

## SWEETHEARTS OF THE RODEO

Cowboys celebrate Valentines Day with eight seconds of pure adrenaline at annual Cupid Rough Stock ▶ Pg. 9

## HITTING THE TRAIL

With the right equipment and preparation, any cyclist can get in on the fun of mountain biking ▶ Pg. 6-7



# The Commuter

a weekly student publication

www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

Wednesday, February 18, 2004

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 35 No. 14

## Nine file for ASG elections

### The Commuter

The candidates running in the Associated Student Government elections next week will gather in the Commons at noon today for an informational forum to explain their positions on campus issues.

Students who show up to hear the candidates will be treated to free sandwiches.

Nine students filed for the eight positions open on next year's ASG council. Because no one filed for the Liberal Arts and Human Performance position it will be filled next term by appointment. Only two positions—public relations secretary and at-large representative, have more than one candidate seeking the post.

The candidates and the positions they are seeking are:

#### President

Stephanie Quigley

#### Vice President

Jackie Lohner

#### PR Secretary

James Crawford

Patrick Hager

#### At-Large Rep

Sophie Mason

Brett Nixon

#### Student Services and

Ext. Learning Rep

Bill Hand

#### Business/ HO Rep

Julie Tale

#### Science/Industry Rep

Paul Weatherford

Voting will be held online Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 24 and 24.

Students can access the ballot through a link on the LBCC home page, www.linnbenton.edu, from any Internet-connected computer on or off campus.



photo by Peggy Isaacs

### Spreading the Love

Volunteer Adrian Tibets delivers flowers to Multicultural Center assistant Rhiannon Orizaga from one of her admirers. Erick Vargas of the Student Programming Board and Dustin Norberg, student ambassador, assisted in delivering 800 flowers on Friday for Valentine's Day to various LBCC staff members and students.

## Margulis, Sagan speak on evolution

Erica Hennig  
The Commuter

The LBCC Science Club is accepting reservations for "The Acquiring Genome" a lecture by Dr. Lynn Margulis and Dorion Sagan on Feb. 20 at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall in Portland. Margulis and Sagan are the wife and son of late astronomer and science educator, Carl Sagan. Together, they present an answer to the question of how new species are formed. They argue that random mutation is of marginal importance and that the acquisition of new genomes by symbiotic merger is of more significance.

"This month's lecture is going to be spectacular. Any person taking biology, chemistry or physics classes should definitely go," urged Greg Mulder, adviser to the science club. "Any person interested in any aspect of evolution should go to this speaker," he continued.

One GS199 credit is available for attending two lectures, up to four credits over the year. Students who wish to receive credit must also complete a set of online assignments after each lecture. For more information on the class, Leading Edge Thinkers, visit www.oraapt.org/

▼ Turn to "Science" on Page 4

## Volunteers carve, paint animals for carousel

Adam Swackhamer  
The Commuter

Over the next five years expect to begin seeing lions, tigers and bears in downtown Albany. The wooden creatures are being carved, and painted by local volunteers for a new carousel they hope to have up and running by 2009.

According to Jack Giles, lead carver on the project and 15-year LBCC employee, the carousel will be 54 feet in diameter, which is about 20 feet larger than the carousel recently built in Salem. It will also feature more animals than Salem's, 52 compared to Salem's 33. The makeup of the carousel will be 60 percent horses and 40 percent other animals.

Giles said that no city money has been used in the construction. He alluded to a potential grant from the city of Albany, but it has not yet been approved by the city council.



photo by Scott McClure

Jerry Andersen (left) and Cliff Page (right) work while family members look on. The studio, located at Third and Broadalbin, is open to volunteers Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Up to this point the carousel project has subsisted on private donations and volunteers. The largest donation has come in the form of a nearly 100-year-old carousel mechanism from the

Dentzel family. The mechanism was constructed by Gustav Dentzel in 1909 and is worth between \$100,000 and \$125,000.

The carousel had been stationed at Point Pleasant Beach,

N.J., several years before being placed in storage. The Dentzel family later purchased the mechanism and upon learning about the Albany Brass Ring Carving Studio's plans donated it to the cause. Fourteen other donations have been made as part of the Brass Ring's "Adopt-a-Horse" program. An outside animal costs \$10,000, a middle animal \$7,500 and the innermost animals are \$5,000. The animals are not the only objects available for private "adoption"—mirrors and sideboards of the carousel are also available.

The Albany Brass Ring also needs volunteers to assist with the carving and other tasks. No experience is needed, just a desire to learn. Giles said the studio has many smaller, simpler projects that beginners can start on. Giles said, "We need sanders, painters, fund raisers, paint strippers and, since the mechanism is so old, even mechanics."

▼ Turn to "Carousel" on Page 4

### WEATHER THROUGH THE WEEKEND

SOURCE: WWW.WEATHER.COM



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The  
C  
Commuter



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# OPINION

**Send letters to The Commuter:**  
 Turn into Forum 222. Please sign them and  
 keep them at 250 words or less



## Conservatives feel threatened by change, advancement of minorities

**Laurent L.N. Bonczijk**  
 The Commuter

We have come far since Sigmund Freud declared that women were suffering from penis envy. OSU held three representations of "The Vagina Monologues," one last Thursday and two on Valentine's Day. You would be hard-pressed to convince any of those women that they are suffering from penis envy. I thought that it was an intelligent and well-written play and would advise anyone to go see it. But I am not using my space on page two to advertise for Ensler's play.

First I am going to take a shot at the religious establishment. Valentine's Day, is named after Saint Valentine, who was beheaded by Roman emperor Claudius II for marrying young people. However, Feb. 14 has actually been celebrated for much longer—its origins go back to ancient Rome and a pagan holiday named Lupercalia. It was a celebration of female fecundity and of the woodland deity Faunus and his female counterpart Bona Dea. It's not the only church holiday that has its origins in paganism and the reason is always the same: Overwrite prior cultures in order to expand its influence.

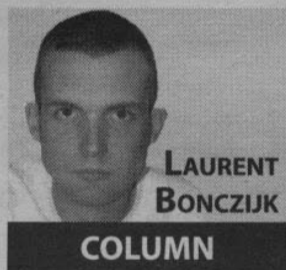
But this was only a bit of trivia for your next conversation with a religious zealot. What the play made me think of was a conversation I had with a friend of mine several months ago. He happens to be a very conservative person and refers to himself as a fundamentalist Christian, so our conversations usually end up in somewhat heated debates. One of the points he was making was that us liberals want to make individual people feel

guilty for the actions of other members of the group and this is rampant ideology among the conservatives. Ensler's play dealt with subjects such as child molestation and spousal abuse committed by males on females. I am male, but I don't feel guilty for the actions of other males. I feel sadness for the abused women, but no thinking man would ever feel guilty for actions he had no control upon. It is only conservative rhetoric destined to debase the argument. By accusing progressive people of attempting to make all of us guilty for actions we did not take, their goal is to prevent any real debate about some of our society's illnesses.

We live in a white patriarchal society and any movement that promotes the advancement of non-whites and women is going to provoke the ire of the conservative right. Guilt is a useless feeling and so is the dark side's argumentation that liberals are trying to promote guilt, because we don't. To stick with the monologues and their VDAY, until the violence

stops, the campaign we want to promote is the right for women not to be beaten by their husband, lover, partner, not to be raped by their husband, father or other. We are not promoting guilt, we are promoting awareness to the people that those despicable acts are still happening in America today. Why do they want to debase the debate?

Conservatives don't like change and feel threatened by it, they are afraid of losing their preponderance in the political and business world and in order to retain power they will make any attempt to prevent meaningful debates about our treatment of minorities and social issues.



### The Commuter

VISIT THE COMMUTER ONLINE  
 www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

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The Commuter is the weekly student-run newspaper for LBCC, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty, and Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of the authors.

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### COMMENTARY

## A & F markets image of self-hate, racism

**Mary Andom**  
 The Seattle Times

While cruising the mall recently, I couldn't help but notice the sea of white streaming in and out of the Abercrombie & Fitch store.

"Oooh, Abercrombie's having a blow-out sale," my friend said. "Let's go in."

"Uh, I don't know," I told her. "Black folk don't really shop here. I'll walk around the food court or something."

But secretly, I wanted to know what all the buzz was about. I had never had the courage to walk into an Abercrombie before.

"C'mon, it'll only be a minute, promise," my friend said.

As I stepped foot in that store, I felt I was in dangerous territory. An uneasiness swelled in my stomach as the customers looked on in curiosity. Feeling outnumbered and out of place, I tried to look as natural as possible. I shuffled my feet and poked at the clothing. A bubbly sales clerk chirped, "Uh huh, yeah, that tube top looks great with those low-rise jeans," as techno music pulsed in the background.

Every couple of minutes, though, she would look over my shoulder and when I'd catch her glance, she'd squeeze off an uneasy smile. Not once did a sales clerk ask if I needed anything or wanted to try something on.

But I've long dealt with this reality of Shopping-While-Black: Either you're ignored or followed.

The billboard of handsome white jocks and beautiful white women frolicking in fields reminded me of how different I am from them. They are tall, slender and fair-skinned or Asian, everyone from the customers to the cashiers.

"Traitor, you don't belong here," that little voice in my head admonished. "Black people don't shop here."

