

December 1, 2010

THE COMMUTER

A Weekly Student Publication

Vol. 42 No. 10

Happy Christmakwanzakah and a
Festivus for the Rest of Us

pg. 12



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Blood Drive pg. 8

OPINION

Advice from Weiss

A word from your local **ASG**

It is getting to be that time of the term again! Pretty soon we will have a lot of frantic students realizing that finals are coming up and they need to study. This is the prime motivation behind this article. I have some very important news regarding the Study Jam this term. If you are new to campus, Study Jam is offered through the combined efforts of ASG and the Albany and Benton Center Learning Centers. ASG provides free food and the Learning Centers provide student support services and a warm place to study.

The Albany campus and Benton Center Study Jam will be Sunday, December 5 ONLY.

The Albany campus Study Jam will run from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, December 5 ONLY!

There will be:

- Math help
- Testing from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (with the latest time to start a test at 4 p.m.)
- Computers
- Food and drinks

The Benton Center Study Jam will run from 10a.m. to 4p.m. Sunday, December 5 ONLY!

There will be:

- Math help
- Reading Help
- Testing from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (with the latest time to start a test at 3 p.m.)
- Study Skills
- Computers
- Text books to be borrowed
- Food and Drinks

Eric Fleming
ASG Representative

The views of the ASG do not necessarily reflect those of The Commuter. Any questions or comments can be directed to the Student Life & Leadership office.

This week's column is based on several questions I've received in my office in the counseling and career center.

I say several questions, but really, they are all different versions of the same kind of question: "Who's in charge here?" and the answer is ... You!

Recently a student came to see me to complain and try to get help. He had been told by a teacher that he could drop his classes at the end of the 7th week of the term, and this is true. The student believed that since financial aid is awarded by the term, that he would be able to continue to do his work-study job, and be paid, until the end of the term. This is not true. Although financial aid is awarded by the term, if a student goes to zero credits, whatever aid has not been awarded stops immediately. The student can keep whatever money has already been awarded, but there will be no further payment until the student is back in classes.

When something like this happens students are always upset, naturally enough. They feel like someone should have warned them. Someone should have told them, and they want to know who that someone is. Who is responsible?

In this case, like most cases, the person responsible for knowing the rule is the student. That may seem harsh, and at the same time the college makes this clear in our catalog, on our website, in our orientations, and in the "Students Rights and Responsibilities Handbook."

In the case of financial aid, students are told to check their Student Information Account for messages from financial aid, and to check the financial aid website for general information and rules regarding everything from the work-study program to how to file for aid.

The same kind of student responsibility applies to things like registering for classes, knowing the rules around pass/fail, and graduation requirements. There are people who can help you

with each of these things, but the responsibility for all decisions is with you, the student. So please, don't ever take anything for granted. Go to the recommended source of information (whether that's a website or someone on campus) before making any big decision.

At a time when LBCC has 50% more students than we did two years ago, and less staff to help them, online information sources are a way that we try to guide and help students, and you need to be aware of these resources and make use of them. I'm not happy that we have to rely on electronic systems to give students information. I believe in direct conversation and personal communication. But in this era of limited human resource, we have to rely on written communication and a student's ability to find the information s/he needs. I'm sorry, but for now, that's the way it is.

One resource former students always have at their disposal is our job placement service. Any student or former student can use this service by coming into the Career Center and signing up ... and there are actually jobs available.

My hope is that the story I described above will end decently, because this student did sign up for the job placement service and may be able to make up for the lost financial aid. I also have reason to believe he'll be back next term, pursuing his goals, which is probably even more important.

As always, good luck my friends. Remember, I'm pulling for you. We're all in this together, even in those moments when it doesn't feel like it.

Mark

Mark Weiss has been a counselor and adviser at LBCC for 20 years. The purpose of this column is to answer students' questions about the college, academic advising, and how to be successful at LBCC. Please send your questions to mark.weiss@linnbenton.edu or stop by the Career and Counseling Center in Takena Hall.



Counselor Mark Weiss



Albany Campus:
Sunday, Dec. 5th, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

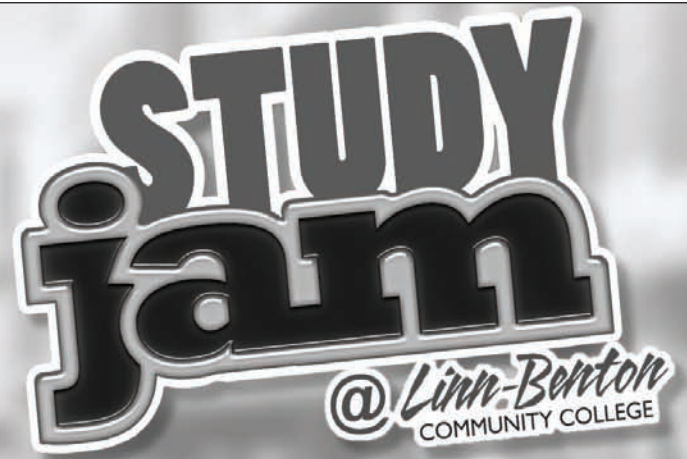
- Math Help Desk
- Computer Lab
- Library open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Testing - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Latest time to start testing is 4 p.m.)
- Food
- Drinks
- LBCC WiFi
- Textbooks will be available to borrow

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, Oregon 97321, Phone (541)-917-4690 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TTD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event. LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

Did the Surreal Living pages leave you hungry for more games?

We have more crosswords and sudoku puzzles online. Plus, more fun time-wasters in our arcade.

Visit our games section at **commuter.linnbenton.edu**



Benton Center:
Sunday, Dec. 5th, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

- Math Help Desk
- Reading Help Desk
- Computer Lab will be open
- Testing - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Latest time to start testing is 3 p.m.)
- Food
- Drinks
- LBCC WiFi
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A Stalking Government

Taylor Utti
Contributing Writer

As one of our daily rituals to get wherever we need to be throughout the day, most of us use some form of automotive transportation. Whether it's a full-sized Dodge pickup or a motorcycle, it's what gets us from point A to point B. In order to maintain the chaos, the government sets a list of rules for us to follow for our own safety and protection.

But are these rules really being enforced in the correct manner?

While on one of these daily commutes you're very likely to see one of two things: an active

police officer or a stalking police officer.

I've categorized them with these names for a reason. Active officers you will see driving around while they're on duty, eyes peeled for the law-abiding citizen. The stalking officer you won't see until the lights of justice appear in your rearview mirror.

This officer does not patrol the area in a fashion promoting his presence, but waits hidden among roads and highways to catch you in a moment of distraction or comfort. I use the word

"comfort" to describe the times where a police vehicle has not been sighted in quite some time,

This officer ... waits hidden among roads and highways ...

giving you the edge to push the speed limit or answer that incoming call. I believe that the reduction of stalking police vehicles would

not only decrease the amount of vehicular crimes committed, but allow officers to accomplish more on duty than previously. With more officers actively on duty patrolling the streets and highways with better visibility, people would be more inclined to follow the rules of the road.

Dear Conscience, Question: A persistent young woman wants a shallow relationship with me, but I'm trying to leave that world behind. How do I tell her "no"?

Ashley Christie
Shoulder Devil

A younger woman wants to use you and your body. Oh no, that sounds like a terrible problem. How awful for you.

Here's what you do ... let her. Don't say "no".

There is a finite window of time when the younger opposite sex will be attracted to you physically. Soon, they won't be attracted to you at all. And in the way distant future they'll only be attracted to your bank account.

You have to strike while the iron is hot my friend.

Do you know what the best thing is about attractive younger women? Their short attention span. You're the flavor of the month. Soon she'll forget about you and move on to the next guy. Then you will have missed your chance.

Plus, once she's done with you, you're free to move on to all of her hot young friends, because I know these girls and I know they always travel in packs.

You have the rest of your life to be all responsible and mature. Doing the "right" thing is only for the old and ugly. You're young, she's younger ... have fun and getcha some!



Justin Bolger
Shoulder Angel

Being used for your body will only waste your heart and your mind. This course of action will lead to harm for both you and this young woman.

There is no choice but to let her down easy and be honest with your feelings.

You have an entire world before you. Start walking forward; move on from the rubble of your past. You've experienced the less mature before, and it's left you unfulfilled thus far. Why would taking this old path lead somewhere new?

Strike out on this new venture, hero!

The best thing about a mature woman your age is that they are taking their time to find someone to care for and to be loved by. She will give you the time and interest you deserve as long as you're willing to do the same for her.

When you find this woman, you will have everything you need in life. You'll be a real team, a family.

You've just been having fun all your life, and someday you'll want to redeem yourself and your honor. What better place than here? What better time than now?

BACK *in the* DAY

Adam LaMascus
Opinion Editor

This day in history ...

Dec. 1, 1913: Taste of Freedom ...

The island of Crete is annexed by Greece. Depressingly enough, Crete has just managed to attain independence from the Ottoman Empire a few months earlier with the conclusion of the bloody First Balkan War. Out with the old occupier, in with the new.

Dec. 2, 1899: This ... is ... the Philippines!

During the Philippine-American War, the Battle of Tirad Pass is fought, also known as the "Philippine Thermopylae." 60 Filipino soldiers manage to hold off 500 American soldiers for more than five hours, allowing the bulk of their army to flee. The Americans eventually hire a local to lead them through a hidden route and flank the rearguard. 52 of the Filipinos are killed while 30 U.S. soldiers are killed. The rest of their army is captured by U.S. forces shortly afterward. Modern Filipino historian Nick Joaquin describes the battle as being an "exercise in futility" that allowed the army to "run to nowhere."

Dec. 3, 1984: Kind of mind blowing ...

The Union Carbide India Limited pesticide plant in Bhopal, India, suffers a massive leak, spewing vast amounts of methyl isocyanate into the air, injuring 558,125 people. 2,259 people are killed instantly, with thousands more dying later due to their injuries. Due to the nature of the problems, it is hard to track, but it is estimated that 11-15,000 people are killed by the so-called Bhopal Disaster.

