

LINN-BENTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
COMMUTER

VOLUME 46 • EDITION 12
DECEMBER 3, 2014

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STORY BY
YULING ZHOU

DESIGN YOUR OWN BUTTON

The library is hosting the first student-designed button contest on campus. Wednesday, Dec. 3 is the last day to submit button designs for the Annual Library Button Design Contest. The winner will be announced in the beginning of winter term.

The idea for the contest came from a former librarian at OSU who suggested last spring to use funds left over to make free buttons for students.

“Students enjoyed picking them up,” said Sami Kerzel, contest coordinator and staff member at the reference desk.”

The free buttons last term were popular among students, and now the contest allows students to enjoy them more by designing them.

“It’s fun and it provides distractions for students to take a break from studying,” said Kerzel.

Each student can submit up to four different and original designs. They can be creative images or slogans,

but they have to be library-inspired.

Entry forms can be picked up and returned to the Reference Desk in the library. Files should be emailed to libref@linnbenton.edu. In the subject line of the email write “Button Contest” and be sure to include your name and phone number in the email.



“So far we have received 15 sheets,” said Kerzel.

Library staff will meet and vote for the top three designs on Thursday, Dec. 4. The three designs will be displayed in the library lobby and open to students to vote for the favorite one on Friday, Dec. 12.

The top three designs will be made into library buttons. The winning design will be this year’s library button and the display on LBCC Library Facebook page. The winner will also be rewarded with a \$25 Amazon gift card.

“We hope this will have students invest more time in the library. We also want to bring awareness in students of the activities and other services we have here,” said Kerzel. ♡

FOLLOW YULING @YULING101

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Choral Concert

Thursday, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m.

LBCC’s fall choral concert “Peace & Wonder” will be held in the Russell Tripp Performance Center, Tadena Hall. Conducted by Dr. James Reddan, LBCC director of Choral Activities, the performance includes the award-winning Concert Choir, Re-Choired Element Chamber Choir, and the vocal a cappella groups Blue Light Special and The Sirens. Penny Bazanele will accompany on piano.

The box office will be open for business this week from 1 to 4 p.m. Adults, \$10, students, seniors (60+) and military \$7, under 18 \$5. The first 25 LBCC students are FREE with current ID.

Finals Study Jam

Saturday, Dec. 6 and Sunday, Dec. 7.

We know that many students lack a place to study at home, or rely upon the Library for access to textbooks. That’s why LBCC is delighted to team up with Student Leadership to provide Study Jam - an engaging place for students to study on. Students can fuel up with free food and drinks during their study breaks in the Hot Shot Cafe.

Albany Campus : 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Learning Center and Library

Lebanon Center: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Learning Center, LC 202

Benton Center: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Learning and Career Center (BC 222) and Annex (BC 232)

LBCC and Legacy Ballet Present “The Nutcracker”

Showtimes: Dec. 11 and 12 at 7 p.m. and Dec. 13 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

An annual tradition, Legacy Ballet brings the magic of “The Nutcracker” to Linn and Benton counties for a third year, in partnership with LBCC’s Russell Tripp Performance Center. Legacy Ballet will perform the classic holiday production of “The Nutcracker” at the Russell Tripp Performance Center.

Tickets are \$14 general admission with a portion of the proceeds to benefit FISH of Albany. Purchase online at www.linnbenton.edu/russelltripptheater. Tickets are also available at the theater Box Office, by phone at 541-917-4531, or one hour prior to the performance. Box Office hours the week of the performance are 1 to 4 p.m.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A couple weeks ago there was an article written about the Secretary of State Kate Brown going to Mark Uristas’s class. I was a little disappointed with what was written in regards to the question that was asked in class. The question that was asked was (not verbatim):

“I have worked as a paid petitioner for the last couple election cycles getting paid \$14 an hour, I know that the company I worked received millions to get various measures on the ballot. My questions for you are: Do many initiatives make it onto the ballot without third party funding? And do you think there could possibly be a more effective way for people without money to get something on the ballot?”

My question was meant to be on the lines, “How can we take big money out of politics?”

She responded by giving some brief background (which was included in the article) on how the initiative process works and what her office does to regulate it. Paid petitioners use colored paper, are trained, have a badge and are required to be registered with the Secretary of State’s office. She also went on to answer my question. She told me that in her years of office and she had never seen an initiative get on the ballot without third party signature gathering and a well funded campaign.

She told me that her office has made it so that anyone who is interested in signing a specific petition can print it out from their website and send it in. They are also exploring ways to do petitions online. She also took the opportunity to say that she will be trying

to get something on the next electoral ballot. I don’t remember what she said it was for, but if she cannot get it on the ballot she would be tuning to a grass roots campaign that she would be using volunteers so she hoped if she does go through the initiative process that she might be the first in a long time to get something on the ballot without third party signature gathering.

In short her answer was, “No, there has not been anyone get something on the ballot without a well funded campaign in a very long time and they are working on alternatives.”

In the article it said that I asked her about how she felt about pay-per signature gathering. I feel that this not only is not what I asked, perhaps it was just an over simplification of my question but it is also misleading your readers implying that petitioners are paid per signature. It is actually illegal in the state of Oregon to be paid per signature. Petitioners are paid per hour, although there are quotas to be met typically. It is said that getting paid per signature can lead to people being motivated to fraud signatures.

I understand that my question may have been a bit loaded and without any background info readers may not understand, however I am writing today because I was very concerned with the misrepresentation of the initiative process. I would love to have some feedback on this!

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Michaela Martin

LETTER TO THE DIRECTOR

The following is a letter from a veteran to Dan Stone that was interviewed for “Tango Mike.”

My wife and I caught the play last night – very powerful! The acting was great and what you have done with the play really brings the generational issues home. I appreciated the look into what the Vets of today have been faced with and are still struggling with after coming home. To me, it was strange hearing part of my own story playing out on stage and that includes not only the helicopter hard landing but several other areas including anger and control issues with my wife and children, alcohol abuse, and the need to withdraw from everyone and not be a part of anything.

My wife was brought to tears in several places and I could feel myself stepping back and shutting down

in places – however, now (thanks to Vicki North and others) I am in touch with that and where it comes from. I am able to deal with it much better than in the past.

I admire your ability to bring these issues forward and give the rest of the community a look inside what some Vets experience as a typical couple of days. The issues of sexual assault were woven in with skill and understanding. I “Salute” you and the actors – the play was very well done! My rating on a scale of 1 – 10 would be a good solid 12. I hope it gets the recognition that I feel it deserves.

Best Regards,

Virgil



COMMUNICATION FOCUS

AWARD *Start Earning This Winter*

STORY BY
ALLISON LAMPLUGH

Starting winter term LBCC will offer a new Communication Focus Award for the first time. Students can earn the award by taking three communication classes: Comm 111, Comm 112 and Comm 218, with a completion grade of a B or higher.

“Our department, like our college, highly values excellence and wants students to perform at a high level to earn the award,” said Mark Urista, department chair.

The award is designed to give students a tangible way to demonstrate communication competence to perspective employers. This accomplishment can be listed on a resume in an effort to help set LBCC students apart in a sea of applicants that many employers often review while considering a new hire.

The benefits of the focus award are designed to help students in professional careers but will also benefit their personal lives. In the three classes: Public Speaking, Introduction to Persuasion and Interpersonal Communication, students will learn soft skills and public speaking skills considered valuable in everyday life.

“Our motivation for creating the Communication Award is to encourage students to develop skills employers report are in high demand,” said Urista. “This award represents a very important accomplishment in one’s college career.”

The classes will help students to overcome nervousness or anxiety when speaking, use correct grammar and a clear voice, recognize nonverbal cues from an audience,

and to display confidence and prompt articulation while speaking.

The class credits are transferrable to OSU, however the award does not appear on an official transcript. It should not be confused with a degree, and is not recognized by the state. Many colleges offer such awards recognizing that any career requiring interaction with people will benefit from an emphasis on communication.

“One thing that’s really great about this award is that students can earn it in a single academic year,” said Urista.

Urista himself earned a similar focus award at the start of his education at El Camino College in California.

“I didn’t have any clear goals when I first started community college. However, by being offered the opportunity to earn an award I could obtain in a short amount of time, I quickly became engaged and soon found myself on the path to success. I hope this award does the same for LBCC students.”

Any students that have completed the classes prior to the award should contact Mark Urista at uristam@linnbenon.edu to claim their award. Students will not be contacted otherwise.

Student Testimony

Grant Garcia, dual enrolled at LBCC and OSU, recommends the Communication Focus Award. Majoring in Communication with a minor in Economics, he already uses his learned skills in his job as a purchaser for Veterinary Services Inc.

Q. How have the Comm 111, 112 and 218 classes

helped you in school?

“These courses have helped me both as a speaker and writer in terms of organizing my thoughts and presenting these ideas in a clear, concise manner. I have become very comfortable presenting class projects thanks to 111 and 112. The 218 course was more writing intensive, giving me several opportunities to continue developing as a writer while I learned the fundamentals of interpersonal communication and relationships.”

Q. How have they helped you professionally?

“Well, as a purchaser, I communicate constantly with manufacturing companies and employees from other departments in the company. Knowing how to concisely communicate sometimes complicated messages is a valuable skill to have in my job. Oh, and having a working understanding of Comm 218 helps me appropriately maneuver any drama at the water cooler.”

Q. Have you had employers or professors comment on your ability to effectively communicate?

“About a week ago I received a letter from Oregon State encouraging me to apply as a graduate student and teach as a grad assistant in Communication. The three Comm courses I took at Linn Benton did a great job preparing me for a successful (so far) experience as a Communication major at OSU.”