I had had enough and was ready to leave when my friend chimed in, "Great, I found it; he's going to love this shirt."

"OK, let's just get out of here."

When I walked out, I was reminded of the many reasons why I refuse to spend my money in a place like Abercrombie & Fitch:

I don't have the "A&F look."

The suburban lifestyle doesn't appeal to me.

The Abercrombie image is just plain racist.

We all know that beauty is largely defined in this culture as white. Even some of the most popular black actresses and pop stars, such as Halle Barry and Beyonce, have lighter skin and long silky tresses.

At a young age, we are taught that white is beautiful, from Cinderella to Barbie. As a child, I used to smear my mother's dark foundation all over my Barbie's face and plait her hair so she could look just like me.

Imagine what message this is sending to the little black girl with dark skin, textured hair and full lips. Is she not beautiful or American enough?

Abercrombie employs these live Barbies to reinforce the Eurocentric ideal of beauty, or as they call it, the "all-American look." I always thought "all-American" referred to the melting pot theory we're taught in school. But I guess Abercrombie had something else in mind.

This controversial image is at the very heart of a racial-discrimination suit filed against Abercrombie & Fitch by nine Hispanic and Asian employees who accuse the company of unfair employment practices.

Perhaps surprisingly, there are no black plaintiffs in the suit. In a way, we've created color-coded fashion associating the urban look of flashy tennis shoes, puffy coats, baggy jeans and jerseys with blacks, and the suburban look of khaki pants, polo tops and Dr. Martens with whites.

And Abercrombie represents this image perfectly, further propagating stereotypes and hatred with its racist message. Does Abercrombie have an obligation to represent minorities on their billboards and in their stores and catalogs? That's for the courts to decide.

But honestly, I cringe at the thought of Abercrombie & Fitch expanding its marketing of self-hate and racism to even more people.



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# CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus

## 'International Cookbook' seeks student recipes

**Jacob R. Smathers**  
 The Commuter

Recipes are now being accepted for the first "International Cookbook" being organized by the Multicultural Club, which will be on sale for \$6.25 this spring.

Proceeds from the sale of these cookbooks will go towards establishing an International Student Scholarship. Jeff Dodson, president of the Multicultural Club, encourages all students and staff to submit their favorite home recipes, to help them reach this goal.

The cookbook will contain 150 recipes. Recipes will include appetizer and dessert dishes, in addition to main course dishes, from all different national influ-

ences. All recipes submitted will be attributed to the student or staff member entering them. Those submitting should also include a six to 10 line story behind the recipe.

The original printing of the Multicultural Club's cookbook will consist of 200 copies. Further copies will be printed providing enough demand for these additional copies.

If all 150 recipes are submitted by Feb. 26, Morris Press Cookbooks will give the club a 20 cent per copy reduction to the cost of printing. Due to this deadline, Dodson urges all who plan on submitting to do so as soon as possible. Copyrighted recipes will not be accepted.

### HOW TO SUBMIT RECIPES

Submit recipes online at [www.typensave.com](http://www.typensave.com), the official website for the Morris Press Cookbooks. To submit:

1. Click login
2. Enter your name into the "contributor" box. This is the name the recipe will be attributed to.
3. Enter the group log-in for this cookbook, which is "LBCCookbook."
4. Use the access password E0A7F. Formats for submitting a recipe are available online on the website.



photo by Jeremy Hennig

**Betty Crosbie, R.N., A.N.P., describes the diseases the LBCC health clinic can test for. The clinic is open every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and provides free or low-cost health care to LBCC students and community members.**

## LBCC clinic provides affordable healthcare

**Matt Holland**  
 The Commuter

Across from the Registration office in Tadena Hall is a room that most people probably don't know exists.

For those who know it's there and what service it provides, it's one of the most important places on campus.

The Health Clinic, which is run by the Linn County Department of Health and supported by the Associated Student Government, provides free or low-cost health care to LBCC students and community members.

The cost of going to the clinic is based on household income, so those who can't afford regular health care can find some relief at the Health Clinic.

"We do a lot of things: Pregnancy testing, physicals, (treating) minor illnesses like throat or ear infections," explained Pat Crozier, a nurse and one of the people who runs the clinic.

Some of the other services that the clinic offers include blood pressure checks, testing for HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases and immunizations. The clinic is also available for people with health-related questions.

"I think we do a lot of health education as well," Crozier con-

tinued.

Besides Crozier, Betty Crosbie, a nurse practitioner, and Leta Friedt help run the clinic.

The staff also have a Cooperative Work Experience (CWE) student who helps out.

The Health Clinic is a safe and friendly place to go. The clinic has a second room available, so multiple patients can be seen at once.

"It's very confidential," Crozier said. "People worry about confidentiality, but there's no reason to."

For the fall term of 2002 and the winter and spring terms of 2003, the clinic saw just over 400 people. During those terms, the clinic was open six hours once a week.

Fall term of 2003, however, the clinic was open only four hours, but still managed to see more patients than in the fall of 2002. Why the increase in patients even though the hours have been reduced?

"I think it's the cut-backs in Oregon health care, so the fact is that a lot of people just don't have health care," said Diane Watson, dean of student services.

The Health Clinic is open every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## LaSells Stewart Center hosts controversial anti-war lecturer

**Adam Swackhamer**  
 The Commuter

"War is addictive," New York Times reporter Chris Hedges told about 100 people Wednesday at the LaSells Stewart Center. "It is the most potent narcotic known to humankind," he commented.

In his speech Hedges admitted that even he fell victim to the powerful drug that is war, returning to Bosnia even after the U.S. embassy had received threats on his life. According to Hedges, the drug produced by war is purpose. "I could not say I was happy in Bosnia or Kosovo, but I had a purpose," he said.

This purpose creates what he called "a false sense of power and security." The panic and camaraderie created by the 9/11 attacks has given Americans this same purpose, said Hedges, but it has blossomed out of control into a war that is "degrading, by the hour, our security."

Hedges, the second speaker in OSU's 2003-2004 Convocations and Lectures series, said that war is a plague on humanity, eliminating love and friendship through deception. Even the "friendship" shared by soldiers in wartime Hedges does not consider real. Instead of friendship there is comradeship, he said, which dissipates once the panic has passed and there is no longer a cause to fight for.

"War, at its inception, looks and feels like love, the chief emotion it destroys," he said. Love and friendship are the only emotions Hedges considers weapons against war.

Hedges was also critical of the press in times of

war. Having seen what really occurs in war, he believes the government provides the media video clips that are "clean, neat, tidy and wildly out of context."

He added that the news media has not been fulfilling its service to the people by providing truthful information on wars. He compared the media coverage with the ad campaigns of tobacco and alcohol companies.

This kind of coverage gives Americans a view of only the good things that happen in a war, he said, leaving out the dead and dying.

Hedges' speech did not focus only on the war in Iraq—he also discussed the conflicts in Central America and Vietnam. He explained that Vietnam was good for America, because the loss there made us second guess ourselves and our reasons for going to war. Even though he said he detests war, Hedges insisted he also realizes

its purpose, stating that "War is part of the modern, industrial landscape."

He said that he was not a pacifist and acknowledged that we will never be free from war, pointing out that there has never been a time in human history without war.

Although Hedges has met hostile receptions elsewhere in the country, the Corvallis audience was quiet until the end of his talk.

Once he finished, he opened the floor for a few questions and some of the audience members challenged his ideas, while others simply wanted his opinion on current events.

He predicted that since war destroys everything and creates nothing we are hurtling toward our own self-inflicted end. "We will, in the end, all consume ourselves in a vast conflagration."

**"We will, in the end, all consume ourselves in a vast conflagration."**

▶ Chris Hedges

## Parenting classes help families communicate successfully

**Julie Johnson**  
 The Commuter

Parents in rural communities in Benton County will benefit from a \$36,576 grant designed to provide parent education classes for the next two years.

The Rural Parenting Initiative is a partnership that includes the LBCC Family Resource Center, Benton County Health Department, Philomath Parenting Program and the Monroe School District.

With the new funding the initiative will develop services for Monroe, Alsea and Adair Village.

The program is being built on the success of the Philomath

Parenting Program, which has provided help for more than 250 parents and children in the past two years.

"We want to support families on their difficult jobs as being parents," said Linda Donald, Family Resource Coordinator.

Classes like these are designed to improve family life in general and typically are aimed at families whose children are functionally normally but where the parents just want additional knowledge.

Donald said it is important to involve the parents because they need to know how the children grow and develop.

The courses have minimal fees and there are options to pro-

vide services in exchange for classes.

At the moment the classes available in the Monroe area are Living and Learning with Babies, Living and Learning with your Toddler, Incredible Years and Guiding Choices.

This program is also planning to expand services for families elsewhere in Benton County, especially Alsea and Adair Village.

For more information contact Donald at (541) 917-4909 or Joyce Long at (541) 847-3244.

Parents can get a chance to participate by attending the Family Resource Fair on May 1 at LBCC's main campus in Albany.



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# CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus

## LBCC sends gifts to soldiers

**Laurent L.N. Bonczijk**  
 The Commuter

Last December LBCC's Classified Association collected food to send to relatives and staff members who were being sent to Iraq.

"The Classified Association decides to do something for people in the community every year around Christmas," said Arts and Communications Secretary Tammi Wright.

