**Express Liner**
**We’re Here For You!**
by Chandra Heaton

This month’s issue is busy, so I’ll keep this short and sweet. We have lots of club news and a bit of controversy this month that we hope you find interesting and inspiring. Many thanks to Joanna Garrard for her help with this issue.

I’d like to take a minute and remind everyone that this is your newsletter. If you want to tell us we’re doing something wrong or right, or if you have an idea for an article or a cool picture or whatever, please let us know. There’s a lot of important information in here, so I won’t take up more time. Read on and enjoy!

**Senate Scat**
by Lin Alder

**High Country News now available**

That’s right, the bi-monthly tabloid-style newspaper published in a small Rocky Mountain town is now available for your perusal. I’ve subscribed to provide up-to-date information for CNR students interested in Western resource issues. The paper has its bias, yet it still offers worthwhile timely and insightful articles.

Here’s how it works: there’s only one copy, but there’s more than one of you who want to read it. We’ll have to share, which means read it in the office and leave it when you’re done. You’ll find the paper on top of filing cabinets to the east, please return it there.

The club office (NR 212) is usually unlocked during the day (since the soda can collection is the most valuable thing in the room). If the room is locked, you can find me in the atrium during coffee hour (9:30 to 10:30 on Wednesday), and usually between 2 and 3 p.m. daily.

If you’re displeased with HCN’s approach, let me know what other publication you prefer. I might be able to swing a subscription.

**New Office Hours strategy**

Some of you know that I have regular office hours set aside to assist students with anything college related (maybe even match-making). For you who don’t, now you know.

I can help you answer questions about class schedules, teachers, student clubs, weekend vacations, practical jokes, life dilemmas or field any gripes about USU or the CNR.

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**Upcoming Events Calendar**
Senate Scat Continued
Since I'm a representative to the University-wide Executive Council, I also have responsibilities relating to campus politics. Until now I've focused more energy on CNR student issues than campus-wide politics. This approach helped me accomplish much for the College, at the expense of contribution to campus issues.

After some thought, I've decided to spend two of my three office hours at my Student Center office (322b). You'll find the office just east of the long table where the book exchange occurs on the TSC third floor. The TSC office is crowded with desks, much too far from sunlight and heavy with the scent of politics. But, the office is also shared with eight college senator friends, and is near offices of ten other student leader friends.

Since many of my goals to serve you are well underway, I feel reasonably comfortable in spending office time at the TSC. Though I won't be in the NR building, office hours are still office hours and you can visit with me at the TSC.

Just to make it official, I'll tell you now that my office hours are 9:30 to 10:20 a.m., Monday and Friday in TSC 322b and Wednesday in the NR Atrium.

Quinney Library Lab in the news again
Good and bad news emanates from the Quinney Library third floor this month. The CNR Honors Club provides the good news: Club members will continue to proctor the lab which means CNR students can use the machines when lab classes are not in session. The Club has not yet posted official times, so check the lab door.

Deeper in the Bird Cage Liner you'll find an investigative report by Kevin Poe concerning the bad news: a proposed access fee for the Quinney Library Lab. I'll let you read and decide for yourself; if you have any strong feelings about the fee, send them my way. If response is strong enough, I'll pursue the issue further.

Welcome back, kick some tail with your studies, and don't find yourself in the spillway of an avalanche.

But first, a disclaimer: I am not a typical grad student who came to Logan just recently. I started my pursuit of higher learning at this fine institution, and just couldn't bring myself to leave. So, in essence, I've lived in Logan for over four years now. I don't claim to be a Cache Valley export and I can't tell you why people around here insist on driving like cretins, but I have been here a while.

And now, without further ado, the list:

10. Drink Warmly. One thing I learned this year is that having a favorite hot drink can really improve an otherwise rotten day. At our house, we have at least 16 flavors of herbal tea, not to mention the various other beverage mixes. My personal favorite is blackberry tea, but any kind of exotic chocolate or coffee might work for you. Experiment and treat yourself.

9. Road-trip. This may or may not be possible for everyone. Constraints include lack of automobile, funds, time, and companions. However, if you can pull it off, a weekend trip away might inspire you to improve your attitude.