Q. Why would you recommend a student take this set of classes?

“Being able to communicate effectively makes you sound smarter and gives you confidence to put your best foot forward in whatever you choose to pursue.”

FOLLOW ALLISON @LUCYLAFLOURE

ADVICE FROM

WEISS



COLUMN BY
MARK WEISS

Question: When can I plan classes for winter term? When can I register?

Answer: You can plan right now. The winter term schedule of classes is out, online, and you can start looking at times and days for the classes you want.

We won’t begin registering students until the very end of the term. There is a time a day that is yours to begin registering. You can find your time and day in Webrunner. Here’s how:

1. Sign in to Webrunner
2. Click on “Student”

3. Click on “Registration”

4. Click on “Registration Status”

5. If it says “Winter Term” then click on “submit,” and your time will show up.

This is the time you may begin registering. You can continue to add and drop for over a month. However, after the first week of December, classes will begin to fill, so, if you can, try to finish creating your winter term schedule by the end of that first week. In the second week of December we will begin registering new students, and some classes may fill up.

Question: This is my first term, and I am worried about finals and a big final project for one of my classes. I’ve been doing well, but I live with my fiancée (who works full time) and our one year old child. There’s always so much going on at home that I already struggle to get all my school work done. What can I do now that finals are coming and the work is really piling on?

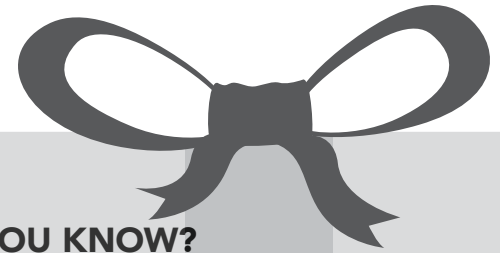
Answer: I’ve heard folks in our Learning Center say “don’t take your homework home.” For a lot of students home is just to hectic a place for much in the way of concentration.

That’s why LBCC provides a library, a Learning Center, and lots of study nooks and tables in our buildings. You may be able to find your ideal place to get your work done right here, and then go home with a clear mind to be with your family.

A second benefit to doing your homework and projects at school is that there are folks here to help you. The library has “reference librarians,” to help you find data and history to support the papers you are writing and the projects you are working on.

The Learning Center is not only an informal place to study, but they have writing and math help desks there, as well as tutors, so that you can get help and feedback on your work.

Best of luck with finals, everyone.



DID YOU KNOW?

Donations from the LBCC Thanksgiving food drive distributed 121 boxes of food and raised \$4,900.

LEGACY BALLET AND LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESENT

THE NUTCRACKER



A Holiday Tradition For Our Community!

December

11, 12 & 13 • 7 p.m.

Dec. 13 • 2 p.m.

Tickets: \$14 (\$1 per ticket goes to Fish of Albany)

Box office opens December 8 daily 1-4 p.m., and 2 hours prior to curtain.

ONLINE: www.linnbenton.edu/russelltripptheater • 541-917-4531

www.legacyballet.com

Russell Tripp
Performance Center

Linn-Benton
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

www.linnbenton.edu/russelltripptheater • 541-917-4531

Persons having questions about or requests for special needs and accommodations should contact the Disability Coordinator at Linn-Benton Community College, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, OR 97321. Phone 541-917-4690 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TTD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event. LBCC is an equal opportunity employer & educator.



COLUMN BY
MELISSA JEFFERS

AMERICAN NIGHT HIGH!

The Ballad of an Immigrant Student Dreaming in the U.S.A.

Dreaming in the USA.”

Students, faculty and community members were welcomed.

The play was inspired by “American Night: The Ballad of Juan Jose” by Richard Montoya and Culture Clash. It was free and began at noon.

“American Night High! The Ballad of an Immigrant Student Dreaming in the USA” is about a young Mexican

LBCC hosted actors Laura Montes and Joe Wegner from the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. In the Russell Tripp Theater on Tuesday, Nov. 25 they performed “American Night High! The Ballad of an Immigrant Student

immigrant dreaming on the night before her citizenship exam. Throughout her dream she meets several people from history such as Abraham Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt, Betsy Ross, Sacagawea, Jackie Robinson, and Smokey the Bear.

Adding relevance to American culture, there were several media references during the performance. Social media references were made of Facebook, Twitter and Myspace. Commercial advertisements such as Nike “Just Do It” and Verizon’s “Can you hear me now?” were included. Musical performances were influenced by Lady Gaga and Eminem, and were performed on stage by both Montes and Wegner.

Throughout the play Wegner kept saying, “The magic of theater!” It captured the attention of the audience and made everyone laugh.

After the performance Montes and Wegner opened

the floor to the audience for questions.

Who were your influences for the voices used? “Jim Carrey, Steve Martin and Keanu Reeves are my influences,” said Wegner.

Why did you join the theater?

“Before acting I didn’t have a voice,” said Montes.

Why do you like about American Night High?

“I like American Night High because sadly it is still so relevant to today,” said Montes.

What was most difficult about your performance?

“The voices because they tend to mash together,” said Wegner.

You can visit their website to check out future performances. Follow OSF on Twitter #OSFSVP. ♡

FOLLOW MELISSA @MJEFFERS8

COMMUTER Get the word out!
Advertise with the Commuter commuterads@linnbenton.edu



COLUMN BY
YULING ZHOU

INTERNATIONAL THANKSGIVING

traditional Thanksgiving dinner for international students at LBCC.

“This is the third time we have done this,” said Mike Sudlow, event host and staff member.

ELCI is in partnership with LBCC and represents the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), providing international students guidance and lectures on English as a second language.

Sudlow, having years of experience working with international students, and two other partners established the first ELCI in Monmouth. Sudlow then sold the institute to Roger Shinkle in 2005.

Roger Shinkle continued to direct the one in Monmouth while establishing the one at LBCC. In 2013, he invited Sudlow to come back and help manage the institute.

Dinner was hosted in the main room. The space used was small, but every corner showed diversity. There were about 15 students at the dinner, of at least five different nationalities.

Displays on the shelf and decorations on the wall represented different cultures from all over the world, and the big map at the entrance was helpful when Sudlow tried to point out the countries that attending students were from.

The harmonic environment was well expressed by the students and the staff members.

Some students asked what kinds of food were at dinner, some pointed at the cranberry sauce and wondered about the customs behind it, and some brought dishes served in their cultures. The staff

On Nov. 21 the English Language and Culture Institute (ELCI) hosted a

members answered each question patiently.

Before praying and blessing the food, Sudlow gave a short history lesson about Thanksgiving. He also asked the audience questions to involve students and rewarded the person who scored the most correct answers with a one-dollar bill.

“This will teach them about the culture and why we get these vacations,” said Sudlow.

When Gaajidmaa Sukhbeater was asked to describe her first Thanksgiving dinner with one word she said, “Delicious.”

Sukhbaatar is an international student from Mongolia and this is her first term at LBCC.

“Before this I had no idea about Thanksgiving, and this program is very helpful especially in studying American cultures. I really enjoy learning here,” she said.

Osama Zalzal, from Saudi Arabia, thought the event brought students together.

“A lot of people come here to see each other and get to know your friends more,” said Zalzal.

Besides experiencing the culture and customs, Valarie Sudlow, the assistant director of ELCI, said, “Just have fun.” ♡

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 541-918-8800
Email: Albany@elci.us
Web: www.elci.us

FOLLOW YULING @YULING101



DID YOU KNOW?

The first forensic facial reconstruction of a skull was done for Bach in 1895, largely because there were no known photographs of him.

Join GSA

Providing an inclusive and safe environment.

The GSA (Gender & Sexually Alliance) brings equality and diversity to the LBCC campus.

This group promotes safe sex and provides free condoms in the Diversity Achievement Center (DAC).

To help students relax during finals, the GSA partnered with the Active Minds Club to put on a “Laugh More, Stress Less” event in the DAC.

Meeting Times
11:00am-12:00pm

Where
Diversity Achievement Center

Contact Info
Advisor- Tim Black, blackt@linnbenton.edu
President- Jordan Hagle, gslbcc@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook
Linn-Benton Community College
Gender & Sexuality Alliance - LBCC GSA



STORY BY
**ALLISON
LAMPLUGH**

THE SPAGHETTI FACTORY

Benton County has a new place to dine. Classy and fun, with fair prices and pleasing aesthetics, The Old Spaghetti Factory has it all. Wednesday, Nov. 19 was the grand opening at the former site of Michael's Landing in Corvallis. Walking up to the restaurant, guests are greeted with a wall length, hand painted mural of a vintage Corvallis train station. Characters are depicted in Oregon State Beaver gear, of course. Entering through a set of commanding double doors, the hosts were eager and smiling.

By noon the Saturday of their opening weekend, the reception area had standing room only. Hungry visitors waited in the reception area complete with high-backed, oversized chairs, similar to those which seat royalty. A half dozen hosts stood ready with menus to walk guests to their tables.

"We had a great opening day," said General Manager Travis Crownover, "We served 602 meals on Wednesday and Friday all day we served 919."

Crownover comes to the Corvallis location with 12 years of experience, transferring from the Hillsboro location outside of Portland. His location is the first in Benton County and employs 103 people.

The decor is a mixture of furniture commissioned

from local builders and antiques. The vintage items were selected specifically for Corvallis from the company's 20,000-square-foot warehouse. Sally Dussin, co-founder with husband Guss, is an avid antique shopper and collects items from shows worldwide. When a new location opens, the OSF designers pick through her treasures.