Eight boxes have been collected, four already sent. The four remaining boxes will sit in Wright's office until the recipients head for Iraq. They will be shipped overseas at the end of the month.

Wright said that the price of shipping was paid by donations. Each box cost about \$24 to

ship at the Army Post Office discounted rates.

"We haven't heard from the recipients yet," said Wright. "We did wonderfully with our collection—LB pulled through for us."

Communication instructor Pam Folts' son was back home on leave from Iraq until last Monday.

"Companies have been sending boxes so that they have been receiving a lot of stuff," explained Folts. The soldiers are really happy when they receive packages from home her son told her.

It has been a difficult experience for her son, she said: "(the) non verbal cues when he talks about the stuff he has to do over there . . . he becomes rather subdued and introspective. He has been more upset because of me being upset with the situation over there."



photo by Scott McClure

Diane Hunsaker and lead carver Jack Giles survey progress being made on the carousel animals being carved in the Brass Ring Studio in Albany.

## Paver project going smoothly

**Erica Hennig**  
 The Commuter

The LBCC Foundation continues to accept donations for the "Make a Difference Paver Project," raising money for the undesignated fund. Engraved paving stones will replace deteriorating concrete at the north College Center walkway.

Construction on the walkway is set to begin July of this year. Installation of the new entry should be completed by early October. After installation, the pavers will be engraved annually on-site.

It is undecided as to which company will be completing the work. "We're working on the bid process right now," stated Marlene Propst, executive director of the Foundation.

Estimated cost to complete the project is \$132,000, to be divided between LB and the Foundation. Propst explained, "The college will potentially fund approximately \$74,000 and the Foundation \$58,000. However, there is a possibility that some portion of the project may be donated, so the actual project cost could be much lower."

Only 89 pavers have been re-

served of the 2,085 to be incorporated in the walkway design, so many are still available. Pavers already reserved total \$27,850. Of those reserved so far, staff have purchased about 70 percent, community members 30 percent.

Planning for the project has been going on for nearly a year. "We know that this will be a long-term project, even spanning several years. We are very pleased with the generosity and support of our LBCC staff and will continue to promote the giving opportunity to alumni and the community," said Propst.

"Jon Carnahan, past LBCC president, saw this as an opportunity to create a more appealing walkway/entrance to the college. (The new walkway will be a place where) LBCC alumni faculty, staff and community members could 'leave their mark' on campus while making a contribution," said Propst.

She added, "With graduation approaching, an engraved paver would make a nice gift for a new graduate!"

To reserve a paver, stop by the Foundation Office in the College Center, room 105 for a brochure and order form or or-

der online at [www.linnbenton.edu/foundationpavers](http://www.linnbenton.edu/foundationpavers). Donations are tax-deductible and range from \$100 to \$1,000, depending on color and placement of pavers within the design.

Pavers will be engraved with a maximum three lines of text, up to 17 characters per line. Some examples of possible inscriptions include, but are not limited to: Name and class of, in memory of, family, individual or business names.

Pavers reserved by June 1, 2004 are to be engraved before construction begins. Those reserved between Sept. 1 and June 1 (of any year) will be engraved during the summer, as workers must take advantage of dry weather to do the engraving on-site.

## Carousel: Giddyup

▲ From page 1

The project began in June of 2003 and has 30 consistent volunteers, but as many as 70 have shown up at once.

Giles was offered the lead carver position after he volunteered on the project. Giles said that he no longer does much carving, instead he uses his 20 years of experience to teach and supervise new carvers.

Organizers plan to finish the carousel in 2009, the centennial of the carousel mechanism. Giles said he would like to see the finished project on the banks of the Willamette River, and recently a proposal has been made that includes a large boardwalk

up and down the river featuring the carousel and other attractions, including an antique carousel museum. The Dentzel family may also donate antique carousel items for display in the museum.

If you are interested in volunteering, visit the Albany Brass Ring at Third and Broadalbin Mondays and Wednesdays from noon to 9 p.m. and Saturdays 9 to 5 p.m.

The Brass Ring encourages the public to come and watch them work. Giles said it can get cramped with both observers and volunteers, but they will make as much room for the public as they can.

## Science: Grant makes trip less expensive

▲ From page 1

gs199/ or e-mail Greg Mulder at [mulderg@linnbenton.edu](mailto:mulderg@linnbenton.edu).

"People taking the class also get to have breakfast with the speaker on Saturday morning. Past classes have gotten to touch 160,000 year-old hominid skulls, gotten to receive career counseling from Nobel Prize winners and simply gotten to meet a group of neat people," explained Mulder.

Margulis and Sagan have co-authored several books on evolution and the origin of life, including "Acquiring Genomes: A Theory of the Origins of Species," "Microcosmos: Four Billion Years of Evolution from Our Microbial Ancestors" and "What is Life?"

Students will attend the lecture for the fee of \$10 instead of the regular \$40-60, thanks to a grant to the Science Club. The

\$10 fee helps pay for rental of the vans. Extra proceeds support the Science Club.

"There are still about 30 available tickets. I need to hear from attendees by Wednesday afternoon, but may be able to squeeze a few last minute people in on Friday," stated organizer Melissa Kilgore.

Reservations can be made by contacting Kilgore at (541) 917-4967; [kilgorm@linnbenton.edu](mailto:kilgorm@linnbenton.edu).

The group will meet in the parking lot in front of the Activities Center at 4:45 p.m. and the vanpool will leave at 4:55. Dinner at an area restaurant will follow the lecture.

Next month's lecture will be Dr. David Orr's "The Nature of Design" on Friday, March 12 at 7 p.m. For more information on the lecture, visit the Portland Center for the Performing Arts at [www.pcpa.com](http://www.pcpa.com).

## LBCC's 2004 Future Teachers Conference

**Mark your Calendars:**  
 Saturday, February 21, 2004  
 Linn-Benton Community College  
 Albany, OR  
 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

All potential teachers and new teachers are invited!

### Choose From Sessions Related To:

Advice from new teachers, principals and education specialists  
 Behavior management and discipline  
 Hands-on math and science  
 And more!

\*You will have an opportunity to meet with Education School representatives from many colleges in the area

\*Classroom Resource Exhibitors

\*Leave with a bag of new ideas

Early Registration (postmarked before Jan. 31) = \$25  
 Registration postmarked after 1/31/04 = \$30  
 Registration limited to the first 200 applicants

For more information about the conference contact Sharon Rodecap at:  
[sharon.rodecap@linnbenton.edu](mailto:sharon.rodecap@linnbenton.edu), ph 541-917-4757  
 or visit the website: <http://cf.linnbenton.edu/futureteachersconference>



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# LOCAL NEWS

News on happenings around the county including Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon, Philomath, Sweet Home and Tangent

## Dixon Creek project to add native plants

**Zedidiah Potts**  
 The Commuter

Neighbors of Jefferson Elementary and volunteers cleared 300 feet of Himalayan blackberries off part of the south bank of Dixon Creek in Corvallis on Saturday, Feb. 7.

Clearing out the blackberries is a large part of a project to restore native Oregon flora to a section of Dixon Creek south of Circle Boulevard that runs along the Jefferson Elementary school yard, according to project director Patti Warner. A hiking path parallels the creek as it winds its way toward Kings Boulevard.

"We filled 10 bins with blackberries, but we could have filled 10 more," Warner said. She hopes the next work party this Saturday will finish clearing the south bank before the planting

scheduled March 6.

Everyone is invited to come help on Saturday, Feb. 23, to help clear more of the creek bank. The gathering will start at 9 a.m., continues till 1 p.m. Tools will be provided.

The blackberries are not the only thing the "Keepers of the Creek" project will be looking for help with. Soil samples and water samples must be taken to scientifically illustrate the change that the project hopes to effect. Also, once the bank is planted with native flora it will need to be watered next summer.

Patti Warner would like to hear from any group of students who could take soil and water samples or water the area weekly this summer. For more information call Warner at (541) 752-0345.



photo by Peggy Isaacs

Dixon Creek in Corvallis is the site of brush removal and replanting by "Keepers of the Creek" in an effort to restore native species along the south bank. The group is looking for more volunteers to collect soil and water samples this summer. On Saturday volunteers will regather at the site from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to finish clearing out blackberries and preparing for replanting on March 6.

## Noise-limiting materials considered for skatepark

**Adam Peoples**  
 The Commuter

Skateboarding enthusiasts in Sweet Home may have a skatepark in their own town.

After the joint efforts by the government and community, a proposed site has been approved, with a conditional-use permit for a trial period of one year.

"Unless appealed, the decision becomes final and binding on the 24th of February," said City Manager Craig Martin. Martin also is a member of the skate park committee, which, he says has a "wide range of representation."

Construction of the park is speculated to begin as early as this summer. The park would be open to use by skate boarders, in-line skaters and BMX bike riders.

If there is a significant negative impact on nearby property contributed to the skatepark, that approval could be revoked at the end of the year

The site being looked at was approved by the Sweet Home School Board in December and the City Planning Commission approved the permit earlier this month.

Though the area is zoned as a commercial lot, nearby residential housing posed a source of anxiety for community members.

Few people testified in opposition of the park. The main concern was noise disturbances affecting the residential area adjacent to the proposed area.

"Any time you congregate a group of people, there's a potential for noise," remarked Martin.