8. Attend Athletic Events. I know, it might sound corny, but USU basketball games used to be a lot of fun. I say used to because I didn't go to one last year. I felt a void in my life, and plan to rectify it this year. Since we had to go reserve good seats for the "big games" we used to have pizza delivered to us at the Spectrum. There are always a lot of people at these events, if you are feeling lonely. Other fun athletic events include the gymnastics and the volleyball teams. These are not as
4. **Take a Walk.** It’s relatively warm outside when it is snowing. Also, the snow on the ground reflects the light of the moon (or the nearest street light). Take advantage of this. Nighttime walks are among my favorite winter activities, and when you come home, you can either participate in #7 or #10 above... or both.

3. **Play Outside.** I remember once in third grade, it snowed so much that school was cancelled. This is one of the greatest days of my formative years. We ran home, put on our snow suits, and PLAYED!! Have a snowball fight, build a snowman, make snow angels, have a picnic in a snow fort, play hide and seek. The list is only limited by your imagination. If you want, enlist the neighbor kids for help and support.

2. **Don’t Procrastinate.** Winter is long, but you can make it seem endless if you put off all your class work to the last minute. (I am one of the best procrastinators I know, so believe me.) Impending doom come March is not something to look forward to. And besides, keeping important things for the last week of school may keep you from starting your Spring Break Trip as soon as humanly possible. Remember, spring break is 10 days this year... so start planning your excursions.

5. **Keep a Plant Alive.** At last count, 31 plants live in our house, and the number continues to increase. I recently purchased a plant that resembles Cousin It from the Addam’s Family... it’s huge. It is amazing how much fun plants can be. When the entire plant kingdom lays dormant you can have a regular little rain forest in your living room. If your house is as cold as ours, you may have to plastic-ize your windows to keep the temperature above freezing... but it is worth it.

6. **Develop or Perfect a Hobby.** Affectionately referred to as “Projects” at our house, hobbies are a great way to take your mind off of school, the cold, and any other stress you might be having. Common to our house are re-potting plants (see #5 below), putting up plastic on the windows, cooking new (often exotic) dinners, putting up plant hooks (see #5 below), and rearranging rooms. Personally, I have set the lofty goal of knitting myself another sweater—which satisfies two hobbies of mine: collecting sweaters and knitting.

Grad Side Continued
crowded, but often more exciting
to watch. Business-card- sized
delays can be obtained (free)
from the information desk in the
Student Center.

Well, there is my list of cures for the winter-time blues. You can
tape them next to your bed if you
want. I again want to stress that
this is not a complete list. Eating
chips and the hottest salsa you can
stand is an honorable mention that
didn’t quite make the list, mainly
because I just discovered it today.
Any other good ideas should be
submitted to Lin Alder, Chandra
Heaton or Laura Brunt for
publication in next month’s
Liner... but be sure to wait until
just before the deadline to tell them
that you have something. They
thrive on pressure.**

Happy Winter!

**Editorial comment:
The views expressed in this sentence are not
necessarily those of the stuff of the Liner.

Student Issues

$25 Fee for Quinney
Lab?

by Kevin Poe

Just when you thought you were all
paid up: tuition, fees, books, etc.
By this time next quarter natural
resources students will be paying a
little more. Current plans for the
ever controversial Quinney
Computer Lab include charging all
NR students who use the lab a 25$ per quarter or $60 per year user
fee. The fee would be required of
all students enrolled in classes held
in the lab, students working on
homework or papers for other
classes, and casual E-mail users
and minesweeper/solitaire players.
Lab Fee Continued
According to NR 201 professor Fred Baker, current lab fees of $20-$25 for classes (NR 201, NR 370, etc.), which monopolize the majority of the lab time, will be reduced to $6-$7 so the effects of the new $25 fee won't be completely additive. Keep in mind that every student at USU already pays $23 of tuition per quarter to use other student open access computer labs which have some of the same software available at the Quinney lab. According to John Kadlec, CNR Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs, the latter source of funding isn't accessible because the Quinney Lab is intended to be a teaching lab where the 16 terminals can be made available for scheduled class periods, and not an open access lab.

