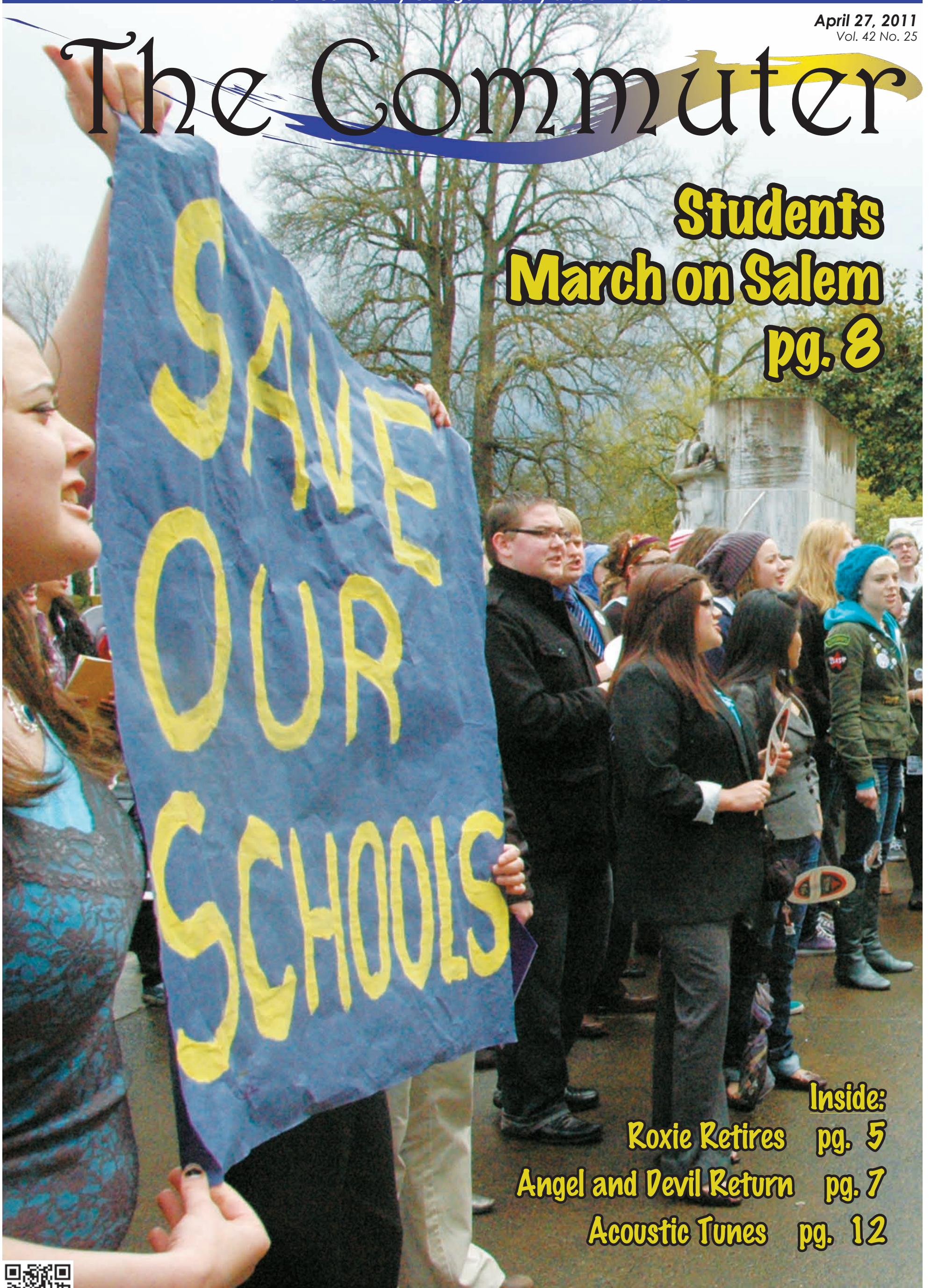


# The Commuter

**Students  
March on Salem  
pg. 8**



**Inside:  
Roxie Retires pg. 5  
Angel and Devil Return pg. 7  
Acoustic Tunes pg. 12**





provided by cabelas.com

Cabela's gets ready to open their doors Thursday, May 5 in Springfield.

## Camo, Lures and Guns, Oh My!

*New Branch of Cabela's Set to Open*

**Jill Mahler**

Staff Writer

Cabela's will make some dreams come true when they open a new store at the Springfield Gateway Mall on Thursday, May 5. This will mark the second location for Cabela's on the West Coast, with the nearest Cabela's stationed in Lacey, Wash. Cabela's will be located on the west side of the Gateway Mall, a space previously occupied by Ashley Furniture Homestore.

Cabela's stores offer thousands of outdoor products, including fishing, hunting and camping gear. The store comes equipped with wildlife displays, an aquarium, trophy animal mounts, a "gun library," fly fishing shop, general store and bargain cave.

Cabela's is based in Nebraska, but decided to make use of Oregon's outdoor recreational culture. "It really is an area filled with wonderful outdoor activities, so it makes sense from a fit perspective," said Cabela's spokesman John Castillo.

The Springfield store will employ 150 to 200 people. Cabela's location along the I-5 corridor will appeal to avid recreationalists. Although the store is not as wide as the Lacey store, it will reflect the company's next-generation layout, having the ability to hold as much product as the larger stores.

Cabela's is one of the largest outdoor retailers in the nation and its expansion on the West Coast has been long awaited. A large turnout is expected during the grand opening, based upon the Lacey store's drawing 3.5 million visitors in its first year open. Whatever the turnout, however, those who visit are sure to enjoy what they find. According to Dan Egan, executive director of the Springfield Chamber of Commerce, visiting one of the Cabela stores is an "experience." "It's like bringing the outdoors indoors."



## Pledge to Fight Abuse

**Kiger Plews**

Staff Writer

April is Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month and that hits close to home to many people, especially here in Linn County.

In 2010, 607 Linn County children were the victims of abuse or neglect, which ranked as the fifth highest rate of 36 Oregon counties. That was also double the state average. In Linn County, there were 391 children in foster care at least once during the year.

The statistics for the state are even more heinous, as 22 children were reported to have died from abuse and neglect; eight of which were less than one year old.

Going back a year earlier to 2009, the city of Albany alone had 259 recorded cases of abuse or neglect of children.

On Thursday, April 21 Linn-Benton Community College held a video presentation to help raise awareness about child abuse and neglect prevention. The video was called, "Hands and Words are not for Hurting," which is the name of the project

### See the Awareness Display

**Who:** "Hands and Words are not for Hurting" Project

**Where:** Heritage Mall, Albany

**When:** Sat. April 30, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

sponsoring the video's making. The project began in Salem, Ore. and is dedicated to "... educating each person in every community about their moral and legal right to live free of abuse and violence."

The video presentation spoke repeatedly of "The Power of One." What they meant by this was the power of a single person to influence and help many. Examples of this were Gandhi, Mother Teresa and Ruby Bridges. It also spoke of the fact that one in every four teenagers is in an abusive relationship, be it emotional or physical.

Jeanette Emerson said of the presentation, "It is fantastic that people are raising awareness for this atrocity; however, I feel that we need to devote more than just one month to fighting this. There is just too much hate and violence in the world to ignore it. Everyone should take this pledge."

The project focuses on getting

people to take a vow to not hurt others. The vow is as stated, "I will not use my hands or words for hurting myself or others." Accompanied by the vow is drawing the outline of your hand onto a purple sheet of paper to symbolize your pledge.

"The pledge is a great way to get the community aware of the neglect and abuse that happens daily. By taking the pledge, people are taking actions to prevent the child abuse and being aware that we, individually, have the power of peace," said LBCC student Jordy Marsh.

On Saturday, April 30 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Heritage Mall will display the shoes donated for the 300 foster children in Linn County. Anyone can go and view the display as well as take the pledge.

Former English footballer Herbert Ward said it best when he said, "Child abuse casts a shadow the length of a lifetime."

## Cherry Blossom Picnic *For Japan Relief*

April 29th 2011  
11:30 - 1:30

Diversity Achievement Center

Join us for food, culture,  
and to support a great cause!

Supporting American Red Cross and Mercy Corps

## Games, Games, Games!

**Magic the Gathering**

**Heroclix**

**Warhammer**

**Warmachine**

**Pokemon**

**Yu-Gi-Oh**

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2075 NW BUCHANAN AVE, CORVALLIS  
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## OFFICE HOURS with John Aikman

**Dineen Charest**  
Staff Writer

John Aikman is the Graphic Arts Department chair and an instructor at LBCC. For the past 30 years, Aikman has taught and mentored students in the graphic arts program.

Not only has he been an instructor here since the fall of 1980, he also has built the graphic arts program from the ground up. Today it is a thriving program that produces students who are prepared for employment in all areas of graphic design.

His humble but assured temperament made me feel right at home. I got the sense that he would do anything for his students to help them succeed.

### The Commuter: What made you decide to become a graphic arts instructor?

**John Aikman:** I graduated from Oregon State University. After graduation, I went to work for a couple of advertising agencies in Portland. It was a good experience. There came a point where I thought, "I am not so sure advertising is where I want to go." I did some checking and found out the University of Wyoming needed someone to teach typography and photography, and by and large through grants and assistance they helped in paying for my education. So I decided to get my master's degree in fine arts. I learned so much there. In general it was a well-rounded education. What it had done for me was put me in the classroom for the first time. I remember standing in front of the mirror for the first time at the age of 22, wondering "can I do this?" They had a brand-new facility and the kids were excited. It didn't take long to "turn the lights on" for those individual students and they were excited about their potential. It was definitely the right choice for me.

### C: What brought you to LBCC?

**A:** After teaching at University of Wyoming and finishing school, I was fortunate to get a position teaching junior graphic art students at Cal Poly University in San Luis Obispo, Calif. I was only about three years older than most of the students, but the experience was one of the best experiences of my life. My position as the

### Graphic Design Show

**Type as Design**  
**Where:** SSH Gallery  
**When:** May 17 to June 2  
**Opening Reception:**  
May 16 from 7-9 p.m.

associate professor of graphic design was a one-year appointment because the faculty member I was working for was on an exchange program in Europe. After my one year was up in the spring, the college offered me the great opportunity to teach summer school.

During the summer, a faculty member in San Luis was talking to a newly-retired faculty member here in Albany. This person knew of a position open for a graphic arts instructor at LBCC. I flew up and interviewed and got the position. Ken Chaney, the division director at the time, said, "John, we haven't had much of a program, make with graphic design as you will and we will be as supportive as we can."

So I had a chance to build it from the ground up, and I must admit, I have been really happy. I have always felt really supported by faculty members, division directors, and the college in general.

### C: What do you look forward to every year with your students?

**A:** I look forward to the opening night of the graphic arts show. It is the combination of three years worth of work by way of students. The show opens on a Monday night and the shortest amount of time it takes us to put it up is 12 hours. We can have hundreds of people here, have music and food. I get to meet my students' parents, husbands, wives, kids, boyfriends, girlfriends, and sometimes even their dogs!

### C: Was this show your brainchild?

**A:** Yes, it was. The very first year we put it up, we sent out invitations. This particular graduating class might have had ten students. We all sat at the front of the gallery waiting for people to show. No one – and I mean no one – came for our opening night, but it is very different now. It is actually wall-to-wall and it gets very hot in there and people are encouraged to come into

the lab and circulate. I really look forward to it. The show is a really big deal for me.

### C: What are your hobbies outside of work?

**A:** About 70 miles north of Albany I have a 50-acre farm. On weekends, vacations, and summer, that is where you will find me. I have had horses, cattle, sheep, chickens, and ducks. I make hay, raise alfalfa, have 60 fruit trees, take things to the farmers market or primarily sell to friends and family or I sell to anyone who wants organic produce or meat. That keeps me really busy.

### C: Can you tell me about your family?

**A:** I was born in Portland. My mother is still living and she will be 91 next month. I have an older brother – 10 years older – that lives in Huntsville, Alabama. I have a younger sister who is barely a year younger who lives in Salem. I do not have any children. I had a partner for ten years and he passed away in 1995.

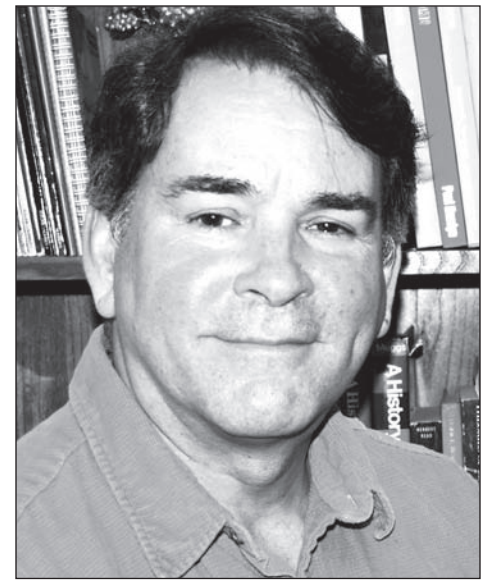
### C: Do you have a teaching philosophy?