"The design team is like their own force. It's a big job and they do a fantastic job," said Crownover.

The restaurant has seating for 200 guests and parallels the Willamette River. Patrons in the lower level dining room have a full view of the river through floor to ceiling windows facing the water. The natural lighting in the dining area continues from skylights with whimsical wooden cut-outs adorning them.

Interior stained-glass windows separate the dining room from the bar. A wooden wrap-around bar is surrounded by tall pub style tables and stools. Several televisions add to a sports-like appeal accompanied by pictures of past Beavers.

The layout of the restaurant successfully separates the upper and lower levels and waiting area with minimal noise distractions in the dining room. Soft, wordless background music adds to the ambiance.

The booths are cozy, a tight fit for four people, but limited elbow space is forgotten when food is served. OSF prides themselves on their three course meals. Each entree is served with a fresh baked loaf of bread, a choice of soup or salad, and ice cream.

The appetizers were quick to arrive. Their fried calamari was excellent, a perfect tenderness and not

too greasy. The wait staff stood watch and kept drinks filled. Even staff not waiting at a particular table removed empty dishes as they walked by.

The courses were well proportioned, not too much, but enough to stuff you. The staff kept a loaf of bread on the table at all times, served so fresh it steamed when it was sliced. The mizithra pasta is highly recommended. Its buttery sauce with fresh garlic and mizithra cheese tossed with chopped bacon coats spaghetti with a creamy deliciousness.

The average meal costs about \$15 but the presentation borders on high-end. The beer was served in frosted glasses and ice cream was served in frosted dishes. The salad bowls were chilled, adding an unexpected crispiness. A unique pesto ranch dressing was a good surprise too.

The flavors are rich and fresh and the dishes are attractive. Managers graciously opened doors for customers. OSF is a recommended experience for an affordable date night, happy hour drinks with friends, or a family affair.

"Our target customer has always been families," said Crownover. "We want to have a family environment and fun."

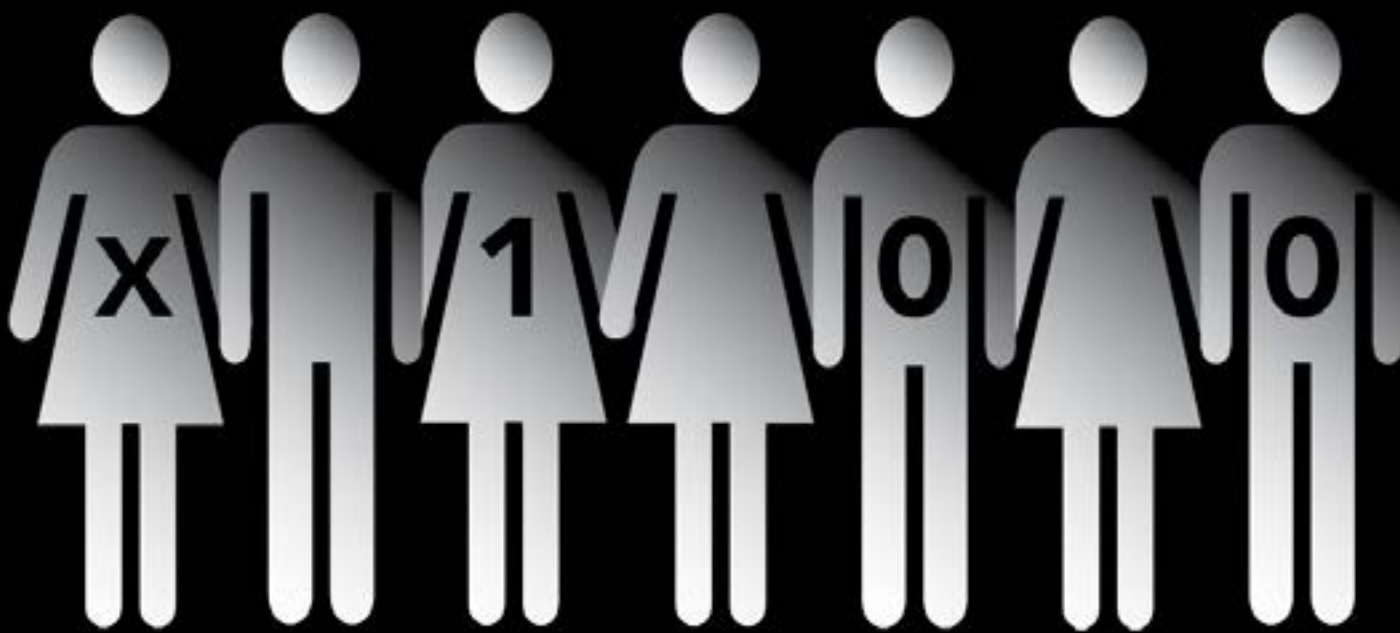
It seems they got it right at the Corvallis location. Open 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday to Thursday and until 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. 📍

FOLLOW ALLISON @LUCYLAFLOURE

COMMUTER

The Commuter Cares

7,000
Oregonians



Source: www.smokefreeoregon.com

die every year from tobacco use



COLUMN BY
RONALD BORST

In the days after Darren Wilson shot Michael Brown to death, news reports were overwhelmingly about the police response to protests. Indeed, some of these protests were violent and may have deserved aggressive police tactics.

And so, after a grand jury did not indict Wilson, violent protests again became front-page news. But this time, the protests were viewed as pathetic on the pages of my Facebook feed. Most criticism was directed at the protesters and the use of violence.

Some critics compared the Ferguson violence to the O.J. Simpson acquittal, saying, "White people did not riot over the O.J. verdict."

This kind of comparison is not only way off point, but is bigoted and fundamentally incorrect. Nicole Brown Simpson's "people," white people, were not persecuted as slaves for centuries. Nor do they live under an umbrella of abuse and stereotype. The simple fact is, blacks are targeted "as thugs" by police. And more importantly, police are biased and trigger-happy.

The simpler fact is this: Police forces across America use their power arbitrarily and with extreme bias.

Albany could become Ferguson in an instant. And it almost did just a few months ago. In August, an Albany police officer fired her weapon at a "suspicious" car parked at Walmart. After a month-long investigation, Linn County District Attorney Doug Marteeny stated that the shooting was justified.

Marteeny's explanation, along with police statements about the sequence of events, has more holes than a gopher-ridden farm field.

The police claim that the patrol was engaging a "suspicious" car in a remote area of Albany's Walmart, and that the occupant of the car was acting "nervous, erratic, and agitated." Police say that the suspect was

FERGUSON, MISSOURI AT WALMART IN ALBANY



PHOTO: RONALD BORST

pounding the steering wheel and yelling. Yet, the report goes on to say that she concealed her hands and threw "something" out the window.

At that moment, the officer fired her duty weapon, hitting not the suspicious suspect, but rather the top of the car's door frame. The D.A. stated that the suspect was, "Lucky she wasn't killed." The real fact is that Albany citizen's are lucky that they weren't hit when an officer fired her weapon randomly at a "suspicious" suspect. There were two cops there during this incident and the other officer, a 12-year veteran, did not fire his weapon. This shows that bias and incompetence are much bigger problems for American police, than are suspicious suspects.

American police have become militarized and paternalistic. Law enforcement is armed to the core with military weapons and a hunger to annihilate anything in their path. The only way to fix this travesty, is to strip

the police of the arbitrary power and replace it with what law enforcement was designed for: public safety.

In a recent town hall meeting in Albany about homelessness, an attendee criticized the city for wanting to spend \$200k on lighting for a riverfront path that is home to a number of homeless. The criticism focused on police tactics and abuse.

Albany City Manager Wes Hare, responded by denying those allegations and encouraging "ride-alongs" with police. Hare makes \$180,000 a year to spout inaccuracies about Albany Police. The local cops are indeed abusive and excessive.

We should have no doubt that the suspect at Walmart should have been approached and documented, but not shot at. Her mental health, homelessness, and drug addiction should in no way be a reason to shoot her car, or her for that matter.

We do not know why Darren Wilson shot Mike Brown. We do know that neither is much of a character model for anybody. And we know that as a people, we accept shooting "thugs" and Walmart meth addicts. We have transformed our police into old-west gunslingers, abusing whoever they see fit, sometimes resulting in fired weapons.

And often resulting in death. ♡

FOLLOW RONALD @RLBJOURNALISM



COLUMN BY
**CHRISTOPHER
TROTCHIE**

THE EFFECT OF FERGUSON

Fed-up citizens in Ferguson, MO found it necessary to take to the streets protesting out of a mix of frustration, rage and even hopelessness, as they reacted to the pending Grand Jury decision over the police shooting death of Michael Brown.

What started as a peaceful vigil evolved into

outright bedlam.

When looking at a timeline of America's most polarizing events, protests are not something new, and neither is rioting. America was born out of protest. That protest turned violent and gave birth to a revolution.

Our history is full of times when enough was enough and we collectively decided to fight back. After all, rising up together and facing oppressors could be the single best quality Americans share. It is at the root of each of us.

Whether you think the violence in Ferguson was a result of mindless thugs, opportunistic looters, heart broken parents, or a fed up community, the different conversations taking place on campus will ultimately help create the legacy of the historic events in Missouri.

As individuals at LBCC establish their feelings regarding Ferguson, we have a social responsibility to be constructive with each other. History will view the rioting that took place on the night of Nov. 24 the way we decide to remember it. Concentrating on why this riot and other riots like it have taken place is paramount to solving the social issue of equality.