To curb the possible audible irritation, the site has been moved as far away as possible from the nearby homes. Street traffic, Martin believes, will help drown out the noise from the park.

Martin said finding equipment made from certain materi-

als could deaden excessive sound.

The conflict is of durability versus sound. Steel and wood are two opposing options. While wood is quieter, it doesn't hold up as well in the wet Oregon weather.

Martin claims hybrid equipment may be an ideal mix and is looking into alternatives.

"We've demonstrated one particular type of ramp," he commented, adding that the committee was checking other area parks to see how their equipment has held up.

Additional concerns were

raised regarding litter, vandalism and unsafe or illegal activities that could stem from the park's creation. The conditional use permit requires a self-policing policy to be enforced by the skating and riding community.

"There's been a lot of discussion involving both youth and adults," said Martin. Patrons of the park will be responsible for preventing vandalism and keeping the area clean and safe. Failure to meet satisfactory operations would result in the park's closure.

"The city would be compelled to move (the park) or close it

altogether," stated Martin.

Martin has seen the project evolve during his seven years working with the city of Sweet Home.

Voluntary community fundraising began in 1998 and an estimated \$14,000 has now been generated.

The Kiwanis club of Sweet Home raised an additional \$10,000. Martin credits the Kiwanis club for spearheading the skate park project.

The city of Sweet Home put aside \$30,000 from the 1999 and 2000 budget to help fund the skatepark.

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INFO

# MOUNTAIN BIKING

## A brief history

Mountain biking was born in California in the 70s, more accurately in the hills north of San Francisco. It started when a bunch of outdoor enthusiasts decided to put some fat tires on their cruisers and go down the neighboring hills.

Soon the industry picked up and in the early 80s the first production mountain bike started to appear on the big brands line-ups. It has only grown since.

Today mountain biking is a sport of its own, with many different types of competition including: Cross-country, downhill, mountain-cross, short-track, trial, and 24-hour endurance courses.

## Types of bikes

There are four main types of mountain bikes: cross-country, trail-bike, downhill, freerider (a.k.a. black diamond) and the department store special.

•Department store specials: Stay away from them! Unless you plan on only using your bike occasionally and on bike paths only, you shouldn't consider a bike from a big box retail store. You might as well take your hard-earned cash and burn it. If you are pressed for cash, consider buying a used bike from a local shop or on the Internet. Your local mechanic or yourself will be able to fix a quality used bike and find parts for it in case something breaks, which is not an option with the big box specials.

•Cross-country: Used by racers, this type of bike has the stiffest frames and lightest components on the market and the stiffest frames. The downside is that they are also the most uncomfortable and have the least amount of suspension. Because of their light weight, the frames will not be as durable. Cross country bikes will usually not offer a rear shock and if they do it will have very minimal travel.

•Downhill: These rugged

bikes are burly machines designed to be chairlifted to the summit and then ridden down the hill as their names implies. Just as cross-country bikes showcase how light a bicycle can be made, downhill rigs are a technological showcase of strength for frames. It is the branch of mountain bike that brought us disc brakes, ever longer forks and shocks. Riders in that discipline will reach speeds in excess of 50 mph and wear gear that is directly inspired from motocross racing.

•Freeride: Now referred to as black diamond bikes by industry magazines and riders, these bikes are similar to downhill bikes in the sense that they are also designed to soak up big hits at high speeds. They differ from the former because of their ability to be pedaled over short to medium distances. Those bikes are made for the rider who plans on riding to a spot and then jumping the wheels of his new mount.

•Trail bike: Rank and file mountain bikers ride trail bikes. Those bikes are meant to be ridden for long amounts of times in all kinds of terrains. They most commonly are fully suspended bikes with four or five inches of travel on both wheels.

Riders reach speeds in excess of 50 mph and wear gear that is directly inspired from motocross racing.



## Suspension: Full or hardtail?

•Forks: The front fork of a mountain bike contains a "spring" that absorbs bumps on the trail. There are four major types of design:

Elastomere: For all practical purposes these are rubber pieces in the fork that act as a spring. They come mostly on lower-end forks and bikes.

Metal spring: Mostly used in downhill and black diamond forks, they provide better absorption on big bumps but have a weight penalty because steel is the material of choice for those.

Oil bath: Different oil weights are used and offer shock absorption by flowing from one container to another.

Air: The principle is the same as for oil bath forks, but air is used here. It is pressurized in different chambers and its flow from a positive to a negative chamber is what controls the motion of the fork.

•Shocks: They function on the same principle as forks.

Each company has its own design for forks and shocks and a fancy name for it. Most of them are equivalent in quality and the choice will depend on the rider's preference and the size of his wallet.

Even more important than the type of shock is the design of the rear suspension. There is a plethora of designs here, each company swears that theirs is the best compromise of plushness and anti-bobbing. I think that, with the exception of low-end bikes and department store specials, all the designs marketed by the major companies are worthy.





This week we look at an exciting and adventurous outdoor sport: Mountain biking. If you are a newcomer or still sitting on the sideline, wondering about how wise it would be to invest in this extreme sport, then read on. We'll cover the basic types of biking, the different bikes you'll use, some local trails and the equipment you'll need for the ride. Read on and find out if this rugged recreation is in your future.

•Written by Laurent L.N. Bonczijk •Photos by Scott McClure •Illustrations by Jeremy Hennig and Adam Peoples

## Finding the right fit

Size does matter in mountain bikes. If you go to your local bike shop the salesman will help you find the right size. If you don't, here is how to find the right size: When standing with a leg on each side of the bike and directly in front of the saddle you should be able to slip an open hand (four fingers) between your crouch and the top tube of your ride-to-be. Don't get too hung up on it though, this is just a general guideline. In my case, I am 5'11" and most of the time a 19" frame will be the right size.

Next, when seated on the saddle you should be

able to reach the handlebar without being overstretched. The width of the handgrips should be equal to your shoulder width.

Again, when seated on the saddle you should be able to almost fully extend your leg when the heel is on the pedal and the pedal at the lowest point in its course. I say "almost" fully extend because at the bottom of your crank's course you should still have a slight bend in the knee.

## Smart buys

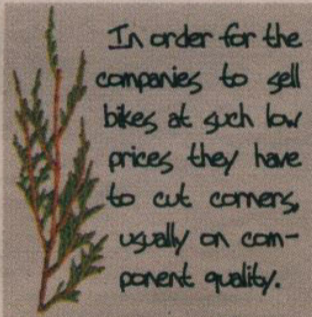
If you are new to the sport I strongly advise you to buy a trail bike.

The reason is that it will be the most polyvalent of all types and will let you try almost every kind of riding.

A second tip is to buy more bike than you think you can afford. It is cheaper to buy the bike sporting the components you want now than to upgrade later.



If you decide that a hardtail is what you want, I wouldn't go under \$500 (full price). A full suspension bike will set you back at least \$750. You will find bikes under those prices, but in order for the companies to sell bikes at such low prices they have to cut corners, usually on component quality.



In order for the companies to sell bikes at such low prices they have to cut corners, usually on component quality.

You can always decide to upgrade components later down the trail, but it will cost you more. Bike companies buy such large amounts from component manufacturers that they are able to offer you more bike for your money than if you put the bike together yourself.

## Local trails

In the Corvallis area, McDonald forest is the closest and perhaps the most extensive trail system in the area. There are several access points, most of which have ample parking opportunities. The arboretum off Highway 99 West offers many easy, well-maintained trails for the beginner.

Soap Creek has a 5-mile loop that is a major punishment because of the steepness of the hill, riding down is loads of fun though.

A longer ride that offers a lot of different types of riding is to climb the trail that starts at the light at Kings and Walnut, then take a left when you

get to Chip Ross park. Go down part of Dan's trail, take a right on the fireroad at the bottom, climb the horse trail, cross Lewisburg road at the saddle and go down to the arboretum.

You can either turn around and suffer through two tough climbs or cheat and take 99 back to Corvallis, the bike path is actually quite wide.

To widen your choice of trails I would advise investing in a book such as the "Falcon Guide to Mountain Biking Oregon."

## Packing the tools to keep you safe

You should always carry water, a snack and some tools when you go riding. Personally, I invested about \$30 in a medium-size Camelback a couple years ago. In case you don't know it is a backpack with a water pouch and in it I carry:

- A spare tube (4)
- A small pump (2)
- A tube repair kit
- Plastic tire levers: Metal tire levers will destroy your rims in no time unless you have rugged wheels. (1)
- 100 ounce water pouch
- Dry fruits / trail mix
- Power bar / peanut butter and jam sandwich
- Multi-tool: Consider investing in a bicycle-specific one.
- Allen wrenches (3)
- Pen: To mark the spot on your tube should you have to repair on the trail
- Small maglight (5)
- Glowstick
- Hand warmer: They are a lot quicker than your armpits.
- Whistle
- First aid kit



After you have bought your brand-new ride you should invest in a helmet. Hugging a tree at over thirty miles per hour could prove disastrous for your brain bucket if you don't have a lid on. You will probably also need some bike-specific shoes. Most bikes come with clip-in pedals and they require to have a removable metal cleat in the center of your shoes.



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# SPORTS

Coverage of competitive and recreational activities at LBCC, as well as from around the state and nation

## Men climb to 4-8 and keep playoff hopes alive

**Sheena Bishop**  
 The Commuter

Last week's split with Umpqua and Clackamas raised the Roadrunners' league record to 4-8 and kept the door open for a long-shot playoff spot.