Dec. 4, 1110: Bad luck there ...

King Sigurd of Norway and King Baldwin of Jerusalem lead their crusaders on a sack of the city of Sidon during the First Crusade. After the sacking, the city is incorporated into the Kingdom of Jerusalem. Sidon is sacked multiple times during the Crusades before finally being destroyed by the Saracens in 1249 then again by the Mongols in 1260.

Dec. 5, 1847: Up and coming ...

Jefferson Davis is elected to the U.S. Senate. He is most famous for being selected as the President of the Confederate States of America in 1861. He remains popular in the South to this day.

Dec. 6, 1941: Never heard of it?

Great Britain declares war on Finland during the Continuation War, which is a mini-war fought between the Soviets and Finland during WWII. This is a rare example of democracies declaring war on each other. The war lasts until 1944, at which point the Finns surrender. The Finns lose about 60,000 men, while the Soviets lose 200,000. Unlike most other countries defeated by the Soviets, they do not occupy Finland, and Communism doesn't take hold.

Dec. 7, 43 BCE: When in Rome ...

Famous Roman statesman and philosopher Marcus Tullius Cicero is assassinated by soldiers working for Mark Antony, who is Cicero's most powerful enemy. Cicero's last words reportedly are: "There is nothing proper about what you are doing, soldier, but do try to kill me properly."

Thought for the week:

"In anger nothing right nor judicious can be done."

-Marcus Tullius Cicero

Have questions? We have answers.

We will be offering advice on ANY topic from two different points of view. Send your questions to: commuter@linnbenton.edu

What do you think?

Both letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome.

Submit your thoughts to
commuter@linnbenton.edu



Women's Volleyball: A Season Review

Scott Landgren
 Sports Editor

This season had its ups and downs for the Linn-Benton Volleyball team. The season was filled with great wins and some tough losses. What stood out for the team was how they finished. Overall the LB volleyball team finished with a record of 28-16 and a second place finish in the Southern region at 7-3. At the NWAACC tourney, the team ended up taking fifth place, a great accomplishment.

Coach Jayme Frazier will have to hit the recruiting trail this year in order to fill her roster. She has only three freshmen returning from this season. The team also has a redshirt freshmen returning next season.

"We have tryouts this Sunday the fifth, to start looking at the future of LB Volleyball. It will start taking shape, but I will not truly know the roster until July / August 2011," said Coach Frazier.

If there was one word to describe the 2010 LB volleyball team, it would be heart. Even when they were down in a game or the match, they pulled together and pushed hard to get a victory. They had many injuries that forced missed games. Another thing it did was force team members into playing positions that they normally wouldn't.

One thing the LB team did have was experience. This team was made up of seven sophomores and only three freshmen. Over the whole season the team had many different lineups and had a good rotation of young and old players that mixed well together.

"Some key players were Amanda Berry with keeping our serve receive strong, Julianna Evola with putting up great sets, aces, and kills in the front row, Amy Trower with leading in blocks, and Emily Buchheit with leading in kills," said sophomore Kristina Crivello.

If you were to look at the box scores from the season, you would see that the LB team took teams to 4 or 5 games every match. Some of the games they were down in and found ways to come back and that was just part of the LB season, they never gave up in anything they did.

At the NWAACC tournament held at Mt. Hood Community College, the team went 3-2 and played well in every match that they were in. The team ended up taking fifth place in the whole NWAACC.

"For me, the best things about this season were seeing all of our hard work from August 2009-November 21st 2010 being paid off. We got to spend so much time together and at times it seemed like a lot, but I am really thankful I met these girls and I'm going to miss them a lot," said sophomore Emily Buchheit.

This season was very successful, as the team finished second in the Southern region and played well at the NWAACCs. They have a small team to build on next year but expect to have big things for the team next season. This was a special team that did one very important thing: they played as a team and always put the team first.

"I will miss them as individuals. I will miss them as a group. These sophomores have just matured so much in the last year. They made huge changes in their lives. Some overcame adversity to make athletics and academics a priority. A few of these players learned how to trust, some learned to lead. I will miss these freshman as well as they mature and become sophomore leaders. It is amazing to see how different players can be from one year to the next," said Coach Frazier.

Men's Basketball 2010-11 Schedule

Fri	Dec 10	Dale Bates Tournament	Eugene, OR	TBA
Sat	Dec 11	Dale Bates Tournament	Eugene, OR	TBA
Sun	Dec 12	Dale Bates Tournament	Eugene, OR	TBA
Fri	Dec 17	Shoreline C.C. Crossover	Seattle, WA	TBA
Sat	Dec 18	Shoreline C.C. Crossover	Seattle, WA	TBA
Sun	Dec 19	Shoreline C.C. Crossover	Seattle, WA	TBA
Tue	Dec 28	Clackamas C.C. Tournament	Oregon City, OR	TBA
Wed	Dec 29	Clackamas C.C. Tournament	Oregon City, OR	TBA
Thu	Dec 30	Clackamas C.C. Tournament	Oregon City, OR	TBA
Sat	Jan 8	Lane C.C.	Eugene, OR	6:00 PM

Women's Basketball 2010-11 Schedule

Fri	Dec 3	Blue Mountain C.C.	Walla Walla, WA	TBA
Sat	Dec 4	Walla Walla C.C.	Walla Walla, WA	TBA
Thu	Dec 9	Yakima Valley C.C.	Yakima, WA	6:00 PM
Fri	Dec 10	Columbia Basin College	Pasco, WA	6:00 PM
Fri	Dec 17	Bellevue College Crossover	Bellevue, WA	TBA
Sat	Dec 18	Bellevue College Crossover	Bellevue, WA	TBA
Sun	Dec 19	Bellevue College Crossover	Bellevue, WA	TBA
Tue	Dec 28	Chemeketa C.C. Tournament	Salem, OR	TBA
Wed	Dec 29	Chemeketa C.C. Tournament	Salem, OR	TBA
Thu	Dec 30	Chemeketa C.C. Tournament	Salem, OR	TBA
Sat	Jan 8	Lane C.C.	Eugene, OR	4:00 PM

To see the full schedule a visit ; <http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/athletics>



Brought to you by:

The Commuter

Your Source for News and Events at LBCC



Celebrate the birth of Christ
 and view over 600 nativity exhibits

When: December 3rd-5th
Time: 1 - 8:30PM each day
Where: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
 4141 NW Harrison Blvd, Corvallis

Friday, Dec. 3rd
 4:30 & 5:30PM - Nativity Story Puppet Show
 6 - 6:30PM - Bell Choir of the Church of the Good Samaritan
 7 - 7:30PM - Heart of the Valley Festival and Children's Choirs

Saturday, Dec. 4th
 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30PM - Nativity Story Puppet Show
 7 - 7:30PM - "Shine for Me Again, Star of Bethlehem," Community Choir

Sunday, Dec. 5th
 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30PM - Nativity Story Puppet Show
 5 - 5:30PM - Corvallis High School Jazz Choir
 6 - 6:30PM - Carillon of Praise Handbell Choir, Albany First Assembly of God
 7 - 8PM - Christmas Devotional broadcast with music by the Tabernacle Choir

FREE ADMISSION

The exhibit and concerts are free of charge, no donations accepted, and building is handicapped accessible.

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And the Winner Is: **Webrunner**

SIS Gets a New Name

Jordan Tunstill
A&E Editor

From one president, to another.

On Wed., Nov. 17, LBCC President Greg Hamann announced the winner of the contest to pick the best new name for the SIS (Student Info System).

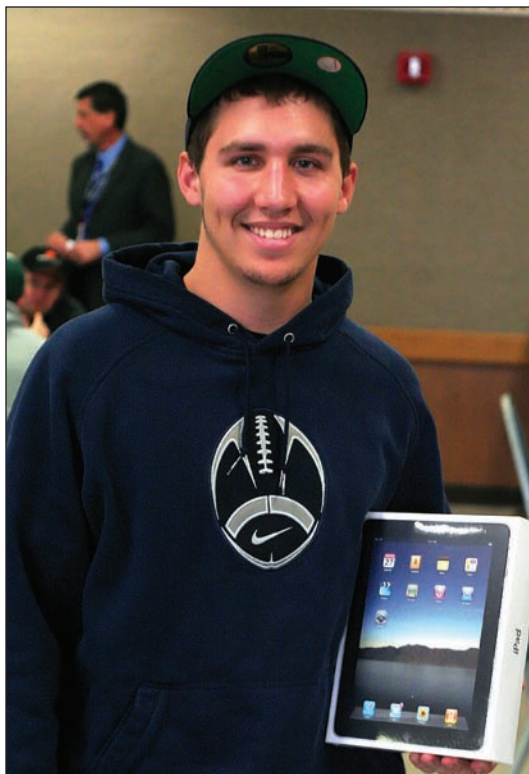
Over 500 people submitted school-related names, and all were reviewed by a selected committee to decide what would be the winning name. The prize was a brand new iPad.

The new name? It will now be called (drumroll please): Webrunner. This name is in reference to the school's mascot, the roadrunner.

And the winner? Tyler Spevacek, who is the president of the Associated Student Government. Spevacek was thrilled to win. He said, "I had a pretty positive attitude the whole time."

"I would sit in the Student Life and Leadership office and half-jokingly say that I was going to win. I guess it's just positive thinking paying off."

However, there were a few raised heads when people realized that the ASG student president was the



Tyler Spevacek wins a new iPad after his submission is chosen the new name of SIS.

one chosen to win the prize.

One very interesting thing to note about the contest is that Spevacek was not the only one to come up with the name Webrunner. Roxie Putman, who works in Admissions, also submitted that name.

Spevacek won because he submitted his name first on Oct. 12, while Putman did not enter her choice until Oct. 19.

