

<http://commuter.linnbenton.edu>

A Weekly Student Publication

# THE COMMUTER

Wednesday  
January 14, 2009

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 40 No. 12



When I first started coming to Linn-Benton Community College, I immediately thought, "Wow, what a creepy place." It was early morning when I first arrived that day for classes, and the sky was gray with a couple tints of red light peeking through as the sun gradually climbed higher. Ever since then, I wanted to capture the buildings' eerie side. Of course whenever you want to take a picture with the sky involved, it always has a habit of refusing to give a photographer the right lighting when they want it. So I spent days watching the weather, trying to get the sky to give back the emotion I got on the way to class that first day of fall in 2007. Finally, a few days ago I was able to find a patch in the weather that was almost perfect. I grabbed a tripod from the photo lab, set up in the center of the courtyard, and snapped 5 shots, moving the camera slightly after each "click." To me, the sound of a camera clicking and the split second when you know that a moment in time is saved forever is the high point of being a photographer. In that way I am kind of a purist. I don't really like messing with pictures in Photoshop, even though I can and do. Which is exactly what I did after taking the shots. I melded them all together in Photoshop to end up with the long distorted frames that are now printed. These are pictures I have wanted to do for quite a long time, and I am very excited to see them being put in print. Hopefully these will be the beginning of more panoramas to be done in the future.

- Eve Bruntlett





The Commuter  
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# CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the Sweet Home, Lebanon, and Benton Centers.

## Memorial service for Rosemarie Hubley

There will be a memorial service for Rosemarie Hubley, who was a former full-time faculty member, in the Business Technology Department. The date is this Friday, Jan. 16 at 2 p.m., at the Russell Tripp Performance Center here on campus. Afterwards, there will be a reception in the east end of The Commons. Any memorials might be directed to the LBCC Business Technology Scholarship Fund through the LBCC Foundation as asked by the family.

## FAFSA help offered next week

Gregory Dewar  
The Commuter

College Goal Oregon is hosting a free FAFSA workshop on Jan. 24 in the LBCC Business Building on the entire 2nd floor between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. For more information call the LBCC Financial Aid Office at (541) 917-4850.

This workshop offers one-on-one help applying for financial aid, education about scholarships and funding for college, and a chance to enter to win an LBCC Scholarship.

You need your most recent federal tax return or an estimate (exact numbers may be sent in later), and it's required that all dependents

bring their parents. Current value of all your assets including cash, checking, savings, investments, and value of business/farm, if applicable. A driver's license or Alien registration card if you are not a U.S. citizen.

More information on College Goal Oregon may be found at <http://www.collegegoaloregon.org> and, of course, you may call the LBCC financial aid office at the number mentioned in the first paragraph.

We urge you to take advantage of this opportunity, especially if you are applying for financial aid for the first time, but everyone is welcome.



Stairway Denied's Noah Stroup, Chris Harver and Curtis Monette

Photo by Brandon Goldner

More pics from the show at <http://lbccommuter.com>

### Submit to The Commuter!

commuter@linnbenton.edu  
917-4451  
Forum 222

Opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not express the views of The Commuter, its staff, Linn-Benton Community College, or the President of the United States of America.

STUDENT PROGRAMMING BOARD WANTS YOU TO GET INVOLVED!  
SPB 09-10

Wednesday, January 14, 2009  
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
East end of Commons in Cafeteria

Learn about upcoming sustainability efforts and events.



Sponsored by: Student Programming Board  
Linn-Benton Community College  
LBCC is an equal opportunity institution.

### Correction for last week's issue:

In last week's issue, the January 7th edition, JJ's article on the Winter Luau had the wrong date for the event. The correct date is February 7th, not February 23rd.

LBCC's Pacific Islanders Club Presents:

## A Winter Luau Feb. 7, 2009

5:00 - 8:30 p.m. • LBCC Commons  
DANCERS • MUSIC • ISLAND FOOD

### TICKETS:

LBCC students ~ \$3.  
All others ~ \$12.  
Available at the SL&L Office, the LBCC Diversity Achievement Center, and at Sid Stevens Jewelers.

For more information, call Angie Klampe at 917-4790.



Co-sponsored by Student Life & Leadership, Associated Student Government, Student Programming Board, and the Diversity Achievement Center.

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## Dream of vacation? Make a donation.

Presenting blood or platelet donors between 12/1/08 and 1/31/09 may enter to win a pair of round-trip airline tickets

and a one-week vacation at the San Diego Marriott Hotel & Marina.\*

## Linn-Benton Community College BLOOD DRIVE

Bloodmobile at College Center (Rose Garden N. Entrance - near fountain)

Thursday, January 22, 2009  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Sponsored by the Student Programming Board

To schedule your appointment, or for more information, contact Carolyn at 1-800-Give-Life or sign up online at [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org) (sponsor code: lbcc)



The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give blood."



\*Some restrictions may apply. See [www.HelpSaveALife.org/vacation](http://www.HelpSaveALife.org/vacation) for details.



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# CAMPUS NEWS

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## Blessings come with germs

Lydia Elliot  
The Commuter

Mean blogger.com...showing me I haven't posted in five weeks. I remember writing my last post like it was yesterday, or the last sane day I had before finals.

Then the cold came. It was so cold my cats were shivering in the house, my turtle went into hibernation...and so did I. I didn't move for at least two weeks except for from my bed to my computer, which is only five steps. Walking anywhere else in my house would have exposed my feet to the icy conditions of my hard-wood floors.

One day, I was fortunate enough to be invited over to my friend's house for a LAN party (for those of you not an uber-dork, a LAN (Local Area Network)



*"This game would go on to steal my soul, consume my winter break, and save me from the cold."*

party is a bunch of dorks who unplug their huge desktop computers, haul it to their friend's, plug them back in, and then begin to annihilate each other in a mass free-for-all of one game or another.)

Not only was my friend's house a comfortable 70 degrees, but he loaned me the game of the evening, Dawn of War: Soulstorm.

This game would go on to steal my soul, consume my winter break, and save me from the cold.

So what else have I been up to, you ask? I had a lovely Christmas with my little sister, played in the snow (for 10 minutes; I hate the cold!), and then finished my break caring for my ill husband, who is suffering from a bad case of pneumonia and bronchitis.

And now, my readers, I too have this same illness. Lucky, lucky me. On the upside, laying around at home, too sick to even play games, I think I'll have some time to write.

Blessings sometimes come in small, germ-covered packages.

Last Day to Return  
Your Textbooks for  
a Full Refund is

20

Tuesday  
January 2009



Linn-Benton Community College Bookstore

**STORE HOURS:**

Monday thru Friday  
8am to 4:30pm



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# LOCAL NEWS

Community news about the mid-Willamette Valley, including Albany, Lebanon, and Corvallis.

## The spectacular first moon of 2009

**MaryAnne Turner**  
The Commuter

On Saturday, Jan. 10, if you were paying any attention to the sky that night, once in a while you could catch a glimpse through the clouds of the biggest, brightest full moon of 2009. This is because the moon was closest to Earth in its phases.

As Earth orbits the Sun, we have a moon that orbits Earth, and these are all caused by gravity. It takes the moon about 29.5 days to orbit Earth, known to scientists as a synodic month or lunar month, from new moon to new moon.

The moon's orbit however is not a perfect circle. It makes an oval shape that is sometimes closer or further away from Earth, depending on its phase. When it is closer to Earth, known as being in perigee, the difference is 31,000 miles (50,000 km) from its farthest point, known as being in apogee.

So when we see the moon in perigee, at its closest point, its apparent size is larger. Saturday's full moon appeared 14 percent bigger and 30 percent brighter than most full moons we will see in 2009, according to Robert Roy Britt at MSNBC.

January's full moon is known as the "wolf moon" in Native American folklore. It is also known as "old moon" and "snow moon".