Wednesday's game against Umpqua was a win of 76-70.

"I knew if we lost the game our chances of making the playoffs were slim," player Ryan Schmidt said. "I think in the first half we played a little timid instead of trying to extend the lead. In the second half we came out strong, but the same thing happened."

Coach Randy Falk added: "I felt like we could have done a better job defending (player) 33. When we came out the second half, 33 was a problem defensively."

But Falk praised his team's play in the closing minutes. "In the last two minutes we were able to play strong and I feel it was the difference for us in the game."

Braziel finished with 24 points, Schmidt with 21 points and 11 rebounds, Espinoza with six assists and Bain with nine points and seven rebounds.

Saturday's loss to Clackamas was close, with a final score of 112-103.

Schmidt scored 34 points with six assists on Saturday accompanied by Shinn's 18 points and seven rebounds. Braziel scored 17 points and eight assists, Schindler had 10 points and Espinoza dished eight assists.

"We made some mistakes, but I was pleased with what I saw," Falk said.

The team showed great sportsmanship at the Clackamas game, proving that teamwork was something they did more than talk about. Even though they didn't get the win, their building momentum was not slowed at all.

To make it to the NWAACC tournament, the team needs to win both of its games this week. "The team we play Saturday we'll either win (opening a berth toward tournament) outright or have to go to a playoff game," Falk said.

The team plays tonight against the Southwest Oregon Lakers at 7:30 in the Activities Center.

With a victory Linn-Benton could move into a tie with SWOCC for the fourth and final playoff position of the Southern Division.

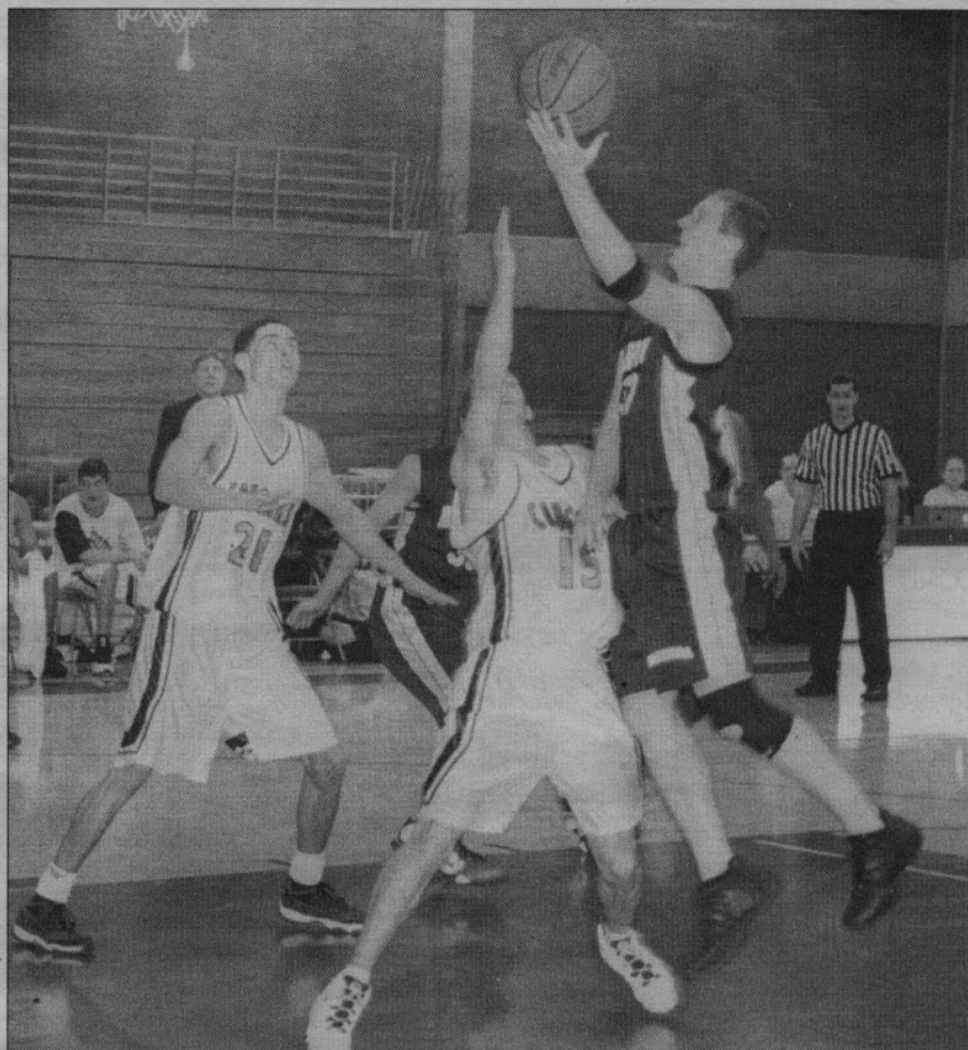


photo by Matt Schmidt

Sophomore Ryan Schmidt drives to the hole for two of his 34 points in Saturday's loss to Clackamas Community College. Linn-Benton will play SWOCC today at 7:30 p.m.

## NBA All-Star game didn't disappoint fans eager for action

**Jacob Espinoza**  
 The Commuter

All-Star weekend in Los Angeles, special effects were promised and delivered.

The Portland Trailblazers were not represented in the weekend's activities, but Portland's own Fred Jones, now playing for the Indiana Pacers, told the world about Oregon's high flying secret and took home a victory in the dunk contest.

Standing only 6-foot-2, Jones defeated two-time champion Jason Richardson in a dunk contest that may soon be considered legendary, but not in a good

way. The final round of the dunk contest became an epidemic of missed dunks.

Jones used his go-go gadget wing span to complete a dunk from the hash mark, but for his second dunk attempt of the finals he threw the ball to a fan, known to Oregon hoop heads as Jefferson High School basketball phenomenon Brandon Brooks, who threw Jones a lob from the stands.

Jones bobbled the ball in mid-air but it managed its way through the hoop, meaning it counted as a completed attempt and was judged.

However, the low score of his

second dunk did not matter because Richardson missed both of his dunks in the finals.

Jones got the victory, but the dunk of the night did belong to Richardson. He successfully threw it off the backboard, caught the ball in mid-air, put the ball between his legs, and dunked it. That's the type of thing that normal people cannot do.

Other winners of Saturday night's events included Baron Davis, winner of the 989 Sports Skills Challenge, and Voshon Lenard, winner of the Foot Locker Three-Point Shootout.

Amare Stoudamire showed

why he was last season's Rookie of the Year, taking this year's Rookie stars on a 36-point ride of dunks in the defensively challenged match-up.

LeBron out-shined teammate Carmello in the game, scoring 33 points to Carmello's 17, but the two played like brothers and combined for some "Sportscenter Play's of the Week" fast breaks.

The All-Star game was one for the ages, if not for the actual game play then for the number of stars that were in attendance. From Ashton Kutcher to Jay-Z to Laker Legend Jack Nicholson, L.A.'s A-list was out to see some

aerodynamics.

With the exception of a fast break lay-up from Kobe Bryant, who heard boos from the crowd for his lethargic fast break lay-in, the NBA Superstars at the game left no fan disappointed.

What it was Yao Ming to high flying six-foot teammate Steve Francis, or Jason Kidd to Kenyon Martin, Tracy McGrady to himself, the All-Stars were allowing each other to show and prove their abilities, and athleticism.

Shaquille O'Neal closed the night off properly by accepting the All-Star game's M.V.P. award behind a 24-point and 11 rebound performance.

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# SPORTS

Coverage of competitive and recreational activities at LBCC, as well as from around the state and nation