Try not to get your head too filled with conspiracy though.

Sally Moore, associate dean of Academic Development, Communication Arts, and Mathematics, said the name of the student was not known until after the contest-winning entry was picked.

Hopefully that will be enough to put the minds of the conspiracy theorists to rest on this issue.

Moore was thrilled with the 518 names that were submitted and said that although it was a tough choice to pick just one, the committee in charge of selecting a winner was able to almost-unanimously decide after an hour of deliberation.

So, the name has been decided, the prize has been awarded, and, "Webrunner" will go into effect during the first week of January.

If you were hoping to win this competition, don't be too disappointed. There is another event coming up where you could be president of the school for a day. For more information, you check out our article about it on page 9.

Op Ed: But Is It Fair?

When the student president wins a school-wide competition, does your mind leap to the conclusion that more is going on than what is on the surface?

Well, that was my first thought when Tyler Spevacek was declared winner of the contest to pick the best name for the SIS (Student Information System). He was awarded an iPad as a prize. My conspiracy radar went crazy when that happened.

As the student president, Spevacek has quite a bit of influence with both staff and other student leaders. His role as president inevitably means that he will be working with faculty. It's worth noting that the committee of six that decided on the winner was made up of faculty and staff.

Now, although there is ABSOLUTELY NO proof of tampering with the contest, and the committee wasn't supposed to know who submitted which name, it would have been far too easy for Spevacek's name, "Webrunner," to be spread around the Student Life and Leadership room.

Heck, it could have even happened on accident. Whether it was malicious or not is not the point. The point is that simply by winning, Spevacek turned heads and led people to question the authenticity of the contest.

There is a simple way to get around this in the future. If somebody has a position of any authority at the school (e.g. student government), then they should not be allowed to participate in school contests. Problem solved.



Jordan Tunstill
A&E Editor

Hatfield Exhibit Gets a Makeover

Tony Brown
Photo Editor

The Hatfield Marine Science Center has given the LBCC Graphic Arts students an opportunity to give an otherwise boring exhibit a complete makeover.

Mark Farley, the exhibit designer at the Hatfield Center, asked the students to redesign the "Dive and Explore" exhibit, which is sponsored by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

This is not the first time the graphic arts students have helped out at the science center said John Aikman, faculty advisor for the graphic arts department. Last year the students redesigned and replaced old and aging signage throughout the science center.

The process for the display started last spring when all of the 15 students were given the assignment to create their own version of the exhibit. The



Provided by Harold Wood

Exhibit model constructed by graphic arts students Jessica Bonnett, Morgan Ulrich and Jawann Venavle.

criterion for the display was that it had to be fun and educational. From the 15 displays, five solutions were chosen based on suggestions from Aikman and Farley.

The students were then divided into five groups and worked to design displays based on a common theme. From these five, only two were chosen and presented to a panel of judges

at Hatfield, which is made up of members from each department.

"A selection will be made after the holidays," said Farley, "after which a grant will be written and the displays will be built."

There is not a definite timeline for completion, but graphic arts students will be included in the construction of the new exhibit.

THE COMMONS FARE 12/01-12/07

Wednesday

Dishes: Beef Goulash, Roast Chicken and Cauliflower Curry
Soup: Chicken Noodle and Minestrone

Thursday

Dishes: Coconut Braised Short Ribs, Pork Schnitzel and Tempura Vegetable
Soup: Spanish Chicken and Beer Cheese

Friday

Chef's Choice

Monday

Chef's Choice

Tuesday

Chef's Choice

FEATURE

A Long Journey for One Vote

Sean Briggs
Contributing Writer

“One Woman, One Vote,” a documentary shown in the Diversity Achievement Center, was a reminder of what the American woman had to go through to be able to vote. A hundred years ago, women did not have the right to vote. The old adage of being “seen and not heard” was an unfortunate way of life for women in America. The film takes us back to a time when things were anything but simple for women; they were down right horrendous and there was nothing they could do about it.

In the mid-1800s, Katie Staten rose up, making her opinions known in articles nationwide. She was an activist for women’s rights. Inspired by Staten, Susan B. Anthony became an advocate for women’s equality with men and full rights under the Constitution. Lucy Stone, keeping her own name when married, spoke out against the role of women in society. She stated, “Women who depart society’s roles will suffer, but I did it.”

From the beginning of the film, you could feel the reverence everyone in the room had for the women who were portrayed before us on the silver screen. Each one had given part if not all of their lives and effort so that women could have a voice in society.

When asked later if women’s suffrage groups were needed today, one attendee voiced, “Absolutely, but the topics discussed would be totally different. Women still need a voice in our community.”

Women’s rights were moving west in the mid-1800s. Picking up steam with the expansion of America, western states were more open and tolerant to hearing about women’s rights. Elis Meridith wrote a weekly column for one of Colorado’s leading publications. She advocated that money and literature were imperative to the success of women’s rights. Likewise, Colorado was the first state in the Union to ratify women’s suffrage laws, passing by a slim margin. It was clear by now that this fight would not be easy to win.

When asked if women see the same prejudices outlined in the movie in today’s society, Mark Lehnert stated they are different; women still go through injustice, but we have laws that prevent unjust treatment of anyone.

The film ended with a sense of victory and hope, because not two decades after the turn of the century, women in this country gained the right to vote. The women of that era did not give up – they kept going just like the mothers, grandmothers, friends, sisters, and activists of today. They are strong in the defense of their rights, courageous and ideological. Today, most voters are women, making up more than 54 percent of the vote. Just remember, there was a long road for women to be able to make their choice known.

Editorial: Internalized Racism

When do words become an insult?

Recently I was waiting for the bus at the school bus station and heard someone say, “He was wearing mascara. He must be gay.” The phrase was filled with hatred and ignorance. What if it was because he had a costume party the night before? The person might have said it subconsciously, but how would you feel if someone talked about you in a stereotypical terminology?

Another comment that made me uneasy was when I was watching a program hosted by an African-American man with my friend. Since I found him attractive, I said, “He’s somewhat attractive.” Then my friend said, “He’s too black for you.” So I immediately responded, “I didn’t know that you are a racist.” He replied, “I’m not.” I was angry; I was in complete shock and at a loss for words. Because I’m of mixed heritage myself, being Indian and Japanese, comments like these cut me like a knife. What’s more unfortunate is that he himself didn’t recognize his racial comments.

Regardless of what

comes to our mind, we should think twice before we speak.

Because even if there are no intention to harm others, words or comments can be hurtful and unpleasant. Having a poor impression on others happens to anyone, but there needs to be a courtesy among people. With the rise of negative perception about Islam and Muslims in the United States, the ignorance has overwhelmingly distorted the image of them and has become widespread.

I met a student from Afghanistan who received an aggravating expression at school in Portland. One day while he was praying in class, his female classmate talked to him, but he couldn’t talk back to her. Later he apologized to her for not responding.

Then she asked him why, so he explained to her that he was a Muslim and was praying for God. Her initial reaction was, “Muslim? Oh, terrorists!”

Similarly, I was talking to my friend who is from Pakistan,

and he shared a story about his racial experience when he first moved to Corvallis. A man, who my friend didn’t know, asked him out of curiosity where he was from. After my friend answered the man, he said, “Oh, so are you a terrorist?” in a serious tone of voice. I was surprised by the fact that even in a diverse city such as Corvallis, there are people like this man (though perhaps he was from a different city). I didn’t want to believe that this happened in Corvallis, but regrettably, this kind of incident happens everywhere.

Even so, why don’t we once again put ourselves into other’s shoes and think about what it’s like to be

What’s more unfortunate is that he himself didn’t recognize his racial comments.

misunderstood, pre-judged, and classified from those who don’t know you well? How ignorant would it be to categorize someone at first

sight? Words like gay, stupid, and retarded may be used casually and without intention to offend others. However, once those words leave your mouth, they’ll remain in others’ minds and hearts eternally.



Maya Sharuma
Contributing Writer

Weiss and Klampe Improvise Discussion on Diversity



Oz Galvez

Mark Weiss (left) and Angie Klampe discuss how they have encountered stereotypes throughout their lives. On Wednesday, Nov. 10, Steven Leider, director of OSU’s Gay Pride Center, was scheduled to meet at the Diversity Achievement Center to discuss and educate LBCC students about the gay community. Due to some miscommunication, Leider wasn’t able to make it to the event, forcing the panel to improvise. Weiss, a career advisor, and Klampe, of career services, both took advantage of the opportunity to share their insights with students. During their remarks they emphasized the importance of respect.




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Arson at Corvallis Mosque Fuels Strong Emotions

Lisa A M Bauman
Advertising Assistant

This season's festivities have been hot – too hot actually. Portland has suffered bomb threats and in retaliation an arsonist targeted a Corvallis mosque.

The annual tree-lighting ceremony that occurs the day after Thanksgiving is a proud tradition for Portland. On Nov. 27, people were densely packed together to view the spectacular 75-foot tree provided by Stimson Lumber Company. The Pacific Youth Choir and Cantor Ida Rae Cahana were prepared to host a sing-a-long. Thomas Lauderdale, members of Pink Martini, and the Oregon Symphony were also there to perform for the crowd.

Mohamed Osman Mohamud, a 19-year-old, Somali-born, former OSU student attended this event with a different idea in mind. He is accused of planning to detonate a car bomb in the middle of Portland's crowded streets during the ceremony. "It's gonna be a fireworks show ... a spectacular show," said Muhamud, according to an article on the Huffington Post. Muhamud had reportedly been

planning his destructive deed since he was 15 years old.

Fortunately, Mohamud's plans were thwarted. He was arrested after attempting to detonate the bomb. What Mohamud didn't know was his bomb was a decoy put together by FBI agents in a sting operation.