The moon's gravitational force controls the tides.



The full moon as it appeared on Saturday, Jan. 10. The brightest expected for 2009.

Photo courtesy of Flickr - Myyorgda

So when the moon was at its closest point on Saturday, we experienced the highest tides, also known as perigean tides.

The full moon always rises at sunset because the moon and sun have to be opposite of each other for us to see the full moon. Interestingly enough we will never actually see a 100 percent full moon because if the moon, sun, and Earth were perfectly aligned we would see a lunar eclipse, which is what happens

when the Earth casts its shadow on the moon.

Moonrise will make the full moon look bigger. Scientists are unable to explain this except that our perception of things on the horizon versus things right above us look bigger.

Strangely, the moon is drifting away from us by 1.6 in (4 cm) a year. Many years from now it will take the moon 47 days to orbit Earth.



## New bus shelter erected on Monday

**MaryAnne Turner**  
The Commuter

Finally! A new adequate bus shelter was erected on Monday, Jan. 12, that will house the long line for those waiting for the bus. The bus stop is located in front of the bookstore on the southeast side. No more standing in the rain.

Photo by Becca Martino



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## Soufside Ink

**Kris Nelson**  
 The Commuter

Soufside Ink is going to be appearing on the Dub-U Records West Coast Tour. They plan to hit many cities, including Corvallis and Salem. I talked with two of the members, Lyrical Hound and Louisiana T, about their group before the show they played on Dec. 12.

Lyrical Hound is originally from New Orleans and came to Oregon on vacation before Hurricane Katrina hit. He started out rapping with a group called Weside Ink. When he got a chance to make it home and back, he brought Louisiana T, and shortly after formed Soufside Ink. The other members are Big Shizzle, Prota J, D, and Razor. The SOUF in Soufside means Soldiers Overcoming Undeniable Fate.

Soufside Ink's musical influences vary from member to member. Lyrical Hound mentioned Bob Dylan, Outkast, and U.G.K. Louisiana T referred to artists such as 2pac, Twista, and rappers on Cash Money Records. The group is influenced by New Orleans rap, jazz, and likes most music in general.

"Every line of our songs can be analyzed," said Lyrical Hound. Their lyrics have deep meanings and people

can relate to them. The songs they write can be about street lives and forgiveness yet at the same time are feel-good tracks. Lyrical Hound regards himself as one of the best free-style rappers in the area. According to the group, Louisiana T is a deep lyrical writer.

Soufside Ink hopes to bring legit music to the Northwest. Through their music, they want to make things better for people. If someone's having a bad day, they could put on Soufside Ink's music and just relax.

"The Northwest has something to offer," added Lyrical Hound. Some of the best local rappers in Soufside Ink's Opinion are Bently, Markus Tha Great White, Yung Royal, Poverty's Posterboy, and Kross-Breed. They predicted that in two years time the Northwest will blow up on the scene. Also, there are mix tapes on the way so be on a look out for those.

Future plans for the group are for a full-length CD to be released by Mardi Gras, which includes a release show for the album. Some of the proceeds of the CD will go to support the clean-up of Hurricane Katrina.

To contact the group or listen to some of their music, go to <http://www.myspace.com/soufsideink>



Louisiana T performing.



Lyrical Hound on the mic.

Photos by Kris Nelson

## College Goal Oregon

**Gregory Dewar**  
 The Commuter

College Goal Oregon is hosting a free FAFSA workshop on Jan. 24th in the LBCC Business Building on the 2nd floor between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. The room number was not listed on the press release and the sources were not available for contact over the break. For more information, call the LBCC Financial Aid Office at (541) 917-4850.

This workshop offers one-on-one help applying for financial aid, education about scholarships and funding for college, and a chance to enter to win an LBCC Scholarship.

You should bring: Yourself and a parent if possible. Your most recent federal tax return (or an estimate, exact numbers may be sent in later). Current value of all your assets including cash, checking, savings, investments, and value of business/farm, if applicable. A drivers license or Alien registration card if you are not a U.S. citizen.

More information on College Goal Oregon may be found at <http://www.collegegoaloregon.org> and of course, you may call the LBCC financial aid office at the number mentioned in the first paragraph.



Wouldn't it be great if the things you really needed in life were free?

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 924.0166

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Apply at Student Life & Leadership Office.

See job descriptions at: [www.linnbenton.edu/go/spb](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/spb)

Tuition grants for all positions.

Questions? Contact Alisia Ball, 917-4963.



LBCC is an equal opportunity institution.



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events,  
and the cure for weekend boredom.

## Concerts for January

**Kris Nelson**  
The Commuter

Jan. 14, 7 p.m.

**Jake Payne and Dixie Creek**  
**Dixie Creek Saloon**  
Tangent, Free

Come see Dixie Creek play live. Performing country, Americana, and folk rock.

Jan. 15, 7 p.m.

**Sleep For Sleepers**  
w/ **Abandon Kansas**

Monmouth Christian Church  
Monmouth, Free  
Sleep For Sleepers is an indie/rock band from California. They are on a nationwide tour, making a brief stop in Oregon.

Jan. 16, 9 p.m.

**The Manimals**  
**Rev. Bison Bison**  
**Pilot Light**

Bombs Away Cafe  
Corvallis, \$6  
Enjoy some funk and soul from these Oregon bands.

Jan. 17, 8 p.m.

**Dustin Herron**  
2nd St. Beanery  
Corvallis, Free

Get some punk/folk from Dustin Herron with your coffee.

Jan. 17, 9 p.m.

**Vou Vivendo**  
w/ **Groove in Blue**

Bombs Away Cafe  
Corvallis, \$5  
Vou Viendo, a local Corvallis jazz quartet, is opening for the funky sounds of Groove in Blue.

Jan. 17, 9 p.m.

**Neon Gypsies**

Fireworks Restaurant and Bar  
Corvallis, \$5-\$10 suggested donation.  
Relax to the experimental indie/rock of the Neon Gypsies. Come support them while you enjoy your dinner and drink.

Jan. 22, 7 p.m.

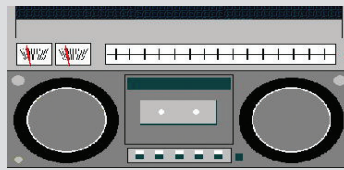
**Wild Hog in the Woods**  
Calapooia Brewing Company  
Albany, Free  
Old-time jam at your local brew-pub.

Jan. 22 9 p.m.

**The Highlife Crew**  
**Matty Wright Family**  
**Bubbi Swatta**  
**Bent**

**Suganuts**  
**C-Logi & Contra**  
**Klockwork**

Riley's Bar and Grill  
Albany, \$5  
Get a free CD with a paid cover charge. Support local hip-hop and Oregon music.



## Movies coming out this Friday

**Defiance** – Starring Daniel Craig and Liev Schreiber. Three brothers escape the nazis and certain death when they run to the woods they know better than anyone else. After their near death experience, they start attracting followers willing to do almost anything to be free.

**Hotel for Dogs** – Starring Emma Roberts and Jake T Austin. In search of a new place to keep their own dog, after a set of new guardians ban the kids from having a pet. Three kids come up with a solution to rescue not only their dog, but any dog they find.

**Last Chance Harvey** – Starring Dustin Hoffman and Emma Thompson. After missing his flight, jingle writer Harvey Shine drowns his sorrows in the airport bar, where he meets Kate.

**My Bloody Valentine 3D** – Starring Jensen Ackles and Jaime King. The town of Harmony revisits an old horror as a pickaxe wielding murderer wearing a miners mask terrorizes the town.