**A:** I have lots of them. One of them is reminding the students that we are a team – the student and I are working together to accomplish a common goal. I caution them, I remind them don't push me to the opposite side of the desk. I tell them I want to sit down next to you and work shoulder to shoulder to accomplish your goals. I also encourage a learning community, where third-year, second-year, and first-year all know each other and help each other. I also established the Visual Arts Club about 28 years ago. It is another vehicle to help the different strata to get to know each other. They do social events, bring in speakers and go on trips and do fundraisers.

I see my mission as reminding students we take what we do here very seriously but do not take ourselves seriously!

### C: If you had a legacy to leave, what would it be?

**A:** I think it would be that the graduates are seen as highly capable and in essence are design specialists that can fit into lots of situations. It has been my job to help the students gain the information to successfully gain employment



Dineen Charest

**Graphic Arts Department Chair John Aikman**

### Where to find John Aikman

**Office:** SSH-116  
**Phone:** 541-917-4545  
**Email:** aikmanj@linnbenton.edu  
**Office Hours:**  
Mon. and Wed. 2-3 p.m.  
Tue. 5-6 p.m.  
Thu. 10-11 a.m.

at an entry level, but a lot of them get better jobs than entry level. Hopefully what I would be leaving behind is a benchmark for the next instructor that the students will be as well prepared or even better than in the past.

By and large I feel really good about my role. A great deal of my students have gone on to run and operate their own businesses in our area. I even have students who have gone out into the world of advertising and have worked in great positions with companies like Nike.

### C: Do you plan on retiring soon?

**A:** I am thinking the way it looks now, I may retire the year after next year, which will be 32 years of teaching here – if I can figure out something to take the place of teaching. Because this program has gone so far, it makes the idea of retirement a difficult one. As a teacher, you feel like you are making a contribution to help people reach their potential or follow their dreams. Maybe the farm will be enough for me, I don't really know.

## Academic Success Seminars

Boost Your COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE!

Just drop in, or sign up in WebRunner under "Study Skills."

[www.linnbenton.edu/go/webrunner](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/webrunner)

### Time Management & Organizing for Success

|           |          |                |        |                  |
|-----------|----------|----------------|--------|------------------|
| Wednesday | April 27 | Lebanon Center | LC-202 | 1:30 – 2:20 p.m. |
| Wednesday | April 27 | Albany Campus  | WH-225 | 3:00 – 3:50 p.m. |

### Improve Your Memory by Learning Actively

|           |       |                |        |                  |
|-----------|-------|----------------|--------|------------------|
| Tuesday   | May 3 | Benton Center  | BC-232 | 5:00 – 5:50 p.m. |
| Wednesday | May 4 | Lebanon Center | LC-202 | 1:30 – 2:20 p.m. |
| Wednesday | May 4 | Albany Campus  | WH-225 | 3:00 – 3:50 p.m. |

### Tips to Overcome Procrastination

|           |        |                |        |                  |
|-----------|--------|----------------|--------|------------------|
| Tuesday   | May 10 | Benton Center  | BC-232 | 5:00 – 5:50 p.m. |
| Wednesday | May 11 | Lebanon Center | LC-202 | 1:30 – 2:20 p.m. |
| Wednesday | May 11 | Albany Campus  | WH-225 | 3:00 – 3:50 p.m. |

Academic Success Seminars are organized by the Learning Center. For more information and to sign up, visit WebRunner under "Study Skills" or call 541-917-4684.

LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer. 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 TDD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Contact should be made 72 hours or more before the event.

Always 50 minutes!

ALWAYS FREE!

Always helpful!



Linn-Benton COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## THE COMMONS FARE 4/27-5/03

### Wednesday

Dishes: Meatloaf, Fish & Chips and Vegetarian Chili  
Soup: Dill Potato Chowder and Chicken & Wild Rice

### Thursday

Dishes: Pork Piccata, Chicken Mornay Gratin and Tempeh Enchiladas  
Soup: Potage de Boeuf and Beer Cheese

### Friday

Chef's Choice

### Monday

Dishes: Turkey Cutlet w/ Brown Butter Sauce, Texas Chili con Carne y Frijoles and Spinach Lasagne  
Soup: Creamy Tomato and Albondigas

### Tuesday

Dishes: Shrimp Etouffée, Swedish Meatballs and Huevos Rancheros  
Soups: Egg Flower and Cheddar Cauliflower

## PCDC Parents Voice One Last Hope

**Kyle Holland**  
Contributing Writer

The Board of Education held its regularly-scheduled board meeting on Wednesday, April 20, in the Calapooia Center on the Albany campus.

Students with children in the Periwinkle Child Development Center (PCDC) attended the meeting in a last-ditch effort to save the center.

This is the last term that the PCDC will be in operation after over 20 years of service to our students and community. In the fall, Head Start is set to take over the child care area, though the contract has not yet been signed.

There is a group of students that are not willing to let this go lightly.

Melissa Hite, Caila Williams and Melissa Bledsoe have made repeated and varied attempts to save the PCDC. They have presented alternative plans and possible funding options to LBCC administration. These are three parents that have been able to pursue their college career and dreams as a result of the resources PCDC provides.

They have been working around the clock with ideas on how to save the center and showed up Wednesday to pitch one last-ditch effort to the board.

Williams is a third year student at LBCC and is now dual-enrolled and has two daughters in the program at PCDC. She spoke first and posed some interesting questions to the board. She raised the point that other community colleges (Lane and Chemeketa) have faced similar fates to their child care centers but ended up saving them through student fees. "If students would help support our cause can we save at least one room in the center?" Williams asked.

Hite spoke next, she said LBCC "needs to allow the students to make a choice." She asked "why the center was not a part of the general fund that all students pay into."

Head Start (the proposed replacement program for PCDC) still has not signed a contract with LBCC. With fall term right around corner, her fears are that they will not be ready in time.



The children are ready to play after lunch and a little bit of sunshine at the Periwinkle Child Development Center here at Linn-Benton Community College.

Bledsoe was last to speak on behalf of the center and was hoping to leave a lasting impression with some photos of the children that are being affected as a result of the center closing. She passed out photos, which were displayed on poster board, to the Board to look at while she made her speech. Fewer than half the Board members looked at the photos.

Bledsoe asked the Board directly, "Is there a deadline?" The board was silent.

The citizen comments part of the agenda ended with no comments from the board on any of these students' emotional attempts to save the center.

The meeting continued, but during the board comments'

section, Hal Brayton reminded the students that "in tough times, tough decisions have to be made."

LBCC is in the midst of many cuts and sacrifices are being made campus wide. Many of them may or may not have affected you. For many student/parents of the PCDC, these cuts are not just hurting their options to stay in school they are, in fact, "devastating" according to Williams.

*Would you, a student at LBCC, be willing to pay an extra couple dollars a credit to save a program that benefits not just parents at LB, but also allows students in the educational programs here complete their practicum under trained professionals? Go to our website and take a vote.*

## LBCC Boasts Sustainable Future

**Bryana Bittner**  
Contributing Writer

Last Friday, April 22, a fair was held in front of White Oak Hall. The fair was in celebration of Earth Day. Groups that work with Linn-Benton Community College came to show what they were doing for sustainability on campus. The Green Club was founded again last fall by a group of students that came to Lori Fluge-Brunker wanting the club. Lori took on the task, and she says she has thoroughly enjoyed it this year.

One of the current members, Kathy Wilson, says, "I have learned a lot about things I already knew a little about, and, of course, more about recycling."

Kathy is one of the club's three members. At the start of fall term the club population was much increased. They are always looking for new members to grow the club.

The Gem E2 was donated by Charlie Tomlinson of Corvallis. The Gem E2 is an electric power vehicle. The car may not be able to go very fast, with a top speed of 25 miles an hour, but it can drive for 35 miles on a single charge. You would never have to pay for gasoline. The car was a gift to help LBCC become greener.



LBCC instructor Scott Anselm discusses bio-diesel at the Sustainability Fair on April 22.

LBCC has a composting program in the cafeteria that they are very proud of this year. The Green Club and Allied Waste have helped create and teach the cafeteria staff about it. The booth had examples of just how much of the cafeteria materials could

be recycled or composted. The plates and even some of what seems to be plastic could actually be composted.

Allied Waste, a "greener earth" association, was at the fair along with leader Julie Jackson. She has been working with Allied waste for six

years, and says, "I have always been interested in recycling, and now I get to help people be more educated about it." She truly enjoys her job, working with schools and corporations to help them become more educated in the ways of recycling.

### Need more info?

**Contact:** Lori Fluge-Brunker  
**Phone:** (541) 917-4411  
**Office:** CC - 109  
**Email:** flugebl@linnbenton.edu

She had one of her 'Master Recyclers' with her at the fair to talk about the Master Recycler program. It is a class that a person can take and learn more about recycling than anyone could possibly imagine. Now there are over 100 Master Recyclers in Oregon.

The Green Club at the school is looking for new members for this coming school year, and the more people the club can get, the more of these functions they can do.

To fully understand what every person can do to help support the Green Club, the club would like to do a "Recycling Audit" in the fall. A "Recycling Audit" would be where Allied Waste would come to the school and dig through our trash and see how we are doing when it comes to recycling. If you are interested in joining Green Club or being active, please contact Lori Fluge-Brunker.

Jordan Hunt

## Roxie Retires with Pages of Memories

Audrey Gomez  
Copy Editor

Roxie Putnam started out in the registration department and after two years, switched to Admissions, where she has been since. She is retiring after 25 years at LBCC.

Roxie's favorite part of the job is the students. And she has a four-inch binder to prove it.

She has kept the thank-you notes, graduation and wedding invitations students have given her. She has photos of students graduating and of these same students, now as spouses and parents.

In the front of the binder is a letter from a student thanking Roxie for giving him answers when elsewhere he hit roadblocks. She says she looks to that whenever she needs an emotional lift.

"They come back and thank me from time to time, and that has meant more to me than anything."

Roxie's binder also holds memories of her work family. For over 20 years, they have celebrated and grieved together. She has celebrated her 40th, 50th and 60th birthdays with her work family.

Co-worker Tammi Drury said they have so many pot-lucks and celebrations that Roxie gives each new team member their own food tray when they start.

The Admissions office family does community service projects together too: serving at annual pancake feeds for the Albany Optimist Club, and working on a house for Habitat for Humanity. Roxie gives of herself and inspires those around her to do so as well. "When Roxie gets



Alyssa Archer

Roxie Putnam reminisces over a scrapbook she made documenting her 20 years at LB.

involved we all do," said Drury.

When an LBCC student recently lost everything in a fire, Roxie got the word out to LBCC staff to help. "It melted her heart, like everything does," said co-worker Patti Ball.

As her retirement approaches, Roxie helped plan her own retirement party: Friday, April 29, from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Admissions Office in Takena Hall. Students are welcome.



The LBCC Equestrian Team

Michaela Wasson

## Equestrian Team Hits the Trail

Michaela Wasson  
Contributing Writer

The stallion snorted at himself in the arena mirror. He danced back and forth on slim, dappled legs and suddenly reared, throwing his head back to see over the white wall. The thunder of his voice echoed through the barn.

The LBCC Equestrian Team, founded in 2000, is for any full-time student that loves horses. The team exists in the horses.

They are Esther and Lola, Hazel and Kadene, Rita and Molly, a Belgian draft mix. Molly weighs almost 2,000 pounds. Kadene is old - 28 years old. Rita was born and trained here at the Horse Center. She was named after former LB president Rita Cavin.

The 19 members of the Equestrian Team practice in the arena where the stallion was being held. Jenny Strooband, their team adviser and the department chair of Agricultural Science, teaches them. During their on season, there are one or two practices a week in the white arena on the heavy sand.

The E-Team is training for competitions that the other members of the Intercollegiate Horse Show

Association in their area host.

They've traveled as far as Canada. Danielle Saunders, a former member, told of a cold early morning during a show there. She said, while watching the expert riders warm up, "I thought: That's what I want to do, that's what I want to be."

Every year the E-team hosts a show at the Linn County Expo Center as part of their fundraising. They make up to \$9,000.

Much of that money is used to cover travel expenses. E-Team members do not have to pay even for their hotel rooms. When their captain, Cole Newman, and rider Halley Beaver went to Texas for the Western semifinals, their tickets were paid for.

To Newman, one of the best memories of riding was when he learned both he and Beaver made it past semifinals and to nationals in Kentucky. "I was just really excited," he said. "It means we're one of the top 12 teams in the nation. I think it's only going to get better."