In the article, Mohamud further went on to cite his religious beliefs as the reason for this destruction. "To my parents who held me back from Jihad in the cause of Allah. I say to them ... if you make allies with the enemy, then Allah's power ... will ask you about that on the day of judgment, and nothing that you do can hold me back."

Beaverton Muslim leaders expressed concern about the incident. Imam Mikal Shabazz, president of the Oregon Islamic Chaplains Organization, made a formal statement that he in no way supports Mohamud's actions.

This religious connection caused a chain of events that no one could have predicted. Because of the religious

reference and his connection to Corvallis through OSU, the Corvallis Gazette-

Times produced an article that showcased Salman Alfarisi Islamic Center where Mohamud occasionally attended prayers.

In the article, there was a statement from the mosque that denounced Mohamud's actions and made it clear that he was not a regular attendee of the Mosque. The article communicated the center's feelings against the bombing attempt, but it also brought attention to the place of worship.

The next day, a fire was set in the mosque, and many have been affected by it. "My friend messaged me on Facebook around 2 a.m. and asked me what was going on at the mosque. I didn't even respond. I went over right away," said one dual-enrolled LBCC/OSU student who asked to remain anonymous.

Eighty percent of the center's office was burned. There were Holy Scriptures left in ruin and melted electronics. The fire did not spread to worship areas or any other rooms, but the tragedy has left many people unnerved.

"To think that someone could retaliate like that is horrendous!" said Muna Hassan, another dual-enrolled LBCC/OSU student who is Somali-born and is part of the Muslim community in Corvallis. "[The bombing attempt in Portland] is not a representative of Islam. That goes against everything our religion teaches us."

"The young people are afraid for their parents. They are afraid to be in public now," said another LBCC student who didn't want to be identified.

Yosof Wanly, the center's imam, told MSN reporters that he is thinking about temporarily relocating his family because of the possibility of hate crimes.

"To think that someone could retaliate like that is horrendous!"

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Now - Dec. 3

Blaming and Burning: Embarrassing

As I'm sure most of you have heard, a 19-year-old Muslim man from Corvallis attempted to detonate a bomb in Portland recently. In response to this terrorist act, we've had another act of terrorism: Somebody decided to set the Corvallis mosque on fire. The damage wasn't that bad, and fortunately nobody was hurt.

This is really just mind blowing, and I can't believe it happened. While it is completely understandable to be angry that somebody would try to kill innocent people, committing terrorism of your own is hardly the solution. First of all, this is completely bigoted and ridiculous, blaming all Muslims for the act of one insane person. It's like burning down churches because Christians were the people who committed the Holocaust. Not only does this make no sense rationally, there is no human dignity involved here either.

Secondly, this does nobody any good, and if anything, makes things worse. I even have a friend in Britain who heard about this, which goes to show how much our reactions are being watched by the world. We're not terribly popular right now. Crazy people are saying we are trying to wage a war against Islam, and our actions have even caused some rational people to doubt us. Going and burning this mosque will only confirm the accusations of the crazies, and will make people think that perhaps they are right after all. Considering we need all the help we can get to solve the problems caused by radical Islamic terrorists, the last thing we need to be doing is alienating even more people than we already have. Where people like al-Qaeda are an embarrassment to Islam and make Muslims look bad, people like whoever burned the mosque are an embarrassment



Adam LaMascus
Opinion Editor

to Americans and make us all look bad.

It's sickening to see Corvallis in the news again for another hate crime. Hopefully this will remain an isolated incident of a hate-filled radical, and we can all work towards better resolutions.

I'll end this with some words of wisdom.

"In anger nothing right nor judicious can be done."
Cicero

"... To build for man a world without fear, we must be without fear. To build a world of justice, we must be just."

Dag Hammarskjöld (Nobel Peace Prize winner and former UN Secretary-General)

"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."

Jesus

"The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong."

Gandhi

"You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also."

Jesus

"An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind."

Gandhi

"All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over black nor a black has any superiority over white except by piety and good action."

Muhammad

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Ducks and Beavers Team Up to Shed Blood Off the Field

Lacey Jarrell
Managing Editor

On Nov. 15 and 17, LBCC and the Red Cross jointly hosted the school's first blood drive of the year, the Civil War Blood Drive. The drive drew approximately 100 donors over the two days.

The Red Cross collected 82 units of blood, which topped their goal of 81 units. The units have the potential to save over 246 lives.

Thanks to the many people who signed up, and then followed through by actually showing up for the appointment, the school was able to help the Red Cross meet and beat their goal. In the past, people who have made up the highest percentage of donors are walk-ins according to Tim Babcock, Student Programming Board (SPB) representative.

"Most of the time we're lucky to get 40 percent of the people who sign up, show up," he said.

Jacob Clouse, student and first time donor, said his main motivation for donating blood was being entered into

a drawing for a chance to win Civil War tickets.

"I've donated I think 10 times now, and I do it because it's very easy and so very important to the Red Cross," said returning donor and student Gary Brittsan in an e-mail.

Every year LBCC hosts one blood drive per term. One pint of whole-blood is taken over a half hour period unless a donor signs up for double red cell donation. According to redcross.org, a double red cell donation can take up to 20-30 minutes longer than a normal draw, but can take as much as twice as much blood while returning platelets and plasma back into your blood stream.

Whole-blood donors can donate every 56 days.

According to Babcock, about one-third of the students who donated were recruited in Takena Hall by the SPB on two consecutive Mondays, and about one-third were recruited directly from the Red Cross database. The final portion of donors were recruited by a mass e-mail that was sent out to staff and students asking for support.



Lacey Jarrell

Jacob Clouse donates blood for the first time at the blood drive on Nov. 15 in the hopes of winning some Civil War game tickets.

The Red Cross had two other drives simultaneously, which lead to a small number of beds for LBCC. Only three were available the first day and about five the second. Many students who found out about the drive

and wanted to donate were not able to because of the limitation. "We had to turn a lot of people away unfortunately," said Babcock.

Sign-ups are now available for the next Red

Cross blood drive January 26-27. Make an appointment at Student Life & Leadership located on the first floor of the Student Union, or go to givelife.org and enter the sponsor code LBCC.



Dawnita Cooper

Karen Tameling, executive director of Options, shows off the new ultrasound machine at the Albany office. "Options is just here to help women with unexpected pregnancies and give support," said Tameling.

Pregnancy Center Provides Options

Dawnita Cooper
Contributing Writer

Options, located at 409 1st Ave. in Albany, is a nonprofit organization where women can go when they have an unexpected pregnancy. All the services are free and women can get help with no strings attached. Options is nonjudgmental; their whole purpose is to help women.

Karen Tameling is the executive director at Options. She enjoys helping women in the community and aims to provide warm and friendly atmosphere as soon as you enter the door.

The services they provide are pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, community referrals and one on one support for unexpected mothers. The facility also just received a new ultra-sound machine through a grant from Focus on the Family.

Right now, Options is giving out baby bottles to be filled with change to raise money for all the services at options so they can continue to help women.

If you or anyone you know might need our services please feel free to call or stop by Options is here to help! Or if you would like to support the program or become a volunteer please feel free to contact Options at 541-924-0160 or go to possiblypregnant.org

Ever Wanted to Rule the School?

Lacey Jarrell
Managing Editor

Aspirations of becoming president? Don't wait until you graduate college to reach your dreams. Enter the "You Could Be President For a Day!" contest at LBCC.

In this unique opportunity, the winning student will get to see the inner workings of LBCC firsthand, while President Greg Hamann attends his/her classes all day Jan. 19, 2011.

When the president and the student change places, each will have an opportunity to interact and face the challenges each of the positions offer. Hamann will attend a student's full schedule of classes for the day, including taking notes and meeting other campus obligations. Sorry students, no substitution for exams.

"This is really an opportunity to make a connection with students, which is why I'm here," said Greg Hamann, LBCC president.

A day in the life of the president includes lunch at LBCC's Santiam Restaurant with a school board member. The winning student will also attend a budget committee hearing for a behind-the-scenes look at how administrators decide which positions will be refilled, or eliminated and where the schools investments are made, and why.

"It's a way of seeing a part of the

institution the students never get to see," said Hamann.

However, students should not fear the impending doom and responsibility of presidency.

According to Bruce Clemetson, vice president of student services, the winning student will not be expected to do anything "scary" or out of the ordinary like give a public appearance or a speech. Staff, including Renee Windsor-White, executive assistant to the president, will also be standing by to support the student with the calendar events and introductions.

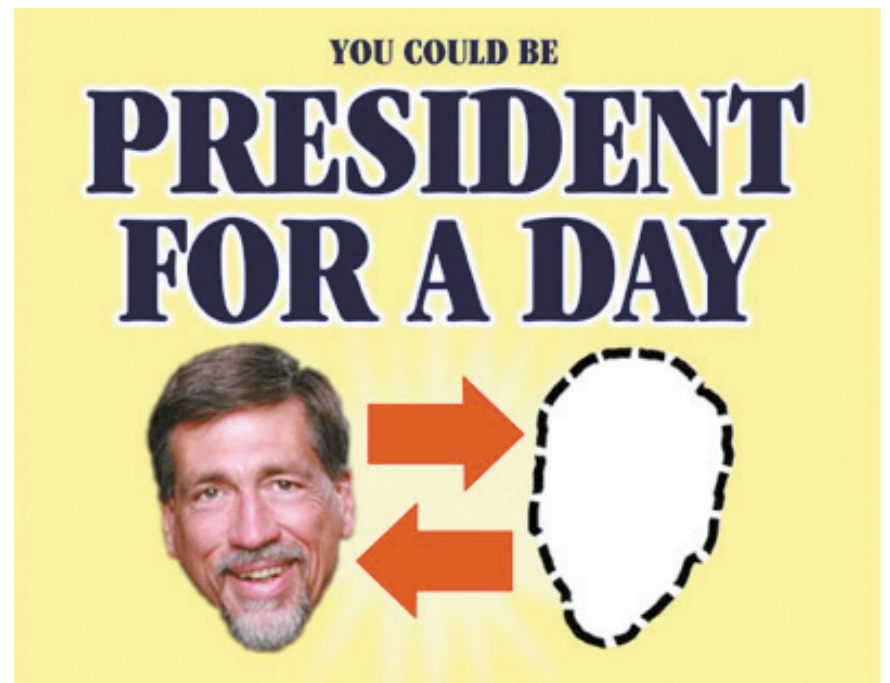
"I'll be here all day and it would be just like I was their executive assistant," she said.