It is easier to establish blame on a person or persons after the issue has happened, but perhaps asking questions about the climate surrounding Ferguson will

help guard against further perceived need for rioting.

Similar to the images streaming real-time across the web the night of the civil unrest, pictures of burning buildings and angry mobs from Ferguson were mirror images of ones that gripped the nation back in 1992. The events of the LA riots exploded in living rooms across America via the nightly news.

For a reminder of the situation, here is a recap. Just after a high speed chase ended in Los Angeles on April 26, a bystander named George Holliday videotaped five white police officers beating a man named Rodney King repeatedly with batons and punches.

As the public awaited a ruling on the police officers, widespread concerns of pending injustice fueled animosities. Just hours after the ruling of a not guilty verdict, the city of LA erupted into one of the most violent riots in modern-American history.

Americans, back then, were scared their towns were next as a title wave of violence swept across the entire country.

This time Americans were afraid a repeat of 1992 was brewing.

So polarizing were the LA riots, popular musicians such as band members of Sublime offered personal renditions of the events in their song "April 29, 1992."

"April 26th, 1992

There was a riot on streets

Tell me where were you?

You were sittin' home watchin' your TV

While I was participating in some anarchy"

-- Sublime

The eerie similarities between Ferguson and the LA riots are undeniable. To think we have not grown past that point is startling.

When asked, "What was it like?" some people will



The aftermath of the 1992 race riots.

inevitably say they didn't care, while others might say, "What a senseless waste." But, the real challenge will be conveying to future generations what we've learned from this event by making sure to lead our culture towards the path of prosperity not ignorance.

The senseless waste that has presented itself here and now is not the burnt buildings or broken windows. It's not the melted lumps of steel that were once cars. All of that is in the past now. It is time to make sure lives of other 17-year-olds, who are having a bad day, don't end the same way as Michael Brown did.

The challenge is to have peaceful debates about the events of Ferguson. Talk about Michael Brown's death. To brush this situation off and to return to regularly scheduled broadcasting will fail the entire human race. ♡

FOLLOW CHRISTOPHER
@CHRISTOPHER999



COLUMN BY
DALE HUMMEL

UNEQUAL EQUALITIES

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal. These words are immortalized in our Declaration of Independence by our founding fathers. I believe, at the time the document was written, these words were meant to be taken

figuratively even though women and blacks were not treated equally. Today, however, our country has matured and grown into a country of tolerance and acceptance. Today anyone can do most anything they wish and be whoever or whatever they want. That is not necessarily a bad thing, except when what they want takes rights from someone else or when someone's rights seem to be more important than others.

Today it appears that those who have fought in the past for equality are still fighting. It seems the mindset now is the old adage of "too much is never enough." These so-called civil rights groups seem to have the idea that unless they get everything they want, and more, they are being discriminated against and they will either violently protest or sue to get what they want. To hell whether it is fair to anyone else.

As I recall, in the early-to-mid 90s there was a rash of lawsuits going on in relation to someone's "civil rights" being "violated." On Nov. 21, 1991, Congress enacted the Civil Rights Act of 1991. This opened the doors for everyone and their third cousin twice removed to sue someone if they feel their "rights" were violated. This resulted in a wave of political correctness talk. It seemed everyone, mainly middle-aged white men, were afraid to say anything for fear that someone would sue them for something they may or may not have said or did. This same consensus still exists today, even though the mentality of the average middle-age white guy has become much more accepted in the alternative lifestyles.

In its day, groups like the NAACP, (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), NOW (National Organization for Women), and others

"We all want to be treated equally. Unfortunately, we look at each other through the eyes of our own experience and prejudice."

performed important functions that were necessary for the equal treatment of the American citizen. Unfortunately, these groups have grossly outgrown their usefulness. There is even a group called the Congressional Black Caucus. There are congressional caucuses for Asians and Latinos but, strangely enough, there is no Congressional White Caucus. Is this because it would be racist? The inequalities don't end with race, people of faith and those with conservative values also suffer from intolerance and prejudices.

Liberals and atheists seem to have a problem with people of faith exercising their First Amendment rights of religion. Weather it is a Christian bakery being forced by law to produce products that are against their religion, or the use of the ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) to keep objects of faith off public grounds, or prayer in schools. Even though our country was based on Christianity, too many people seem to think that since they don't choose to worship, or don't approve of objects of faith in public, no one should see them.

I consider it fascinating, yet disturbing, that a decision made by the people, or Oregon, that differs with the liberal mindset warrants a call to a lawyer, in an effort to have the ACLU have it removed or changed, while those with the conservative mindset differ by petitioning to put their idea on a ballot to have it changed. Even though, as we have seen, that doesn't always work in Oregon. According to www.ncsl.org, Oregonians voted in 2004 to define marriage between one man and one woman, however, a gay Judge, Michael McShane, ruled that the people's decision was unconstitutional and struck down the decision this year. Seems a little unfair, doesn't it?

One of the biggest forms of inequality today seems to deal with race. It puzzles me that when O.J. Simpson was acquitted and Michael Jackson was ruled innocent, we

didn't see whites, or any other race looting or destroying property. However, when the Michael Brown verdict was announced, Ferguson burned in the name of race. From the videos I've seen, most of the protesters were black. For a group focusing on race, they were foolish enough to even burn the businesses owned by blacks. If a black cop shot and killed a white teenager do you think it would attract national attention?

The biggest perpetrators in today's "race war" are Jesse Jackson and Al Sharpton. They made sure they were involved in the Trayvon Martin shooting trial, and now they are in the middle of the Mike Brown shooting. It is sad that the young Mr. Martin and Mr. Brown had an early death, but what is more unfortunate are the people who choose to support racism in the name of "honoring" their deaths. Jackson and Sharpton should be ashamed of themselves to support such destruction and pain in a bad situation. Just days before the verdict, Officer Darren Wilson, who defended himself against Mike Brown, resigned from the police force. Mr. Wilson accredited the resignation to avoid putting "the residents and police officers of the City of Ferguson at risk" according to www.youngcons.com. The race baiters, including Brown's parents, are only happy with legal decisions if they are in their favor.

We all want to be treated equally. Unfortunately, we look at each other through the eyes of our own experience and prejudice. Even those who claim to be open to acceptance are not as open minded as they may think they are. If you asked a member of the liberal community what they thought of the Tea Party I'm sure it would be far less than favorable, and that would be considered acceptable, but if a Tea Party follower has a less than favorable view of liberals then he or she would be labeled a bigot, homophobe, racist, or a hater. Where is the equality there? We like to think of our society as open-minded and free from "hate," but are we? From what I've seen in Oregon, Ferguson and all over the country, we are far from being "equal" and open towards others. ♡

FOLLOW DALE @DKHUMMEL

US First Amendment:

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activeminds
Linn-Benton Community College

Who We Are

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STORY BY
ALLISON LAMPLUGH

Shonnard's Nursery in Corvallis opened over 30 years ago by husband and wife team Chris and Lynnette Shonnard. Their children, Andrea and Joel, have joined in the family business and now help manage the operation.

Official this November, their business expands again with the acquisition of local beekeeping company Nectar Bee Supply. Founded by Karessa Torgerson, Jen Larsen and Melanie Sorenson, all three will stay employed by Shonnard's to operate the department of Nectar Bee Supply at Shonnard's.

The nursery has a designated area for an array of beekeeping supplies. It will be a one-stop-shop for all things needed to maintain hives. Items range from protective clothing, honey harvest equipment, hives, pest control products, bee medications, and consumables.

"We will sell the bees and everything. We are already taking pre-orders now," said Andrea.

Products pollinated by honey bees account for one-third of the food worldwide. For the last 30 years their disappearance nationwide has been notable. Since 2006 the population has had a staggering 30 percent loss each year, twice the amount expected.

Nectar Bee is a member of the Oregon State

LOCAL HONEY BEE HELPERS



PHOTO: ALLISON LAMPLUGH

Beekeepers Association and supports their Honey Bee Lab. In a study by researcher Ramesh Sagili, he found that Oregon beekeepers lost 21 percent of hive populations in 2013. The Shonnard's are committed to helping residents learn how to help combat the loss of honey bees, and increase local population essential for agriculture.

"A lot of our customers are very concerned with the sprays they're using, and we can help with that," said Andrea.

Involved with local honey bee communities, Nectar Bee is also a member of Linn-Benton Beekeepers Association. Locals will have the ability to consult with bee experts at the Corvallis storefront.

"We've already had questions, we've already had sales. We're just really excited because we actually have a store," said Larsen, specialist and department manager.

The union will give

residents the benefit of a full service nursery and beekeeping center in one, the only one between Eugene and Portland.

"As far as we know, we're the only garden center with a bee center and experts," said Andrea.

Torgerson is a certified Master Beekeeper with expertise in swarms, brood analysis, drones, and nutrition. Torgerson will be joined by Sorenson to teach classes for the public on beekeeping basics.

"One of the most important things people can do for bees is to plant bee forage," said Torgerson, "This helps improve human forage by nurturing honey bee and native bee populations, which pollinate the majority of flowering plants. I love that Shonnard's customers are already on board with that message, and am excited to engage with them on this topic and other related topics."

The next class is scheduled for Feb. 28. Classes sold out last year.

With a tentative grand opening of Nectar Bee Supply at Shonnard's on Jan. 10, the two working together in the past made the merging of the companies rather easy.

"They partnered with us the last two years so it was a perfect segway," said Lynnette, "We think it's a no-brainer."