**Notorious** – Starring Jamal Woolard and Derek Luke. Centers on the life of murdered rapper Notorious B.I.G.

**Paul Blart: Mall Cop** – Starring Kevin James and Jayma Mays. When a group of armed raiders take over his mall, Veteran Mall Cop Paul Blart is on the job.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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## Reno or bust

**Damon Solomos**  
 The Commuter

I recently had the pleasure of taking a road trip to the Biggest Little City In The World: Reno, Nevada. It is the only truly American pastime and hobby, in my opinion. There is nothing like getting in a car, picking a destination, the freedom of the road, and good friends to spend the time with. Road-tripping up and down the West Coast states has been my preferred way to spend a vacation my entire life. I have been doing it for nearly twenty years and this was my first time through the city of Reno. Our route took us down the Interstate 5, over the Cascades on the Oregon 58, then to the Oregon 140 to the Highway 395. We then took the scenic 395 the rest of the way into Reno.

The really beautiful scenery began once we hit the 58 and started into the Cascades. Lush green views, and rolling snow-capped mountains. The town of Oakridge, about eighty miles from "the 5", is a particularly good place to take pictures of the surrounding mountains. The prize shot of this leg of the drive goes to Diamond Peak, a beautiful snow-covered mountain that towered above the rest of the cascade peaks in the area. The view is one that bore stopping, and observing for a moment.

The drive to Reno was sparse but with nice desert scenes. Laid back and relaxing, the rest of the drive to Reno passed in a state of conversation and near nirvana-



The World Poker Tour Room at the Grand Sierra Casino



A view of Reno from the 20th floor, The Grand Sierra Hotel

like bliss. Then, over the desert hills, Reno appeared, a city of lights, party, and vice. It is a thing to see at night; no picture would do it justice. It bears mentioning that I did not much care for the city of Reno. As a whole it was old, in disrepair, and the desert surroundings made for a wholly uninviting scene.

We approached the hotel/resort we were booked to stay at, The Grand Sierra Hotel. It is the finest resort in Reno by my account, a casino floor with a World Poker Tour Room, a movie theater, restaurant floors with no less than three restaurants, three separate dance floors with three different bands, and bars, bars, and more bars. It even has a full-fledged V.I.P. nightclub with dance floor. This place was jumping. We checked in and find out that we have a mini suite. The room was stunning and elegant. The view was of all of Reno, by day it's a gloomy desert, by night it's a lit up wonderland seen from above.

Our second day we did the strip which is mostly wedding ring shops and pawn shops, nothing really to write home about. After the strip, we did the resort we were staying at, go-karts, slot machines, wine bars, and driving range, all of which are on site.

The second night in Reno we had the pleasure of eating at the finest bistro in Reno, Beaujolais Bistro. The food was rich and fine, and the wine selection was extensive. I do love my wine, and so do my friends. The setting was romantic, intimate and perfect.

Two days of drinking, gambling, and general carrying on, and we were set to leave our little paradise in the desert. We departed about 1 p.m. The route is not so round about heading back. It is simply the 395 to the Shasta highway, and finally to the 5. The Shasta Highway is the jewel of the scenic routes. The surroundings are half-forest, half-plain. The plain is used for the grazing of cattle. From as many as eighty miles south, you can see the towering form of Mount Shasta. The stark whiteness of the mountain in the lush green surroundings is a sight to behold. The mountain is particularly stunning at night. The rest of the drive passed in darkness, until the welcome sight of home came into view. At close to twelve hundred miles round trip, even for just a weekend, it was the best road trip I have ever had and I can't wait to duplicate it.

Road trips are just not the same when you are alone. Good and intelligent company can make up for even the worst of trips. So I would like to say to my two traveling companions, that the trip would not have been the same without you. I hope we can travel together again in the future. For the company has never been finer as it was on this trip.



The slot floor in the Grand Sierra Casino and Resort

Photos by Damon Solomos

## Einstein: DJ, rapper, and producer

**By Kris Nelson**  
 The Commuter

"I've always been a rocker at heart; I am my own major influence." "Another influence in pushing me to rap is the fucked-up world that we live in. I want to have a voice of influence in certain communities to build awareness of the enslavement this government is doing to our lives. The Media is Corrupt. I would like to do my own corrupting for the better." These are just a couple things Einstein said in the interview I had with him through e-mail. He played at Riley's Bar and Grill back in November for "The Freaks Come Out at Night" show and plans to do another show there in the future.

Born and raised in Salem, also known as "Sauce Town," Einstein began rapping at 17. As well as producing other artists, he was in a group called Deep Seven. Now 22, Einstein DJs and performs at concerts. Names he's gone by have included Rudy, Rumhead,

Beatmaker, and Rukus. Currently, there is a CD out that is self-titled. Next year another CD is to be released.

When Einstein is not rapping he enjoys listening to his music, being in the studio, and hanging out with the good people around him. "I love to enjoy and appreciate life and feel it's important to maintain good people around you."

When I asked him what his future plans with DJing and music in general were he had this to say, "DJing is something I do because I'm good at it and it pays the bills. My future goals are to be a major production engineer

for multiple artists in their projects as well as my own. I am on track and am currently working toward that goal."

For his influences, this is what he told me, "My reasons for rap-

my own influence. I push myself and my sound to be my own personal favorite rapper."

The next question that was posed was what one of the first rappers he listened to was. "I'd have to say stealing my older sisters tapes back in the day and sneaking them into my room late at night. I was listening to Dr. Dre's 'Nothin' but a G thing.'"

Einstein has had the pleasure of sharing the stage with 684, collected concepts, Ryan laws, j wills, phenom-enon, brodkastin live, crazy 8's, mister T, Ness, Money gang, The Cleaners, Suganuts, and Matty. He apologizes if he left a couple names out.

Also, he's done multiple collaborations before he started rapping publicly. His forte was to produce albus from other artists. One of the artists that he favors that he's worked with so far, has been Joey Woodrum from Northwest Finest. An artist he's working with, Genius, is currently in the studio. Be on the lookout for Einstein's upcoming collaboration with 684.

The final words Einstein wanted to put out there were, "I know everyone says it but with most people it does not hold truth: Listen to these words and let it be known that it's time for a change and I am that change. Be on the lookout for Einstein. Very serious moves are being made to progress to the top. Get involved in your local scene before the train starts moving and receive a greater benefit. Be a part of something with a foundation. You don't want to be that guy saying I didn't believe in that kid but, god damn it, look at him now."



Photo courtesy of Einstein's Myspace

Einstein performing at Riley's Bar in Albany.

ping aren't based on influences. I know it sounds cocky but I am



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# ITALIA

Photos and memorabilia by  
Becca Martino  
Layout by Gregory Dewar, Eve  
Bruntlett, and Kristin Horst



**Becca Martino**  
The Commuter

With pictures of pasta faeries dancing in my head, I drowsily said my goodbyes to loved ones around 4 am on September 26th. I sat at the departure gate at PDX with my potential new partners in crime as we eagerly awaited our arrival in Italy the next day. In early March we had signed up for the 'Live and Learn in Italy Fall 2008' program at our respective community colleges provided by the Oregon International Education Consortium and their partnership with American Institute of Foreign Study(AIFS). Sitting with me were ten other students and one teacher from a different participating community college in Oregon. There were to be two other students and one more teacher from Oregon to meet up with us once we were in Florence, Italy. We arrived the next day on September

27th, and while all I wanted to do after landing was hang my head over the toilet bowl, I knew for the next two months and twenty days I would be having the time of my life. Sophie, our wonderful coordinator with AIFS, had the next month of weekends and some weekdays planned out for us with trips to different cities, wine tastings, tours around the city or learning how a local artisan crafted goods or made pasta. She took us to Rome, a buzzing metropolis where ancient ruins are settled next to new modern buildings. There we walked all over the city, visiting the Coliseum and the Forums; we saw the Spanish steps and explored some ancient catacombs. Being a student in Florence was easier in some ways than being a student in Oregon. You could eat easily on a limited budget combined with meal vouchers for various restaurants around the city which allowed us to go out to restaurants three or four times a week.