So what will the user fee money be used for? Will it provide a proctor to assist students? No, Dr. Kadlec feels that the new fee won't generate that much money. Will it lengthen the hours that the lab will be made available to students? No, the lab will never keep longer hours than the Quinney Library itself. According to Todd Crowl, NR 370 professor, he currently only has enough volunteer proctors to have it open Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Will paying the $25 fee guarantee you access to a terminal when you need one? No, unless you are enrolled in a class that is scheduled to use the lab on a weekly basis, and only for the time slot that particular class has reserved. Will it pay for additional computers or printers? No, not immediately anyway. Space is a limiting factor, but even though another computer could fill the void in the lab's middle row of computers, there are no current plans to expand.

Okay, so of what good is the fee going to be? Dr. Kadlec says that it will be used to maintain and update the existing equipment and software. Now assuming that in the near future NR 201 and NR 370 will both be taught twice a year with an average enrollment of 60 students each, that creates a revenue of $6,000 each year. But what of the other classes that only have a few class room hours spent in the lab? Dr. Kadlec assures that a full $25 fee would not be necessary for students in those classes and that a more just fee could be negotiated. Dr. Kadlec continues by saying that NR students who are not taking classes scheduled for lab time will still have to pay the $25 fee.

Furthermore, Dr. Kadlec plans to have the fee apply not only to CNR students but also to the attendees of the many short-courses taught to agency professionals by CNR faculty. These last three sources could greatly increase the overall yearly fee total, doubling or even tripling the $6,000 mark.

Even in the computer world that's a lot of maintenance money. Assuming a conservative $10,000 yearly total the CNR could replace 5-6 entire state-of-the-art personal computers, or 35% of existing systems every year!

It's hard to argue against charging some sort of fee, but is $25 a quarter too much? Dr. Kadlec admits that the $25 figure was adopted from the College of Engineering special computer fee program. However, while the costs may be identical, the benefits certainly aren't.

Engineering's Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs Ron Thurgood explained that their $25 fee gives their students access to two high-tech Computer Aided Design labs consisting of 40 terminals with 17-20 inch monitors. Their $25 package provides each student with hundreds of megabytes of file storage on a collective hard drive, and gives them access to the labs from 7:00 AM to Midnight. The true equivalent would be allowing CNR students open access to our GIS lab for $25 a quarter.

Thurgood continued to say that they also have a "freshman lab", which is much more like the Quinney lab, consisting of 24 IBMs equipped with the basic word processing and database software. The exceptions are that it is also open much later and more often (on weekends) than our lab, is staffed with a proctor, and that they only charge $15 per quarter to use that particular lab.

What will CNR students do? Will they pay an additional $25? For some classes they may have to whether they want to or not. The other alternative is waiting in long lines to use the other labs on campus, or worse yet going to Kinko's where they charge $10 an hour to use their computers.

Can any recourse be had, or a successful protest made? It appears the ball is now in the students' court. It is rumored that the new lab fee is already on the spring quarter class schedule and, if unopposed by students, will take effect first day of classes Spring Quarter.

Kadlec's Clarification
by Dr. John Kadlec

I am glad for Kevin to express his views on this matter, but a bit of clarification is in order:

1. The lab is designed primarily for teaching courses. Other uses
Clarification Continued
are possible only as time is left
over from class use.

2. We are not allowed to pay
proctors out of lab fees.

3. No USU money comes to CNR
to support the lab.

4. We are not charging every
student in CNR the $25 fee. It is
being charged to (a) students taking
courses in the lab, and (b) those
who ask to use it outside of
coursework. One payment covers
both of these.

5. Students are no longer billed
for each course taken in the lab.
The new fee will cover all
courses.

6. The fee is being increased
because past fees simply did not
cover the lab’s operating costs.

Write Now!
Let your voice be heard in
Southern Utah controversy
by Chandra Heaton

Want to get involved and make a
difference? Here is a tangible
opportunity. The Moab District
of the Bureau of Land Management is
currently considering issuing a
permit for a competitive race event
known as Eco-Challenge. What is
this race, and why should you

Eco-Challenge is described as a
non-motorized, non-stop endurance
race through "approximately 300
miles of primitive terrain in
southeastern Utah" (quote from the
environmental assessment prepared
by the BLM concerning this event).
The race will involve 35-50
teams of seven competitors, an
estimated 150 support personnel,
and an estimated (estimations by
Eco-Challenge) 200 spectators.
Teams will pay $2500 to run, hike,
bike, ride horses, rappel and raft
through BLM and Park Service
lands, including Crack Canyon
Wilderness Study Area,
Canyonlands National Park, and
other sensitive areas in the region.
The promoters of the race plan to
have the event filmed and
broadcast on MTV. So what’s the
problem?