The student will finish off the day with a meeting of the Board of Education where he or she will share a short essay reflecting what they have learned from the day.

To enter the contest, submit a 2011 winter term schedule and a 100-word essay that answers the question, "What would you do for the college in one day if you were LBCC President?"

Submissions should be turned in to Student Life & Leadership by 5 p.m. Dec. 10, 2010.

For more information click the "You Could Be President for a Day!" link on LBCC's homepage.



How to enter:

Submit: A 100-word essay answering the question, "What would you do for the college in one day if you were LBCC President?"

Plus a copy of your winter term schedule

To: Student Life & Leadership

Deadline: Fri. Dec. 10 by 5 p.m.

More Info: www.linnbenton.edu

Club Cultivates Knowledge of Nature

Rayeed Mohammed Ibtesam
Contributing Writer

Abies alba, abies firma, abies procera ... a plethora of information resides in the trees, flowers, and greeneries that surround us.

It is indeed exceedingly surprising how so few of us know about them or at least care to let others know about it.

Fortunately, our very own campus boasts four new interpretive signs that have been recently erected. By reading these signs, one can amass a great deal of information ranging from the plants' latin names to their colors, characteristics, and much more.

Wesley Julsrud, a plant enthusiast and Horticulture major installed the interpretive signs at different locations on campus as part of a practicum.

You can find them at the Native Garden/Oak Savannah located on the north side of the large oak grove east of the Calapooia Center, the Sustainability Garden located between Red Cedar and Madrone Hall, the Organic Farm and Gardens located east of the soccer field and north of the barns, and at the Bioswale/ Rain Garden area located between the soccer field and the Organic Gardens.

These professionally designed interpretive signs "are intended to inform the reader of the purpose of the garden and how it fits into the area where it is located.

The Horticulture Department is always looking for new ways to improve the practical applications of that field of study by expanding and integrating existing areas to compliment the Albany campus as a unit," wrote Julsrud in a practicum review.

Indeed, the Horticulture Department on



One of the new interpretive signs in the Sustainability Garden between Red Cedar and Madrone Hall.

Tony Brown

campus has been active for quite a while and has taken part in landscaping a couple of different locations on campus.

Aided by expert faculty members in their respective fields, students have also undertaken the construction of a new greenhouse project in the Organic Farm area.

The Horticulture Club invites anyone who is a

plant lover to volunteer his or her time and effort to help make our campus healthier. Visit the "Clubs" section on the LBCC website or call Joleen Schilling, the club's advisor, at 541-917-4596 for more information.

Even if you don't see yourself volunteering, at least take a stroll around and see what has been done or is underway to develop the vicinity - you won't be disappointed.

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Thursday 12/2

The Heavens are Telling!

7:30 – 9 p.m. • Russell Tripp
Performance Center

The LBCC Choirs (The Re-Choired Element Chamber Choir, The Concert Choir, The Men's Ensemble, The Blue Light Special, and The Sirens) will have a concert conducted by James Reddan.

Saturday 12/4

Children's Winter Festival

1 – 4 p.m. • Commons

It's a free event for all so bring your friends and family. We will be accepting canned food

donations to help support the Linn-Benton Lunch Box program. There will be different ethnic rooms featuring crafts such as construction of Chinese masks, Kwanza bead necklaces, and dreidel making. Entertainment for the event will include cookie decorating, pictures with Santa (make your own frame station), balloon artists, and other things.

Sunday 12/5

Albany Center Study Jam

10 a.m. – 8 p.m. • Learning Center
Do you need a place to study by yourself or with a group? Come to Study Jam, sponsored by your Associated Student Government! Learning Center resources, math, writing and study skills help, text book rentals and free food will all be available!

Benton Center Study Jam

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. • Benton Center
Come to the Benton Center to

study for finals on Dec. 5. Math, reading, writing, and study skills help. Food and drinks provided by Associated Student Government.

Mon. - Fri. 12/6-10

Book Buyback

Sell your books back for the holidays!

Friday 12/10

Benton Center Pottery Sale

3:30 – 5:30 p.m. • Benton Center
Both functional and one-of-a-kind pieces will be for sale at affordable prices. Pieces are made using techniques such as high fire, salt glaze and wood fire pottery. All high fire pieces are oven, microwave and dishwasher safe. A portion of all sales goes to support the LBCC ceramics studio. For more information, contact LBCC's Benton Center at 541-757-8944.

Monday 1/3

First Day of Winter Term

My how time flies ...

HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE!

Come join the American Legion. We are the world's largest Veterans club, and Albany Post 10 is the largest in the state. The American Legion is the only private club established by Congress. This means when we go to bat for our veterans, we get things accomplished, but we can't do it without you. Without the numbers our voice is mute. This is America and this is what we fought for. This is our country so let your voices be heard.

The American Legion not only helps active military, veterans, and their families, but we also help children and youth, boys and girls state, scholarships, National Emergency Relief Fund, the elderly, public schools, Boy Scouts of America, Little League, and many many more. There are many aspects to the Legion, a little something for every part of the family. The ladies Auxiliary and Junior Auxiliary, The Mothers, Sisters, Daughters and Wives of Veterans or active service personnel, The Sons of the American Legion, male descendants of any active or inactive Veteran who has served or is serving honorably. We encourage our veterans and their families to empower themselves and bring change for the better.

It is not all about business though. You have served your country well. So while we are about helping the community we also like to have a bit of fun. Every year the the American Legion has a picnic. We cook up some grub and have prizes and games for the kids and adults, this year we had a live band. During the holidays we cook up some excellent dinners for free and have parties for the kids and the adults. During the summer there are group camp outs and fishing trips for the whole family. Last year we rented all of Triangle Lake campground and charged \$10.00 for 3 days of camping. We had a live band and a big Pot-luck dinner with games, and a nice place to swim for the smaller kids. Adult beverages were present and a wholesome good time was had by all, the way it should be.

Recently our Post was ravaged by fire. An arsonist felt the need to burn our building down, so we will be without a building for about a year from July 4th 2010. (This is the day the arsonist decided to burn it down.) We are rebuilding. Our Post will be better than it ever was, and stronger for the tragedy. For this reason, we regret there will be no holiday parties and dinners for our families at the Post, but we are still needing membership. As a matter of fact we need membership now more than ever. Your membership dues will help pay for a new building so we can continue the mission of the the American Legion. Please help us, your community, and yourselves.

For information on how to help or to join please feel free to call: 541-990-2641 or 541-926-0127 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or go to www.post10.org or make any donation at any Umpqua Bank under the American Legion Post 10 "donations" account.

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Fa-La-La-La-La Holiday Music Round-Up

Jordan Tunstill
A&E Editor



Enya - "And Winter Came"

I have never heard a holiday album like Enya's "And Winter Came." It is full of harmonies and lyrics that seem to float around in your mind.

My favorite thing about it is that only one of the songs on the 12-track CD is a traditional Christmas song; the rest are all Enya originals.

Enya's rendition of the one traditional song, "Come O Come Emmanuel," is absolutely amazing.



Sufjan Stevens - "Songs for Christmas"

Alright folks, this is about as unique as it gets.

Sufjan Stevens' 45-track Christmas album is filled with original songs, well-done covers of popular ones, and is perhaps the most impressive holiday collection that I have ever heard.

And did I mention that there are 45 tracks?! For \$15!

If you are only going to buy one album this year, let this be your one album. It's just that good.



Susan Boyle - "The Gift"

You probably know her best from "Britain's Got Talent," where she wowed the crowd with fantastic performances and an eventual second-place finish.

Now she's got a holiday album that has 10 tracks of exactly what you would expect from Boyle: slow, soothing songs that show off her immense vocal range.

"The Gift" only has the old classics on it, so if you like your holidays with a bit of pop, hold back on this one. Otherwise, enjoy.



Glee: The Music - "The Christmas Album"

This 12-track album sounds a lot like the rest of the "Glee" music: upbeat, pop-filled, and happy.

It covers all the familiar grounds of holiday music with songs like "Jingle Bells" and "O Holy Night." The songs feature a wide variety of lead vocalists from the TV show cast.

There is one song that is bound to be very controversial. "Baby, It's Cold Outside," sung by two male vocalists. Now that may be a stopping point for some, or a selling point for others.

This holiday album is not great, but pretty good.

How to Make a Holiday Movie

Ashley Christie
Page Designer

Good holiday movies have a never-ending shelf life. They will get watched and re-watched year after year. The bad ones will be forgotten before New Year's. While it is a magical season where anything can happen, there are some common holiday movie mistakes that should never happen ... again.

Here are some rules to remember:



Don't screw-up a classic.

I'm all about being original and showing your creativity, but if it ain't broke don't fix it. "How the Grinch Stole Christmas!" was cartoon perfection. Now every time I think about it all I can see is Jim Carrey overacting in green makeup. And don't stretch a 30 minute short into a 90 minute feature by adding a backstory. "Grinch: Origins" would have been a better title for Ron Howard's 2000 atrocity "Dr. Seuss' How the Ginch Stole Christmas."

You can still put your own spin on things. After the umpteenth "A Christmas Carol," a little reimagining is much appreciated. Casting Vanessa Williams as Ebony Scrooge in "A Diva's Christmas Carol" or watching Michael Cain act along side a bunch a muppets in "The Muppet Christmas Carol" are both good fun. Just don't go overboard on the changes; like the holiday cookies, everything in moderation.