Local honey, beeswax candles, and gift items will be incorporated into the products for sale. Some byproducts may come from customers. Their "hosted hive" program is designed for those wanting a hive on their property but not wanting to be beekeepers. Nectar Bee will manage hives in exchange for half the harvestable honey.

We see the growth of it," said Lynnette, "And there's so many pun opportunities, everything's a buzz."

Customers have been asking the nursery for years as to when something like this would be available. Now they can bee-aware that Shonnard's has made it happen. 📍

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COLUMN BY
**CHRISTOPHER
TROTHIE**

"TANGO MIKE" WRAPS

The weekend of Nov. 21 marked the end of the Russell Tripp Performance Center's newest production "Tango Mike." The play, written and directed by theater instructor Dan Stone, showcased in four different performances spanning three days

States military during the Vietnam War, Eric earned both the bronze star and the silver star.

"This is a good portrayal of home life," Jeanne said.

Wayne Gray plays the role of Cooper, a long haul truck driver who drops in on Buddy's troubled Albany family. His greeting was the arming of a Colt 1911 .45ACP semi-automatic pistol pointed in his face by Buddy's 19-year-old daughter Darcey.

Darcy, played by Nicolette Pullen, and her friend Carlos, played by Joe Potts, are surprised by the appearance of a grizzled man who traipsed into the backyard as the loitering teens discussed video games. Darcy goes on the offensive, grabbing the hidden gun her father keeps under the picnic table. In a convincing manner, she threatens to blow the man's, "fucking head off!" After a few minutes of tense stand off, Cooper is able to provide reasonable proof the he is, in fact, her estranged grandfather.

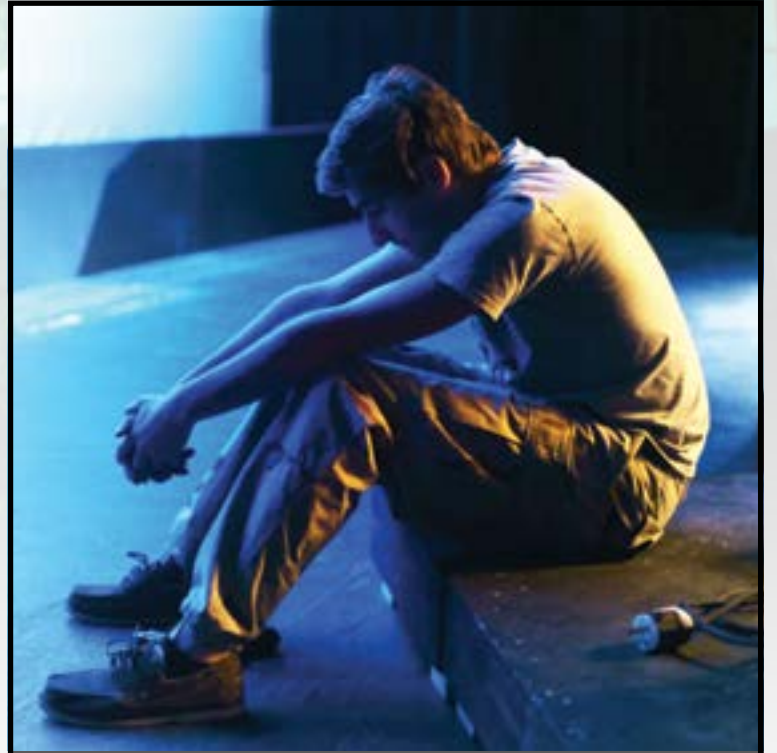
"Veterans will be able to identify with their own internal dialog and civilians will be exposed to veteran's internal dialog," said Gray.

Gray himself has first hand experience with war, along with fellow cast mate Lewis Franklin. Franklin played the comedic Trigger, Buddy's best friend, and both actors served in the United States military. Gray served as a combat engineer in Vietnam in 1968-69 while Franklin served as on multiple tours to Iraq eventually retiring as a First Sergeant.

Both actors helped shape the story while working with the other actors as they grappled to understand the emotions involved with struggling with PTSD.

Buddy's wife Christy, played by Tamara A. Alba, was caught in a difficult situation when her longtime friend Megan, wife of Trigger, played by Myquea Sederlin, reveals her symptoms of PTSD. Megan's symptoms stemmed from an undocumented case of rape by members of her own unit on a National Guard deployment. Her feelings cascaded into a full-on tirade that left the audience stunned while they contemplated the situations sometimes faced by women who serve in our military.

Using the backdrop of iconic community landmarks, such as a fishing hot spot like Moonshine Park and shopping expeditions to Fred Meyer, the



PHOTOS: **CHRISTOPHER TROTHIE**

Joe Potts readies himself for a climactic scene in the play.

last month.

The language used during the play was abrasive at times; confrontations between characters were heart wrenching, and at some points became violent. Putting a face to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in our community is exactly what Stone wanted to accomplish with this latest effort.

"Tango Mike's" final day included a 2:30 p.m. matinee and a 7:30 p.m. showing. Admission was free for veterans and LBCC students with their student identification cards. General admission for the play was \$10 at the box office.

The all-new play confronts the silent war many American soldiers face while transitioning from battlefields abroad to everyday life stateside. Often times, as this play iterates, the transition for soldiers is complex and adjusting can be difficult.

Although the tenacious group of actors were mentally and physically drained towards the end of their production, the troops of "Tango Mike" didn't falter when they created awareness about PTSD and the lasting effect it can have on families and the community.

During the play, Buddy, a veteran of the Iraq war, played by Brian Smith, finds himself feeling cornered by life in general. The demons of his past experiences acquired while serving his country prove more than he can handle alone. In an emotional explosion at a family BBQ, Buddy's life hinges on destitution. His family and friends become the last lines of defense for this father, husband, son, and best friend.

"This play is about compassion, communication and forgiveness," said Smith.

Moments such as Buddy's emotional avalanche portray real situations affecting many community members in Linn and Benton counties. A jilted audience came face to face with volatile family dynamics often associated with PTSD.

Jeanne and Eric Czernowski attended the last showing of "Tango Mike." While serving in the United

play presented a realism that is undeniably local.

Iraq veteran Courtney Collier, who served with the 82nd Airborne, was in the crowd. Her combat boots were laced to the top and she had a dip of chaw the size of a grape in her lower lip.

"I got treated like shit just like everyone else," she said, "Just being supportive is enough. Caring makes my fucking day."

PTSD continues gaining recognition as American troops rotate back stateside from deployments abroad. Where soldiers from Vietnam returned home to hostile greetings, "Tango Mike" reminds us that soldiers who suffer from the effects of war are heroes, and deserve our compassion and support.

FOLLOW CHRISTOPHER
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Bindings of Isaac: Rebirth

COURTESY: SONY

GAME REVIEW:

Bindings of Isaac: Rebirth

DESIGNER: Edmund McMillen

DEVELOPER: Nicalis

DISTRIBUTORS: Sony, Valve Corporation

COMPOSERS: Matthias Bossi, Jon Evans

MODES: Single Player/ Co-Op

RELEASE DATE: November 4, 2014

PLATFORMS: PS4, PS Vita, GNU/Linux, OS X, Microsoft Windows

GAMEPLAY: 500+ hours

PLAYABLE CHARACTERS: 10

GENRE: Action Adventure, Horror

RATED: M

OVERALL RATING: ★★★★★

REVIEW BY **JORDAN SAILOR**

“The Binding of Isaac: Rebirth” is a remake of the 2D top-down dungeon crawler, “The Binding of Isaac,” released in 2011. “Rebirth” was released on Nov. 4 of this year. The main purpose of the remake was to help improve many of the problems the game’s designer, Edmund McMillen, had with the original version. This includes gameplay changes, new items, new bosses, and new dungeons.

In “The Binding of Isaac,” you play as the titular Isaac; a young boy who lives alone with his mother. One day, Isaac’s mother believes she hears the voice of God telling her to kill Isaac. Isaac, afraid of his mother, flees to hide in the basement where he finds an intricate labyrinth full of strange monsters. The plot is a reference to the biblical story of Abraham and his son Isaac.

What I enjoy about the plot is that the story’s depth is up to the player and how they want to interpret it. One player might wonder why Isaac’s basement is so huge and why there are monsters, or they might pay attention to the little details of the game’s items and multiple

endings to piece together a coherent story. On the other hand, a player might not care about the story at all and focus entirely on fighting monsters.

Gameplay is reminiscent of the original “Legend of Zelda” on the NES. Dungeon layouts feel similar and some enemy behavior is a direct reference to classic Zelda enemies. It is, however, still unique.

The most important part of gameplay are the items. Isaac starts the game weak. He doesn’t have much health and his attacks hardly scratch enemies. However, when you pick up any of the 441 items, Isaac changes for the better (or if you’re unlucky, for the worse). For example, you could pick up a mask that could block damage, a carton of milk to increase your health, or a little ghost to help fight for you.

Just because you get a little stronger doesn’t mean the game got any easier. In fact, you need to be just as careful as ever, because if you run out of health and get a “game over,” you will have to start all over from the beginning. All dungeon layouts and items are completely

randomized to help keep the gameplay fresh.

I liked the original “Binding of Isaac” and since getting “Rebirth” I’ve been hooked. The game is not for everyone, not just because of the difficulty might turn people off, but also because of the game’s dark, adult, and sometimes graphic themes. It features a lot of religious themes; many of the items Isaac can use are references to Christian and satanic themes. Other themes include child abuse, suicide, and gender identity. Edmund McMillen has stated that he doesn’t intend to mock religion; he wanted to make a game that touches on serious themes without shoving it in the player’s face.

