

Math dept. serves 'Pi and Ice Cream'

Elisabeth Meyer
The Clackamas Print

The math department showed its sense of humor last Thursday at the annual "Pi and Ice Cream" lecture, which attracted a large crowd.

Dr. Keith Leatham, a professor from PSU, spoke about connections between math and music.

The lectures have been given at least once a year for the past several springs. Department Chair Kurt Lewandowski said. Instructor Mark Yannotta has made arrangements for lecturers to come, Lewandowski said, partly because working on his PhD brings him into contact with other teachers. Yannotta has taken three classes from Leatham at PSU.

"(Leatham) trains teachers to teach math," Yannotta said. "A lot of his students are elementary education majors who might not be interested in math, but will have to teach it anyway."

"I teach teachers," Leatham said. "It's a little different from proving theorems. It's much more of a people thing." His speciality is mathe-

tics education, which makes him focus on making math accessible.

"I've been wanting an excuse to put a presentation like this together," Leatham said.

"I try to find (lecturers) who are interesting. I figure everyone has a talk in them somewhere," Yannotta said. "Everybody has a passion in their lives. For Keith, it's math and music."

Lining up a speaker is the most challenging part of the process, Yannotta said. Other details include securing a room, posting flyers and getting post-lecture goodies.

"My responsibility is going to the grocery store and buying the ice cream, bowls and spoons," Lewandowski laughed. "That's one of the glamorous jobs of being department chair."

Yannotta explained that the "Pi and Ice Cream" lectures are a way to bring students from different disciplines together to study how math affects them.

"We know a lot of our students aren't majoring in math, but that doesn't mean it's not important or

doesn't connect to their lives in some way," Yannotta said. "Of the first 25 people (who came to the lecture), I didn't recognize a soul. I think they were from music classes....Every one of these talks usually draws other faculty members."

Adam Halls released his calculus class, which overlapped the lecture, an hour early to let them attend.

"It was kind of a collective student decision," said Hall, adding that a student had suggested it to him. "Maybe they felt it was the lesser of the two evils," he laughed.

Preparing for the shindig gave math department interns John Osborne and Jasmin Walker a break from the routine of collating, proctoring tests and double-checking test corrections.

"This is more messier," Osborne said, grinning. "And more funner. That's right, funner."

Osborne caught part of the lecture before leaving to dish up ice cream.

"What I heard was basically about how notes are created," Osborne said. "You see, the



ELISABETH MEYER Clackamas Print

Keith Leatham (left) and Kurt Lewandowski eat ice cream while discussing Leatham's presentation.

Pythagoreans..." He then launched into an encapsulated version of the lecture, carefully diagramming musical intervals according to their ratios in my notebook.

Much of Osborne's explanation was lost on me, but it was evident that some of the crowd found the music portion more challenging than the mathematical explanation.

"I know nothing about music, and I could follow him," said Lewandowski.

Yannotta and Lewandowski were pleased with the lecture's attendance.

"The reality is that we have very few math majors," Lewandowski said, "but when you connect math to other disciplines, it draws more people in."

Epic Events

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Who: Phish (two days in a row)
- If you missed this announcement last week, here it is again! This is truly a must-see concert! This band has a following like no other and you will truly know why if you decide to go. Phish's music is inspirational in every way and appeals to the fans of many genres. Though their music tends to stay on the softer side, Phish is hardly soft rock.

When: Saturday July 12 and Sunday July 13
7:30 p.m. (both shows)
Tickets are available and on sale now through Ticketmaster. Tickets are \$51 each (service charge included).
Where: The Gorge Amphitheatre in George Washington. Approximately a five-hour drive. Camping available.