Don't be too creative.

The holidays are all about traditions and the familiar. When it comes to movie-making, stick with the basics and don't try to make it all fancy with new tricks and the latest technology. Robert Zemeckis gets so obsessed with motion capture and CGI animation technology that he doesn't see what it actually looks like. "The Polar Express" and 2009's "A Christmas Carol" both have animation that make the characters look soulless and creepy. Plus hearing Tom Hanks and Jim Carrey voice every other character gets old really fast.

If you want to try something new and innovative do it with the script. Think "A Christmas Story." Think "Bad Santa." Think "Elf." All of these movies take classic holiday ideas and make them

seem fresh. If you are dead-set on animation, learn from the Rankin/Bass classics. (My favorite is "The Year Without a Santa Claus.")



Don't make it a horror film.

The idea of an old fat man breaking into my house, eating my food, and rewarding little kids' good behavior is scary enough. A psychopathic snowman in "Jack Frost" (1997) or slain sorority sisters in "Black Christmas" (1974) don't really scream holly jolly Christmas, they just scream. If you are going to make it all about the blood and gore, then at least come up with an original title. "The Gingerdead Man," "Satan Claus," "Silent Night, Deadly Night" ... these show as much creativity as the porn industry and I think you can do better.

That doesn't mean that the movie has to be happy, friendly, or feature singing and dancing reindeer. "Die Hard," "The Ref," "Trapped in Paradise," and "Kiss Kiss Bang Bang" are all top-quality films that just happen to take place around Christmas. They're better in a lot of ways because you don't overload on the sugary sweetness of more traditional holiday films.



Don't substitute big-name actors for a good script.

This problem seems to be occurring more and more. Studios want to cash in on the "it" actor of the moment so they slap a holiday themed story together and expect him/her to carry the film. Yes, Vince Vaughn is hilarious and Reese Witherspoon is adorable, but that doesn't save a piece of crap script like "Four Christmases." "Jingle All the Way," "Deck the Halls," and "Christmas with the Kranks" are all guilty of forfeiting story for celebrity and it must be stopped.

It's okay to cast well-known actors in your movie. "Love Actually" and "The Family Stone" both have a slew of popular actors and they are really good. What do they do right? They remember it's about the script and not the box office haul. Never forget about the story.

Just remember to keep it simple and rest assured that no matter what you do, it won't be worse than "Santa Claus Conquers the Martians." Happy Holidays everyone!

PERSPECTIVES

What does the holiday season mean to you?



Mothana Al-zabidi,
Chemistry

"It's an opportunity for me to get away from school and refresh my mind."



Kathie Dunigan,
Music

"I get to get back home with my family and be with them."



Hasan Aljanby,
Computer Science

"It is a time where I can sleep all day."



Nehemiah Clark,
Engineering

"It's all about hope and Christmas cheer for me."



Matt Miller,
Undecided

"It's just nice to have time off."

Brotherly Love

David Robinson
Contributing Writer

“Blood Brothers,” director Dan Stone’s first play for Linn-Benton, was a solid grounding for a bright future in the school’s performing arts.

The plot centered on the relationship between twin brothers Mickey and Edward, played by Cameron Graham and Erik Henry respectively, who are separated at birth by mothers Mrs. Johnstone (Michelle Stephenson) and Mrs. Lyons (Jordan Ullman) due to dire financial circumstances.

Johnstone, the impoverished single mother, and the twin she retains, Mickey, represent the social and psychological shadow of going without. Meanwhile, Lyons is the infertile rich mother who can afford to buy the other twin because of her husband’s job.

The play then explores the socioeconomic contrasts of growing up rich or growing up poor as the boys befriend each other and grow into adults.

The songs and music in the play, conducted by James Reddan, were extremely well performed and were among the play’s highlights.

Also worth noting



Alyssa Archer

Twins Mickey (Cameron Graham, left) and Edward (Erik Henry) play as children in a performance of “Blood Brothers.”

was the scenery, which while minimalist, allowed for a wide variety of settings; only two main physical changes occurred: the appearance of doors and the excellent lighting.

The latter truly inspired great shifts in mood and was cohesive with the action. The lighter aspects of this dark play were strongly expressed; humor was a running theme in the story full of negative events.

As the characters aged, lyrics twisted from childhood fantasies of life being a “kid’s game,” to an adult’s reality that life is not a game after all. The

enthusiasm of the actors aided in lightening the play, and although some of the cast seemed rather inexperienced, they sang proudly.

The power of the play’s contrasting messages was somewhat weakened by a focus on the brighter side of life. At times it seemed as though some of the characters were actually enjoying being in their bad situations.

The actors with the stronger roles were a support for the negative action, and although the conclusion appeared like a sudden turn in a rollercoaster, the change was well executed by the leading parts.

The choreography was interpretive to say the least, and often bounded from the lyrics more than the music. The characters were not dancing as much as they were performing actions to music; the choreography’s shining moments were in the play’s two happiest songs, “Kid’s Game” and “Bright New Day,” which finished off the first act.

In these moments, the actors were able to dance their hopes out on the stage, bringing humor in the first of these songs and joy in the second. These scenes were well performed and some of the most memorable of the play.



“Harry Potter” Casts Spell on Audiences

Jordan Tunstall
A&E Editor

As lines started forming six hours before showtime, the nerd that lives inside ordinary people came out en masse to once again demonstrate the level of devotion and fandom associated with J.K. Rowling’s famous “Harry Potter” series.

Over 3,000 theaters across America sold out for the midnight showing that brought in over \$24 million as costumed fans anxiously awaited “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Pt. 1.”

Dressed in a way that many outsiders would find strange and perhaps even a little crazy, fans donned wands, cloaks, and sharpie-drawn lightning bolt scars, while waiting for the legacy of “The Boy who Lived” to continue.

How does the movie stack up to the book, you ask? Well, in my humble opinion, it’s the best movie adaptation of the series so far. In fact, Rowling is the executive producer for both of the final movies. She has creative control, which lets her keep the storyline on track.

If you are worried about

an accurate storyline, you can breathe easy. The film is also visually breathtaking; it’s chock full of beautiful panning shots and dazzling special effects. The best cinematographic scene may be when Hermione is reading a book, and the animation of the book plays in an interestingly morbid way.

Novices be warned, if you are not an avid “Potter” fan, you may not be able to follow the plot completely. Even though the movie adaptation cut the book into two parts to attempt to explain everything clearly, it did seem to jump around a bit. Fans of the books, prepare to be amazed by the accuracy of the script, both in plot lines and dialogue.

The film is guaranteed to leave everyone hanging, and they picked a good spot in the book to do just that (but I’m not going to spoil that for you). However, I do recommend that you go get yourself a ticket to “HP 7” if you haven’t already.

When the final chapter in the series comes out on July 15, I will be at the premiere, dressed in full wizard garb with wand in hand. Maybe I’ll see you there.

redbox review

Scott Pilgrim vs. The World (Rated PG-13, Runtime 112 min.)

Justin Bolger
Editor-in-Chief

Big fan. Why wouldn’t I be? This is a movie custom-tailored for the ADHD gamer generation. These are my people.

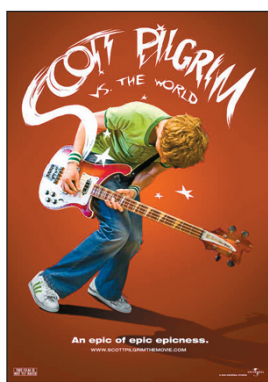
“[‘Scott Pilgrim’ is] aimed squarely at the hearts and minds of the under-25 crowd that regards “Mortal Kombat” with nostalgic warmth,” says Richard Roeper of the Sun-Times.

Based on the graphic novel series by Bryan Lee O’Malley, the movie follows the title character (Michael Cera) on an epic quest to defeat the seven evil exes of his dream girl, Ramona Flowers (Mary Elizabeth Winstead). Meanwhile, his recently-ex-fake-high-school girlfriend, Knives Chau (Ellen Wong), jealously fights to win back her stolen boyfriend.

Sort of hits home, doesn’t it?

The strongest quality of the film is the ultra-fast-paced hilarity that will never let you go – just enjoy! There’s a never-ending supply of witty banter and quotable one-liners strewn seamlessly alongside the flashy, comic-style cinematography. Whew!

“It has a look all its own, part comic-book panel, part arcade video-game screen,” says David Edelstein of NPR. “Suddenly, with no explanation,



Scott transforms into a superhero, a flying, kung-fu fighting, rock-n’-roll warrior.”

The frequent battles our hero faces are completely modeled after classic fighting games like good old “Street Fighter II.” Prepare for tasty 64-hit combos, super moves, and that booming voice shouting “K.O.” at the end of every fight. Cheesy though it sounds, the choreography is actually very well done. The actors never miss a beat, and combat stays fresh in both variety and style points.

And who could forget the rockin’ soundtrack of indie awesomeness? “Scott Pilgrim” features tracks performed by the likes of Beck, Metric, Plumtree, Black Lips, and even the great Nobuo Uematsu, the main man behind the music of the “Final Fantasy” video game series.

Beyond the fantastic embellishments, however, “Scott Pilgrim” has a lot of unexpected depth. The main characters grow gradually and sincerely throughout the film. Together they learn many of life’s great lessons, including how to put your past to rest and transition into the world of mature relationships.

James S. Rich of dvdtalk.com says, “This is a movie with a lot of heart — heart that is made out of neon and tastes like candy.” “Scott Pilgrim” is a truly awesome journey.



LAST CALL BEER REVIEW

Widmer Brothers Brrr

Jeb Oliver
Staff Writer

“Brrr” is a seasonal ale made by Widmer Brothers Brewing Company in Portland around this time of year, and it is something quite delicious.

