Chemeketa Community College at 6 p.m. Then they will try to avenge their conference-opening loss to Linn-Benton Community College at home on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 7:30 p.m.

## SPORTS FIX

### What to watch: The upcoming week in sports

Feb. 5 - Feb. 11

#### EUGENE SPORTS

##### LCC Titans

###### Men's Basketball at home:

- Chemeketa Community College  
Saturday, Feb. 7, 6 p.m.

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

- Chemeketa Community College  
Saturday, Feb. 7, 4 p.m.

##### Eugene Generals Hockey

Lane Ice Center at the Fairgrounds

- Seattle  
Friday, Feb. 6, 7:35 p.m.

##### Oregon Ducks

###### Men's Basketball at home:

- Arizona State  
Thursday, Feb. 5, 7:30 p.m.
- Arizona  
Saturday, Feb. 7, 12:30 p.m.

###### Men's Tennis at home:

- New Mexico  
Sunday, Feb. 8, 2:30 p.m.

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

- Stanford  
Saturday, Feb. 7, 3 p.m.

## Editor's TV picks

#### NBA Basketball

- Lakers vs. Celtics  
Thursday, Feb. 5, 5 p.m. TNT
- Warriors vs. Suns  
Friday, Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m. ESPN
- Lakers vs. Cavaliers  
Sunday, Feb. 8, 12:30 p.m. ABC

#### NHL Hockey

- Red Wings vs. Penguins  
Sunday, Feb. 8, 9:30 a.m. NBC
- Sharks vs. Bruins  
Tuesday, Feb. 10, 4 p.m. Versus

#### NCAA Basketball

##### Men:

- Marquette vs. Villanova  
Tuesday, Feb. 10, ESPN2
- Syracuse vs. UCONN  
Wednesday, Feb. 11, 4 p.m. ESPN

##### Women:

- Duke vs. North Carolina  
Monday, Feb. 9, 4:30 p.m. ESPN2

## Editor's Internet Picks

#### European Soccer:

Watch European soccer games for free at:  
<http://livefooty.doctor-serv.com/>



Titans freshman Matt Munther, of Arcata, Calif., closely guards a Mt. Hood ball handler. Mt. Hood defeated the Titans 71-51 in the Saturday, Jan. 31, game at LCC. Photo courtesy of BETHANY JENNINGS



## ‘How involved do you get in campus activities?’



“Not at all. I’m dual enrolled with Oregon State, so I’m more involved over there than here.”

Lindsey Smith  
Education



“I just started here last term, so I’m not really involved. I’m just trying to get my foothold.”

Clay Johnson  
AAOT



“I have family at home, so I just come here for class.”

Elsie McCoy  
Medical



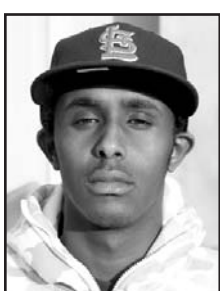
“I am involved in plays and am auditioning for ‘Arcadia.’ I also attend S.P.A. meetings.”

Johnny Rogers  
Art



“Not very much. I try to do what I can to come to campus events, but I try to balance my time between studying and school.”

Chelsea Norris  
AAOT



“I just go to school and sleep. No activities.”

Dahir Molon  
Business

Interviews by TARYN ACKELSON Photos by JB BOTWINICK

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## HAWAIIAN EVENT, From Page 1

‘Ohana, the doors open at 6:30 p.m. for refreshments and pre-show entertainment by Iron Mango Orchestra and Monroe Middle School After-school Ukesters. All proceeds benefit Mele ‘Ohana and Ukes for kids.

Mele ‘Ohana, which is literally translated as “song family,” seeks to “create a fun, relaxing forum for those who wish to play, sing and dance traditional, contemporary, or Hawaiian-inspired music, while perpetuating the culture of Hawaii,” according to its mission statement.

“Eugene is one of the hot spots for Hawaiian cultural activities,” Mele ‘Ohana volunteer Maggie Matoba said. This weekend will highlight the strengths of Eugene’s Hawaiian community, and the traditions it continues.

Herb Ohta, Jr. and Stephen Espaniola are two of the best ukulele and slide guitar players in the world, Matoba said. Ohta and Espaniola will offer ukulele workshops on Saturday, Feb. 14.

Espaniola’s workshops will be held from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and noon to 1 p.m. and are geared towards beginners.

Espaniola’s first workshop, “Ukulele Rhythms and Strums,” will cover strumming techniques, Hawaiian rhythms, and examples of how rhythm can change a song.

His second workshop, “Musicianship 101: The Fine Art of Kanikapila,” will address performing and blending with other musicians, nuances of dynamics, playing from memory, “pa’ani,” meaning taking an instrumental break, or soloing, and a closing Kanikapila session. “Kanikapila” is a Hawaiian term for playing music together, especially ukulele or guitar music.

Ohta will hold workshops for intermediate

to advanced ukulele players from 1:30-2:30 p.m. and 3-4 p.m.

“Play like a pro with Hawaiian Turnarounds,” Ohta’s first workshop, will help students master various Hawaiian turnarounds in the key of C, learn how turnarounds are used in Hawaiian music, turn contemporary songs “Hawaiian style,” and transpose music to perform turnarounds in other keys.

His second workshop, “Learn how to play a song,” will focus on the individual nuances of Ohta’s playing, and help students understand the relationship between notes and chords and their instruments.

All workshops cost \$20. To register, e-mail yasoualoha@comcast.net.

Other workshops will be offered on Feb. 15. The first class on Feb. 15 is beginning hula. This class starts at 10:30 a.m., and costs \$3. Lei making starts at noon, and costs \$5. Hawaiian card making starts at 3 p.m. and costs \$5.

This event is designed to work in conjunction with the Asian Celebration, and to “partner up with different groups,” Matoba said.

According to the Asian Celebration’s website, this year’s theme is “Heart of Asia.” Besides Mele ‘Ohana, the Asian Celebration partners with many other events and organizations to help event-goers “further explore the Heart of Asia,” stated the website. Partner organizations also include the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art at the University of Oregon, Cozmic Pizza, Best Martial Arts Institute, Taboo Nightclub, which will host an after hours party, and local magazine Skipping Stones. Admission to the Asian Celebration is \$4, and free for anyone younger than 12 years of age.

**Student Productions Association of Lane Community College**  
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