The estimation of maximum
number of people on the race
course, according to the
environmental assessment of the
event, is 374 people. We have all
had general education classes at
some point with about this number
of people in them. Imagine an
entire Biology 126 or Geography
113 class racing through sensitive
desert areas seven people at a time.
Now imagine MTV’s entire
audience watching this and
thinking about how fun it looks,
and how much they would like to
go there. In my mind, this is a
problem.

Eco-Challenge, Inc. has promised
to keep the race course a secret to
cut down on spectators. However,
I now have a detailed map of the
entire course in the environmental
assessment. Anyone who asked for
one could have the same thing.
Event organizers have also
promised that the locations will not
be revealed in any of the coverage
of the event. Undoubtedly they
will keep this promise, but despite
their sincere efforts I believe it will
be impossible to conceal the
identities of these locations.
Increased visitation to areas ill-
equipped to receive them seems a
likely result.

No matter what your opinion on
the matter, I urge you to act NOW,
today, and write a letter expressing
your ideas to the Moab District
BLM Office.

To be fair, it is true that Eco-
Challenge is going to attempt to
train race participants in
environmentally aware methods of
recreation. Race competitors are to
be disqualified for littering or
otherwise damaging the
environment, and to start the race
an environmental service project in
the area will be performed by the
competitors and filmed. Eco-
Challenge states their intent as
teaching their audience about
environmental responsibility in a
fun manner. The event, which is
proposed for April 25-May 6,
1995, will bring economic benefit
to surrounding communities.
Increased tourism is a likely result,
and whether that is good or bad is
definitely debatable. There are two
distinct sides to the issue, both with
their own merits and problems.

My personal opinion, not the
opinion of the newsletter or the
College, but my belief as an
individual student, is that this event
is an outrage. I am going to write
in opposition, urging a full
Environmental Impact Statement
and denial of the permit. Whether
you agree or not, PLEASE ACT
NOW. Public opinion is only
being taken until Jan. 13, which
means letters should be mailed by
the 11th. Even if you only have
time for a short note, please write
it and show that the public does
care what happens on our lands.
Anyone wanting to look at the
environmental assessment or get
more information please contact me
at 753-2429. The address:
Moab District
San Rafael Resource Area
900 North 700 East
Price, Utah 84501
A note saying what your letter is
about on the outside of the
envelope might be helpful. Thank
you for writing!
CNR Christmas Social as good as egg nog!
by Lin Alder

The Atrium filled with CNR merry makers December 6th, as alumni, students, faculty, staff, spouses and children got ready for the holidays. The dessert contest brought an impressive variety of sweets for the throng of more than one hundred.

Many students joined staff and faculty in honoring Ralph Johnson, who was recognized for donating his impressive ski collection to the college. Special thanks goes to Tracie Kirkham for organizing the dessert and ornament contests, local merchants for donating festive goods and services to contest winners, the Geography Club for going the extra mile with advertising, and Mary Lu Roskelley and friends in the Dean’s Office for a well done shindig.

Congratulations again to dessert contest and tree ornament contest winners; the maker of a cheesecake has yet to claim his third place prize! (call Lin Alder at 7-1270).

Job & Scholarship News from Maureen’s Office:

There are a lot of job deadlines coming up soon. A note to those of you who worked last summer... automatic rehires are no longer automatic. Check with your district personnel office.

The CNR Scholarship booklet for next year will be available in Maureen’s office after Jan. 10. The deadline will be Feb. 24. Don’t miss out on these great opportunities to get some funding for next year!

There will be a Summer Job Seminar every Thursday in January in NR 202 at 3:30 pm. These seminars are a great place for job seekers to get info on deadlines, forms to fill out, and available jobs.

Club News From...