I love this beer. It’s made with Pale, Caramel and Munich malts, bittering Alchemy, and Simcoe and Cascade hops for aroma. “Brrr” has a great but unbitter taste of hops close to, but slightly different than an Indian Pale Ale. It also has a great citrus tasting blend of malt and hops with a slight taste of dark chocolate if you strain to taste it.

“Brrr” was the perfect choice for the recent snowy weather, but then again, I would be hard pressed to find a beer which didn’t fit the holiday season. I find “Brrr” would go well with holiday food such as turkey and ham, and with most sweet food.

I don’t usually like Widmer beers to be honest. In my mind they are usually mid-level on the taste scale, but this beer definitely raised my faith in Widmer. Having drunk my fill at Applebee’s on Veterans Day, “Brrr” is now becoming one of my favorites.

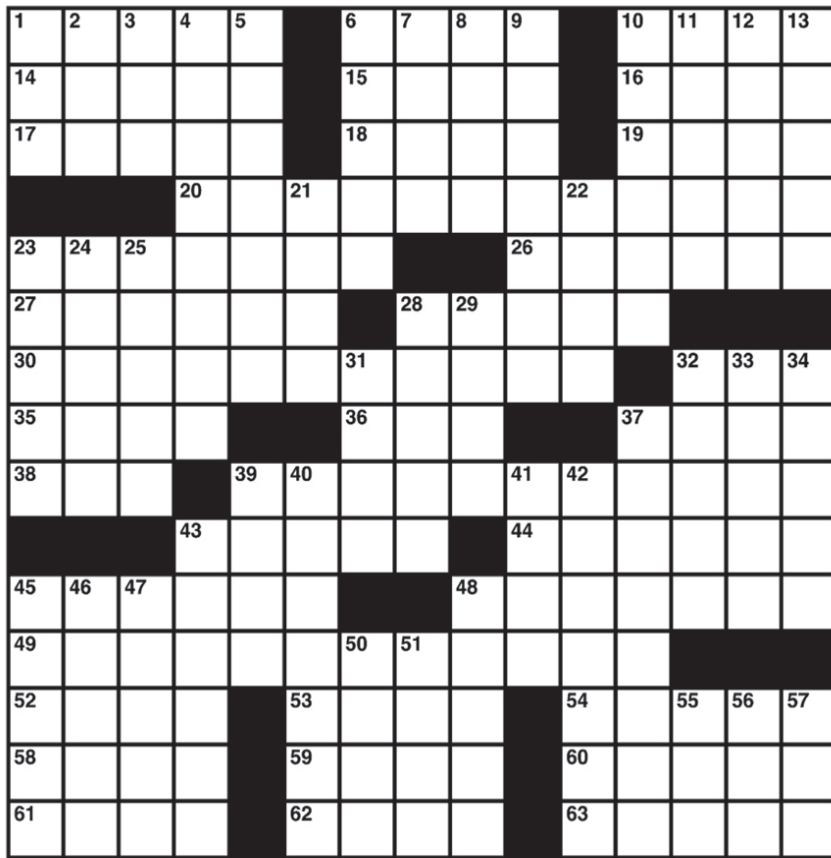
You can find more information on this beer on the Widmer Facebook page, and of course at your local Applebee’s.



Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- 1 Choir member
 - 6 Quite
 - 10 Ending with slug or gab
 - 14 Make amends
 - 15 Faulkner's "As ___ Dying"
 - 16 Pearl Harbor site
 - 17 Blazed furiously
 - 18 Common nickname for a doter
 - 19 66 and others: Abbr.
 - 20 Weightlifting event
 - 23 Ben-Gurion, e.g.
 - 26 "It's ___ business"
 - 27 Kind of biological network
 - 28 Sea
 - 30 Golf course pest
 - 32 Corp. money manager
 - 35 Fighting
 - 36 Gallery hanging
 - 37 Hang onto
 - 38 ID with hyphens
 - 39 Spinning toy manipulated with sticks
 - 43 River in Lyons
 - 44 Belfast's province
 - 45 Early Ford success
 - 48 Actors, often
 - 49 Honest info
 - 52 Road sign silhouette
 - 53 Debt indicators
 - 54 Ticked off
 - 58 Like some vaccines
 - 59 Dresden's river
 - 60 Landlocked African country
 - 61 A handful of
 - 62 Navy commando
 - 63 Gothic house feature



By Jack McInturff

- 6 Source of the Law
- 7 ___ Bator, Mongolia
- 8 Where Jesus turned water to wine
- 9 Cape Cod site of a JFK museum
- 10 How some jump?
- 11 Corroded
- 12 Sex researcher Hite
- 13 Mammoth features
- 21 Contemporary of Dizzy and Billie
- 22 Finished
- 23 Early Peruvians
- 24 Senate posts
- 25 Confrontation
- 28 Carried
- 29 Classroom drilling
- 31 Come out ahead
- 32 British actor Robert, the original Colonel Pickering in "My Fair Lady"
- 33 Candidate's handout
- 34 Trash emanations

Last Week's Puzzle Solved



(c)2009 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

- 37 Common crowd reaction in monster films
- 39 Colombian city
- 40 Some heroes
- 41 Sport for 300-pounders
- 42 Like lovers skipping church?
- 43 Pharmaceutical giant that developed Celebrex
- 45 Windows predecessor
- 46 Alamogordo's county
- 47 Nightmare, e.g.
- 48 Ill-fated Ford
- 50 Putter's target
- 51 Very big wind
- 55 Soviet spy org.
- 56 Snakelike fish
- 57 Hip-hop Dr.

Poetry spotlight

Dream

by Justin Bolger

We met once
Our eyes at first
Then our smiles
And our names
Instant chemistry

Time and time again
We meet up
On purpose now
We become a pair
Perfectly in love

Many months go by
I awake to shift
You're not here
You never were
You don't exist

But in my dreams
You were real
A true love lost
I mourn at first
Life goes on

I miss you still

Not I

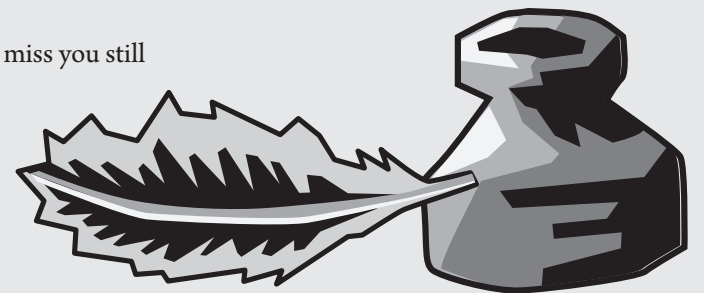
by Justin Bolger

I wanted to be your hero,
But those dreams are gone.
You're crying -
He is your knight;
Not I

It seems that I always fail you,
Time and time again.
Your smile -
For him to see;
Not I

As I serve you as your darkness,
You serve me as mine.
And besides -
He is your light;
Not I

It doesn't have to be this way,
But why is it then?
The reason -
Your love's for him;
Not I



Where on Campus Am I?

Last Week's Answer:

Carousel horse in the Library Atrium.



Last Week's Winner: Congratulations to Roy Hodson for submitting the correct answer. Stop by the Commuter Office (F-222) to claim your prize.

Check back next term for more campus close-up stumpers.

Add/Drop

An LBCC student generated comic.

By Maggie O'Reilly



SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4

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

Last Week's Puzzle Solved

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

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

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HOLIDAY HOROSCOPES

Your weekly guide to the Zodiac

ARIES 3/21-4/19

You've made a list and checked it twice but you're not Santa Clause ... or are you? You just may be awesome enough to pull it off. I believe in you.

TAURUS 4/20-5/20

Tell yourself whatever you want, just because you keep your lights up all year long, it doesn't mean that you're holding on to the Holiday spirit. It means you're lazy. Take them down; half of them are burnt out anyway.

GEMINI 5/21-6/21

You know what my problem is with you Gemini? Every year I end up having to buy you two presents. One for you and one for your evil twin. What's worse, you'll both end up returning them.

CANCER 6/22-7/22

It's okay, stop crying. I know that other women took the last Sally Whoever doll and you've ruined your daughter's life and she'll never forgive you, but don't worry, this will all be over soon.

LEO 7/23-8/22

You don't understand this Santa guy. If you lived in the North Pole with control over hundreds of minions, why would you have them making things for other people when they could be making things for you?

VIRGO 8/23-9/22

In your free time, you've calculated that the speed Santa has to travel is at least 1,047 km/sec, which means he has to make roughly 822.6 visits a second, which means you totally need to get a life.

LIBRA 9/23-10/23

'Tis the season of absolute torture for you. Do you use the angel or star tree-topper? Do you cook ham or turkey? Sit back and let someone else make all those really important decisions.

SCORPIO 10/24-11/21

You've got it all worked out. When the fat man steps on the rug, you'll pull the rope and the cage will drop and ... WAIT ... this didn't work when you were five and it won't work now. Just let it go.

SAGITTARIUS 11/22-12/21

I can tell from that ear-to-ear grin of yours that you're all Christmas cheer all the time now. So, I'm unfriending you for the next 25 days. Text me on the 26th.

CAPRICORN 12/22-1/19

You're a total Scrooge, but that's okay. You've worked hard all year and you deserve a break. Why give some total slacker a gift when you can give yourself one instead?

AQUARIUS 1/20-2/18

You can except the fact that Rudolph had a red nose, but was it just really shiny, or did it actually glow? Also, why would he want to play games with the mean reindeer anyway when he was clearly superior?

PISCES 2/19-3/20

It's a magical time of year. How can you be expected to concentrate on anything but the twinkling lights, bright colors and pretty... Oh look, shiny ribbons!