## Ladies, gents stir up dust at rough stock rodeo

**Sheena Bishop**  
 The Commuter

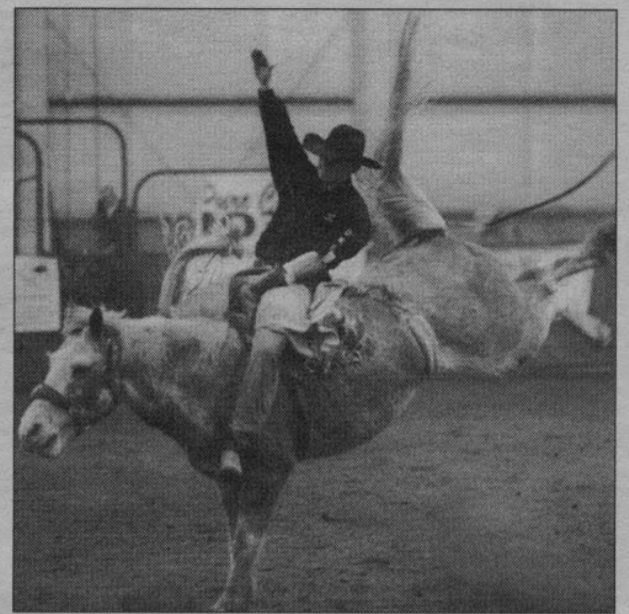
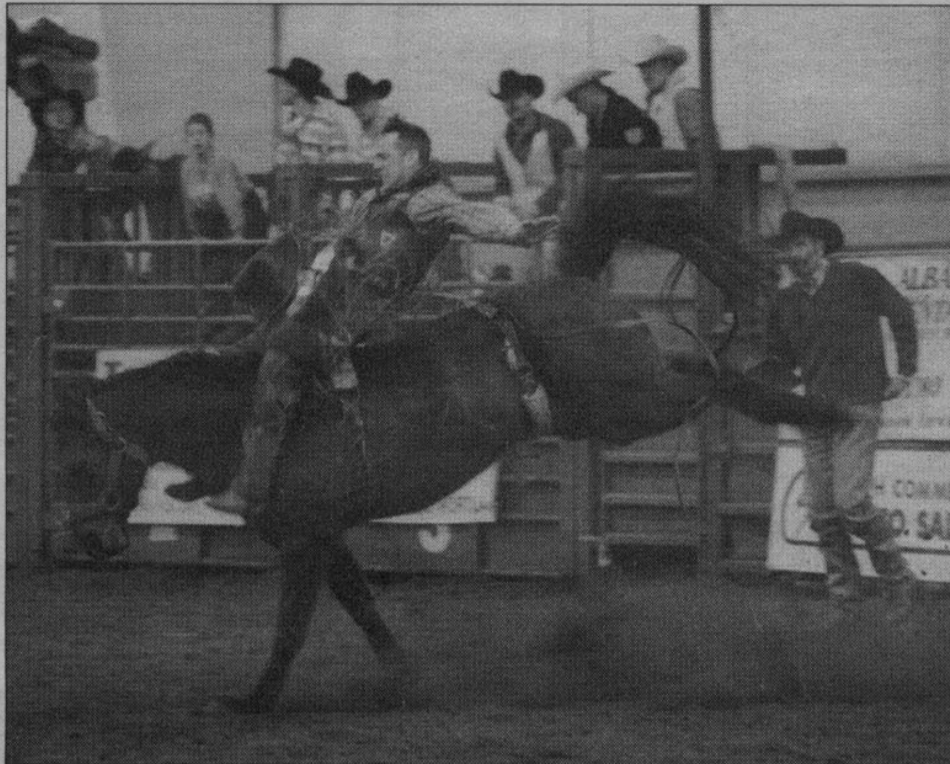
While many gents were rushing to the local florist in a last ditch effort Friday and Saturday night to impress their sweetheart, a completely different breed of gentry was preparing to saddle up, many without the saddle itself.

As well-known local announcer Wayne White rattles on about the next cowboy and his riding companion, the gate swings open to reveal a very ripped bronco or bull doing his best to unnerve the cowboy holding onto his back for dear life.

It's eight seconds of adrenaline for a cowboy and the audience. Leaning and swaying in every direction possible to keep balance, the cowboys look very small on top of their mounts.

The Cupid's Cowboy Challenge Rough Stock Rodeo kicked off its ninth annual bash inside the heated livestock arena at the Linn County Fairgrounds with the help of the youngest contestant ever to be tossed off American Idol, 10-year-old Moury Davis.

Not only did Davis sing a yodeling number for the crowd before the national anthem in slight mockery of the popular TV show, but popular TV was also tweaked in the "Cowboy Eye for the City Guy" competition. Ladies nominated their rodeo dates for a haircut and a wardrobe makeover provided



photos by Lewis Forquer

Two cowboys put in their eight seconds in the bareback bronc event during last Saturday's ninth annual Cupid's Challenge Rough Stock Rodeo in the Linn County Fairgrounds.

by Double H Western Wear in Salem. One gent was made over and presented to the audience on Saturday after his make over was complete. Say goodbye to your Levi's, buddy.

The rodeo featured bareback, saddle bronc, bull riding and barrel racing, as well as an after event party both nights at Lucky Larry's Lounge in Albany.

The rodeo is referred to as a rough stock rodeo because of the style of the events. Needless to say, there is no safety net when you are on a kicking bronc or bull, hence "rough stock." Its not just the animal you're on, the cowboy has to be pretty

rough himself.

"It's a lot more humane than people think," April Cooper stated. Cooper helps run local rodeo events. She said that often rodeo animals are treated better than many left out to pasture.

"We go to every rodeo we can," attendee Kelly Hurst said of her and her husband. "We attend for the bull riding."

While many sit and watch as cowboys go flying, those who are capable of staying on a bucking bronc or bull for the full 8 seconds required to receive a score are elite. It takes a lot of courage and training to be able to pull something like that off.

"We go to almost all the ones here," Becky Ray said of the local rodeo circuit, including places like Philomath, Salem and Eugene. Of herself and friend Melanie Lockwood, she added, "Our daughters ride in them."

Barrel racing is a popular event for women of all ages.

"You meet a lot of interesting people," Tami Walsh said. Walsh also helps run the local event.

"I just come, I love the atmosphere," rodeo regular Frank Pinios said. "I guess you could say tight jeans are appealing."

For those who want a souvenir, they sell event T-shirts and

hats supplied primarily by local vendors.

"We grew up doing it," Rusty Gorham said of the sport. "It's gone on from generation to generation."

Gorham's daughter and son both compete in rodeo events. Gorham's family also supplied the bulls that were used for the weekend hoopla. The family breeds and raises bulls specifically for western events.

The next time you're looking for a little action that's out of the ordinary, try a rodeo. You might be surprised not only by the atmosphere, but the tradition and spirit that goes into the event.

## Two heartbreakers dim women's playoff hopes

**Jacob Espinoza**  
 The Commuter

Linn-Benton's women's basketball team suffered two devastating losses on the road last week, taking themselves out of playoff position.

On Wednesday, the Roadrunners traveled to Roseburg to face Umpqua Community College.

The Runners were able to upset Umpqua during their match-up in Albany earlier in the season, but were unable to keep up with them last week.

Umpqua jumped out to a quick lead and Linn-Benton was unable to respond, losing 116-79.

Priscilla Hendrix led the Runners with 16 points, Marissa Higgins added 14 points to go along with her 10 assists, freshman Kelsey Richards scored 14 points and Kendall Dionne had 10 points.

Seven Umpqua players scored in double digits during the game, including 23 points, 13 rebounds and nine assists from sophomore Devina Brooks.

On Saturday, Linn-Benton struggled against Clackamas Community College in Oregon City, suffering a 85-55 loss.

Hendrix again led the Runners with 14 points and managed to pull down eight rebounds, while Higgins led Linn-Benton with six assists.

### RODEO CHAMPS

#### Bareback Riding

- 1st: Clint Wells of Salem
- 2nd: Kelly Hewitt of Scio
- 3rd: Sam Storts of Coquille

#### Bull Riding

- 1st: Jimmy Floyd of Powell Butte
- 2nd: Bryan Barker of Redmond
- 3rd: Charlie Barker of Redmond

#### Saddle Bronc Riding

- 1st: Chance Millian of Bend,
- 2nd: Ross Hartman of Redmond
- 3rd: Dusty Lowe of Wedderburn

#### Barrel Racing

- 1st: Becky Gonzales of Scio
- 2nd: Cathy Parker of Scio
- 3rd: Kim Anderson of Albany

### SOUTHERN DIVISION BASKETBALL STANDINGS

	Men's		Women's	
	League	Overall	League	Overall
Chemeketa	10-2	21-4	Clackamas	11-1 21-3
Mt. Hood	10-2	15-8	Lane	10-2 19-5
Clackamas	9-3	18-6	Chemeketa	9-3 18-6
SW Oregon	5-7	10-13	Umpqua	8-4 20-5
Lane	4-8	7-15	Linn-Benton	5-7 13-11
Linn-Benton	4-8	9-14	Mt. Hood	3-9 7-17
Portland	3-9	9-14	SW Oregon	2-10 3-19
Umpqua	3-9	8-14	Portland	0-12 0-21

### MEET THE TEAM

**Name:** Megan Sutfin  
**Nickname:** Megs  
**High school:** Henley  
**Major:** Business Management  
**Year:** Freshman  
**Favorite movie:** Anything with Vin Diesel  
**Favorite restaurant:** The Roadhouse  
**General interests:** Hanging out with the girls  
**Something people may not know about me:** I'm in love with Vin Diesel.



**Name:** Debra Arlyn  
**Nickname:** Debra Darling  
**High school:** Philomath High School  
**Year:** Freshman  
**Current favorite CD:** Ed Harcourt "From Every Sphere"  
**Favorite movie:** Heavyweights  
**General interests:** Playing piano, singing  
**Something people may not know about me:** I was crowned the "Eugene American Idol of 2003."



**Name:** Kelsey Richards  
**Nickname:** Kels  
**High school:** Myrtle Point  
**Major:** Business  
**Year:** Freshman  
**Current favorite CD:** Anything  
**Favorite movie:** Ocean's Eleven  
**Favorite restaurant:** The Olive Garden  
**General interests:** Hanging out with the girls





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# LOCAL NEWS

News on happenings around the county including Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon, Philomath, Sweet Home and Tangent

## CLASSIFIEDS

### SCHOLARSHIPS

The Zonta Club of Corvallis is awarding up to ten \$1,500 scholarships to LBCC students for the 2004-05 academic year. Applicants need to be currently enrolled undergraduate students at LBCC and /or OSU with prior life experience who have resumed their studies after a break in their education, demonstrate an interest in working with children or to improve the legal, political, economic, educational, health and professional status of women. Additional information and applications are available at the Financial Aid Office or at [www.zontacorvallis.org](http://www.zontacorvallis.org). Completed application deadline is April 1, 2004.