Membership on the E-team is only \$35 a year, but they ask their riders to allow at least \$100 because of other expenses. Strooband said compared to the 11 other teams in the region, that is

### LBCC Equestrian Team

Contact: Jenny Strooband  
541-917-4767  
jenny.strooband@linnbenton.edu

cheap. The University of Oregon horse team membership dues are \$300.

You can join the team as a beginner if you claim the place in time. You don't even have to own your own horse.

The long clean row of stalls by the arena smells of the horses' breakfast alfalfa. There is a low rumble of munching. Strooband's favorite horse, a Canadian Warmblood named Oscar, finished his breakfast a little early. He was standing in his stall with a green blanket over his black coat, tall and arrogantly handsome. Oscar is also ridden by the E-team.

After breakfast, the horses are let out. There are three acres of pasture, green against the white gate and the red barn. There they play, dance and eat.

They are ignorant of their destiny. Do horses understand making it to nationals?

## Relive Your Teddy Bear Tea Parties for College Funds

Amanda Burd

Contributing Writer

The time is quickly approaching for LBCC's 5th Annual Teddy Bear Tea and Auction.

The LBCC Foundation has hosted the Teddy Bear Tea and Auction since 2006. Each year has a different theme, and this year's is Bears Around the World. The event will be held Thursday, April 28 in the Commons. For \$10, you get to attend the event and enjoy tea and other tasty treats that fit the theme. You also get the opportunity to buy raffle tickets and put them in a drawing to win one of the prize baskets that have been donated by local businesses, companies or groups. In addition to the raffle, there are live and silent auctions you may take part in. All the proceeds go to the LBCC Foundation Fund, which supports college programs, students, equipment and other academic needs.

Former LBCC president Rita Cavin came up with the idea to start the tea, and Paulette Meyer has been the coordinator

of all five events. The first tea was the only themeless one, and the four years following the original tea have all had different themes: Bears at the Circus, Bears on Picnic, Bears on Safari and this year's Bears Around the World.

Around 50 baskets have been donated to be raffled off at this year's tea. Each basket contains a bear and any other goodies the business or group decide to fill it with. Many businesses put gift certificates in their basket, which can be of huge value and include other items that pertain to their business. Some groups get really creative to make sure their basket stands out.

"The PEO Sisterhood of Sweet

Home did a basket one year, and they got a huge laundry basket, and they filled it with books. They had each of their members find a book to put in it, and the title had to be the same initials as their name. They put an alphabet quilt in there too. It was really nice," explained Meyer.

The baskets range in value, with the average falling at about \$50-\$80. Some of the donors go far beyond that, though. "Central Willamette Community Credit Union, Barrett Business Services Inc. and The Corvallis Clinic have all done baskets that are upwards of \$300," Meyer said.

The raffle fun isn't just for the adults though. Many children attend the tea, so to make sure they have a good time, the Foundation sets up about five baskets that are only for children to put their tickets in.

"It's hard to pick a favorite part of the tea, but I really like to watch the kids choose which basket they are going to put their ticket in, and I like to see them win. They get so excited," said Roxie Putman, who has been an attendee of all past four teas.

The generosity of the donors is one of the things that makes this event very special. The other is the food!

"We always serve tea and lemonade for kids. Every year we match the treats to what the theme is. Last year was Bears on Safari, and we had tropical and exotic foods. This year is Bears Around the World, so instead of traditional crumpets and sandwiches, we are doing cake pops and creme puffs for France, pizzas for Italy, vegetable spring rolls for Asia, taquitos for South America ... Oh! And everything is little and mini; all the food is miniature," Meyer said.

The foundation hopes to raise \$3,000 at the Teddy Bear Tea and Auction this year. To find out about reservation availability so you can join in the festivities, you can contact Foundations at 541-917-4209 or email them at foundation@linnbenton.edu.



### 5th Annual Teddy Bear Tea

Theme: Bears Around the World  
When: Thursday, April 28  
Time: 4:30 - 6 p.m.  
Where: Commons  
Cost: \$10  
Reservations: 541-917-4209  
foundation@linnbenton.edu

# OPINION

## Ignoring It Won't Make It Go Away

**F**reedom and justice for all? I think not. The Tennessee congress has given the go-ahead to vote on a bill dubbed the "don't say gay" bill. What is this bill? Simple, it makes it illegal for elementary or middle school teachers to say anything about being homosexual, or homosexuality in general.

Sen. Stacy Campfield (R – Tenn.), one of the bill's strongest supporters, insists the bill is neutral and that it leaves it up to families to decide when is appropriate to talk about sexuality. Uh-huh, sure. The fact of the matter is that the bill explicitly says that teachers cannot discuss any kind of sexuality other than heterosexuality. But really, this isn't a homophobic and discriminatory bill at all!

Time Magazine reports that many civil rights groups are already jumping on the bill as discriminatory, especially due to the language limiting anything except heterosexual talk. What's more, the bill would prevent the teachers from discussing issues with gay students or students with gay parents.

The other day, I overheard someone complaining that "the gays" were all such whiners. Indeed? Might that have something to do with the fact that they are denied some of the basic rights and dignities available to all of their fellow (heterosexual) citizens? Or perhaps because of how regularly gay people have to deal with verbal and physical abuse for something beyond their control? Maybe because the very term used to describe them is often used in a derogatory way? All of this, coupled with the fact that they live in a country where supposedly everybody is equal?

So, to the people who think "the gays" are just a bunch of whiners, I have a proposition. How about we make it so we heterosexuals can't get married and are regularly mocked and beaten up. Then, when that's done, we can change our slang so that "straight" means "close-minded and stupid." I'd like to see how long these same straight people would be quiet if they had to endure for five minutes of the things the gay community deals with on a daily basis and has dealt with since, well, the rise of Christianity about 2,000 years ago.

In particular, I'm really impressed with gay people in uniform. They risk their lives to defend our rights, our people and our government. Then, that same government creates legislation which reduces those individuals to second-class citizens, and the populace those individuals defend often uses the rights given to them to bash on gay people. My hat is off to these amazing humans.

The West has based much of its culture, art, architecture and political ideas on ancient Greece and Rome. We hold those two cultures as a sort of pinnacle of civilization. The fact of the matter is that in both cultures, it was very much normal and accepted to be homosexual. The Spartans often encouraged homosexual relations to help strengthen the "esprit de corps" and morale of their military units. The Sacred Band, one of the finest group of soldiers ever to come from the city Thebes, was comprised of 150 gay couples. It's a shame we didn't pick up their openness about sexuality.



**Adam LaMascus**  
Opinion Editor

## Srsly, Can't U Spel? JK

**O**MG! JK, I'm not going to write an article that's filled with ridiculous text abbreviations so that people who have a life outside of the cellular world can read this.

Don't lie, we're all guilty of an 'OMG' or an 'LOL' appearing in text messages we've sent, but in school work? That's a little odd. What you type on your cell phone and what you write down on a piece of paper or type up for a class assignment are two completely different things. It should be pretty obvious why.

On your cell you're talking to your friends, the people who can understand the ridiculous abbreviations you may use, while the other is what you're giving to a teacher in an attempt to impress him or her with your writing abilities.

What's truly ridiculous about these text abbreviations is that they're slowly becoming acceptable in classrooms! Even the Oxford Dictionary announced recently that they will be adding "LOL" and "OMG" to its pages, deeming them as actual words. What has this world come to?

Well, in parts of the world,



**Carli Gibson**  
Staff Writer

Australia to be exact, they're teaching classes on this texting lingo. Professor John From from the University of Melbourne was quoted on The World Today saying, "If we were simply teaching students how to do text messaging, then it would be a waste of time, but if we're teaching them about the range of different languages that exist in English, and about translating from one language across to another, if we're teaching them both that kind of skill, but also to think critically about these processes of moving between languages, then that seems to me entirely appropriate."

Honestly, I think that's almost the same as saying, "Yeah, we're teaching texting as a class; now I'm going to throw some fancy words at you to make this seem like a good idea."

Is it really that difficult to type out 'oh my gosh'? And why would you need to use the terms JK, OMG or LOL in a paper? "Abe Lincoln died peacefully. JK he was assassinated. OMG I bet you fell for that LOL."

This is not okay. Previous generations didn't learn all this grammar and spelling "stuff" just so a future generation could screw it up by wanting to do nothing but text. The common knowledge of the vowels learned in first grade are slipping away because Americans are becoming lazy. It's the idea of "why type three words when you can type three letters?"

Well, for one, you will most likely get into a better college if your paperwork consists of actual words and not abbreviations. Secondly, if you are actually focused on learning to spell and use the dictionary, then you'll actually learn something.

According to The Wireless Association, U.S. cell users send 190 billion texts each month, unlike 10 years ago when it was 15 million each month. How can you save yourself before it's too late, you ask? It's simple. Put down the phone, and pick up a book.

### Textionary

|                             |                            |                                     |                               |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <3 – Heart                  | BF – Boyfriend             | HBU – How About You?                | PLZ – Please                  |
| </3 – Broken Heart          | BFF – Best Friend Forever  | IC – I see                          | R – Are                       |
| :) – Smiley Face            | BRB – Be Right Back        | IDC – I Don't Care                  | ROFL – Rolling On Floor       |
| :( – Sad Face               | BTW – By The Way           | IDK – I Don't Know                  | Laughing                      |
| :'( – Crying Face           | CU – See You               | IK – I Know                         | SRSLY – Seriously             |
| :D – Open mouth smiley      | DGT – Don't Go There       | IKR – I Know Right                  | SRY – Sorry                   |
| O.o – Confused              | DL – Down Low/<br>Download | IMU – I Miss You                    | STFU – Shut The F*ck Up       |
| O.O – Big eyed              | EZ – Easy                  | JK – Just Kidding                   | SUP – What's up?              |
| :o – The "oh" faced smiley  | FB – Facebook              | JW – Just Wondering                 | THX – Thanks                  |
| 0:) – Angelic Smiley Face   | FML – F*ck My Life         | KTHXBYE – Ok, thank<br>you, goodbye | TTYL – Talk To You Later      |
| >:) – Evil Smile            | FTW – For The Win          | L8R – Later                         | TY – Thank You                |
| >:( – Angry Face            | GF – Girlfriend            | LMAO – Laughing My<br>Ass Off       | TYVM – Thank You Very<br>Much |
| ? – What/Why                | G2G – Got To Go            | LOL – Laugh Out Loud                | U – You                       |
| ADDY – Address              | GL – Good Luck             | NM – Not Much/<br>Nevermind         | WBU – What About You?         |
| AFK – Away From<br>Keyboard | GTFO – Get The F*ck<br>Out | NVM – Never mind                    | WDYT – What Do You<br>Think?  |
| ATM – At The Moment         | GTG – Got To Go            | OMG – Oh My Gosh                    | WTF – What The F*ck?          |
| B4 – Before                 | H8 – Hate                  |                                     | YW – You're Welcome           |
| B4N – Bye For Now           |                            |                                     |                               |



**with Dineen**

## Our Healthy World

### IS THE SCALE LYING TO YOU ABOUT YOUR HEALTH?

**Dineen Charest**

Staff Writer

**Y**ou are at the doctor's office and the first thing the nurse does is ask you to step on the scale. You cringe. The doctor comes in and

tells you that, according to his chart, you are considered overweight, or even obese.

What is wrong with this picture?

Number one, a scale does only one thing. It weighs you. Number two, the old-fashioned weight and height posters most doctors' offices use are usually outdated. They are not an indication of overall health, or at what risk you are for cardiovascular disease.

What is more important than the scale? The measurements of body composition and visceral fat and what they mean.

Body composition is defined as the percentage of fat, muscle, and bone in the body. It measures the ratio of body fat to lean tissue and bone in the body, not scale weight. The higher the number of fat percentage, the higher the risk for cardiovascular disease.

Visceral fat is the fat that lies deep in the abdomen beneath the muscle and surrounds the organs. The higher amount of this fat puts you at risk for high blood pressure, stroke, sleep apnea, heart disease, diabetes and other degenerative diseases.

How can you find out if you are in the safe

zone? There are several ways.

One is a body composition test called a BMI (body mass index) which measures the ratio between your weight and height. BMI is calculated by dividing a person's weight (in kilograms) by his or her height (in meters) squared. This is a much more accurate way to classify a person as overweight or obese.

A BMI of 18.5 to 24.9 is considered healthy for adults. A BMI of 25 to 29.9 is considered overweight, while a BMI of 30 and above is considered obese. People with BMIs of 18.5 or less are considered underweight.

Note: A waist measurement of 35 inches or over in women and 40 inches or above in men are classified as high risk no matter what the BMIs are.

A Body Impedance Analysis (BIA) measures body composition by passing a weak electrical current through the body. While the person is lying down, electrodes are attached to various parts of the body and a small electric signal is circulated. This is not painful but gives an accurate percent of body fat. The higher the body fat percent, the higher the health risk.