Classes were four days a week and included a lecture on Italian life and culture, a language class, as well as our cultural activities that usually took place on Fridays. With October come and gone, the rest of the weekends in November and December were left free for us to do what we pleased so missing home wasn't a frequent feeling. For example I took a weekend trip to Dublin, and other students took trips to France, London, Switzerland and the Czech Republic made possible by small discount airlines. I spent my Thanksgiving with my roommate Katie, her sister and husband who live in Florence, and some local art school students from Norway and Germany. In December my mom was able to come and visit for the last two weeks of my trip and I was able to show her around Florence, take her to museums and even a four day trip to Paris. I recommended that anyone interested in foreign travel look into study abroad

programs and do what it takes to go. Going through the program that Linn Benton offers runs about \$10,000 dollars (includes all expenses, living and airline). While this is not a sum most people have laying around or want to take out in loans, let me tell you it's totally doable. There are scholarships specifically made for international study, like the Gilman Scholarship which awarded me \$3,000 dollars. You can also tap into your federal financial aid which gave me another \$2,400 dollars and I took out a small loan. The rest of the money was covered by a summer job and wonderful supporting parents potentially wanting to live vicariously through their daughters' experience. Bittersweet was the day I had to say goodbye to Florence and return home to a snowstorm.



**Tiramisu**  
500g of mascarpone  
5 eggs  
5 dessertspoons of sugar  
3 packets of Pavolini sponge fingers (ladies' fingers)  
2 measures of bitter coffee  
1 small glass of Brandy/Vin Santo  
dark cocoa powder

Whisk 5 egg yolks with the sugar, add the mascarpone and mix thoroughly; beat the egg whites into peaks in a different bowl; (you should be able to tip the bowl upside down and it shouldn't fall out!); fold the whites into the yolk mixture from top to bottom; cover the base of your dish/tray with sponge fingers soaked in brandy; cover them with 1/2 centimetre of the mascarpone mixture; then put a layer of sponge fingers soaked in coffee on top; top with the remaining mascarpone mix and then sprinkle liberally with cocoa powder. Put in the fridge for two hours then serve.

**BUON APPETITO!!**

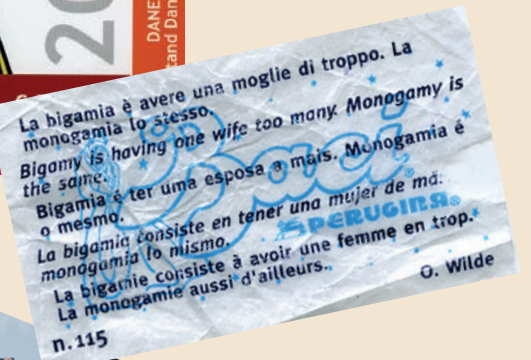


The Commuter

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# ITALIA

Photos and memorabilia by  
Becca Martino  
Layout by Gregory Dewar, Eve  
Bruntlett, and Kristin Horst



OCT 17th 2008  
Sienna & San Gimignano went well.  
To decide which I like better is impossible, seeing them as a pair was a good music. Sienna has so much background and history. We learned about the Bello horse race & the 17 neighborhoods (contrade). Each contrada has a mascot and I was thinking that was silly. Some of the animals are owl, rhinoceros & caterpillar & unicorn.  
Then we went to San Gimignano which I loved a lot! I realised there, walking up to the overlook in the hillside that I didn't want to leave. All my life I've been a city girl and this small Tuscan town, hills of green & buildings of yellow & gold - not Florence with the art or Rome with the forums but San Gimignano, makes me want to stay in Italy. The place was gorgeous & peaceful. We didn't have a tour but we wandered aimlessly.  
- I forgot to say that in Lucca Katie & Jacey & I climbed this beautiful old tower which scared the piss out of my pants when we got to the top there was hardly room to navigate! I really enjoyed Lucca though & I hope I get to go back.  
The little towns all sort of blend in to be the same place...  
After Lucca, Jacey & I ate at this restaurant where our server was named Luca & he gave us free cake!





The Commuter  
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 Opinion Editor: Brandon Goldner  
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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events,  
 and the cure for weekend boredom.

## Bride Wars: a man in a woman's world

Roger Moore  
 Courtesy of (MCT)

The big problem with the romantic comedy "Bride Wars" seems as plain as the opening credits.

This movie about "the best day in a girl's life," follows two lifelong friends who have planned their "June, at The Plaza" weddings since childhood, was directed by a man. Another man came up with the story. No matter that women pitched in and tried to inject a little estrogen into the proceedings. It's still a patronizing comedy that rolls its boyish eyes at the tizzy these brides work themselves into over their big day.

Anne Hathaway and Kate Hudson play the pals, Jersey girls whose lives were changed by a magical visit to New York's Plaza Hotel as children, the place to get married in the month for weddings - June.

Liv (Hudson) has grown up into being a pushy litigator, used to winning and getting her own way. Emma (Hathaway) has matured into a pushover in her role as a school teacher who lets everybody else impose their will on her.

They get engaged the same day. They

visit the Mother of All Wedding Planners (Candice Bergen, who also narrates) together. And that's how things get mixed up and they find themselves not sharing and helping each other make their dreams come true, but competing for wedding guests, reception DJs and everything else associated with "the day your life begins."

Emma's "elegantly minimalist" affair runs into Liv's "trendy fusion" nuptials, so let the dirty tricks fly as each one-ups the other - the wedding "video montage" switcheroo, sabotage at the hair salon, the works. The grooms (Chris Pratt and Steve Howey) are mere bland eyewitnesses to this prize fight.

"Your wedding had better watch it," threatens Liv in what passes for a giggle here.

Both weddings are slated for June 6, which nobody involved was clever enough to realize is the anniversary of D-Day. That's not the only joke they missed.

Director Gary Winick may have "13 Going on 30" and an "Ugly Betty" episode on his resume, but he can't find the laughs in this set-up, or these two funny ladies. The supporting cast (Kristen



Kate Hudson and AnneHathaway battle it out in "Bride Wars."

Photo courtesy of (MCT)

Johnston plays a maid of honor) fares no better. The third act's sentimental moments are the only bits that work, and they come long after we've stopped caring which leading lady wears the most jet-black eye-liner.

The title, "Bride Wars," promises farce,

wacky cat-fights and that learning moment when they and we realize "It's not about the wedding. It's about love and the life that follows." The movie breaks those vows. It's a picture that never comes to life before the "death do us part."

## Is it any wonder: NFL conference champion edition

Mark McIntyre  
 For The Commuter

I have to say that it was fun being an NFL fan this weekend as we got treated to upset after upset on the way to the Conference Championship games. In the NFC I was amazed at how easy Arizona made winning look in their 33-13 victory over a great Carolina Panthers. The Eagles ran away late in an exciting 23-11 victory over the #1 seed N.Y. Giants to bring the Eagles to their fifth Conference Championship game in this decade. In the AFC, the Ravens won a tough contest over the #1 seed Tennessee Titans 13-10 behind the famous Ravens defense, while the Steelers pulled away from the Chargers 35-24 to lead them to the AFC championship game.

There are many of you that will join your friends at a Super Bowl party on Feb. 1, and I know some of you only watch football for the commercials that day, but you do not want to be the lost puppy in the room. I suggest you take your Sunday and watch this week's games to help your knowledge for the teams and to bring you a feeling of being able to seem like one of the group. To help you, I will break them down and give predictions on the way the two games in the coming week will leave us for the Super Bowl.