The game’s cartoonish and comedic art style helps keep it from being extremely dark and serious. However, many might be disturbed or offended by some images. If you can overlook or appreciate these themes, you will find a truly fun and extremely addicting dungeon crawler. ♡



COLUMN BY
MATHEW BROCK

HOLIDAY GAME BUYING GUIDE

The holiday season is kind to the PC gamer. Whether you’ve been waiting on a price drop on a game or are just looking to try something new, the holidays are the perfect time to grab games for super cheap.

Digital game distributors like Humble

Bundle, gog.com and Steam have jaw dropping sales for the holiday season. These sales usually start appearing in October, with Halloween sales, Black Friday sales, and Cyber Monday at the end of November.

Steam in particular has some stellar deals and hosts a week long sale for nearly every major holiday or season. Aside from the massive variety of games for sale, Steam also mixes things up with daily sales, three hour long flash sales, and community choice voted on by Steam users. It also has a handy feature that allows you to look up all games under \$5 and \$10.

Unfortunately the avalanche of cheap games may be a bit overwhelming for some. It is very easy to end up spending more than you realize as one great deal turns into two, and then three, and then before you know it, you’re short on the rent.

My advice is to be careful and stay disciplined. Plan out what games you want in advance, set a strict budget, and most importantly, make sure to do your research. Just because a game is \$2.50 doesn’t mean you should instantly buy it. The same rules should apply as if you were paying full price. Make sure to read a review and make sure the game will run on your computer before your purchase.

To wrap things up, I’d like to mention some of my favorite games that almost always show up during one of the big Steam sales.

“Terraria” is a fantastic 2D crafting action/adventure game featuring incredible boss battles, base building,

and a ludicrous amount of content. The game involves finding rare items, crafting materials, and slowly but surely working your way up to amazing items and equipment. It’s incredibly rewarding to see yourself grow from a peasant with nothing but a wooden pickaxe, living in a shed in the woods to a winged demi-god soaring through the sky and resting in a flying citadel made of solid gold. A good buy at regular \$10 and an absolute steal at sale prices as low as \$1.99.

“Natural Selection 2” is a rare combination of first person shooter and base building strategy. It’s marines versus aliens in a fight for dominance as they gear up or evolve to overthrow their mortal enemies. The twist: one player on both teams assumes the role of a commander that gives orders, chooses upgrades and builds a base as the rest of the players duke it out. If you’re looking for a totally unique experience, give this gem a spin for \$24.99 at regular price or as low as \$6.99 during a sale.

“Hotline Miami” is one of the most intense and difficult games to come out in the last ten years and is definitely not for the squeamish or faint of heart. You play as a masked vigilante who slaughters his way through the Russian mafia for reasons you don’t really understand. This tends to involve kicking down doors, punching three men in the face and then smacking them in the face with their own baseball bat, all in the span of about three and a half seconds, if that. This chaotic game is available for \$10 regular or as low as \$2.49 during a sale. ♡

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POETRY CORNER

All Our Lives

What is love?
Is it the moon or the stars in your eyes?
Is it your warmth on a cold day?
Is it our laughter in the rain?
Or would it be
you and I sharing
our
life's

all the days we
live.
So when you ask...
What is love?
I will say,
It's every day
you're here
with me.

By Michelle Soutar

Redemption

I always strive for great perfection
And doing so cast a dark reflection
The wonders in this life I lead
Are far away by danger's heed
As I try to cast away
The myriad fears I will not say
Are part and parcel of a languid world
From which I snatch and then am hurled
Deep into the night of pain
'Til redemption drips a soggy rain
Soaking skin and clothing cling
Forced to strip and clean and bring
My long lost thoughts and bitter bile
Scrubbed and hung and left awhile

Until I see they're not so bad
I might buy back the joys I had
And once forsook for greener fields
But now again the harvest yields
Nostalgia great and passion old
Rejoin anew the jilted fold
I feel and fit this ancient glove
It's nice to rise back up above
The lonely loss and missing land
And warm into the taken hand
Until once more I note the strain
Just a matter of time until I leave again.

By. Nathan Tav Knight

"The Toast"

Raise em high, I Said toast Brother. You asked to whom, well...
We toast for Victory, good health, speedy recoveries and our fallen families
For the fallen, the spirit of freedom shall live through their sacrifices
For we have walked through hell, and our gods let us live on
To celebrate life that we may enjoy the rights men died for
To end this conflict and start healing in the wake of war
A toast for every affected life burned by the flames of war
For the moment you get to go home and receive love and peace
For the day we can retire our uniforms for a nice suit
Hot meals, warm beds, clean clothes, resting in ease with family finally
To forge a better Future for those living, because we sacrificed all
To those who took the oath, past present and Future thank you all.

By Kent Elliott

SUBMIT YOUR WORK

Submit your creative writing, poetry, or artwork to The Commuter by email at commuter@linnbenton.edu or drop by the office in Forum 222.



ADVENTURES OF R.J. AND JAMES



CREATED BY: CAMERON REED

Job Postings

EBAY POSTING PERSON: Job ID: 677 Albany, OR
Closes: Dec. 1 Part-time. Posting items on E bay, taking pictures, and doing Item research. Must have computer skills, be able to type accurately, and good grammar. People skills a must, Marketing skills a plus. This is a non-smoking establishment. Also must be willing to help in store when needed. Flexible hrs, set your own time at least 20 hrs per week. Pay: \$10.00-\$15.00/hour

MECHANIC: Job ID: 795 Hubbard, OR Closes: Dec. 1
Full-time shop mechanic for a fleet for of about 60 vehicles. Westside Drywall, Inc. Pay: TBD

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT: Job ID: 818 Albany, OR
Closes: Dec. 1 Part-time. Good verbal skills and excellent writing abilities. Strong computer skills, primarily in MS OFFICE. Oracle and Legacy exp a plus. Ability to work independently. Pay: \$12.00/hour

VEHICLE DETAILER/CLEANER: Job ID: 790 Albany, OR
Closes: Dec. 5 3-month, part-time. Can accommodate student schedule. Must be approved to drive county vehicles with a driving record that is clear of major driving infractions. Pay: \$10.00/hour

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Job ID: 884 Albany, OR
Closes: Dec. 6 Temporary, part-time; may become permanent full-time. Local company is looking for an inspired portfolio with a focus on graphic design for apparel and large and small format print media along with marketing and layout skills. Pay: TBD

For more information, visit Career Services in Takema Hall or www.linnbenton.edu/Career-Connections



STORY BY
COOPER PAWSON

The 118th Civil War will be one that Beaver fans will try to forget. After getting blown out by the Ducks 47-19 in Corvallis on Saturday night, most fans are already looking forward to the prospects of a better next season.

OSU ended the year with a record of 5-7 leaving them one win shy of bowl eligibility. The Beavers will not be going to a bowl for the third time in the last five years.

Beaver fans said goodbye to a talented class of seniors that evening, including one of the best quarterbacks to play at OSU, Sean Mannion.

“Sean really did have a great career. It wasn’t an accident. He is extremely talented and a very hard worker who had the respect of his team from the beginning,” said Mike Riley.

Other seniors included the six leading tacklers on defense: safeties, Ty Zimmerman and Ryan Murphy, linebackers Michael Doctor, Jabral Johnson and D.J. Alexander, and cornerback Steven Nelson.

The Beavers will have some big shoes to fill come next year but the one thing Coach Riley has been

BEAVERS' BOWL HOPES SQUASHED



consistent with over the years is the development of his defense. Even with a significant loss of defensive seniors, the Beaver defense will continue to be a strength.

“For coaches it’s evaluation of what we are doing, where we can go and the direction of everything we’re going to do. Recruiting is a big, big issue for us. For players, it’s development time. We can’t practice but we can train and get ready for spring practice. That’s what will all be started immediately,” said Riley.

Among the underclassmen returning there are some promising athletes that will develop over the offseason in preparation of filling bigger roles on this team.

Guys like redshirt freshman wide receiver Jordan Villamin, who had the second most receiving yards with 578 and who led the team in receiving touchdowns with



PHOTOS: **COOPER PAWSON**

Michael Doctor and his parents before his last game as a Beaver.

six, will be a crucial component to the Beavers offense next year.

“I think the future is very bright. We had a lot of young guys playing this year especially on offense, and they have all gotten better as the year has gone on,” said Mannion. “This is a great program with a great coaching staff, from top to bottom, and the players work very hard. With that combination it makes for great football. I have total faith that everyone will continue to work hard, and that is how it has always been. I think this team will be great in the future.”

FOLLOW COOPER @LBCCSPORTS



STORY BY
ANDREW GILLETTE

performance that was highlighted by six touchdowns and over 400 yards of total offense.

“Coming into this game, we knew it was going to be an awesome environment, it really helps when you start out fast, and that allows the crowd to calm down a bit,” said Mariota.

Mariota all but sealed his victory of the Heisman with his spectacular day. Unless he throws multiple picks in a loss against Arizona, he should be one of the most unanimous winners in the history of the award.

“He missed a couple throws today, unbelievable (sarcasm), that guy is such a stud,” said Coach Mark Helfrich.

Oregon also had great performances from Royce Freeman and Byron Marshall, both of which had over 150 yards and a touchdown from the line this weekend.

“His play has said everything about how he is as a person. He came in from the get-go and really wanted to make an impact. When you have that mindset as a freshmen it really elevates your

DUCKS TROUNCE BEAVERS

Oregon took care of business in the Civil War Saturday night against Oregon State, winning the game 47-19 and setting up a rematch with Arizona in the Pac-12 Championship game on Friday.