Fightin' Foos Rockin' times:

Who: Foo Fighters, Pete Dinklage, Special Goodness
- Dave Grohl (Nirvana's former drummer) and his successful band and longtime rockers the Foo Fighters will be coming to town Saturday June 7. Their style of music, which is rooted in the grunge/garage music scene is an enjoyable, upbeat, not-too-hard-core style of music. Prepare for some good times!
When: Saturday June 7 7 p.m.
Tickets are available and on sale now through Ticketmaster for \$27.

Where: Salem Armory Auditorium
2320 17th St. NE-(503) 378-6923

94.7 NRK's Big Stink 8:

Who: Staind, Mudvayne, Taproot, Powerman 5000, Seether, Smile Empty Soul featuring Skateboarding Champion Andy Macdonald and the Suzuki Motocross Team.
- 94.7 NRK is back with their annual spectacle. This year Big Stink 8 will be held in Estacada, only about 20 minutes from the college. It is the headliners' tour, meaning all the bands are successful punk rockers. This event will host Freestyle Motocross, Pro Halfpipe Skateboarding and, of course, good music. "It's not just a concert, it's an evolution."

When: Sunday June 22 8 p.m.
Tickets are available at all Car Stereo City locations or online at knrk.com. Tickets are \$35 with no service charge.

Where: Estacada Timber Bowl

Yan's Warped Tour 2003:

Who: Rancid, Pennywise, Rufio, Thrive, Dropkick Murphys, The Ataris, Less Than Jake, Avenged Sevenfold, Taking Back Sunday, Face To Face, Glassjaw, Andrew W.K. Talib Kweli, Simple Plan, Poison The Well and many more.
When: Sunday July 6 noon 'til end
Tickets are available through TicketWest for \$30.
Where: Columbia Meadows (formerly Portland Meadows)

The weekly 5 in 5



Cory Price
Co-Photo Editor

After a brief vacation from the dining atmosphere I decided to get back on to the trail and write another edition of the not-so-weekly 5 in 5.

We are heading south of the border once again. Passing up Taco Bell and Tacho's, we are going farther north on Molalla Ave.

than I have gone yet and stopping at Super Torta for some lunchtime goodness.

It was difficult this week to decide what to eat, but I made a tough decision and ordered up a grande nacho.

Take a second person along with you so you do not have to handle this beast of a nacho plate alone; I always leave half the meal on the plate and it goes to waste. When you order you have three choices: chicken, pulled beef or

ground beef. The pulled beef is the best choice for taste, and it goes well with the guacamole and sour cream that is on top. This always causes me to get extra stuffed! Bring a wheelchair along to haul your bloated carcass out the restaurant.

There is just one more issue left this term for 5 in 5 and I have no clue whether anyone actually reads these or not. So drop by *The Print* office at B104 to let me know what you think.

Rutsala comes to campus

Vern Rutsala, poet and English professor at Lewis and Clark College, will visit Clackamas tomorrow. He won the Juniper Prize for his 1994 work "Little-Known Sports" and the Oregon Book Award for his 1992 collection "Selected Poems."

Being Second-Rate

There are people—and institutions—which quite clearly relish this activity. The pleasure is derived from both the warmth of many companions—as at the start of a marathon—and the avoidance of any pain which is—also as in a marathon—reserved for the leaders.

-Vern Rutsala
from "Little-Known Sports"



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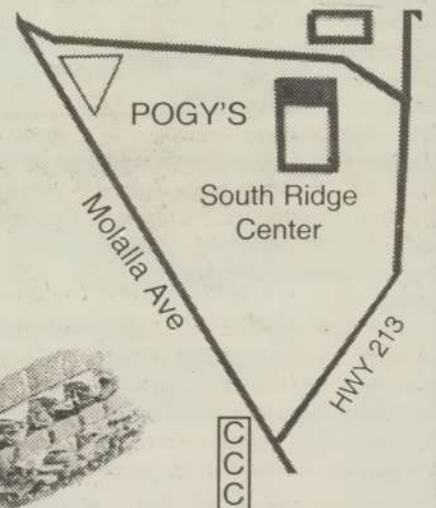
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