The most simple is the waist-to-hip ratio (WHR). This is the measurement of the circumference of the waist divided by the circumference of the hip. The smaller the number, the lower the chance of cardiovascular disease.

In waist-to-hip ratios, health problems are increased when the ratio is .95 or higher in men, and .80 or higher in women.

So know your numbers. Don't trust the scale when it comes to your health.

My suggestion is to get on the internet and calculate your BMI by using a BMI calculator. Contact a local doctor who has a Body Impedance Analysis device and have a body fat percent taken.

The best, easiest and most convenient way is to invest in a cloth measuring tape. You can usually buy one at any retail store in the sewing or crafts section. Measure yourself once a week. If your waist-to-hip ratio increases, so does your health risk factor.

For additional resources and charts to calculate your BMI go online at: [commuter.linnbenton.edu](http://commuter.linnbenton.edu)

# Common Knowledge

## OR AT LEAST IT SHOULD BE

### Money Matters. What's it to ya?

**Gabriela Scottaline**  
Contributing Writer

This article is to remind us of a social law that we have all been guilty of breaking at one point in our lives: Money should almost never be discussed on a personal level without voluntary actions from the one divulging.

You're probably thinking, "Duh, everyone knows that." But I'm often surprised by how many people don't know that they should make an effort to step around this delicate topic. I, for one, do not enjoy divulging any financial information to anyone, except (maybe) my parents. In almost every situation, questions about money are inappropriate and borderline rude.

During my second term at LB,

I started looking into purchasing a laptop. I worked with a budget in order to obtain my very own time-sucker. A friend of mine was getting a new Mac and offered to sell her old one to me. I was excited about her amazing offer.

One day, when I was studying with a few friends, I told them all about it. My childlike glee bubbled over each word as I told them the good news! At first they looked at me with a faint expression of comical inquiry, but then they just smiled at how excited I seemed to be – all but one of them.

I could tell he wanted to say something about my being able to afford such an expensive piece of technology. I grew embarrassed and uncomfortable with the thought. All of a sudden he asked the dreaded question: "How can you even afford that?" My cheeks grew red as I waved a hand and responded, "Don't worry

about it." He laughed a little.

Later that day, I told my best friend (the one selling me the Mac) about how embarrassed I was. She responded with, "It's common LAW that you should never ask anyone about anything financial. It's so personal. Did you ask HIM what kind of underwear he was wearing?"

I laughed at how ridiculous that sounded, but it's true; you don't ask anyone about his or her money matters unless they bring it up.

Any financial situation could be uncomfortable. If you have more money than your peers, they may become envious or needy. If you have less, you may arouse unnecessary pity or skepticism. The moral this week, folks, is self-control.

Remember this – there are only a handful of people qualified to ask about your finances. These include your banker, your accountant, and game show hosts.

## Dear Conscience,

### I'm not sure the world of academia is for me. What do you think about taking some time off to travel the world?

**Ashley Christie**  
Shoulder Devil

Ummm ... let me think ... sit around in a stuffy classroom reading about what other people did eons ago or go out there and see it all for yourself? That's a tough one.

The educational system will always be there. But the world of academia isn't going to teach what you really need to know.

The most important lessons you'll ever learn are life's lessons; you only learn those through, oh, I don't know, having a life. Everything else you can Google.

I travel the world as frequently as possible – causing chaos, wreaking havoc, and looking for souls to steal. And do you think I learned how to be the devil I am today from a book?

No, I learned it from the people I've met and places I've been. I learned how to play a pretty mean fiddle from this kid named Johnny down in Georgia. This lawyer named Daniel Webster helped me perfect my power of persuasion. And if you want to master how to bet the flop, just spend a couple days in Monte Carlo.

I could fill a book with the adventures I've had. It'd be more exciting than the Angel's, I bet. He could go anywhere in the world, and he'd probably just end up going to help people and become a better person. Ugh!

Anyway, at the end of your life are you going to be lying there, wishing you'd gone to one more class or listened to one more lecture? No, you'll be remembering that kick-ass time you had to talk yourself out of that Moroccan jail. (You didn't know she was the king's daughter, honest!)



**Justin Bolger**  
Shoulder Angel

I, uh, agree with the Devil, save for a few unsavory particulars, I guess. Well said, rival!

I'm going to throw out there that it's a fantastic idea to reach an educational check-point that you can easily return to later before you have a soul-seeking adventure.

That said, angels are built for adventure! I'm not sure if you realize that.

Exhibit A: Duh, we have wings! How could I not recommend travel? You go out there, meet new people, and help them reach salvation from their woes. The world needs heroes! Get a head-start earning those wings; backpacking can be righteous!

Exhibit B: The halo, a surprisingly adventure-savvy accessory. That light is actually made out of a hopeful, friendly, life-loving attitude – also an uber-tasty doughnut, but that's less important.

How does that help, you ask? It's a totally bright, totally awesome guiding light when times are bleak. Perhaps even more importantly, it lets people know they can trust you. Do enough good in your life, and people will be able to sense your finer qualities. When they trust you, they're more open to letting you help them.

Hey, that's why you want an adventure, right? To become that great person you know rests inside?

Anyway, here's the point I'm trying to make: If you're leaving academia, it's likely due to a stagnating spirit. How can you become the person you need to be with that sort of blight weighing on you?

Get out there and find your soul; become the person you can respect most!

# BACK *in the* DAY

**Adam LaMascus**

Opinion Editor

## This day in history ...

### April 27, 1805: From the Halls of Montezuma ...

During the First Barbary War, United States Marines lead an assault on the coastal city of Derne in Tripoli. The battle is a decisive victory and is the first recorded battle fought overseas by U.S. troops. Lt. Presley O'Bannon is presented with a Mameluke sword as a sign of respect and praise. To this day, Marine officers are given swords in the old Mameluke pattern. This victory is also remembered in the Marine Hymn with the words " ... to the shores of Tripoli."

### April 28, 1192: Heavy lies the head ...

King Conrad I of Jerusalem is stabbed to death two days after his ascension to the throne is ratified. He is killed by the notorious Hashshashin, a group better remembered here by their English name: the Assassins.

### April 29, 1992: To protect and serve ...

Four white officers of the Los Angeles Police Department are acquitted of savagely beating Rodney King, a black man. Within half an hour, riots begin, which last six days and throw LA into total chaos. 53 people are killed, thousands are injured and over \$1 billion in damages are caused. Eventually, 4,000 National Guardsmen are called in to help restore order.

### April 30, 1006: Starlight, star bright ...

A star about 7.2 light-years away goes supernova in the Lupus constellation. It remains the brightest supernova in recorded history. It is rather unimaginatively named SN 1006 by modern scientists. Remains of SN 1006 are still visible, and an observatory was able to detect gamma radiation from it as recently as 2010. The supernova has not collapsed into a Black Hole.

### May 1, 1898: No contest ...

Six American ships under the command of Commodore George Dewey engage a Spanish squadron of eight ships in Manila harbor. The Spanish squadron is equipped with obsolete ships and poorly-trained sailors. The American squadron obliterates them. Only one American dies during the battle and not even from Spanish gunfire. Chief Engineer Francis B. Randall dies of a heart attack induced by heatstroke. The Battle of Manila Bay is the first battle of the Spanish-American War.

### May 2, 1946: The Rock ...

Prisoners attempt to stage a takeover and escape at Alcatraz Prison. The escape attempt fails, but the prisoners manage to secure weapons and take over a few cell blocks. The so-called Battle of Alcatraz lasts two days, eventually ending with security forces retaking the cell blocks with the help of U.S. Marines using the same tactics as they had used to drive the Japanese out of their bunkers. Two guards and three prisoners are killed, with two of the ring-leaders being executed afterward.

### May 3, 1808: Crackdown ...

In response to a Spanish uprising the day before, French soldiers round up and shoot hundreds of civilians from the city of Madrid. The famous artist Francisco Goya immortalized the event in his famous painting "Third of May 1808." The massacre enrages the populace of Spain, and numerous guerrilla groups spring up to help the British army under the Duke of Wellington to drive the French from their country.

## Thought for the week:

"Human history can be viewed as a slowly dawning awareness that we are members of a larger group."

-Carl Sagan

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# Students Lobby to Save Oregon Schools

**Jeb Oliver**  
Staff Writer

I had the privilege to join Ricky Zipp and many other LBCC students at the Oregon Student Association (OSA) Lobby Days at the Oregon legislature in Salem. Not only did we lobby, we also participated in a rally to help raise awareness of rising tuition in the state of Oregon.

The headquarters for the OSA and other student groups involved was filled with electric excitement as those who were there for lobbying were giving their assignments and training. The whole of the place was nautical, with signs all over the walls saying "S.O.S.," standing for "Save Our School" and "I ♥ Money for Schools."

Our group was placed in regional team two. Our leader was the often overly-motivated and very spirited Zipp. I interviewed many of our team; one Brandon Green, who was as new to lobbying as I was, told me "This is something I've never done before and so I'm pretty excited for it!"

Our team, the most underdressed in attendance, really showed the family feels of our school. Compared to the suit-wearing students from places like Western Oregon and Oregon State, we looked like real activists in the purest fashion. Zipp was ecstatic, stating, "I think it's really great and we had a great turnout."

Many schools came together for the common good of everyone's education.

Tom Worth, the vice chairman of the Oregon Community College Student Association (OCCSA), was also filled with emotion. "We're making sure that legislators knows that higher education funding needs to be a priority," says Worth. "Students have been constantly spending more and getting less from their tuition."

I asked Worth what he thought about the coming day's lobbying, and with a glimmer of hope in his eyes he told me, "I think it's pretty good so far. I think it's going to be a lot of fun today. I also believe that this lobby day will allow students to have their voices heard."

Much of the effort was to get the Oregon Senate to pass Senate Bill 742 for tuition equality. This bill, if passed, will bring in millions of dollars to universities all across the state that they currently don't have access to. This was just one of several bills that students lobbied for all day Monday.

The LBCC group did much of the lobbying across the Oregon legislature. They passed out books with many stories of fellow LBCC students to the state representatives. The hope was to inform them of the plight we all experience trying to pay for school. We also had the chance to be part of the rally, yelling our cause to those in the senate. We also heard Governor John Kitzhaber speak.

We also were able to personally lobby State Senator Fred Girod. We did our best to impress on him the need for more financial help to colleges across Oregon. Though seeming nonchalant to our pleas, he did leave us with this, "I do think that you are the jobs of the future – we need to support you."

See more photos online at: [commuter.linnbenton.edu](http://commuter.linnbenton.edu)



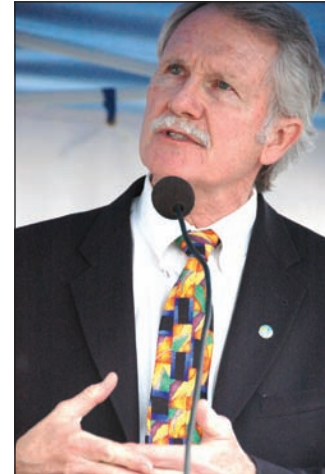
Top: Students rally for school funding at the Oregon Student Association Lobby Days.



Left: LBCC students Melissa Hite, Ricky Zipp, James Smith, Emmanuel Bernal and Stephanie Land discuss the OSA Lobby Days.



Bottom Left: Students march to save their schools at the Oregon legislature in Salem.



Bottom Right: Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber articulates his views on school funding.

photos by Bryana Bittner

## LBCC Makes Changes to Its Constitution

**Jeb Oliver**  
Staff Writer

If voted in, LBCC will have a new Constitution that will have a huge, lasting effect on how future ASG members will be chosen.

The new Constitution changes the way student government will function on campus. One of the main points is that there will no longer be a wide-spread vote on campus for ASG representatives. The new constitution will mandate that this be done by

committee instead of student votes.

If approved, students will apply for positions they wish to serve in the ASG. Student Life and Leadership adviser Barb Horn said the change is a positive thing "because the students are applying." She was optimistic that "it will bring together better communication and consistency to the ASG."

One of the other main changes to student government will be its name. Instead of being known as the ASG, it will be renamed the Student

Leadership Council (SLC). The new changes will also require a higher GPA. To be considered, the GPA requirement will be raised from 2.0 to 2.2 and members of the new SLC would be required to be in classes at least 75 percent of the time.

Current ASG vice president James Smith was asked about the proposed changes to the LBCC Constitution and whether or not the democratic process would be taken away by the new committee selection process. "We didn't want it to be totally up

to a committee. Those hoping to be selected will have to get the stamp of approval from students." This means students hoping to make the cut will have to get a petition signed by a certain number of students to be selected.

The budding candidate will also have to find a student with a concern. They will then come up with a way to deal with the concern and how they will represent the student once on the SLC.

Smith goes on to say, "We want to

get those who apply to do the job; to make sure it is right for them before they start." The hope is that this will allow the student government to be more efficient in the long run. "It will allow the ASG to be more effective."