The Ducks were led by Marcus Mariota once again with an impressive

game,” said Mariota about Freeman.

Oregon will need to have a strong performance from their lineman to succeed in reaching the College Football Playoffs. The game against Arizona will be a pseudo playoff game as Oregon needs to win to get in.

Injuries will once again come into play against Arizona. The Ducks offensive line was weak because of injuries, and Arizona was able to capitalize by getting strong pressure on Mariota throughout the game earlier this season. Oregon will have questionable status on a couple of linemen for Friday’s game, including Center Hroniss Grasu, which might influence the matchup once again.

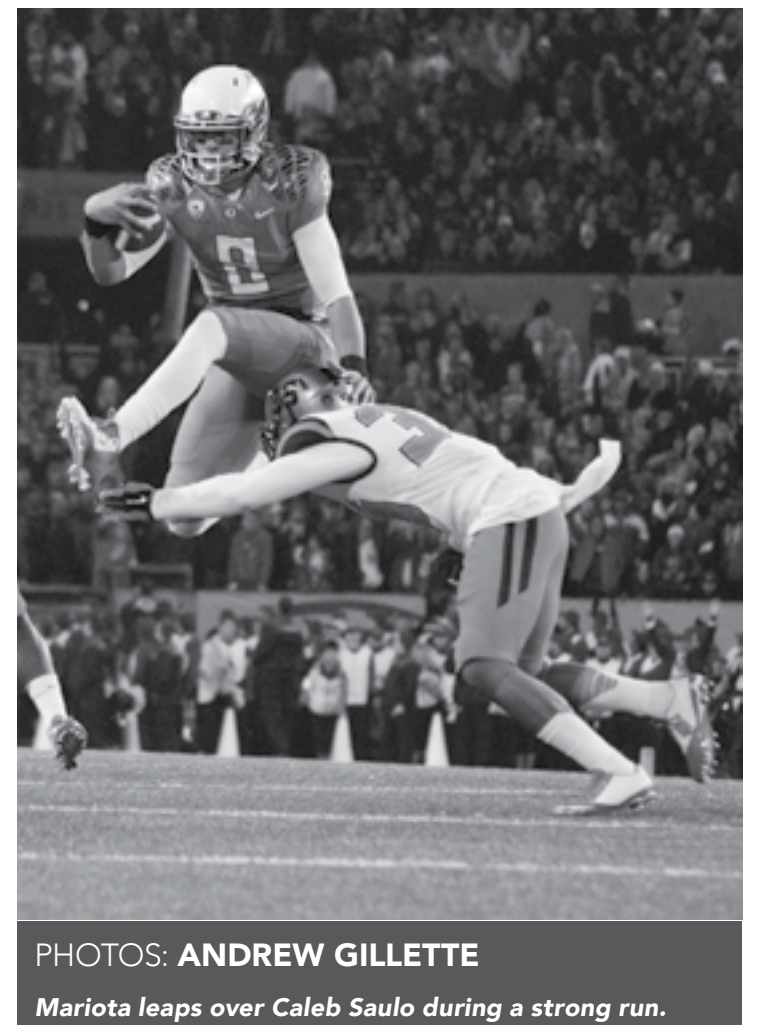
Oregon has had good yardage in their losses to Arizona in the last two years, and they will need to limit turnovers which lost them the game last year. They also need to convert on

third downs more because it cost them drives against the Wildcats in their previous meeting. 📍

FOLLOW ANDREW @ANDREWGILLETTE



Ifo Ekpre-Olomu tackles Ricky Ortiz.



PHOTOS: **ANDREW GILLETTE**

Mariota leaps over Caleb Saulo during a strong run.



STORY BY
CALEB CLEARMAN

VOLLEYBALL SEASON ENDS IN NWAC TOURNAMENT

Linn-Benton Volleyball loses in second round of NWAC Tournament in Tacoma.

LB won their first round matchup of the NWAC Tournament Thursday, Nov. 11 against Clark Community College. Clark was the third ranked team out of the West Region coming into the tournament.

LBCC lost the opening set by the score of 12-25. Linn-Benton would have to dig themselves out of an early hole in order to advance to the second round. After dropping the first set, LB never looked back and won the next three sets 25-19, 25-23, and 25-18.

Sophomore Sarah Brown and Freshman Malie Rube led the LB offense. Brown recorded eight kills leading the team, while Rube added another six.

Sophomore Katie Bentson and freshman Samantha Rouleau both had standout performances on defense. Bentson led the RoadRunners with 17 digs and Rouleau added another 12.

With the first round win, the RoadRunners advanced to the second round where they would take on Olympic. The game took place Friday, Nov. 21 at 12:30 p.m.

Olympic was a tough matchup for Linn-Benton, as they were the number one seed out of the North Division. Olympic went 12-0 in regional play and 28-6 overall. They also won the Bellevue Crossover Tournament where they beat Linn-Benton in route to the final. The RoadRunners were 1-2 in matches against Olympic this year.

Linn-Benton got into a hole early dropping the first set by a score 25-16. Needing to win the second set, to avoid a 2-0 deficit, Linn-Benton came out more aggressive. However, Olympic was ready for the challenge and responded by winning the second set 25-17. LBCC was down two sets and would need to win three straight sets to win the match.

The third set went to LB with a close 25-23 score. The RoadRunners were also able to win the fourth set 25-21 setting up a winner take all fifth set.

The fifth set turned out to be just as exciting as the rest of the match. The RoadRunners took an early lead 8-5. However, Olympic was able to tie the match at 8-8 before breaking open an 11-8 lead.

LB tied up the match at 13 late in the fifth set. However, Olympic was able to get the two points they needed to win the set and the match.

Sarah Brown led the RoadRunners in the match on the offensive side. She recorded 16 kills. Malie Rube added another nine kills. On the defensive, Katie Bentson recorded 20 digs.

After suffering the second round loss, Linn-Benton was still alive and would face Everett Community College later in the day. Everett lost their first round match against Spokane but was able to rebound by winning against SW Oregon in the loser bracket.

On Friday, in their second match of the day, Linn-Benton unfortunately did not have enough energy left to defeat Everett. LB lost both sets by the score of 25-18.

Sophomore Natasha Bogdanovic led the RoadRunners with seven kills for match while Sarah Brown added another six.

The loss to Everett marked the end of the season for Linn-Benton volleyball. All in all, it was a successful year for the RoadRunners placing second in their division and making the NWAC tournament.

Sophomore's Katie Bentson and Paige Kelsey were named to the South Region All Star team. ♡

FOLLOW CALEB @CLEAR_MAN10



STORY BY
COOPER PAWSON

LB PREPARES FOR WILLAMETTE

The LBCC Men's Basketball Team began the season 0-2 after losing both games in the Pierce Thanksgiving Invitational.

Dec. 4 to play Willamette J.V. It will be a year ago to the date that LB defeated them 78-73. The team is busy preparing for the rematch.

"[We] need to focus on rebounding technique and defensive transition," said Falk.

LB has six returning sophomores that played in that game a year ago combing for 47 points. They will be looking for a repeat performance, with expectations of improvement.

Returning sophomore, Trevor Cooley led the team in points with two 12 point games. Cooley and Connor Lane led the team in rebounds over the weekend with nine apiece.

"It [was] good to get the first actual games under our belt and now we can start building as a team from here," said Cooley. ♡

FOLLOW COOPER @LBCCSPORTS

TREVER COOLEY

STORY BY **COOPER PAWSON**



There is a cliché that people use when they finally find something they are truly passionate about. For Trevor Cooley of the LBCC Men's Basketball Team, sports are something he was born to do. You could say it is in his genes.

"I was born to do this."

Growing up the son of a mother who set records for her high school track team and of a father who set records for his high school baseball team, you can see how that would be the case.

Cooley began playing sports at a young age and he played anything and everything he could. Whether it was soccer, football, basketball, track or wrestling, he wanted to do it all.

"I would describe myself as an outgoing and self-motivated person. I'm extremely competitive when I'm on the court, I want to win at all costs."

Tillamook High School is where Cooley began to excel in sports. He made All League Honors in football, basketball and baseball. He was recruited to play all three sports in college but chose to take advantage of his talents in basketball and play for LBCC.

Now in his second year, Trevor is taking on more of a leadership role being that he is one of just six players returning from last year's team.

"After Linn-Benton I plan on continuing my basketball career at a four-year university. I'm currently talking to a few." ♡

"Terrific leader, very positive."

"Willing to sacrifice for the team."

-Coach Randy Falk

FOLLOW COOPER @LBCCSPORTS



PHOTO: **TREVER COOLEY**

The 2014-15 LBCC Basketball Team.

SPORTS BULLETIN

Linn-Benton Basketball:

Willamette J.V. at Linn-Benton
Dec. 4, 7 p.m.

Pacific J.V. at Linn-Benton
Dec. 11 6 p.m.

Concordia J.V. at Linn-Benton
Dec. 13 4 p.m.

Grays Harbor Crossover
Dec. 19 7 p.m.

Clackamas Tournament
Dec. 28 noon

Oregon Football:

Pac-12 Championship

Oregon vs. Arizona
Dec. 5, 6 p.m.

Oregon Basketball:

Concordia at Oregon
Dec. 3, 7 p.m.

Mississippi at Oregon
Dec. 7, 1 p.m.

Oregon at Illinois
Dec. 13, 4 p.m.

Cal State Northridge at Oregon
Dec. 17, 8 p.m.

Delaware State at Oregon
Dec. 20 noon

UC Santa Barbara at Oregon
Dec. 22, 6 p.m.

