

Skating into Spring

By Nikki Okimoto
Entertainment Reporter

In the 1700s, a Dutch guy wished there were some way he could continue to ice skate after the weather got warmer. Because there were no indoor skating rinks back then, he invented what would become the ancestor of the modern in-line skate. The wheels of his converted ice skates were made of wood.

According to Kevin Torres, a sales associate and in-line skate specialist at G.I. Joe's in Eugene, those early in-lines were a far cry from what is available today. "They were probably crappy, but they worked," he said.

It may have taken in-line skates about two hundred years to catch on, but their popularity has grown by leaps and bounds over the last decade.

In-line skates aren't just a replacement for roller skates anymore, either. Many people just use their in-lines for a getting a little exercise outside. Others play roller hockey or even speed skate with their in-line skates.

The versatility of in-line skating is one reason why it has become such a popular activity. And as in-lines become more and more popular, the skate manufacturers are coming out with new and improved

Turn to **SKATING**, Page 7A



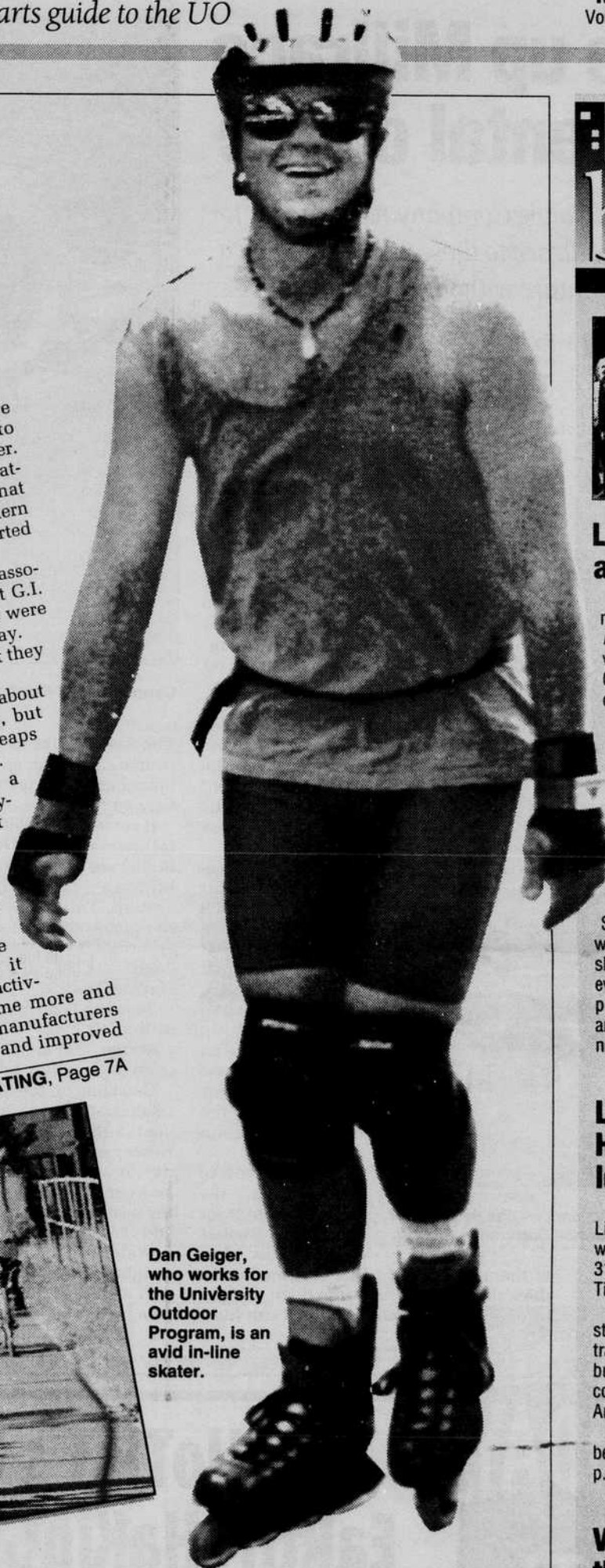
Anny Mahoney, an architecture major, skates the path by the Greenway Footbridge

Brian Johnston, Michael Balske and Sheena Brady skate along the bike path heading for the Autzen Footbridge.

Photos by Matt Garton



Dan Geiger, who works for the University Outdoor Program, is an avid in-line skater.



THERE....



Les Misérables

The popular musical *Les Misérables* will visit the Hult Center for a one-week run beginning September 9. Tickets went on sale May 19 and cost between \$15 and \$48. Performances will run through September 14 with 7:30 p.m. shows each evening and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday matinees.

Linda Hornbuckle

Soul singer Linda Hornbuckle will perform May 31 at Good Times. Raised in strong gospel traditions, Hornbuckle has been compared to Aretha Franklin. The show will begin at 9:45 p.m. Cover is \$5.

View from the Bridge

Graduate student Nicole Chen will present her graduate master's degree performance, "View from the Bridge," at 8 p.m. May 23-24 in Gerlinger Annex. Admission is free.

"Be There" is a weekly column highlighting the week's top local entertainment events.

Calobo breaks free of 'groove band' music genre

By Les Zaczek
Freelance Reporter

I picked up this album thinking, "oh great, another hippie-jam band with masturbatory guitar solos, songs that drag on too long, and lyrics that only make sense after ingesting merchandise bought on 13th Street."

But to my surprise, the songs had substance, energy and a distinct style that separated this band from many of its peers. It turned out that Calobo wasn't just another groove band by any means.

For musical reference, Calobo is like a mix of Samples and Big Head Todd, with a touch of psychedelic folk.

But what makes this band so original is the varying emotional quality of the songs, ranging from uplifting, danceable folk to haunting ballads.

Calobo is now based in Portland, but they are originally from Eugene; they recorded their first album live at the Espresso Roma. Since then, Calobo has released three more albums, *Stomp* being the third one.

The band's last album, *Ya Dum Di Dum*, received a plethora of critical praise and became the number six best-selling album on *Seattle Rocket* magazine's Northwest Top 20 list. The record also managed to stay on the list for an entire year, becoming the first

Turn to **MUSIC**, Page 6A



REVIEW

Stomp

Calobo

★★★

('defiant' groove band)



COURTESY PHOTO

The seven-member band Calobo began in Eugene and is now located in Portland.