Smith also voiced concern about student involvement in the school government. "I wish students would be more involved in the voting process, so we wouldn't have to change the process. This was a big process from all the student groups. Everyone worked hard on this compromise."



# LBCC BASEBALL: Mid-Season Report

**Kiger Plews**  
Staff Writer

The Linn-Benton baseball team has hit the mid-point of their season and is in the midst of making a major turnaround from last year's disappointing season. The Roadrunners are currently in a fourth place tie with Southwestern Oregon, two games behind Lane for the division's last playoff spot.

Prior to the start of the season, head coach Greg Hawk knew that this team had a great chance to make a turnaround. They returned 14 sophomores from a 2010 team that struggled to a last place finish in the South Division of the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges, but gained valuable experience.

At 13-15 overall and 7-9 in the division, coach Hawk feels that his team has played well but has been just several small mistakes away from having a very special season. The record shows just how far the team has come, as they have already eclipsed last year's win total and are poised to make a run at the postseason in the second half of their season.

"The guys have done well so far this season, and the record might not show just how well they have done, but when we can put it all together, I believe we can be very good," Hawk said.

Through the first 28 games, sophomores AJ Burke and Sam Paterson have led an experienced pitching staff. Burke is second in the NWAACC with 6 wins, and holds a 6-2 record. Paterson has had a good season thus far as well, putting up a 4-4 record.

Burke might have already provided LBCC with its individual highlight for the season when he threw a one-hit shutout against Chemeketa on April 9. Burke had a no-hitter intact through eight innings but lost it in the ninth inning. He also had an astonishing 18 strikeouts in the game.

The Roadrunners bats have been headed by sophomore second baseman Jordan Keeker who is hitting .351 while leading the team with 28 hits, 15 runs scored and 13 runs batted in. Freshman outfielder Kellen Sparkes has made a huge impact on the Roadrunner lineup, boasting a .429 batting



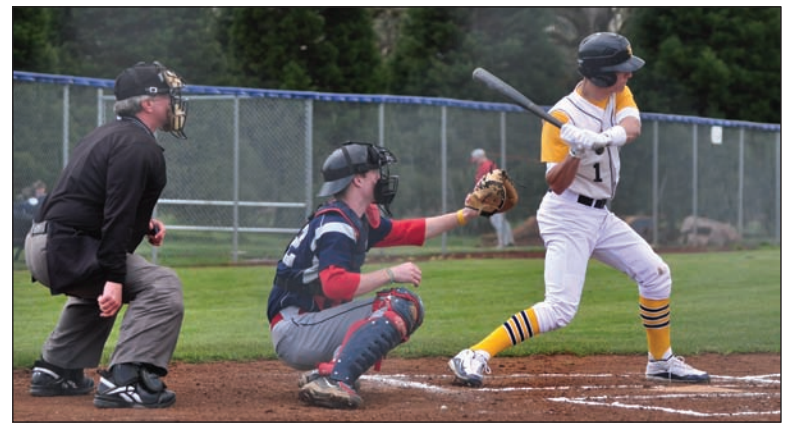
Kiger Plews

**Sam Paterson will be key on the mound as the Roadrunners make a push for the postseason.**

average and ranking second on the team with 20 hits. As a team, LB currently ranks third in the NWAACC in batting average.

When asked what he thought about the team's improvement this season, Sam Paterson said, "I feel like we have done pretty well so far, but we still haven't played up to our potential. We have a great group of guys and I think that some of us sophomores just need to step up and become better leaders to get us over the hump."

Next season, Paterson, along with sophomore pitchers Mackie Unruh and Bobby Ragasa, will be traveling north to play baseball at NCAA Division II Montana State University-Billings. For now though, they are key members of a Linn-Benton baseball team in the middle of a great turnaround and a postseason chase.



Alyssa Archer

**Jordan Keeker eyes a pitch for the Roadrunners.**

## Roadrunners Finish Week at 2-4

**Scott Landgren**

Sports Editor

The Linn-Benton baseball team went 2-4 this past week. Last Tuesday, they swept the doubleheader at home against SW Oregon Community College. On Thursday, they got swept by Mt. Hood Community College at home in a make-up of the rain-out earlier in the week, and last Saturday, they also got swept by Clackamas Community College on the road.

### **Game 1: Linn-Benton 6, SWOCC 1 (7 Innings):**

The first game of the day was LB's after the second inning. SWOCC scored the game's first run in the first inning off sophomore starter AJ Burke. LBCC came back in the bottom of the second inning and scored seven runs and took the lead and never gave it up. In the game, sophomore Mason Brause hit his first home run of the season. Burke got the win as his record improved to 6-1.

### **Game 2: Linn-Benton 12, SWOCC 2 (7 Innings):**

In game two of the day, both teams scored only in the fifth inning. SWOCC got it going first with their lone run. Soon after, the LBCC bats came alive as they scored six times and took control of the game. SWOCC was held to only three hits on the day, but was helped by four LB errors. Sophomore Sam Paterson won the game for LBCC and now he has a 4-3 record.

### **Game 1: Mt. Hood 4, Linn-Benton 2:**

In game one of the makeup series, both teams came ready to pitch. LBCC pitchers scattered 11 hits over nine innings for Mt. Hood. Two runs were scored by Mt. Hood in the fourth inning and sixth inning and that was all they needed. LBCC scored their two runs in the sixth inning as well. Sophomore RJ Phillips took his first loss of the year and fell to 0-1.

### **Game 2: Mt. Hood 1, Linn-Benton 0 (7 Innings):**

In his return to Albany, sophomore Jeremy Burright pitched a gem as LBCC fell short in another pitcher's duel. Burright who pitched at West Albany High School came back to town to prove he still has it and came away with the win on the night and improved to 3-0 on the season. LBCC did have six hits on the night but also committed three errors in the game. Sophomore pitcher Travis Iverson took the loss and falls to 2-2 overall.

### **Game 1: Clackamas 9, Linn-Benton 7:**

LBCC looked to continue its hot pitching from the Mt. Hood series, but Clackamas had other ideas in mind. In game one Clackamas used five runs in the second inning and three in the third inning and before LBCC knew it they were down 8-2. LBCC did chip away at the lead but could get no closer than the final score. Clackamas ended up with 13 hits on the day as LBCC had 12. Sophomore AJ Burke took only his second loss of the season and now stands at 6-2.

### **Game 2: Clackamas 15, Linn-Benton 5 (6 Innings):**

In game two, Clackamas continued the hot hitting from the first game. Clackamas pounded out 12 base hits on the day and scored often. LBCC scored all five runs in the first three innings and that's when Clackamas turned it up. Clackamas scored three runs in the second inning, seven in the fourth and four more in the fifth and took control. LBCC sophomore Jordan Keeker hit his first home run of the season in the loss. Sophomore Sam Paterson took the loss and fell to 4-4 overall.

With the 2-4 record last week, LBCC fell to fourth place in the Southern division. Overall they are 13-15 and are 7-9 in the South division.

"In the Mt. Hood games we pitched well but could not get any hitting and did not execute on defense. In the Clackamas games we gave up too many big innings. Hopefully, we come out hungry this week," said head coach Greg Hawk.

LBCC was scheduled to be back in action with a doubleheader on Tuesday at home against Chemeketa Community College. On Saturday, LBCC will travel and play a doubleheader against Lane Community College starting at 1 p.m. This week is a good chance for LBCC to make up ground in the standings because both Clackamas and Lane are right in front of LBCC in the South Division. LBCC split both games with Clackamas and Lane earlier in the season.

"Last week was a tough week but we are still alright, we have to concentrate on what is coming up and not panic," said volunteer assistant coach Pete Croco.

## MOTO MAN RIDES AGAIN

**"Beyond the Law":  
Good Old-Fashioned  
Biker Fun**

**Chris Brotherton**  
Staff Writer

It never fails. You plan the perfect ride, one that is just a high-speed blast through the mountains, exercising every demon in your body in order to work out that deeply hidden outlaw biker inside you, and Mother Nature tells you differently. Torrential downpours or a foot of snow suddenly appear overnight.

There is another way to work out that inner biker. Pop in a movie about hard core bikers.

In 1993, Charlie Sheen starred in a movie about Dan Saxon, an

undercover cop who went deep inside the world of outlaw bikers to infiltrate the drug and gun trade that they had set up.

Charlie Sheen's character, Dan Saxon, at first, tries to make some purchases. However, people figure him to be a cop right away, including a motorcycle mechanic named Virgil, who actually teaches him how to be an outlaw biker. He also teaches him how to blend in and get close enough to the leader of the gang, Blood (Michael Madsen) to start making contraband purchases.

However, the closer he becomes to the gang, the more he starts to become like them. Dan finds himself fighting inner demons that he has spent years hiding. For a while, he seems to be losing to them, but in true Charlie-Sheen-winning style, he pulls out and

puts his demons to rest.

The thing that sets this movie apart from most movies in the biker exploitation genre is that it is based on a true story. The real Dan Saxon went undercover and made one of the largest outlaw biker gang busts in history. After the whole incident, he was put into the protection program and moved to an undisclosed location. He was an extra in this movie; however, the role he played was never revealed, in order to protect his identity.

Although this movie isn't quite the same as actually heading out for a ride, it is easy to get caught up in the action and the riding scenes. Charlie Sheen also does a really good job of playing the part of a biker, and Michael Madsen is always good at playing the heavy.

*"Beyond the Law" is currently playing for free on Hulu.com for your viewing enjoyment.*

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 commuterads@linnbenton.edu

## Campus Events

### Ongoing

**"Words and Pictures" Gallery**  
*South Santiam Hall Gallery*  
 The Willamette Valley PhotoArts Guild and the LBCC Poetry Club are celebrating National Poetry Month in April with the exhibit "Word & Pictures," which features 17 pairs of photographs and poems. The display will be up until April 29.

**Juried Student Art Exhibit**  
*North Santiam Hall Galleries*  
 Sixty works by 42 student artists are on view at the annual Juried Art Student Exhibit. The exhibit was open to students who have taken art classes at the college during the 2010-11 academic year. The media on exhibit include paintings in oil, watercolor and acrylic; drawings in pencil, ink, and pastel; photography; glass; ceramics and mixed-media sculpture. The exhibit runs through June 3.

### Wednesday 4/27

**Red Cross Blood Drive**  
 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. • Calapooia Room  
 Join LBCC and the American Red Cross in their efforts to save lives by donating blood. Register online at [givelife.org](http://givelife.org) (sponsor code LBCC).

### Thursday 4/28

**Valley Writers Series: Rick Borsten**  
 3 - 5:30 p.m. • NSH-207  
 The Valley Writers Series at Linn-Benton Community College will host a reading by Corvallis author Rick Borsten

**LBCC Foundation's Teddy Bear Tea**  
 4:30 - 6 p.m. • The Commons  
 \$10 for adults and \$8 for school-age children. High tea treats and short program. Over 50 teddy bear baskets for raffle, silent auction and live auction! Fundraising for the Foundation Education Fund - Where the Need is Greatest. Please RSVP by 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 26. Call the Foundation Office ext. 4209.

### Friday 4/29

**Cherry Blossom Picnic**  
 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. • Diversity Achievement Center  
 The event will introduce the Japanese tradition 花見 (Hanami; literal 'flower viewing') to LBCC participants, give a chance to LBCC students/staff to unify to support relief efforts in Japan, and bring awareness to Japanese culture and the aftermath of the tsunami and earthquakes. A representative from the American Red Cross will be present to accept donations and support as well as a fund raising website through Mercy Corps provided for participants of this event. We at the Diversity Achievement Center would love to see you there! ありがとう Arigatō!

### Gary Ruppert Farewell Concert

7:30 p.m. • Russell Tripp Performance Center  
 Say good-bye to Dean of Instruction Gary Ruppert with a program of jazz and classical piano and a no-host

wine bar reception following. Tickets are \$10 and benefit the LBCC Arts Special Events Fund. Available at the LBCC Box Office.

### Wednesday 5/4

**Courtyard Lunch: Bratwurst Bar!**  
 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
 Don't miss the fun brewing in the courtyard and support the LBCC clubs and organizations! Lunch will include bratwurst or vegetarian sausage, all the fixings, chips, cookie and the beverage of your choice. The cost is \$3.50 for students and \$4.50 for college employees. This event is made possible through a collaborative effort between Student Life & Leadership and Food Services. Your support today will benefit the LBCC Soccer Club.

### Student Art Show Reception + Awards Ceremony

Noon - 1 p.m. • North Santiam Hall Gallery  
 Come celebrate LBCC's students and enjoy the artwork they've created.

### Friday 5/6

**Annual Mother's Day Plant Sale**  
 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. • Greenhouse  
 The LBCC Horticulture Department and the Horticulture Club present the Annual Mother's Day Plant Sale.