UC Irvine at Oregon
Jan. 3, 8 p.m.

Oregon State Basketball:

Miss. Valley State at Oregon State
Dec. 3, 9 p.m.

Oregon State at Portland
Dec. 6, 7 p.m.

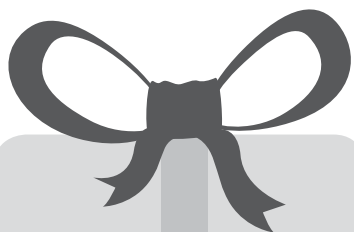
Miss. State at Oregon State
Dec. 13, 1 p.m.

Grambling State at Oregon State
Dec. 15, 7 p.m.

Depaul at Oregon State
Dec. 18, 7 p.m.

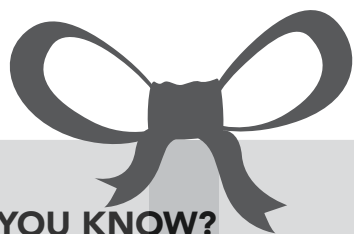
Oregon State at Quinnipiac
Dec. 21, 10 a.m.

UC Santa Barbara at Oregon State
Dec. 30, 6:30 p.m.



DID YOU KNOW?

The world record for the fastest growing plant belongs to a species of bamboo recorded growing up to 35 inches a day.



DID YOU KNOW?

In 2006 scientists collecting clams for climate research off the coast of Iceland accidentally dredged up a 507-year-old clam, the oldest living animal ever recorded.

BE GREEN

Republic Services of Corvallis and OSU Campus Recycling sponsor the Master Recycler Class, an eight-week program that covers all aspects of waste reduction including composting, recycling, and household hazardous waste.

The classes are offered free to participants who agree to “pay forward” what they have learned with 30 hours of community service. Volunteer opportunities are varied from staffing a booth at the Linn or Benton County fairs, leading recycling workshops, and volunteering with local reuse agencies. Class space is limited.

Classes meet on Tuesdays from 6:15 to 9 p.m. from Jan. 13 through March 3 on the OSU campus.

Registration is available at the Master Recycler website, <http://tiny.cc/recyclclass>. The deadline is Jan. 6.

REPUBLIC SERVICES **PRESS RELEASE**



Free Film Discussion

Film: Dear White People

Screening: Darkside Cinema, Corvallis Dec. 4, 5:30 p.m.

Ticket Prices:

\$8 General Admission

\$6.75 with Student ID

\$12.50 for people who say “Students of Life”

for a shot at the student discount

\$6 Seniors 60+ and Children under 11

\$6 for all shows Wednesday and every day before 6 p.m.

Discussion: LBCC Benton Center, Classroom #106

When: 7:30-8:30 p.m.

THE COMMUTER

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 students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters, and cartoons reflect the opinions of the authors.

Letters Welcome

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. The Commuter attempts to print all submissions received, but reserves the right to edit for grammar, length, libel, privacy concerns and taste. Opinions expressed by letter submitters do not represent the views of the Commuter staff or the College. Deliver letters to:

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The Commuter Office
Forum 222
6500 SW Pacific Blvd.
Albany, Oregon 97321

Web Address:

commuter.linnbenton.edu

Phone:

541-917-4451, 4452 or 4449

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

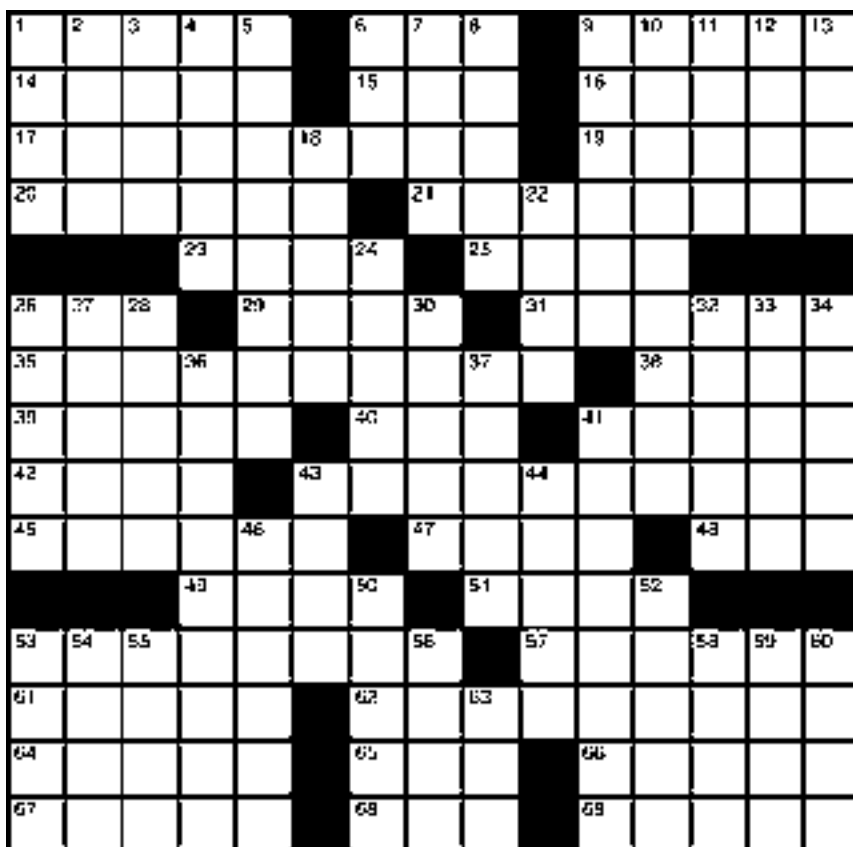
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 At attention, say
- 6 Whale group
- 9 Caught at a rodeo
- 14 Grammy-winning Jones
- 15 CXVIII x V
- 16 Officer on the Enterprise bridge
- 17 It's not a swine
- 19 Alert to drivers
- 20 Vinyl item
- 21 It's not an equine
- 23 Zilch
- 25 Hot times in Lyon
- 26 MST part: Abbr.
- 29 Endow
- 31 ___ projection
- 35 It's not an amphibian
- 38 Million finish
- 39 Mayflower Compact signer
- 40 Patriots' Day mo.
- 41 Former U.S. Army post near Monterey
- 42 Big name in game shows
- 43 It's not a canine
- 45 "Remington ___"
- 47 Enthusiasm
- 48 Common rebus pronoun
- 49 Avis adjective
- 51 "Stay" singer Lisa
- 53 It's not a rodent
- 57 Lacking the wherewithal
- 61 Confess
- 62 It's not an ursine
- 64 Seven-year phase
- 65 SASE, e.g.
- 66 Ben Stiller's mother
- 67 Biography Channel owner
- 68 Most of AZ doesn't observe it
- 69 Freddy Krueger's haunts: Abbr.

DOWN

- 1 Tech sch. grad
- 2 Rake
- 3 Idle in comedy
- 4 Leica competitor
- 5 Title "ungainly fowl" of poetry
- 6 Natl. economic indicator
- 7 x, y or z
- 8 Blues singer Bobby of song
- 9 Fraternity events
- 10 Columbus school
- 11 Sign of feline felicity
- 12 "___ Tu": 1974 hit
- 13 Hamlet, for one
- 18 Contributed
- 22 Slightly
- 24 Sirius or Vega
- 26 Counterfeits
- 27 Available, on a real estate sign
- 28 Rapper who co-founded Beats Electronics
- 30 November birthstone
- 32 ___ Janeiro
- 33 Bow go-with
- 34 Dove's perch
- 36 "Don't bother"
- 37 Disney mermaid



By Kevin Christian

12/3/14

Last Edition's Puzzle Solved



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3/20/14

- 41 Identifier in a folder
- 43 Machu Picchu locale
- 44 Lover of Christine, in "The Phantom of the Opera"
- 46 "Tao Te Ching" author
- 50 Tried to date, with "out"
- 52 Tower city
- 53 "See ya"
- 54 What a light bulb may signify
- 55 The Untouchables, e.g.
- 56 Eras upon eras
- 58 Smile broadly
- 59 Metallica drummer Ulrich
- 60 Q.E.D. word
- 63 Pretend to be

THE COMMONS
Cafeteria

... MENU ...
12/3 - 12/10

Wednesday: "Chef's Choice" - as a part of their final, the students must create a menu from a box of mystery ingredients.

Thursday: Beef Goulash* with Spaetzle, Roasted Chicken, Grilled Vegetable Sandwich. Soups: Albondigas* and Beer Cheese.

12/8, 12/9, 12/10: The Commons will be open during normal operating hours (10am- 1:30pm) with full menu options.

12/11, 12/12- the Commons will be closed for cleaning.

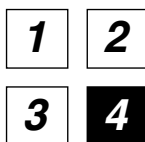
Items denoted with a * are gluten-free

Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:



SOLUTION TO
LAST EDITION'S PUZZLE

8	3	7	5	1	2	6	9	4
5	1	2	4	6	9	8	3	7
4	6	9	7	8	3	1	2	5
7	5	8	1	9	6	2	4	3
9	2	1	3	7	4	5	6	8
3	4	6	8	2	5	7	1	9
6	7	4	9	5	1	3	8	2
1	9	5	2	3	8	4	7	6
2	8	3	6	4	7	9	5	1

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

		6	4	5	2			
		5				2		
4	3		8	7				6
	9					4		
5			1					7
							6	
3				1	4		2	5
		7					9	
			5	9	6	7		

December 3-5

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3 Day
Sale

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