**NFC: Philadelphia @ Arizona  
 Sunday, Jan. 18 - Noon**

If you are one who lived under a rock and didn't think of looking on the internet, the NFC Championship will have the Eagles vs. the Cardinals in Tempe, Ariz. This game already happened this year,

and the Cardinals were blown out on Thanksgiving Day 48-20. In that game, the Cardinals had to travel to Philadelphia, and the game was largely not seen by America as it was shown on the NFL Network. But that was an Arizona team still looking for an identity, not the ones that lost that week.

The game will hinge on the two QBs: Donovan McNabb of the Eagles, and Kurt Warner of the Cardinals. In an interesting note, both QBs have a back-up that was drafted to be the one who would lead their teams. In Philly, they even went as far as benching McNabb for the second half of a game, only for them to go ahead with reinstating him for the next week, the first game against the Cardinals. The Cardinals have stayed behind Warner even though their heir-apparent was former College Football Champion with USC and Heisman Trophy winner Matt Lienart. In this game coming up, Both QBs have reasons to say they are better than the other, but I give the edge to Warner. The reason is the wide receivers position. Larry Fitzgerald leads the most talented wide outs unit in the NFL. Though Anquan Boldin is not 100% and may not play, Steve Breaston is the other of Arizona's three 1,000-yard receivers and running Edgerrin James and J. J. Arrington are great options out of the backfield. The Eagles offense options for McNabb begin and end with RB Brian Westbrook, while rookie WR DeSean Jackson adds another dimension for kick returning as well as at wideout.

While all eyes will be on the Eagles talented defense lead by former New England Patriot and ball-hogging cor-

ner back Asante Samuel, the Cardinals defense has much improved, holding two great running attacks to a shell of what they normally are, and would seem ready for the task at hand. Even with the Eagles "great D," there are too many weapons for Warner to use, and I just don't see the Eagles winning in Arizona.

**PICK: Cardinals 28 - Eagles 17**

**AFC: Baltimore @ Pittsburgh - Sunday,  
 January 18<sup>th</sup> 3:30pm**

If you like D, this is the game for you. If you like high scoring games that end 42-35, sorry not happening. These two teams are both from the AFC North with the Steelers taking both games, though they were close with the first in overtime 24-21 and the second 13-9. They definitely know each other a lot. The glory positions are both headed with QBs that have had success at a young age. Joe Flacco this year, Ben Roethlisberger a few years ago. It is rare for a rookie QB to lead their team to the play-offs, yet both of these men have led their teams to a conference championship game. The oddest thing for Flacco is that he has done it with a cast of characters that most would call rejects at best. Leading rusher Le'Ron McClain had 900 yards rushing and he is their fullback. Desmond Mason turned out another great season at WR while going largely unnoticed by fans and peers. Countering, the Steelers' Ben Roethlisberger had to carry the team, in addition to his team having injuries in the backfield which led to inconsistent play from him. Willie Parker is coming into his own as the feature back with Mewelde Moore being his primary back-up that

has played well when Parker was not at full strength. Perennial Pro Bowl selection Hines Ward leads a talented receiving corps along with Santonio Holmes.

The defenses are what will decide this game. The Steelers were the leading defense in all of the NFL, led by former USC Trojan safety Troy Polamalu and NFL 2008 Defensive Player of the Year linebacker James Harrison, who led his team with 16 QB sacks. On the flip side, the Ravens were the #2 defense in the NFL and are led by a host of high-profile defensive players. Ray Lewis and Ed Reed are former NFL defensive Player of the Year and future Hall Of Famers who inspire teammates and dish out highlight reel plays. They are the cornerstone of the famous Baltimore 3-4 defense. Injuries are there for the Ravens; most notably Ed Reed and LB/DE Terrell Suggs could be hampered. Reed played last week and will play this week.

This game will be tough to talk about. I want the Ravens to win because Rey Lewis is my favorite player. I want the Steelers to win because they are a class organization and seem to have no problem guys on the team. But I believe in destiny and this is the run that will cement Rey Lewis as the greatest middle linebacker of all time. Don't expect much scoring and don't expect it to be pretty. And if the weather is bad, which could happen in Pennsylvania this time of year, his game could even set the NFL back 40 years. Just like the Beavers helped do to college football in their 3-0 win at the Sun Bowl.

**PICK: Ravens 12 - Steelers 10**



**The Commuter**  
**Editor-In-Chief:** Gregory Dewar  
**Opinion Editor:** Brandon Goldner  
**Newsroom Desk:** 917-4451

# opinion

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**Drop-in:** Forum 222  
 Please sign and keep to 300 words or less.

## Crab dribble with extra bull\*\*\* sauce

**Brandon Goldner**  
 The Commuter

The golden rule for breaking the law: Don't try to get away with it twice.

LeBron James would be wise to keep that in mind.

While even a casual basketball fan can tell that the rules of carrying the ball aren't consistent from college to the NBA, there's only so much a referee can do when it's thrown in their face. So when James broke the rule (which states one cannot take more than two steps after picking up the ball) not once but twice, referee Bill Spooner had no choice but to call it the second time, even if it meant the game-tying shot that James hit after the play was waived off.

Take a peek at the video and judge yourself by going to the link in this article on The Commuter site. The violations occur at 1:41 and 1:57, respectively. Not all browsers allow you to start and stop the video fast enough to catch it, but most of the browsers that were tested did.

So when you're caught breaking the rules, you can,

a) admit your mistake and man up, b) deny that you did anything wrong, or c) make up a brand new rule to suit you. While the last may have worked well enough for Henry VIII to manipulate long-held beliefs in order to divorce his first wife, it doesn't seem like it would work so well for James, whose brand-new basketball move, the "crab dribble," is quickly

"...it's something I work on in the summertime," and rehashed his previous explanation. But when asked if it was only two steps after the move, he said something more insightful; "The two steps don't count... until you pick the ball up. If the ball is still in the motion... [sic], you see guys bounce the ball, and still be able to bounce it again."

OK, so what he's saying is that maybe it was technically three steps, but the definition of the end of

the dribble doesn't come from when it last hits the floor, it starts when it hits your hand AFTER that dribble. He would have a point in this case, since in both clips his first step clearly occurs before the ball hits his hand after the last dribble.

So what do the rules say? You can either search for them on NBA.com, or (again)

interpretation of decades-old rules, and a snappy new name to top it off.

Who says you can't change the rules while playing the game?

\*\*\*UPDATE\*\*\*

James has said that the crab dribble will remain in his arsenal. He also expressed a reluctant acceptance that the referees will try to take the move away from him, just like they took away his two-foot hop, his one bounce cross-court dribble move, and his ability to jump over the backboard to score a goal.



*"When asked...exactly what a 'crab dribble' was, James said '...it's something I work on in the summertime.'"*

Brandon Goldner

finding its way into the litany of excuses deployed by frustrated 7th-grade players everywhere.

James first used the term during a post-game interview, when he said of the traveling violation, "It was a bad call. I took a crab dribble, which is a hesitation dribble, and then two steps."

When asked by a reporter a few days later what exactly a "crab dribble" was, James said

## Classifieds

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**Cost:** Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free to students, staff and faculty. All others are charged at a rate of 10 cents per word, payable when the ad is accepted.

**Personals:** Ads placed in the "Personals" category are limited to one ad per advertiser per week; no more than 50 words per ad.

**Libel/Taste:** The Commuter will not knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in an unfair manner. Any advertisement judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.