### Tuesday 5/10

**Home Baseball Game**  
 1 p.m. • Baseball Field  
 Opponent: Clackamas CC

If you have a Campus Event, please e-mail them to [commuter@linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@linnbenton.edu).

## CHALK TALK

This week's Chalk Talk is going to be less than P.C. I am wondering what happened to the ideal of America? This country has come to the point where we cannot even take care of our veteran population. They are trying to cut veterans' benefits at every corner and making it harder and harder to receive what us veterans have earned over our hard years of service. I remember a contract that I signed years ago, it was along the line of taking care of me and my brothers and sisters after we served and fought for this country. Now it is only if we fall into the lines of what seems to be a communistic regime, we can get that which we deserve.

There was a time in this country when heads would be held high when we said "Yes, I am an American." Now it is greeted with low-hanging heads and apologies. People saying we should pay for what we have done to the world? What about the thousands we saved from the countless genocide, the billions of dollars the "higher crust" of America's celebrities and individual of affluence poor into the third world, but yet we are the bad guys?

Is it only when we burn down the forest that we can see it for the beautiful trees it once was?

David Mayotte

## Classifieds

**Deadline:** Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads will appear only once per submission. If you wish a particular ad to appear in successive issues, you must resubmit it.  
**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 won't knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in an unfairly. Any ad judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.

**Help Wanted**  
 See Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101) or see our website at [www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment). LBCC is an equal opportunity institution.

station, registry and server/user profiles, these opportunities might be for you? Full-time with start dates up to the end of June and benefits!

Albany) Proven digital photography competency required & competence with Photoshop, Facebook and Flickr. \$10/hr plus sales bonus.

**Technical Support Engineer-Backup Exec** (#8960, Springfield) If you have in-depth knowledge of Active Directory, Win 200X servers, work-

**Part-time Office Manager** (#8955, Albany) Competency in MS Office and Quickbooks required. \$10-15/hr DOE.

**Administrative Assistant** (#8943, Corvallis) Part-time, flexible, up to 16 hrs/week and you could get CWE credits if you have an office-type major. \$10-12/hr DOE

**Part-time Marketing Rep** (#8954,

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Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event.

# Cooper Hollow Strikes a Chord in Corvallis

**Ben Davis**  
Contributing Writer

The halls were alive with the sound of music.

The Benton Center Acoustic Showcase hosted local band Cooper Hollow Friday, April 22.

Over 40 people gathered in the student lounge atrium to dance, eat lunch, or simply sit and enjoy the fine stringwork and good vibes of the local quartet.

This was Cooper Hollow's fourth time playing at the Benton Center. "It's always a treat to play here, the people are nice and it has great acoustics," said Sally Clark (guitar, mandolin, vocals).

Clark owns and manages Guthrie Park Community Center near Dallas, Ore., where the band was formed in 2006. She has hosted an open acoustic jam at Guthrie Park every Friday night since 1987.

Lead vocalist Paul Scheerer (melody banjo, guitar, mandolin, harmonica, vocals) was unable to sing because of a surgery that requires his jaw to be wired shut for 4-6 weeks, the result of a cyst caused by an impacted wisdom tooth.



Ben Davis

**Local bluegrass quartet Cooper Hollow performs at the Benton Center Acoustic Showcase on April 22 (from left: Jon Franke, Jim Hockenull, Sally Clark, and Paul Scheerer)**

"It's been hard because I love to sing everyday," said Scheerer, "and everyday I'm reminded that I can't sing."

Scheerer has also been a biologist for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for the past 22 years, evident in the customized salmon-shaped inlays on his banjo fretboard.

Jim Hockenull (fiddle, guitar, vocals)

joked, "It's hard for (Scheerer) to talk, which makes the rest of us happy, but unfortunately it's impossible for him to sing."

Hockenull is a four-time Oregon Old-Time Fiddlers' Senior Champion, who also moonlights as an electric fiddler in a punk rock band.

He holds a BFA and an MFA in Sculpture

## Cooper Hollow

Don't miss their next performance!

**When:** Fri., May 27 at 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Best Cellar Coffeehouse  
1165 NW Monroe Ave, Corvallis

**Cost:** \$2-10 (kids are free)

and his wife of 45 years, Jo, stands in on triangle for certain Cajun songs.

Plucking the rhythm was Jon Franke (stand-up bass), a professional luthier who built the great whale of an instrument that he plays. Franke specializes in building violins, violas and cellos. (Proviolins.com)

Franke began building violins as a hobby in 1985 and was able to leave his work as a Master Tool and Die Maker in 1992.

Cooper Hollow also plays weddings and parties and can be seen at the Best Cellar Coffeehouse on Friday, May 27, as well as the Corvallis Saturday Farmer's Market on July 2.

For more info on Cooper Hollow, visit their website at:  
[cooperhollowband.com](http://cooperhollowband.com)



## Rio Soars Above the Box Office

**Tony Brown**  
Photo Editor

From the production team that brought you "Ice Age," here is yet another hit animated animal movie. Released through Twentieth Century Fox with a production budget of \$90 million, Rio soars over the competition for the second week in a row with a world wide gross of \$286 million.

This fast paced comedy about a young, flight-challenged Blu Macaw aptly named "Blu," (voiced by Jesse Eisenberg) is a hit with adults and children alike. The story is entertaining and message-driven; it's about the impact of exotic pet smuggling and the near extinction of animals.

Blu is captured in Rio de Janeiro as a young chick and shipped off to Minnesota to be sold, only to fall off the shipping truck and be rescued by a young girl named Linda (voiced by Leslie Mann). Blu is flown to Rio in an effort to save the species by mating with the wild and very independent Jewel (voiced by Anne Hathaway). The two are taken once again by smugglers and chained together. After escaping from the smugglers, the two find themselves running, flying for their lives, and, of course, eventually falling in love.

Presented in 3-D and with an all-star cast of Jesse Eisenberg, Anne Hathaway, George Lopez, Leslie Mann, Jamie Foxx and Will i Am, this movie is a must see on the big screen. With a "G" rating, which doesn't happen often, you can be assured that you can take a date or children and still walk out of theatre entertained and wanting to go back for more.

My favorite quote comes from Nigel, the protagonist white Cockatoo (voiced by Jemaine Clement), "I poop on them and blame it on the pigeons."

Rio

Starring: Jesse Eisenberg, Anne Hathaway • Rated: G • Runtime: 96 mins.

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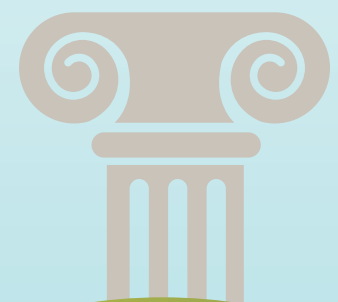
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# The Commuter *Fashionista*

## International Edition: Yukata

**Maya Sharuma**

Staff Writer

Instead of only writing about western fashions, I'd like to introduce an eastern fashion from my dearest home, Japan. Although western fashion is very much established in Japan, the beauty of traditional Japanese garments is still present.

Many of you might be familiar with the kimono, which is the traditional Japanese clothing, but how many of you know about the yukata?

The yukata is a casual version of the kimono mostly worn by women. The word yukata means "bathing clothing." Like its root word suggests, the yukata was originally outerwear for after the bath. The noblemen wore it in steam baths for protection from direct steam. Later, it became a popular garment for common people to wear home from a public bath.

Today, the yukata is a popular traditional garment, especially among youth. Children dressed in it look adorable. And don't get me wrong, it's worn by men as well. We all wear it during the summer for big events, like fireworks displays, dancing festivals, and other activities.

The yukata is a popular traditional item of clothing because of its pattern, too. The common patterns are summer flowers like day-lilies, hydrangeas and morning glories. Other patterns are roses, anemone and even butterflies.

Made of cotton, a yukata isn't as heavy as a kimono, which can be made from silk, wool and heavier cotton fabric. I actually like the yukata better than a kimono because it's comfortable to get around in. Kimonos also come with several garments, making it a little harder to walk around, at least for me. (It feels like I have another person weighing on me.) Another advantage of wearing a yukata is how easy it is to put on. While a kimono usually takes two to three people to put on, you can put a yukata on by yourself.

As I Googled the image of yukata, I found the Hello Kitty pattern, which made me giggle. Yes, we put Hello Kitty on anything from a toilet lid to a motorcycle, so why not on a yukata, right?

Yukatas vary in colors, as well. Bright colors like blue, white, pink and yellow give an impression of a breezy summer. The colors of deep purple and red give an elegant look while brighter colors have a charming look.

Similar to western fashion, yukatas have evolved over time. They've risen from ankle-high to knee-high. Some wear just simple beach sandals instead of geta.

Thanks to the virtual shopping mall, you don't need to go all the way to Japan if you're interested in trying a



provided by Maya Sharuma

Maya Sharuma models her traditional Japanese yukata.

### Accessorizing

Accessories are necessary for yukata dressing. Types of accessories are:

**Obi** - A sash tied up around the waist to stabilize the yukata

**Geta** - Wooden sandals with fabric rather than rubberized thongs.

**Kanzashi** - Hair pin with a flower clip attached

**Uchiwa** - Paper fan for cooling in the typically-humid Japanese summer (also used to keep mosquitoes away)

yukata. Since they come in different sizes, patterns and colors, you can purchase one on Amazon or eBay at a price ranging from \$40 to \$80.

Amazingly, Mini Yukata are also available on Lionella.com. Models are wearing heels for foot wear; a great collaboration of eastern style and western style.

Don't worry, to learn the steps of dressing in a yukata, a tutorial is available on Wikihow and Youtube (what a convenient world we now live in!).

Regardless of your interests, it would be my pleasure if you took the opportunity to experience dressing in a yukata that reflects the value of Japanese culture.

## Say No to the "Hobo"



**Adam LaMascus**

Opinion Editor

A homeless man (Rutger Hauer) wanders into a city, the tamest of nicknames for the place being "Suckville," and immediately discovers the place is totally lawless and under the thumb of the psychopathic Drake (Brian Downey) and his two sons Slick and Ivan (Gregory Smith, Nick Bateman).

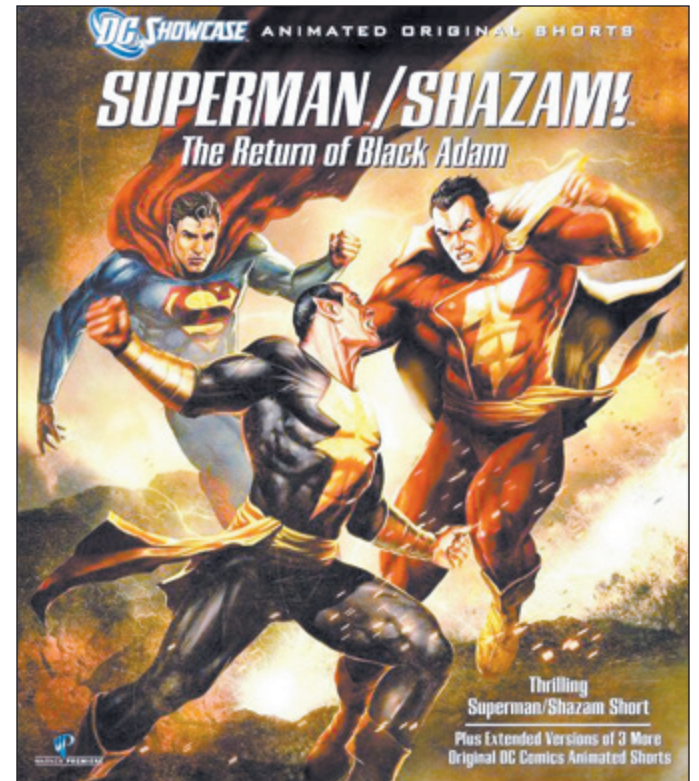
Literally the first thing that happens is a man gets dropped down a manhole then has his head ripped off by a barbed wire noose. It only gets worse from there.

Continue reading the complete review online at:  
[commuter.linnbenton.edu](http://commuter.linnbenton.edu)

## redbox review

### Superman/Shazam! The Return of Black Adam

(Rated PG-13, Runtime 25 min.)



**Marci Sischo**

Webmaster

I'm going to go ahead and get this out front now: I'm a great big Captain Marvel fangirl. I don't know why, and I know he's the Big Red Cheese for a reason, folks, but I just can't help myself. Something about Captain Marvel's incredibly sincere corniness just appeals to me.

You'd think if I liked Captain Marvel, I'd like Superman too, right? But no, Superman can pretty much kiss my pasty white butt. I can't stand the Big Blue Boy Scout, and Brian Singer's "Superman Returns" (As A Pervy Stalker and Deadbeat Dad) with Brandon Routh sealed the deal.