### WANTED

Wanted: Recipes for the Multicultural Club's "International Cookbook." Submit recipes at [www.typensave.com](http://www.typensave.com), use group login lbcc cook book and password e0a7f.

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Imagine an internship with one of the most exciting companies in the world. Attend a presentation on Tuesday, Feb. 24 at 5 p.m. at the LaSells Stewart Center by OSU. Bring a resume and dress for the interviews following the presentation. For more info, visit: [www.wdcollegeprogram.com](http://www.wdcollegeprogram.com).  
**Summer Gov't jobs** (2302 & 2294-Oregon) These firefighter positions are looking for you! Now is the time to apply as the deadlines are closing in! See Carla in Student Employment (T101) for your referral.  
**CWE Student Lab Tech** (#2282 & 2281-Wah Chang, Albany) If you have one year of high school or college chemistry, your degree field is related to science or engineering, and completed 2 terms, this opportunity is for you! It pays \$8-10/hr. You work 16 hrs/week, swing shift (4 p.m.-12 midnight) on Sat. & Sun. and full-time work during school breaks and summer. See Carla, Student Employment (T101) for more info!  
**Program Technician for GIS** (2303-Tangent) If you are comfortable with computers, have data entry skills and interested in working with digital orthophotography with emphasis on GIS and ArcView, here is your job! Can be full-time or part-time AND can be day or night—can't beat that! See Carla in Student Employment (T101).

# Craftsmen hope to stir economy with art

**Peggy Isaacs**  
The Commuter

Attention all crafters and artisans: Oregon Crafted, a state-funded program, wants to boost the economy by promoting arts and crafts.

The Oregon Council for Business Education (OCBE), looking for ways to help Oregon as the economy slowed, explored the best practices in the United States for growing small businesses.

They found a development program in North Carolina that revitalized their western region, HandMade in America. This has led to numerous economic successes. While visiting the area, 42 percent of tourists now spend over \$200 apiece on hand-crafted items.

OCBE has proposed a project that will assist the growth of Benton, Lane, Linn, and Lincoln counties by replicating the aspects of HandMade in America.

This economic development project not only will help to grow the economics in the four county areas, but will also recognize the importance of arts and crafts as an industry in Oregon.

The purpose of the Oregon Crafted program is to discover the artists and bring the market to them.

Using the successful "trail system," Oregon Crafted will direct tourists to local art studios and galleries using printed material in the form of a book or pamphlet.

Oregon Crafted will produce a booklet that highlights art studios, galleries and other venues that feature local artists' works. These art trails will make it easy to locate local crafts people and view their art in a self-guided tour.

The "trail system" is a key component of the access to market concept for this project. Oregon Crafted is a long-term economic development project.

Tourism Development Manager, Mandy Cole, from the Oregon Tourism Commission, said, "The Oregon Crafted Art Trail System is exactly the kind of innovative, sustainable project the Oregon Tourism Commission encourages and supports. This project provided Oregon with a new economic and tourism industry diversification strategy."

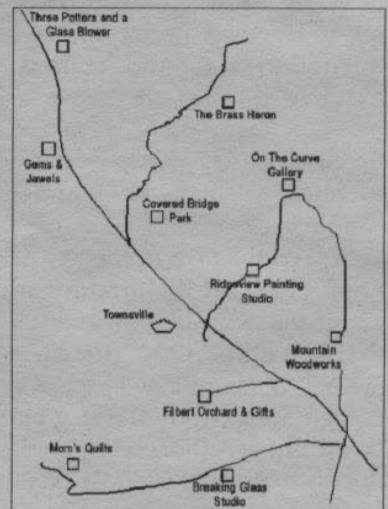
Oregon Crafted uses principles that work to promote and encourage all artists and handcrafters. They are diverse and inclusive and are in partnership with other organizations.

Joan Shea, executive director of Oregon Crafted, feels if Oregon has "something to offer tourists will stay longer, a whole half a day."

Shea said, "Our hope is to work with the four counties to build cultural tourism through visual arts and to be able to strengthen local economies by increasing the amount of money spent in the arts."

Oregon Crafted has had several meetings introducing their concept to the communities. The next meeting will be held in Lebanon at the Aloha Photographic Studio, 868 Main St., 7 p.m.

For more information call Joan Shea, (541) 686-8353, or visit the website at [www.ocbe.org](http://www.ocbe.org).



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## COMMONS

Feb. 18th - Feb 24th

**Wednesday**  
Prime Rib w/Popovers or Yorkshire Pudding  
Phad Thai  
Tofu Stir-fry w/Broccoli  
Baked Potato  
Chile Zucchini  
Billy-Bi  
Beef Vegetable

**Thursday**  
Jamaican Jerk Chicken w/Mango Chutney  
Sushi/Sashimi  
Spanakopita  
Garlic Ginger Coconut Rice  
Ratatouille  
Chili Mac  
Curried Cream of Carrot

**Friday**  
**Chef's Choice!**

**Monday**  
BBQ Spare Ribs/Country Ribs  
Moroccan Chicken  
Omelet Bar  
Rice Pilaf  
Home Fries  
Spicy Carrots  
Saffron Chicken  
Vegetarian Vegetable

**Tuesday**  
Spice Rubbed Tri Tip  
Turkey Saltimbocca/Fish en Papillote  
Portabella Polenta w/Grilled Veggies & Mascarpone Cheese  
& Sundried Tomato Paste  
Corn Fritters  
Chicken Consomme  
Roasted Garlic

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Information about plays, movies, books, artwork and other entertaining or artistic endeavors

## Physical Challenge hits their stride on the road

**Joel Meacham**  
 The Commuter

The night before the band Physical Challenge was set to hit the road for its third tour in December 2003, they encountered a small problem.

A driver who forgot how to use her brakes, smashed into the passenger side of the band's tour van. Fortunately, one of the band member's dads pulled the bumper from the wheel well and declared the van drivable. The next night they were in Redding, Calif., headlining a show at a skate shop called the Daily Grind.

Physical Challenge's tour van was not the only thing to be crunched in the band's history.

It all started three years ago in Corvallis, when band front man Ryan Baker and three of his friends who attended OSU formed a cover band called Marc Summers and The Physical Challenge. Specializing in playing everything from parties to basements, they would cover anything from The Ramones, to Pat Benatar and Eddie Money and they even did some old-school hardcore covers, like Youth of Today and the Gorilla Biscuits.

After six months and their first band member change, they began to write their own material and started to redefine themselves as a hardcore band. After two more member changes left Baker as the only founding member of the band, they added a second guitar player and decided to shorten the name to just Physical Challenge. Baker said in truth they should have changed the band name altogether, because they had become a completely different band. "The music was much angrier and a lot harder," he said.

They went on to record their first demo in May of 2002. "We thought it was pretty awesome, but looking back it wasn't very good," Baker said, adding that summer was kind of a struggle for the band. "We had to fight to get shows and we went back to being a four-piece. Toward the end of the summer we lost our drummer and it almost ended the band."

Fortunately for the band, their friend Andy, the drummer from the band Inked in Blood, volunteered for the job. "I was a little apprehensive at first, because



photo courtesy of Rival Records

**Lead vocalist Ryan Baker has been with Physical Challenge since the band first formed in Corvallis three years ago.**

he lived in Newberg and we all lived around Corvallis, and we'd have to drive up to Newberg to practice," said Baker. But as it turned out, Andy was "by far the best drummer we have ever had," and also had a real proactive approach that was missing before he arrived.

In December 2002, they embarked on their first West Coast tour with Inked in Blood. "We had a few decent shows, but at that point nobody knew us outside of Oregon or Washington so responses were mixed, but overall it was a good first tour," Baker said.

"The highlight of the trip was that they got to spend New Year's Eve in Las Vegas, which made the whole trip worth it."

After returning, they added two new guitar players and recorded their first EP at Interlace Studios in May 2003. It was a five-song CD entitled "Some Still Care," released on Rival Records in August. Right after that, they left on their second West Coast tour, which included a show at California's legendary Gillman St. Theater in Berkley. "It was amazing. We got a really good response and a lot of good feedback. Rival Records was a huge help, we owe a lot to them for the work they did."

They did another West Coast tour this past December that was mired by cancellations. "We had something like four shows canceled and ended up staying in Sacramento for three days, which was kind of miserable, but the shows we did play all went really well and we got some great responses."

Today the band has what Baker called a pretty solid lineup and they are currently working on writing a full-length CD that they hope will be out sometime before the end of the year.

Baker says that the thing that really drives the band is when the crowds are really into the music. "The idea is that when we play, we are part of the crowd; during the show, crowd participation is as important as the guitars or drums. Without kids singing along, pile-ons, and circle-pits, it wouldn't be worth it."

One thing the band is quite firm on is that they will not play bar shows. "I hate the idea that you have to be a certain age to see a band. I also hate the idea that bars use live music as a way to sell beer. There's a purity to all age shows, a sense that you did it yourself and that you don't need some shady promoter or bar owner to help your scene survive."

With an album in the works that Baker describes as a little more punk rock but still containing the anger, passion and sense of urgency that the band is known for, Physical Challenge is preparing to once again hit the touring circuit.