### Help Wanted:

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Dr. Matt Knecht

**THE COMMONS FARE**  
 1/14-1/20

**Wednesday**  
 Dishes: Beef Stew, Lavender, Fennel, Garlic and Cracked Pepper Pork Chops and Kolokopita Triangles  
 Soups: Red Lentil & Chicken and Rice

**Thursday**  
 Dishes: Turkey Club with Pasta Salad, Chili Verde with Flour Tortilla and Eggplant Parmesan  
 Soups: Turkey Vegetable\* & Split Pea

**Friday**  
 Chef's Choice

**Monday**  
 College Closed

**Tuesday**  
 Dishes: Beef Stroganoff, Fish a' la Florentine and Portabella Sandwich  
 Soups: Mulligatawny and Vegetarian Vegetable\*

\*Gluten-free



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# opinion

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## How the Jesus fish spawned

Chris Negahbani  
For The Commuter

If you don't have one mounted on the back of your own car, you've probably noticed one in traffic or while walking through a parking lot. We've all seen them: the Jesus fish. When we see them we know the driver of the car in front of us believes in Jesus, but what most people don't

know is how this stylized fish came to represent a religious figure.

"I'm not completely sure," began 42-year old Amy Crovollo, a Catholic. "But I've noticed that there are two reoccurring animal references throughout the Bible: donkeys and fish ... I figure the politicians already claimed the donkey, so Jesus got stuck with the fish by default."

In the Bible, God was said to have spoken to a man through a donkey, there was a donkey chilling next to the manger when Jesus was born, and toward the end Jesus' arms were bound and he was paraded through a city on the back of a donkey. Likewise, in the King James Edition of the Bible, there are a series of Gospel verses that mention fish, but in an interview with

Barbra Robinson, who's an expert in religious symbolism, a few more details came to light.

"It spawned from the Bible," she laughed. "In Revelations 1:8 there is a passage that says, 'I am alpha and omega, the beginning and the end,' saith the Lord," she said. "Well alpha, the first letter in the Greek alphabet, looks like a

fish, and that's really all there is to it."

18-year-old Natalie Miller stated in an interview, "I really don't care where the idea came from, I'm not convinced it's a good idea to have a Jesus fish on the back of any car. As if road rage isn't bad enough already, why would anyone bring God and politics into the mix?"

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The fish in question

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## PERSPECTIVES:

What is your New Years resolution?



**Alex Alekseyenko**

Business

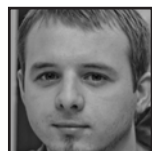
"I don't have one. It is just another year."



**Gary Breed**

Spanish

"I have a lot of New Year's resolutions. I want to learn French, avoid late night essay writing, compete in a flute competition, and always try something new."



**Matt Severance**

Computer User Support

"I don't have one. If I had one, it would be to finish school this year."



**Jaci Coziel**

Foreign Languages

"My New Year's resolution is to spend more time with my family."



**Aimee Hisey**

History

"I don't make New Year's resolutions because no one ever keeps them."



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## Illness in The Home Depot

Lydia Elliott  
 The Commuter

I have never had a job that expected me to come in to work when sick. Any boss with sense knows that a person who stays home gets well faster and doesn't infect other employees. But not Home Depot.

The local Home Depot, where my husband, unfortunately, works, allowed an employee to return to work despite the fact she had bronchial pneumonia, and was told by her doctor to stay home for two weeks. She was not asked by management to inform others of her condition, or to wear a mask. Instead, she used my husband's desk phone, worked closely with customers, and handled computer equipment available to all employees.

Two days later my husband was sick, and shortly after that he was diagnosed with pneumonia and bronchitis. He was so sick he cried in his sleep, and couldn't get out of bed for almost a week. He ended up going to the hospital, and because we have no health care (HD's is a joke), we will be paying for it for a long time.

Finally, because he had no sick time and we were hemorrhaging our remaining funds, my husband returned to work. Soon after his arrival he was brought to the office and told management was revoking his holiday pay (from New Year's) because he was sick, even though he was not sick on New Year's.

Rationally, my husband explained that he got sick from BEING at work. You don't contract pneumonia out of thin air, but Home Depot thinks that you do. He was forced to apologize to the woman who had pneumonia first, because she felt the way he looked at her was accusatory. But wait, there's more.

Our local Home Depot HAS NO HEATERS. That's right, a few weeks ago our high temperature was 12 degrees, and it was hardly any warmer inside the store. Each day I watched my husband leave for work wearing layers of sweaters, jackets, scarves, socks, and hats. Employees were not even allowed to mark down heaters off the shelves to keep warm.

And so, my husband sat for weeks shivering in the cold, exposed to a highly infectious illness, and, lo and behold, he came down with it. But Home Depot punished him for

it. They punished him by revoking his holiday pay, they punished him by forcing him to apologize for looking angry (he just looks sick to me...), and they punish all employees by offering little or no sick time.

My husband receives four hours of sick pay a month, in exchange for working full-time. What a pathetic "benefit." Sure, those 4 hours he had will help on his measly paycheck, but it would take ten months of saving sick hours to make up for this sudden, Home Depot-induced

illness and the week of work it caused him to lose. And it isn't like they are going to help with the medical bills.

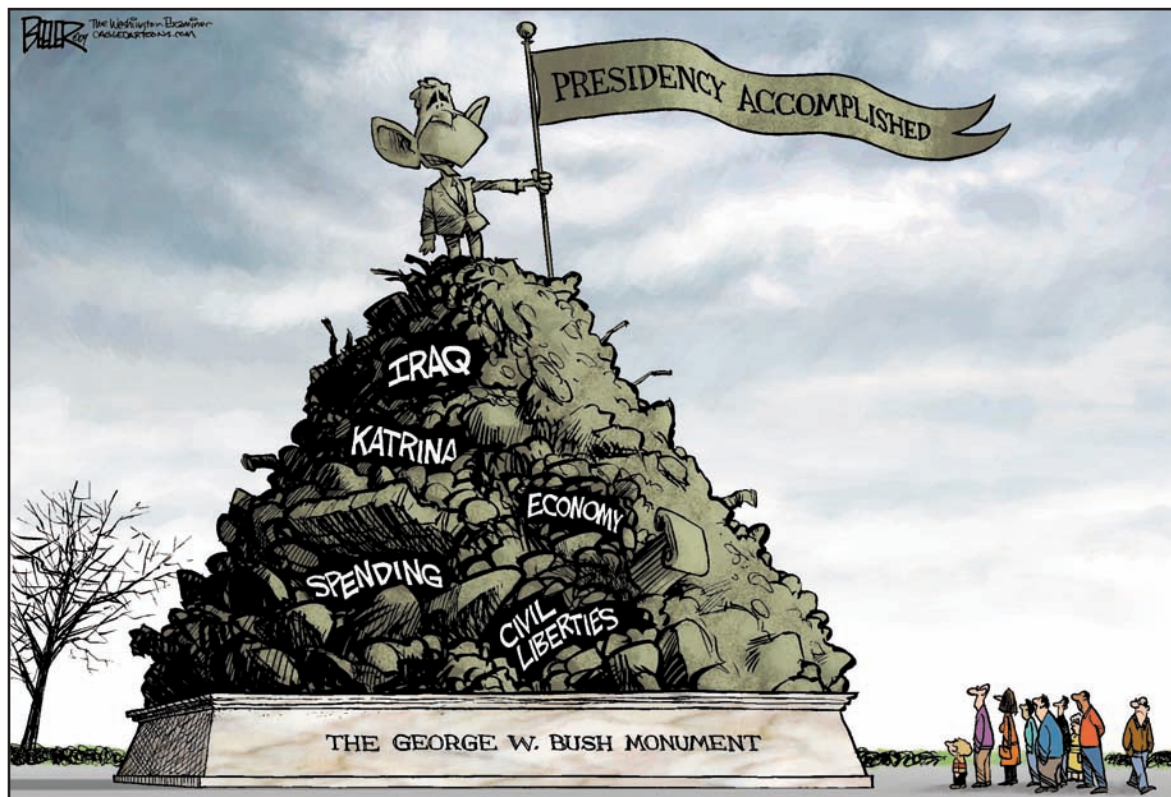
The heart of this problem is employee benefits. My previous job gave me two days a month sick pay, and more if I had a doctor's note, whatever I needed

to be healthy and happy. My husband's co-worker would not have come to work with pneumonia had she any sick time available to her, and then no one else would have become ill.