THE COMMUTER STAFF

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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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

Web Address:
<http://commuter.linnbenton.edu>

Phone: 541- 917-4451, 4452 or 4453

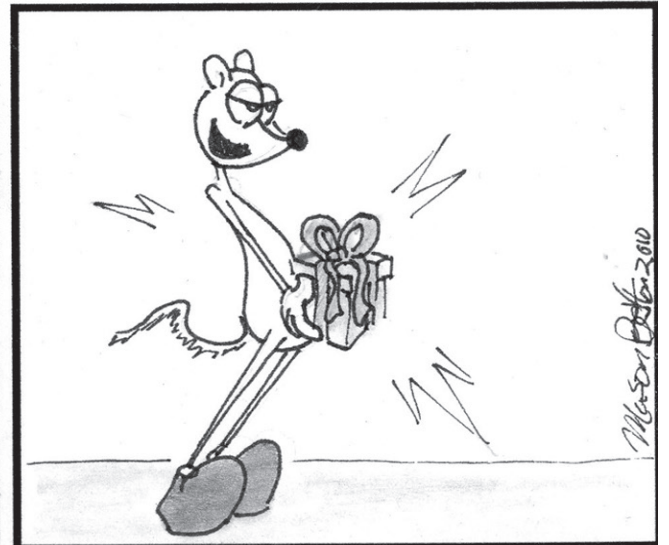
Fax: 541- 917-4454

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Fried Bananas

An LBCC student generated comic.

By Mason Britton



Coming Attractions Holiday Edition

Dec. 3

The Warrior's Way (Rated:R)
 Kate Bosworth, Geoffrey Rush
 Action/ Fantasy

Dec. 10

The Tourist (Rated:PG-13)
 Johnny Deep, Angelina Jolie
 Thriller

The Tempest (Rated:PG-13)
 Helen Mirren, Russell Brand
 Dramady

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (Rated:PG)
 Ben Barnes, Georgie Henley
 Fantasy

The Company Men (Rated:R)
 Ben Affleck, Tommy Lee Jones
 Drama

Dec. 17

TRON: Legacy (Rated:PG)
 Jeff Bridges, Olivia Wilde
 Sci-Fi

Yogi Bear (Rated:PG)
 Dan Aykroyd, Justin Timberlake
 Comedy

How Do You Know (Rated:R)
 Reese Witherspoon, Paul Rudd
 Rom-Com

Dec. 22

Little Fockers (Rated:PG-13)
 Ben Stiller, Robert De Niro
 Comedy

True Grit (Rated:PG-13)
 Jeff Bridges, Matt Damon
 Western

Gulliver's Travels (Rated:PG)
 Jack Black, Jason Segal
 Comedy

Dec. 31

Blue Valentine (Rated:R)
 Ryan Goseling, Michelle Williams
 Drama

Sources: [Imdb](http://imdb.com), [Yahoo! Movies](http://Yahoo!Movies.com), Fandango.com



Surely You Can't Be Serious

Marci Sischo
 Webmaster

Leslie Nielsen was a comedy legend. But before he was a comedy legend, he was a straight-faced romantic leading man, a '50s version of George Clooney or Harrison Ford. He got his start in live TV during the Golden Age of Television, and went on to do more than 100 films and 1,500 TV shows during his 60-year career.

Nielsen, who started out as a "... handsome leading man in an industry overstocked with handsome leading men," according to Hal Erickson (via Wikipedia), achieved his greatest fame as a comedic actor with a nigh-mythical sense of timing and a talent for deadpan delivery that left his audiences in stitches. Let's all have a moment of solemn, respectful silence (punctuated by a whoopie cushion fart noise) for Leslie Nielsen, who died of complications from pneumonia this past Sunday at the age of 84.

And on that note, let's take a quick look back at Nielsen's career.

Starring as Commander John J. Adams, Leslie Nielsen's first big hit was "Forbidden Planet." He played your standard-issue courageous space hero investigating the mysterious deaths of an entire colony on a distant planet.

Nielsen said of the movie (via Wikipedia), "Supposedly a science fiction version of Shakespeare's 'The Tempest,' ['Forbidden Planet'] was all about the id, or something like that. Who knows? The Trekkies today

regard it as the forerunner of 'Star Trek.' I just had to wear a tight uniform and make eyes at Anne Francis. I was pretty thin back then."

That hit happened in 1956, and for the next 24 years, Nielsen achieved some fame as romantic leads in a variety of dramas, until he was cast against type as Dr. Rumack in the comedy classic "Airplane!" It was in this movie that he uttered the immortal line, "I am serious ... and don't call me Shirley."

After "Airplane!" launched Nielsen's comedy career, in 1982 he was cast as Frank Drebin in "Police Squad!," a show that got screwed by its network as badly as "Firefly" got screwed by FOX, and with the same results. "Police Squad!" was canceled after only six of the funniest episodes ever, and despite that, Nielsen still managed to win an Emmy for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series.

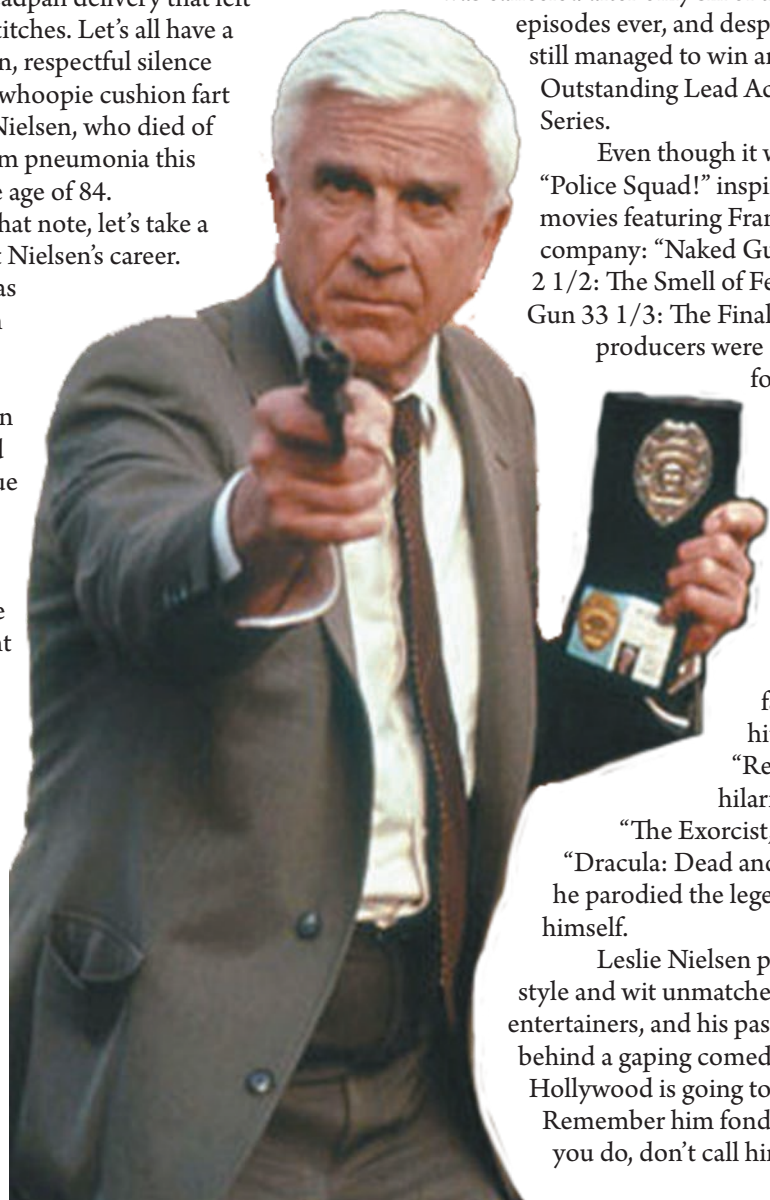
Even though it was canceled, "Police Squad!" inspired three hilarious movies featuring Frank Drebin and company: "Naked Gun," "Naked Gun 2 1/2: The Smell of Fear," and "Naked Gun 33 1/3: The Final Insult." The producers were even trying for a

fourth movie, but never quite got it off the ground.

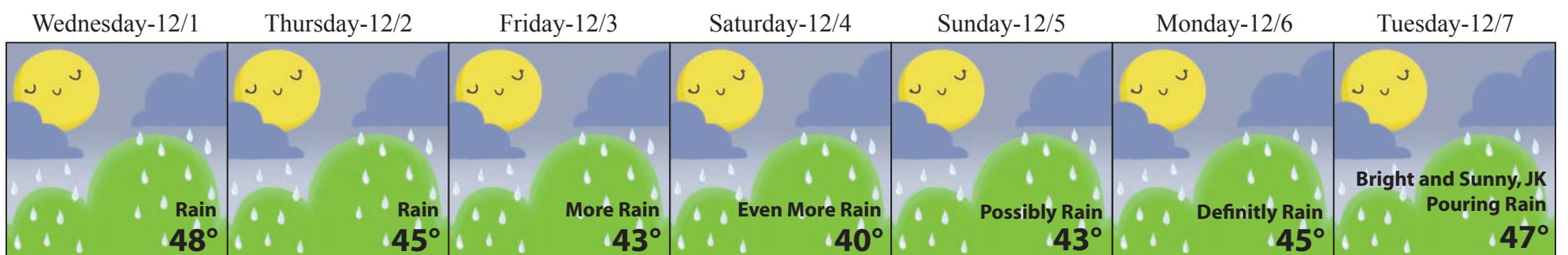
Nielsen went on to preside over thirty-some years of films that were generally considered to be critical failures and cult hits, like 1990's "Repossessed," a hilarious spoof of

"The Exorcist," and 1995's "Dracula: Dead and Loving It," where he parodied the legendary vampire himself.

Leslie Nielsen possessed a style and wit unmatched by today's entertainers, and his passing has left behind a gaping comedy void that Hollywood is going to be hard-put to fill. Remember him fondly, and whatever you do, don't call him Shirley.



Weekly Weather Predictions



Warning: These are only predictions. For up-to-date forecasts, please look out your window. Source: accuweather.com