

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

library and the bus station! We citizens of Lane County need to encourage our City Council to approve all funding avenues available to the city of Eugene to help build the new LCC Energy Center in the Downtown Urban Renewal District.

We should remember that Oregon community colleges have lost proportionally more funding than any other public education entities since the budget cutbacks started in 1992, due to passage (just barely in the state and rejected in Lane County) of Measure 5. Lane County has a unique opportunity to establish an anchor for the new wave of green businesses. Oregon has a proud heritage of progressive thinkers and cutting edge endeavors, and our own Lane Community College plays an important role in making the future happen by bridging the gap between smart ideas and their local implementation.

Linda Powell
Eugene

THE DEEPEST WOUNDS

First and foremost I want to say thanks. As a medic currently in Iraq and a local I want to thank *EW* for putting in a positive story about our troops in Iraq (cover story, 3/18). It was truly nice to see something about the positive work that we are doing here. I was happy that you showed that we were helping injured locals and can say honestly that most patients I have treated here are locals — and were not injured by coalition forces.

I don't ask you to stand behind this war, the people who started it or the reasons we are there. Just please understand that the soldier on the ground wants nothing more than to be back home with his or her loved ones.

Douglas MacArthur once said "The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war."

David Ure
Eugene

A MORE CARING SOCIETY

Eventually we will have health care for all. I remember speaking up for Medicare in the 1960s against some future John Birchers. I guess it isn't too different with today's tea baggers screaming their selfish rants.

This is not a great health care bill, but hopefully it is a first step toward a more caring society that believes every sick person should be cared for. And hopefully it will become a caring society that believes everyone should have an opportunity to be fully educated and have a roof overhead and a meal to eat. We need to help each

other, and health care must be there for everyone.

As former Labor Secretary Robert Reich wrote after the vote: "Don't believe anyone who says Obama's health care legislation marks a swing of the pendulum back toward the Great Society and the New Deal. Obama's health bill is a very conservative piece of legislation, building on a Republican (a private market approach) rather than a New Deal foundation. The New Deal foundation would have offered Medicare to all Americans or, at the very least, featured a public insurance option."

Maybe in Oregon?

Ruth Duemler
Eugene

NAG CHAMP

I am old enough to remember when breeders (i.e. heterosexuals) defined "gay" only as "bright" instead of "homosexual" as Sally Sheklow (3/18) does, or "dumb" as slackers do today.

I believe this etymology of "gay" irritates Sheklow as it did the owner of The Gay Blade men's clothing store chain in Oregon and Washington because he felt forced to drop the word "gay" from the stores' name in the 1970s.

Sheklow misses that slackers were raised on the gay-friendly cartoon "South Park" Republican values. They defend obscene speech and reject censorship for "political correctness."

As a child, I vowed never to become like the old nags who forbid me from saying "God damn it" because it is blasphemy. I hope Sheklow isn't becoming an old nag like me.

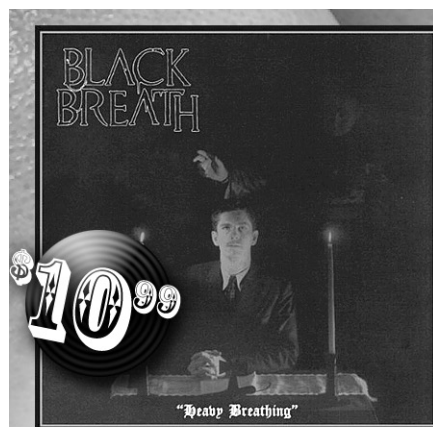
Thomas Kraemer
Corvallis

LCC ENERGY CENTER

An opportunity to revitalize and strengthen a portion of downtown and meet the educational needs of our students is at hand. We have an opportunity to train future leaders and workers in green jobs via the innovative LEED-standard Energy Center. We have an opportunity to bring short-term and long-term jobs into this area via the project, as well as bring additional stimulus to businesses in the surrounding area. We need this now.

LCC President Mary Spilde and the LCC Board are committed to this project. Let us join them, creating not only an educational legacy, but also the start of an economic one. It's a project that will provide jobs, bring more people into the area, stimulate existing businesses in the area and prepare students for the future.

Our library and Hult Center are solid



BLACK BREATH-HEAVY BREATHING: The bands signing with Southern Lord, combined the best attributes of hardcore, metal, punk, and thrash. For the bands first full length recording, Black Breath has amplified their sound into a darker, heavier realm.



JOE BONAMASSA-BLACK ROCK: Joe signed up Blues legend B.B. King for a duet of the Willie Nelson-penned song, Night Life. Other tracks include Beck's Spanish Boots, Cohen's poetic Bird On A Wire, and many more.



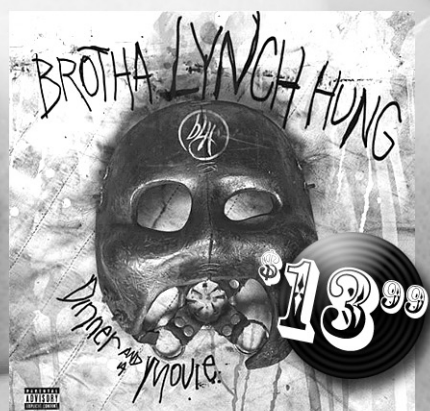
PIETA BROWN-ONE & ALL: Brown's stunning breakout album of 12 original songs, perfectly melds roots rock and moody alt-country. Following up on her critically acclaimed EP Shimmer, Pieta delivers hypnotic melodies and soul-tinged grooves.



SHARON JONES / DAP-KINGS-I LEARNED THE HARD WAY: Sharons raw power, rhythmic swagger, moaning soulfulness, and melodic command set her firmly alongside Tina Turner, James Brown, Mavis Staples, and Aretha as a fixture in the canon of soul music.



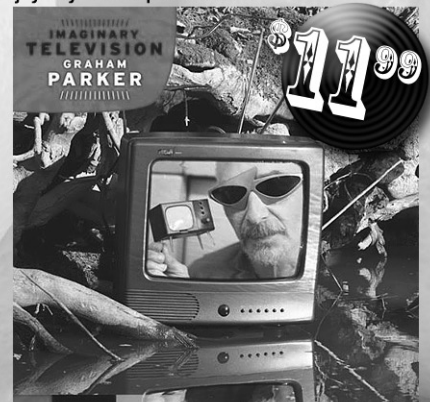
BLACK FRANCIS (FRANK BLACK)-NONSTOP-EROTIK: You'll find yourself unable to think of anything else as you hum along to its infectious tunes. The album takes time to grow on the listener who may be unsure at first but is soon addicted.



BROTHA LYNCH HUNG-DINNER & A MOVIE: Strap in and hold on as Brotha Lynch Hung takes listeners on a ride to the deepest recesses of his mind.



HARLEM-HIPPIES: Harlem have a reputation of making club gigs seem like living room shows (and vice-versa). Hippies harnesses this in its 16 blasts of pure pop energy with songwriting that is as tightly masterful as it is true to a joyfully frantic primitivism.



GRAHAM PARKER-IMAGINARY TELEVISION: ... "I went off to write treatments to my own-imaginary TV shows which I would grace with the correct theme tunes, not ones chosen by idiots.(Instead of lyrics on the album cover, you get plots!)" --Graham Parker

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