Bob Nardelli, former CEO of Home Depot, resigned in 2007 with a \$210 million severance package after he tanked the company's stock. Despite this, the company can't reach in its deep pockets to help out its real employees. Home Depot is worse than Wal-Mart, and the managers, executives, and CEO's should be ashamed, but that would take humanity.

*"He ended up going to the hospital, and because we have no health care (Home Depot's is a joke), we will be paying for it for a long time."*

Lydia Elliott



## Valkyrie

Rick Casillas  
 The Commuter

Tom Cruise as an eyepatch-wearing Nazi spearheading an assassination attempt on Hitler? Such is the premise of Valkyrie, the Christmas-day-released film based on the story of Colonel Claus Von Stauffenberg, a German officer in Hitler's regime that mounts one of many (spoiler alert if you flunked out of public school!) failed attempts on the life of the evil mustached mastermind. "That's all kinds of awesome!" you may be thinking as you ready your throwing cash to pelt your nearest movie theatre with, but not so fast, my fickle friend. Let's take a moment to read this review, shall we, before throwing away your hard-earned marks. Visually, it's a remarkable film; directed by Bryan Singer from X-Men and Superman Returns fame, the movie carries his signature polish and superhero shine, utilizing a grit-free cinematic landscape vibrant with activity and color that revivifies the romantic distinctions of the period. It's obvious within the first half-hour that the strength of the film lies in its plumage; the movie manages to straddle that fine line between realistic depiction and fantastic interpretation with its crisp uniforms and dwarfing sets that typify imagery we might associate with a greater film. Whoever did wardrobe and set design for the film deserves one of those Oscars that don't get shown on T.V. for drawing the audience so near to the feeling of an epic movie, and lending a hand in coating the blemishes of a slowly paced narrative that takes damn nigh an hour to lift off.

The idea grabs you right away, but the problem lies in the tension; as stated before, we all know how this little story concludes, and it would take one hell of a twist to make moviegoers feel like they didn't just waste two gallons of gas money on a film that recants a well-worn history lesson. But that twist never comes, despite the actors doing their best to fill in the pacing with a strong supporting cast that makes the best of what they were given. The story lulled for the first half; most of the time was spent exchanging heavy ominous dialogue that demolishes my attention span. Background story and development seems like filler for the fulcrum of the otherwise engaging premise. As vital as character development is in any story, it's only worth the investment if, at the end of the film, people actually care about the fates of those involved, and unfortunately, for Valkyrie, little to no attachment was culminated from the extensive purchase of time spent in the former portion of this film. Surface motivations and convenient plot devices numbed the passionate discharge of the cast's performance who trudged on admirably, slamming fists on desks and shaking their heads sadly with the weight of their conspiring.

You may be wondering about the star of our play. I know it's fashionable to crap all over Tom Cruise right now, but he did an acceptable job. If anything, his trademark robotic passion keyed well with his character. Any emotion that did manage to creep from his well-guarded singular style we see portrayed in every film he headlines conveyed a sense of tumultuous restraint which fit



*"Background story and development seems like filler for the fulcrum of the otherwise engaging premise."*

Rick Casillas

the character's motivations well enough. A glimmer of hope remained as the film really begins to take flight, when the wheels of their plotting begin to build momentum, pressure begins to fill the vacancies of tired threats and staring contests between characters and I actually found myself leaning forward for the last third of the film, a sure sign of interest according to all laws of body language. But alas, it was too late, the final thrust of impetus was not enough to drive the movie over the hill of mediocrity, and it rolled its sad little frame into a final conclusion toward the junkyard of "meh"-city, population this movie.

I would have been happy to relegate this film to the annals of "movies I would watch again if someone else rented it," if it weren't for one grating flaw. Being a period piece, certain stylistic elements must be in place to nurture the biosphere in which relevant characters and story developments are grown. Although I don't fall prey to the trappings of unrealistic expectations (nothing is ever going to be like the book), there are a few minor pitfalls every movie set in the somewhat to very distant past seem to blunder into. So let's go down the checklist and see if Valkyrie hits the mark. Get it? Mark? I love currency jokes, it's an illness. Rule one of bad period films: everyone must speak in an English accent. I didn't really start to notice this until about a decade ago; I think English is default for unimaginative dramatists trying to sound aristocratic and commanding. I can understand Troy's cast talking like they just wandered off of the set of a Jane Austen film, ancient Greek conversational idiosyncrasies are probably a little harder to pull down, but German? Every elementary school kid with an affluence for attention-whoring knows how to spit out a decent barking schnitzel-speak without falling back on the elegance of our fair cousin's dialect. It wouldn't have been so bad if a few of them had just made up their minds and picked a single inaccurate accent to imitate, but I swear I heard Irish and some Russian in there too. Ok I only thought of one rule so far but they still didn't pass. Check! You fail, Valkyrie. I give you 2 Nazi Nick Fury's out of 5.



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# opinion

Submissions to The Commuter:  
E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu  
Drop-in: Forum 222  
Please sign and keep to 300 words or less.

## To be featured in Spiderman? Barack Obama.

Rick Casillas  
The Commuter

Seen as a hero by many, Obama's face was often imposed on the iconic figure of superman's chiseled frame by constituents during his landmark campaign. Now Marvel is prepared to elevate him one step higher to actual superhero status, as he will be appearing in Amazing Spider-Man #583 alongside everyone's favorite webslinger, set to be released in celebration of his upcoming inauguration into the White House. The story will



*"Historic moments such as these can be reflected in our comics..."*

Rick Casillas

center on the Chameleon, a villain staple in the series, who hatches a plot to ruin the President-elect's swearing in while Spiderman acts as Secret Service to Obama protecting him from harm. The duo apparently team-up to foil the scheme and after a due amount of wisecracking (including Spiderman mistaking Vice-President

Biden as one of his other nemesis, "The Vulture") and feats of great physical prowess, their victory culminates in a fist bump sure to please bro-code enthusiasts everywhere.

According to Marvel's Editor-in-Chief Joe Quesada in an article on <http://marvel.com>, the inspiration for the comic came from Obama's apparent interest in the friendly neighborhood poster boy for the company. "When we heard that President-elect Obama is a collector of Spider-Man comics, we knew that these two historic figures had to meet in our comics' Marvel Universe. Historic moments such as this one can be reflected in our comics because the Marvel Universe is set in the real world. A Spider-Man fan moving into the Oval Office is an event that must be commemorated in the pages of Amazing Spider-Man."

Local interest in the comic has spiked as news spread. According to Matt Ashland, owner of Matt's Cavalcade Of Comics in Corvallis, "We had a lot of people calling about it. We don't carry Spider Man a whole lot, but it sold out within an hour." Priced at \$2.99 a copy and written by Zeb Wells with art by Todd Nauck and Frank D'Armata, the book is slated for release on Jan. 14 nationwide, with a second printing already in the works.



## Campus Parking is...

Gregory Dewar  
The Commuter

...hell. A special kind of hell. The kind of hell that makes or "brakes" a man. The first two weeks of any term are hellacious, but this year has felt significantly worse than previous ones. In fact, parking is so bad, arriving 15 minutes early for class almost always ends up with me being late.

And everyday I think the same thing: "Man, I can't wait for half of these people to drop out." And it's true. And it's sad that it's true. But by the end of this week I'll be able to find parking that isn't in the upper stratosphere.

Enrollment is up. I've heard it from everyone, so why wouldn't parking be? It's estimated that 1% of the U.S. is paved. Why not make it 2%? If we're going to be a commuter college, shouldn't we make a home for The Commuter? Or buy into that expensive connection to the Corvallis Transit System?