Still, I've had good luck with the DC animated movies (and most of the cartoons), so despite Supes being in it, I decided to give "Superman/Shazam! The Return of Black Adam" a try.

"Superman/Shazam!" is one of the extended shorts DC put out last year, so it's only about twenty minutes long, but the disc comes with a selection of shorts from the other DC cartoon series. There's some Batman, a bit of Green Arrow, a little Spectre - it's a fun mix, if you don't mind that the shorts aren't really connected, and are just there to fill space.

The feature is your basic origin story for Captain Marvel. We meet teen orphan and all-around goody-two-shoes Billy Batson (Zach Callison), who is so darn nice despite his bad circumstances in life that Clark Kent (George Newbern) is interviewing him for a feature in the Daily Planet. Apparently Perry's mad at him this week and stuck him on the human-interest beat.

As they sit down for lunch and the interview, Black Adam (Arnold Vosloo), freshly back from a few thousand years of banishment, kicks in the front of the diner and pitches Clark to the wind. Nosy-reporter-type gone, Black Adam is free to issue the beat-down to Billy Batson, whom Black Adam knows is destined to become the "chosen one," i.e., Captain Marvel (Jerry O'Connell).

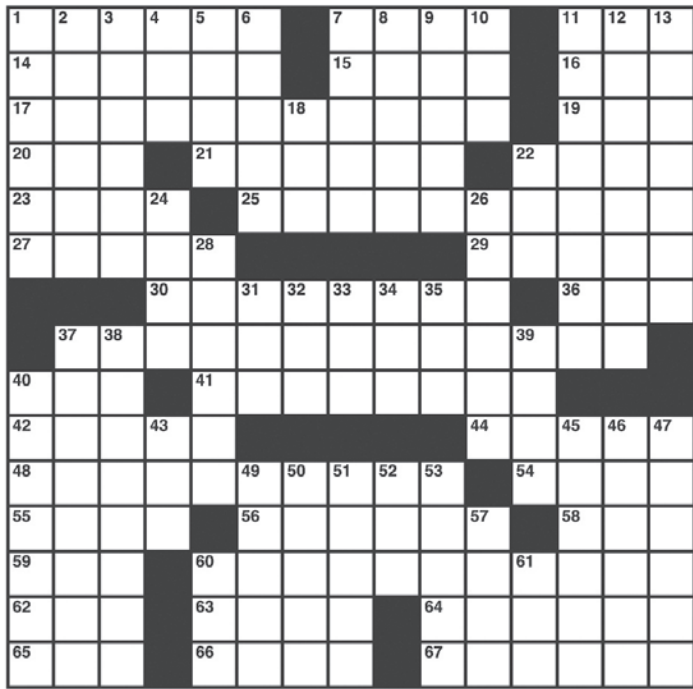
Cue Superman, who flies in to rescue Billy. Black Adam proceeds to bring the pain to Superman, bouncing his caped keister all over Metropolis. That was my favorite part. Honestly, it was worth the buck just to see Superman get beat up. Meanwhile, Billy falls into a giant hole Supes and Adam bashed into the street, and stumbles his way into a mysterious cave where the wizard Shazam (James Garner) is waiting to bestow superhero-itude upon him.

By the way, this origin story is SO not canon. Captain Marvel's origin story bears little actual resemblance to this, but if you aren't a fussy little comic nerd like me, that's probably not going to bother you much.

It's a fun 20 minutes, and it's relentlessly endearing to watch Captain Marvel half-fubar his way through his first outing as a superhero. Plus, you get a handful of other great DC animated shorts along with it. If you're a comic fan, it's definitely worth your dollar to pick "Superman/Shazam! The Return of Black Adam" up from your local redbox.

Also? The first person who can tell me what "Shazam" stands for wins one (1) Internet. No fair Googling it, either. That's cheating.

- ACROSS**
- Sweet Spanish wine
  - In that case
  - Inst. that turns out lieutenants
  - Moves on all fours
  - Cause of a worldwide 19th century fever
  - Old school dance
  - Lost it
  - Victoria's Secret offering
  - Bonanza find
  - In copious amounts
  - Ivy in Philly
  - Ivy in New Haven
  - Dismissed out of hand
  - Pizazz
  - Trumpet sound
  - Party list
  - Bug
  - Like Starbucks coffee, every 30 minutes
  - Bard's "before"
  - Software customers
  - Three-time world champion alpine skier Hermann
  - Feast where the Haggadah is read
  - "That's too bad, man"
  - Brazilian soccer legend
  - Prime Cuts in Gravy brand
  - Crude fleet
  - Busy co. on Valentine's Day
  - Speedwagon
  - "I don't feel like cooking" option
  - Enlistees, briefly
  - Slurpee relative
  - Capital on the Missouri River
  - Wee hour
  - High degrees: Abbr.
  - Aftershock



By Dan Naddor

- DOWN**
- Real people?
  - Biblical debarkation point
  - How bad excuses are given
  - Bowl over
  - Guzzling sound
  - "Piece of cake!"
  - Inuit home
  - Club for country kids
  - Shuteye
  - Anomalous
  - Austin Powers catchphrase
  - Trapped
  - Stretchy fabric
  - Day-\_\_: pigment brand
  - D.C. deal maker
  - Nobelist Wiesel
  - Preoccupy
  - Make certain
  - Videotape type
  - Land in la mer
  - Norse god of single combat
  - Diminish
  - Pitching stat
  - German miss

**Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**



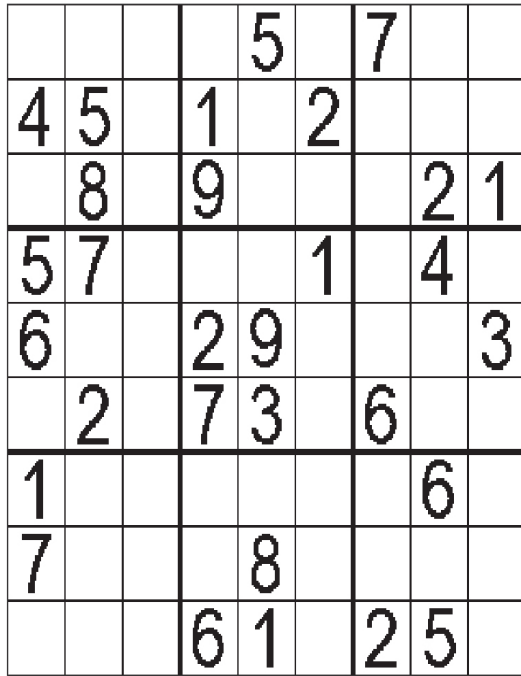
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- Put back in force, as an expired tax
- Blubber
- Economic warfare tactic
- Funnyman Philips
- Mar the beauty of
- Corrida snorter
- More rare, as steak
- Raid target
- Protected by levees
- "\_\_ Gold": Peter Fonda film
- \_\_ volente: God willing
- Spew lava
- Show signs of life
- Service reward
- Service charge

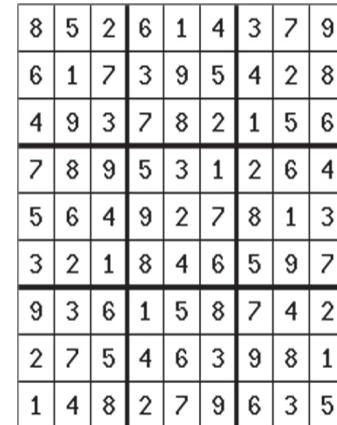
## SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:  1  2  3  4



**Last Issue's Puzzle Solved**



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](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

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## HOROSCOPES



**ARIES**  
3/21-4/19  
When life throws you a curve ball do what comes naturally and hit it out of the park.



**TAURUS**  
4/20-5/20  
You know what's great about you? You make a decision and stick to it. You know what's annoying about you? You make a decision and stick to it.



**GEMINI**  
5/21-6/21  
Despite your sign you cannot be in two places at once. Organize, prioritize and get it done!



**CANCER**  
6/22-7/22  
Your hard shell can be tough to crack. Give people a break every once in a while.



**LEO**  
7/23-8/22  
There's a fine line between confidence and arrogance. Learn the difference!



**VIRGO**  
8/23-9/22  
Don't put your happiness in the hands of others. Focus on you; you don't have control over much else.



**LIBRA**  
9/23-10/23  
You're taking on new responsibilities. That's great! Just don't forget about the old ones.



**SCORPIO**  
10/24-11/21  
Everyone is complimenting you on the new person you're becoming. Makes you wonder, was the old one that bad?



**SAGITTARIUS**  
11/22-12/21  
As an eternal optimist you can always find the silver lining. That may come in handy this week.



**CAPRICORN**  
12/22-1/19  
You know everything, right? Well, except how to take a day off. It is a skill you'd be wise to learn.



**AQUARIUS**  
1/20-2/18  
Like the ocean tides, life has highs and lows. Catch a wave and enjoy the ride.



**PISCES**  
2/19-3/20  
Fish swim in schools for a reason. Learn to rely on others when you need a little help.

## Poetry Spotlight

**Pictures and Words**

by Javanna Williams

The photographers were the poets the poets the photographers

And this was what I saw

It was like they had met at an intersection of 2 old lonely roads. The intersection of this art, of this poet. They could not see each other, but feel each other they did, sense each other they did with internal awareness. Most importantly they shared the same desire to create vision and magical inspiration.

It was at that intersection of the 2 old roads that they became one, each representing the other.

And I became inspired.

Call and response

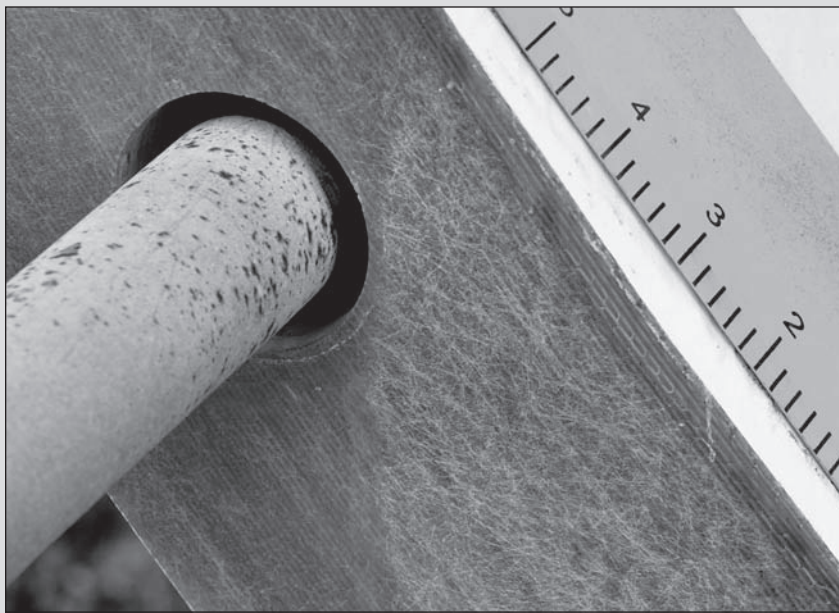


The LBCC Poetry Club meets every Tuesday from 3-4 p.m. in the Hotshot Cafe. For more Poetry Club info visit their website at: [insidetheheartwalls.blogspot.com](http://insidetheheartwalls.blogspot.com)

## Where on Campus?

**Do you know where this picture was taken?**

Answers must be emailed to [commuter@linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@linnbenton.edu) by 8 a.m. the following Monday. One winner will be drawn from correct entries each week and will win a prize.



Tony Brown



**Last Issue's Answer:** The greenhouse area between White Oak Hall and the storage building.

**Last Issue's Winner:** Congratulations Tim Babcock! Please stop by The Commuter office (F-222) and see Tony to claim your prize.