Range Club
by Suzanne Mayne

The Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management is being held in Phoenix, Arizona, January 16-19. While in Phoenix, students will participate in either Plant Identification, URME (Undergraduate Range Management Exam), or Public Speaking Exams. The meeting will also provide a great chance for interaction with professionals in Range Management. Another upcoming event is a Holistic Resource Management Workshop at BYU from January 20-21. See NR Club Office for details. Our next club meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 1 at 6:30 pm in BNR 314.

Earth Resources Club
by Chandra Heaton

Greetings, one and all. To ease the pain of a new quarter, the Earth Resources Club is proud to offer a great opportunity for anyone interested in Environmental Education.

CNR Professor Mike Kuhns has generously offered to give a workshop on Project Learning Tree (P.L.T.) to a group of interested students. P.L.T. is an Environmental Education program created by the United States Forest Service aimed toward children from 3 years to junior high students. The workshop is six hours, split into two three-hour sessions. Upon completion of the workshop, attendees will be certified to teach these activities, leading to many service projects (besides looking impressive on a resume). They will also receive a manual of environmental activities and helpful hints.

The workshop had been planned for January 10 and 12, but has been postponed to sometime around the end of January or start of February. There will be a sign-up sheet on the door of the club office as soon as we know the dates (those on the previous sheet and ERC members will have priority). Questions? Leave a note in the club office or contact Michelle at 755-8087. There may be a small fee ($5 or 3 bucks, most likely)... stay tuned for more details.

There will be a club meeting WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11th at 7:00 pm, in NR 105. All current members and anyone interested in our club PLEASE come. We will be making plans for EarthFest and also getting some more concrete ideas for activities and speakers this quarter, and hearing from members about ongoing projects.

Brooke Williams will be speaking to us on February 8th at 7:00 pm in NR 105. Mr. Williams works with rural economic development and has served as a consultant for the Nature Conservancy... Mark your calendars now!
Forestry Club
by Jan Farrar

Members of the USU Forestry Club welcome the New Year--mostly because it marks the end of our annual feverish attempt at peddling Christmas trees! (THANK YOU to everyone who cut, bought, and donated time and effort to the cause!) Also though, members are looking forward to the events and activities that Winter Quarter holds.

First on the agenda is the monthly SAF meeting on Tuesday, January 17 in Ogden. Those wishing to join us that evening for dinner and a speaker should sign-up on the information sheet on the Forest Resources Department door. On January 25, we proudly present Dr. Mike Jenkins, who will be speaking about "Winter Sports Safety and the Danger of Avalanche." This will be at 7 p.m. in NR 105, and refreshments will be served. Don't miss out, students, faculty and staff!!!

Other dates to note are February 4 ("Tubin', Sleddin', & Skiin' Day '95"). March 4 will be the new date of the annual Forestry Club Logger's Ball. More information will be posted about these events as the weeks progress. In addition, the club is in the process of designing a plethora of paraphernalia bearing our logo---watch for these goodies in the coming weeks! Have a great quarter! --Forestry Club officers

American Fisheries Society
by Todd Seamos

We here at the Fish Farm hope you had a swell vacation, blah blah blah, now for the important stuff. If you are interested in tying flies or just in learning a few fly patterns that might be useful on local waters, come to the American Fisheries Society meeting on January 19, at 6:00 p.m., in room 204, upstairs in the NR building. It's a Thursday! I know you don't have anything better to do! (If you haven't paid your $5 dues, this meeting would be a good time to do it). I don't want to hear any damn excuses either. If you have any questions, e-mail me at SLTQD.

By the way, this person has heard that the ice fishing has been excellent at Porcupine Reservoir. The flyfishing on the Logan has not been bad either, (try a beadhead pheasant tail). And don't tell me it's too cold!

AFS. IT'S NOT JUST FOR FISHERMEN!

Many thanks to the following local merchants for their generous donations to the CNR Christmas Social:

Geography Club
by Kristi Green

The winter quarter pizza party, our traditional quarterly social sponsored by Dr. Falconer, will be held on Wednesday, January 11th from 4-6 pm in the TSC Walnut Room. We will be inducting new members into GTU and discussing upcoming winter quarter events. Be on time if you want pizza!
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**January 1995**

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**College of Natural Resources Happenings**