It's the veritable bane of my existence, this parking shuffle every morning. I've started having to leave my house a



Greg Dewar

a half-hour earlier than normal just to be early for class, because I like to be that student, but this craptacular issue has made me late every class this term unless I'm already on campus. The only problem is what can be done? Do we really need another building to house even more students that there isn't parking for?

There's plenty of green spaces around campus for parking. Hell, we could even make parking close to the buildings, so I don't even have to exercise to get to class. I mean, that's what it's really all about. I can never find a space to shove my Volvo (repressed sexual tension). It's just like life. Well, life for a man. You wander around all day, just looking for some place to stick your "Volvo." So in reality, LBCC is preparing me for real life, and long, dry, sexless periods. To which I reply, "Thank you, Linn-Benton Community College." Thank you for training me how to be an adult, because porn painted a very different picture of life for me. I no longer feel the need to become a plumber, though I might've blamed Super Mario Bros. for that as well.

## 45 feet of controversy

Chris Negahbani  
For The Commuter

Within the last year, the Oregon Department of Transportation has been forced to deal with a routine buildup of broken beer bottles, hypodermic needles, and human feces beneath Oregon bridges. Due to the expense and the routine nature of the cleanup, the city of Eugene made a decision to construct a "Transient Deterrent Fence" along the I-105 bridge over Coburg Rd. Spanning the entire length of the bridge, 45 feet of steel fencing has invoked very mixed opinions regarding its construction. Plans by ODOT are to build a similar cage in Glenwood.

Dr. Philip Mongo, a homeless psychiatric researcher in Portland, said in an online interview, "Transient Deterrent Fences are becoming more common across the United States. As a culture, the homeless depend on these bridges for protection, and these cages are forcing them out of the only shelter they have. Sure, under these bridges it's cleaner, but now the

*"They've made it illegal for me to live, passed laws against me being able to survive."*

Kockeye Kieth, homeless

homeless are getting in trouble for sleeping in construction sites and dumpsters. I think the French had the right idea back in 2004."

In 2004, a group of middle-class Europeans traveled to Paris, France, to set up their tents along the Canal Saint Martin. The weeklong protest was meant to draw government attention to the number of homeless people living on the streets of France. In 2004, the homeless count for the entire country of France was

about 86 thousand, equal to the homeless count in Los Angeles alone.

Currently, Ashland, Ore. is struggling to determine the technicalities, but playing with the possibility of creating a homeless camp along the outskirts of the city. "The problem with that is it could ultimately end up having the 'Mecca' effect, where the homeless might travel from all over to set up camp." Mongo said.

43-year old Kockeye Kieth, a homeless man in Corvallis, said, "I could go on forever about this, because people are very prejudice. You don't have to be Middle-Eastern or black to see people look down on you; if you ever loose your home you'll understand."

"They've made it illegal for me to live, passed laws against me being able to survive. They have "no camping" signs all over hell, and if I'm sprawled out shivering back in an alley somewhere the police come harass me about the 'no camping laws,'" he said. "If I was camping on my own merit I would sure as shit have a grill going, or at least a tent. They're passing the equivalent of Jim Crow laws."

Jim Crow laws were laws that indirectly, yet purposefully, targeted black Americans during the civil rights movement. The name for these laws came from a song and dance routine called "Jump Jim Crow," which was a mockery of a disabled African named Jim Crow who lived in Cincinnati during the 1820s.

Laurel Temme, An employee of a shoe store on 2nd St. said, "I see the homeless coming and going back and forth though here all the time. I feel pretty safe here on Second Street; the other day was the first time I had an issue since I've worked here. A man came in acting weird and honestly it worried me a little bit, but I think he may have just been mentally disabled." Temme pointed out the proximity of the shop to the 2nd St. bridge just down the road.

"There's a skate park under that bridge, its open, and it's a high pedestrian traffic area, so not as much is probably going on beneath this bridge as under the 105 bridge."

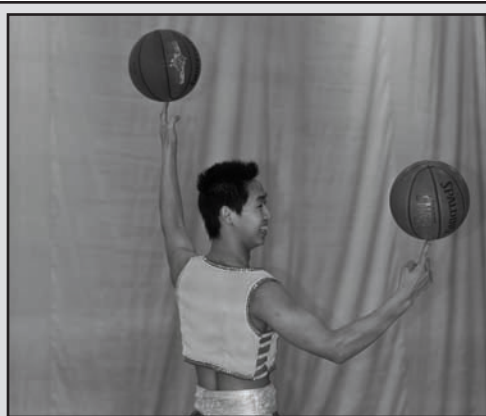
## 2009 Children's Performing Arts series in full swing!

Lydia Elliott  
The Commuter

Performers from around the world are visiting the LBCC campus with exciting activities for children and their parents to enjoy. Come see Jugglemania! January 24<sup>th</sup>, with

performer Rhys Thomas. Shows will continue February 14<sup>th</sup> with Bobs and Lolo, February 28<sup>th</sup> is a magic show, and March 14<sup>th</sup> finishes off the series with a "Thistle Theatre" performance. For more information go to: <http://cityofalbany.net/cpas>

Photo by  
Lydia Elliott





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# SURREAL LIVING

Crosswords, cartoons and some fun facts to brighten your day.

## Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Lamenter's cry
  - 5 Aberdeen breed
  - 10 Jazz singing
  - 14 Badgered
  - 15 Demi of "Ghost"
  - 16 Walk the floor
  - 17 Highlands group
  - 18 Mont in the Alps
  - 19 Killer whale
  - 20 Scenery chewers
  - 21 Morays
  - 22 Web locations
  - 23 Turns, as milk
  - 25 Moses or Karl
  - 26 \_\_\_ cotta
  - 28 Bottom deposits
  - 31 Faces the day
  - 33 Word before X or PG
  - 34 Catch red-handed
  - 35 Die down
  - 37 Mechanical linkage device
  - 40 Stable denizens
  - 42 Antonin of the Supreme Court
  - 45 Intensifies
  - 49 Cartoonist Tex
  - 50 Lemieux and Cuomo
  - 51 Less colored
  - 53 Knife feature
  - 54 Beach bird
  - 56 Sacred service
  - 59 Lo-cal
  - 60 Attribute
  - 61 Caustic solution
  - 62 Equal
  - 63 Speed
  - 64 Band of hoods
  - 65 Large group
  - 66 Fencing tools
  - 67 If all \_\_\_ fails...

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1/14/09

- DOWN**
- 1 Crafty
  - 2 The Kinks classic hit
  - 3 Tracy/Hepburn comedy
  - 4 Detectors
  - 5 Caution light color
  - 6 At least as much as

- 7 Point of soccer
- 8 Diner brewers
- 9 Jiffy
- 10 Ruined
- 11 Shipping box
- 12 Stress
- 13 Mocks in fun
- 22 Ditto
- 24 Abu Dhabi loc.
- 25 Little pests
- 26 "Saving Fish from Drowning" author
- 27 Time period
- 29 Record over
- 30 CD's competition
- 32 Gilbert and Teasdale
- 36 Make a wager
- 37 Office job category
- 38 Lung filler
- 39 Jersey cape
- 40 First races
- 41 Soothing lotion
- 43 Pres. Coolidge

### Solutions

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- 44 ERA part
- 45 Logo
- 46 Mouth moistener
- 47 Cargo cases
- 48 Elfin person
- 52 Chips in chips
- 54 Pitfall
- 55 Alleviate
- 57 Spam containers
- 58 Outer limit
- 60 Definite article



"I figure if I was still employed, I wouldn't get to spend all this time with you!"



"I'm glad the holidays are over ... now I can dump you."

**WONDERMARK BY DAVID MALKI!** crave WONDERMARK.COM

**MAROONED DAY 2**

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