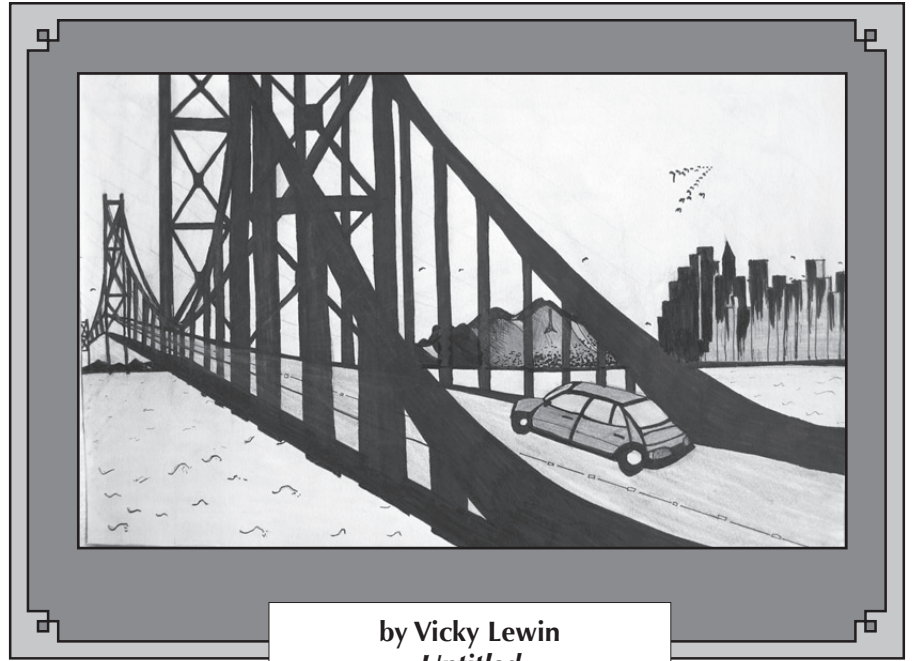
Special Guest Mason Britton  
 An LBCC student-generated comic

## Add/Drop



BY GUEST CARTOONIST MASON BRITTON

**Student-Submitted Art**  
 email your own artwork to [commuter@linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@linnbenton.edu)



by Vicky Lewin  
*Untitled*

## MINUS GRAVITY

An LBCC student-generated comic

By Ben Carson

The mysteries of the tiny native people were many, and at first our heroes were at odds with their surroundings...



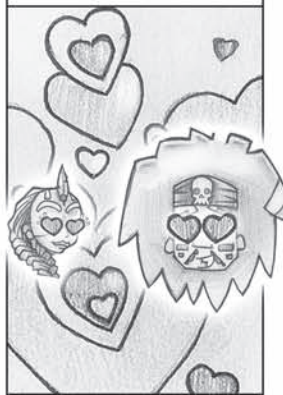
But, as hours turned to days and days to weeks, they lived amongst these simple jungle folk, observed their ways, earned their trust. Hunted as they hunted, foraged as they foraged...



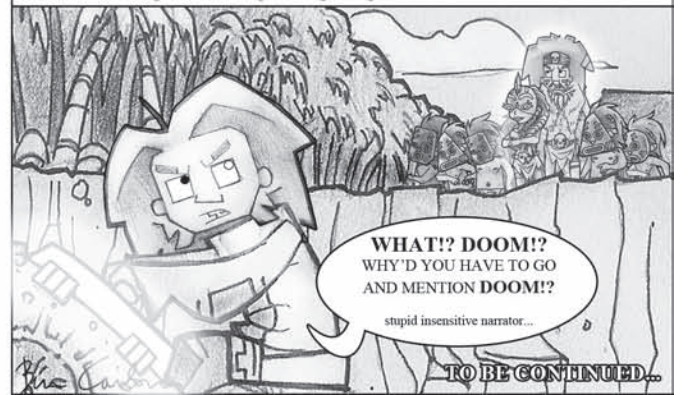
Eventually, a rift was formed as one chose the path of the DREAMER...



And the other, that of the LOVER...



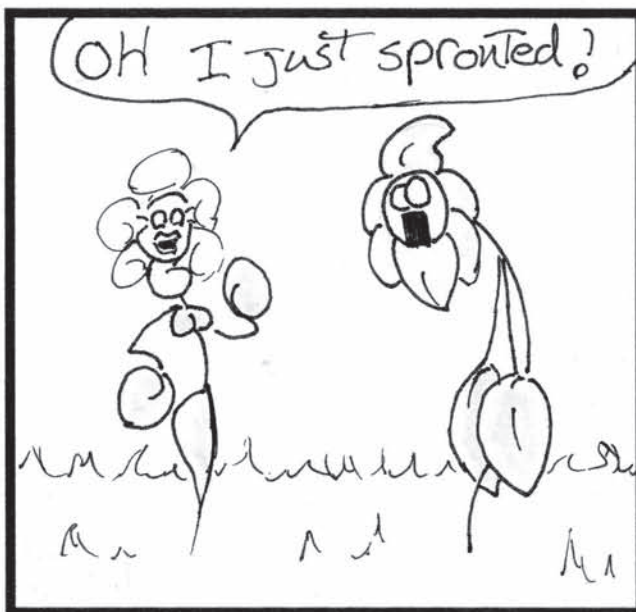
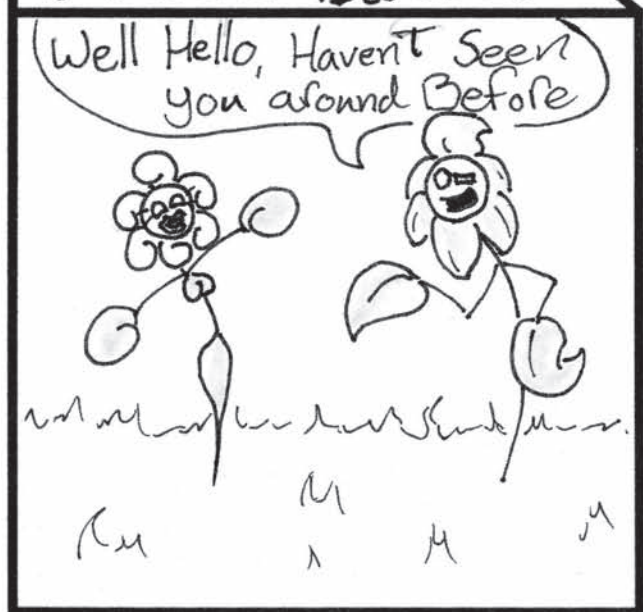
Thus, a single path diverges. One to stay in the jungle and rule as KING. The other to stand on the precipice of FATE and teeter over the edge. Uncertain as to what the future holds, but with no way home, our hero has no choice but to venture forward. Will the mysterious door ahead hold fame and fortune, danger and intrigue, or perhaps...horrendous DOOM!?



## Fried Bananas

An LBCC student-generated comic

By Mason Britton



## THE COMMUTER STAFF

The Commuter @lbcommuter

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

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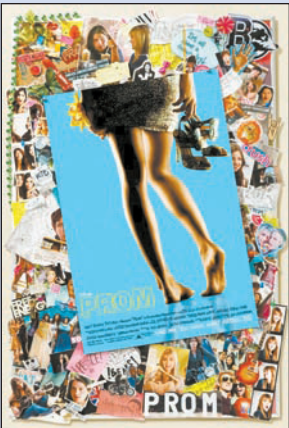
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**Letters Welcome**  
 The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. The Commuter attempts to print all submissions received, but reserves the right to edit for 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 The Commuter Office, Forum 222 or at [commuter@linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@linnbenton.edu)

## COMING ATTRACTIONS



**Prom**  
It's prom season! Disney follows around a group of high schoolers as they prepare for the big event.

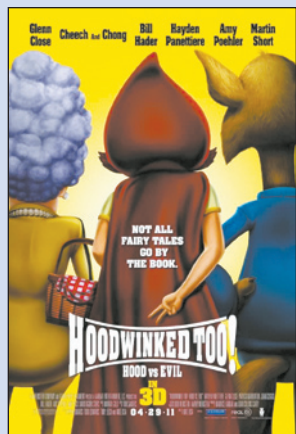
Rated: PG • Runtime: 103 min.  
Genre: High School Drama

### Fast Five

The fifth installment in the "Fast and the Furious" franchise has Paul Walker and Vin Diesel stealing some cars, again. And Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson trying to stop them.



Rated: PG-13 • Runtime: 130 min.  
Genre: Car Thief Reunion



**Hoodwinked Too!  
Hood vs. Evil**  
Red's back, along with Gran and the Big Bad Wolf on a mission to rescue Hansel and Gretel from a wicked witch. With the voices of: Hayden Panettier, Glenn Close, and Patrick Warburton.

Rated: PG • Runtime: 85 min.  
Genre: Animated Sequel

Sources: IMDb, Yahoo! Movies, Fandango.com



## HBO's Latest Is a Winner

**Marci Sischo**  
Webmaster

If you were just judging by some of the reviews, you might be tempted to skip watching "Game of Thrones." There have been charges of racism, sexism, plots that are too convoluted to understand, too many characters and more. Even when the reviewers don't outright hate the show, they're still unfavorable.

Ginia Bellafante at the New York Times turned in a terrible review that managed to insult just about everyone who read it, saying in part, "Game of Thrones" serves up a lot of confusion in the name of no larger or really relevant idea beyond sketchily fleshed-out notions that war is ugly, families are insidious and power is hot."

Bellafante didn't give the only bad review. Nina Shen Rastogi asked at Slate.com, "Is 'Game of Thrones' racist?" and Natasha Simons of The Mary Sue bemoaned the rape dynamic HBO saw fit to add to Khal Drogo and Daenerys' wedding night.

I think a lot of reviewers are stumbling over the fact that George R. R. Martin's "Game of Thrones" is not your standard fantasy. Fantasy comes with its own set of accepted conventions, and while "Game of Thrones" tips its hat respectfully to these conventions, it soars well past what many people expect from "sword and sorcery."

Martin's books revel in complexity and shades of gray. The heroes

aren't paragons of virtue, they're just the people who are winning at the moment (for a given value of "winning"). The villains are mostly greedy, not evil. The closest thing we get to an epic quest is the houses of Westeros' devious race for the Iron Throne. The world is medieval, not fantastic, and (supposedly) post-magic. Westeros' woods boast nice deer and boar, but fall short in the unicorn and dragon quotient.

If you come to HBO's "Game of Thrones" expecting "Dragonlance" or even "Lord of the Rings," you're going to be caught flat-footed, and I think that's throwing a lot of these reviewers off.

When you skip the "professional" reviews, and go straight to the fans, you hear a whole different story about "Game of Thrones." One fan at IMDB, said, "The acting is superb and I actually felt like I was looking into Winterfell for the first time. I feel like I've actually got faces to add to the characters that I've been reading about for a long time," while another called the show "...complex, it's original, it's fresh, and it is very exciting. The storyline gets better with each episode."

HBO had its work cut out for it in adapting "Game of Thrones" for television. The fanbase loves these books to pieces. They've been adventuring with Martin's cast of thousands for 15 years now, and they know his world backwards and forwards. HBO had to get it right.

So ... did they? Well, if the first couple of episodes are anything to

judge by, HBO knocked it out of the park.

First, and possibly most importantly, HBO did a stellar job of casting. The show's beloved cast is picture perfect, and talented actors one and all. I was particularly pleased with Sean Bean as Eddard Stark, Peter Dinklage as Tyrion Lannister, Jack Gleeson as Joffrey Baratheon, and Jason Momoa as Khal Drogo.

Second, the first episode was (almost) a spot-on match for the opening of Martin's first novel, and this is important. The plotting in the novels is so intricate and well-laid that additional screwing about by the writers of the series really isn't going to add anything to the show.

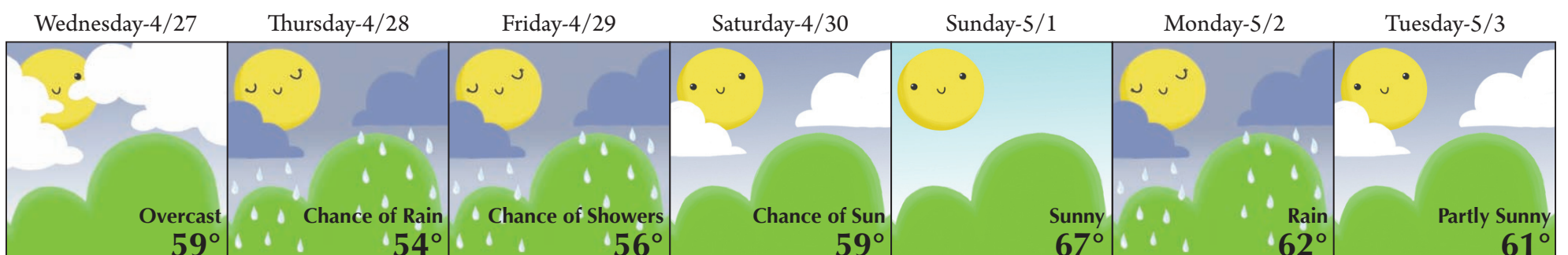
Third, and finally, the show was just beautiful to watch. The Ice Wall in the opening shot is gorgeous, the sets are amazing, the scenery is breath-taking. You couldn't ask for more eye candy from TV series.

Overall, I was nothing short of thrilled with the debut. The acting, amazing sets and intricate plots make this show must-see TV for anyone. If "Game of Thrones" lives up to the promise of its first two episodes, fantasy fans and non-fans alike are going to love it.

*For a more detailed -- and slightly spoiler-y -- review and rebuttal of some of the criticisms, visit Marci's blog at: [marcisischo.com](http://marcisischo.com)*

*"Game of Thrones" airs Sundays at 9 p.m. on HBO*

## Weekly Weather Predictions



Warning: These are only predictions. For up-to-date forecasts, please look out your window. Source: [accuweather.com](http://accuweather.com)