"We're going to do a short, three-day California tour in March, then in the summer time we're going to go through California, Arizona, Texas and head to the East Coast. I think we're planning for about three weeks or so around August or September," he said.

Although they haven't played the Corvallis area in a long time, they hope to be down here sometime before the end of the school year.

"I'm ready to quit my job and put all my stuff in storage to go on tour full-time, but some of the other guys in the band can't really do it, but someday I hope we become a full-time touring band."

*Go to [www.rivalrecords.net](http://www.rivalrecords.net) for more information on Physical Challenge, including a show schedule, band journal, MP3s, photos, band contact information, plus information about other bands on the label.*

### REVIEW

## 'Vagina' a stirring, exciting play

**Laurent L.N. Bonczijk**  
 The Commuter

OSU's presentation of "The Vagina Monologues" last weekend was smart, entertaining and funny. The producers strayed a little bit from the original one-woman show, created by Eve Ensler.

Ensler interviewed over 200 women about domestic violence and violence against women in general, resulting in this controversial play.

The cast consisted of about 30 women and I would estimate that over half of them performed a monologue. Some were funny, some were sad, all are interesting and well-performed. LBCC English instructor Linda Spain played a part.

I would recommend everyone to go see it the next time it is produced in the area. Some people

may find it objectionable, but they are the ones depicted in the White Anglo Saxon Protestant moan and who unfortunately may need it most.

One woman explains how she became comfortable about her vagina after she met "Bob," who on their first time wanted to look at her unmentionables for almost an hour, attempting to turn her on. Along the same line there are useful tips for guys such as "Slow down! Fore-play!"

Other monologues are moving because of the distress they depict. One woman recalls her torture by Serbians, who not only raped her over the course of several days, but also used their rifles, bottles and a broomstick handle to abuse her.

A good addition to the play was the opening act by the choir group Divine. Man, the girls can sing!

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The Performing Arts Department at Linn-Benton Community College  
 presents its 29th annual Children's Play

**Alice's Adventures  
 in Wonderland**

Sundays, Feb. 22 & 29<sup>th</sup> 2004 at 3 pm

Directed by George Lauris ♥ Original music by Susan Peck  
 Costumes by Erica Jones

**LOCATION: Tadena Theater, Linn-Benton Community College**  
**ADMISSION: \$7 ~ Adults; \$4 ~ Children under 18 years**  
 • All seating is reserved •

Adapted for the stage from Lewis Carroll's original story.  
 Colorful entertainment that children & adults can enjoy together.

Tickets available in Albany at:  
 Sid Stevens Jewelers  
 Tadena Theater Box Office, 8 am-noon; 1-2 pm  
 At the door two hours prior to curtain.  
 24-hour message line: (541) 917-4531

Tickets available in Corvallis at:  
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15% discount on groups of 10 or more.  
 Credit card transactions are available only at  
 the Tadena Box Office. Transactions at Sid  
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Visit our web site at: <http://cf.linnbenton.edu/depts/performart>

LBCC is an equal opportunity institution. If you require disability accommodations, please call 917-4561 at least one week prior to the performance.



A & E Editor: Peggy Isaacs  
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Information about plays, movies,  
 books, artwork and other entertaining  
 or artistic endeavors

## ART HAPPENINGS

### AFTER DARK

**Fox & Firkin**  
 202 SW 1st St.  
 Corvallis  
 753-8533



**Feb. 20**  
**Basic Assumption**  
 Rock  
 9 p.m.  
 \$3

**Feb. 21**  
**Purusa**  
 Rock  
 9 p.m.  
 \$3

**Royal Pacific Lounge**  
 800 N.W. 9th St.  
 Corvallis  
 758-1720

**Feb. 20**  
**Dave Anderson**  
 Comedy  
 9:30 p.m.  
 \$5

**Feb. 22**  
**Karaoke**  
 Free pool  
 9 p.m.  
 Free

**W.O.W. Hall**  
 291 W. 8th St.  
 Eugene  
 (541) 687-2746



**Feb. 20**  
**The Planet The**  
**Stop Sign Go**  
**Conception**  
 Rock  
 8 p.m.  
 \$7

**Feb. 21**  
**Skerik's Syncopated**  
**Taint Septet**  
**Kaki King**  
**Tim McLaughlin's**  
**11 Eyes**  
 Jazz  
 8 p.m.  
 \$10



photo by Peggy Isaacs

#### Clinton Fearon

Lead singer, Clinton Fearon and the Boogie Brown Band played the Platinum in downtown Corvallis last Friday, with their own style of roots reggae. Reggae bands all over the state performed for fans during last week's Bob Marley's Birthday Celebration. This special cultural event drew in bands from Jamaica and Hawaii. Bands such as Natural Vibrations, Groundation, Salassie1 Soldier and also local reggae band Jah Bong performed at various venues. Each group delivered their own uplifting spiritual sounds, rocking the house to celebrate in true Jah tradition.



photo by Scott McClure

Alice, played by Kate Paul, talks with the Mock Turtle, played by Nick Sheler. They chat under a tree while Michael Leavenworth, who plays a variety of roles, looks on. More than 4,000 area school children are expected to see LBCC's production of "Alice in Wonderland" in Tadena Theater this month. Public performances are scheduled for Feb. 22 and 29 at 3 p.m.

## Alice and her lively cast keep hundreds of kids entranced

Colleen Jacks  
 The Commuter

Last week on Tuesday afternoon about 450 Lebanon school children excitedly filed into Tadena Theater under the gentle guidance of their ever-patient teachers, searched for an empty seat and eagerly awaited the start of "Alice's Adventures In Wonderland."

The children were warmly welcomed to LBCC's 29th annual children's show by Director George Lauris, who briefly introduced the play then left them with a warning:

"Sometimes nothing is what it seems."

Suddenly the theater was plunged into darkness and the auditorium erupted with squeals of fright and delight. Their screams almost overshadowed the prologue delivered by the cast members, who were individually illuminated by flashlights as they said their lines.

Clever staging, a whimsical set and colorful costumes kept the kids enthralled for an hour of entertainment.

"What is the use of a book, without pictures or conversations?" mused Alice, played by LBCC student Kate Paul, as she lazily stretched from her nap under the tree.

"Oh dear! Oh dear, I shall be too late!" the White Rabbit muttered from the back of the auditorium, turning hundreds of small heads in the audience as he quickly worked his way up the aisle to the stage. The White Rabbit, played by Caitlin Perkins, checked her pocket watch and asked the children if they knew the time. Fearing execution, he did not want to keep the Duchess waiting.

Alice was intrigued by a talking rabbit with a waistcoat and pocket watch, so she followed him down the rabbit hole. Around and around she twirled until she hit the bottom, landing in front of a tiny door. The first of her challenges was to figure out how to solve the problem of a tiny door with a very large key.

Thus began her journey through Wonderland, happily greeting a lively cast of characters along the way and taking her eager audience with her.

At one point Alice, unhappy at her constantly changing size, lamented to the Caterpillar, played by Hans Eleveld: "Three inches is such a wretched height to be."

Raising himself up to his full three-inch height, the Caterpillar responded, "It is a very good height, indeed!"

He then told her that eating different parts of the mushroom would help her control her size. At

that, she broke off a few pieces and continued on her journey.

She encountered a baby, which turned out not to be a baby at all—it was a pig! The little squealer took off, zipping around the stage on its own set of wheels. The kids really got a kick out of that.

A tea party set on a topsy-turvy table, a painting of roses made to please the Queen and a game of croquet played with brightly colored flamingos made the world seem very disconcerting to Alice.

"Off with her head! Off with her head!" shouted the Queen, played by Erin Bartelds. No matter what anyone did, it seemed the Queen could never be pleased. Everyone was made quite nervous and wondered if their head would become separated from their shoulders.

The singing Mock Turtle, played by Nick Sheler, really caught the audience's attention. When he began to sing rap-style, the kids went crazy.

Later, when Alice found herself back under the tree where she had begun her adventure, she wondered, "It must have been a dream. Yes?"

"No!" came the resounding cry from the audience.

Amid shouts of "Off with her head!" and "thank you," the youngsters greeted the cast as they filed in orderly fashion out of Tadena Hall. Many received hugs from cast members as they left.

Other cast members in the play are Mischa Brittin (Dodo and the March Hare); Jillian Brown (Mouse and Card Two); Linda Christie (Cook, Card Five and Knave); Justin Goss (Gryphon); Michael Leavenworth (Lory, Frog Footman and Doormouse); Eric Nepom (Fish Footman and Mad Hatter) and Talia Sweek (Duchess and the Cheshire Cat).

The colorful costumes were designed by Erica Jones, and the set was designed by Technical Theater Director Bruce Peterson. Original music was written by Susan Peck.

"Alice's Adventures In Wonderland," a play adapted from the book by Lewis Carroll, will continue presenting children's performances each Tuesday and Thursday for the rest of the month.

Two public performances will be presented on Sunday Feb. 22 and Sunday Feb. 29, both at 3 p.m. The Feb. 29 show is a benefit for the LBCC Performing Arts Foundation Scholarship and will be interpreted in American Sign Language.

Tickets for the public performances are available at the Tadena Theater Box Office, or can be reserved over the phone (541) 917-4531. Tickets are also available at Sid Stevens Jewelers in Albany and Gracewinds Music in Corvallis.