

Fuentes honors Mexican ancestry through art and teaching others

Aubrey Chambers
The Commuter

Born into a family immersed in art and history and raised in a time of feminism and civil rights, Analee Fuentes has always been taught that, in her words, "art making was a natural extension of creative energy."

Fuentes has been creating commercial art since 1975, though she says she was finger painting long before that. She has had paintings in over 50 shows in various states, as well as featured nearly 30 times in various media.

After test-driving several careers, Fuentes returned to school to pursue an art career. She toyed with going into graphic design, but eventually opted to seek her master's in fine art from the University of Arizona in 1996. Before that, the Eugene resident had earned her bachelor's in painting at the University of Oregon.

Her family heritage plays a huge role in her artwork. "As a Latina, I have come to the realization of how fully my aesthetic is grounded in the Mexican Baroque. I continue to make this discovery about myself, over and over again. I love things that are ornate, excessive, overdone," Fuentes said via e-mail.

A first-generation Mexican-

American, Fuentes' mother is her biggest influence in her art. Fuentes said her mother would sit at the kitchen table and create something that was integrated to the world and her view.

Fuentes added that she paints for herself, to manipulate one's view of a seemingly normal thing, such as a bag of tortilla chips. "For me, it's not about beauty," Fuentes explained.

Not one to be shy when it comes to exploring mediums, Fuentes has a range of tools when it comes to her art. But her favorite, she says, is oil paints.

"I love everything about oil paint; the way it smells, the way it slides across the canvas, the sensual, buttery texture," Fuentes said.

But Fuentes has a secret. "I'm a closet sculptor," she confessed.

The images Fuentes creates have great beauty and meaning, each stemming from her surroundings. She keeps informed through the media, reading papers, watching the news, and taking part in the Latino community near her home. The people she witnesses and the bodies that house them provide endless fascination, calling back to her history of figure painting.

Her creations, Fuentes explains,

"are an attempt to synthesize my experience, and honor my ancestry."

As an art instructor at LBCC, Fuentes recently participated in Dia de los Muertos, displaying her artwork on the second floor of North Santiam Hall. Two oil paintings, "It's a Girl!" and "Cruzando La Frontera" added color and beauty to the hall, each depicting skeletons with a vibrant array of colors. A massive paper mache puppet of Frida Kahlo, a famous Mexican painter of the 20th century, completed her contribution to the show.

Fuentes has made other contributions to her community besides her art.

"I hope my students take away a set of skills in the art classes that will give them authority and choices over their personal expression," Fuentes said. "My favorite quote about this is from Wayne Thiebaud: 'Discipline is not a restriction but an aid to freedom. It prepares an artist to choose their own limitations... An artist needs the best studio instructors, the most rigorous demands, and the toughest criticism in order to turn up their sensibilities.'"

Pictures of Fuentes' work can be found at her Web site: www.analeefuentes.com/index.htm.

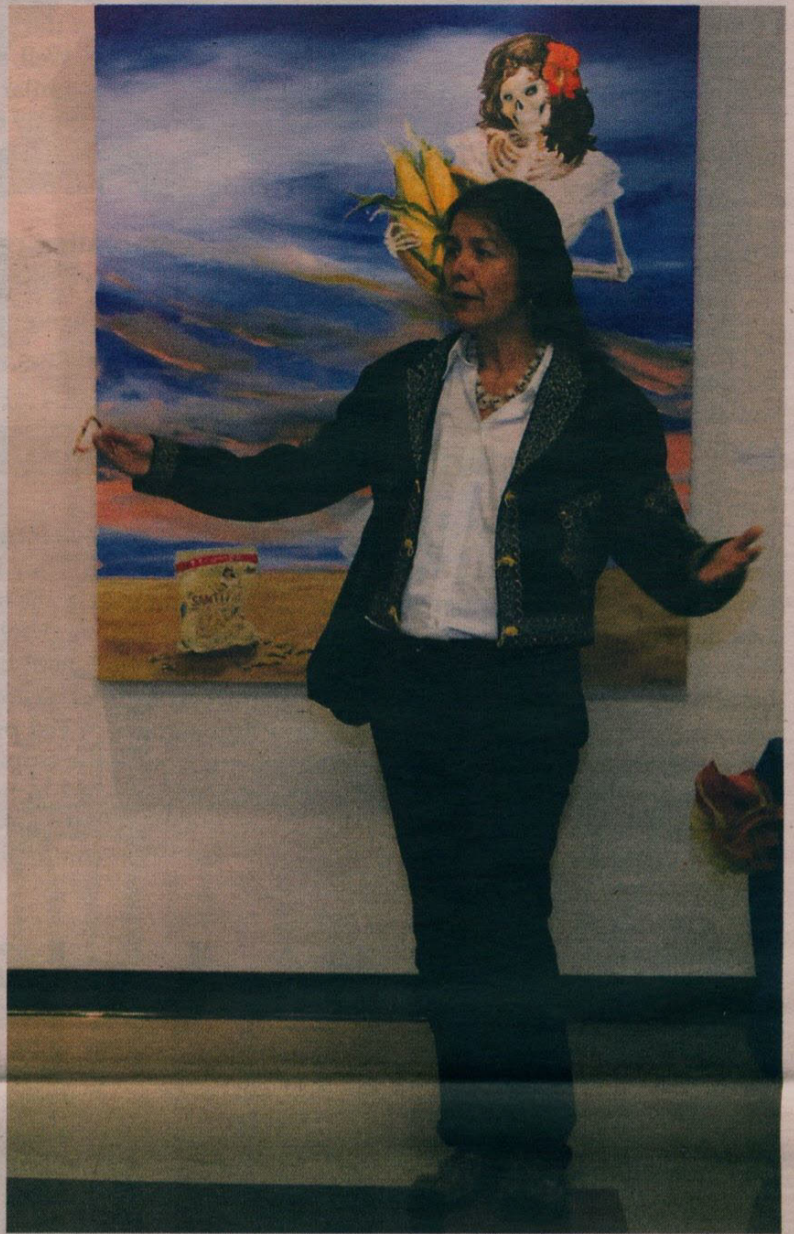


photo by Will Parker

Analee Fuentes discusses her piece "Santitas Girl Cosmic Revelation" during Dia de los Muertos on Nov. 2.

Speaker sets stage for spring powwow at LBCC

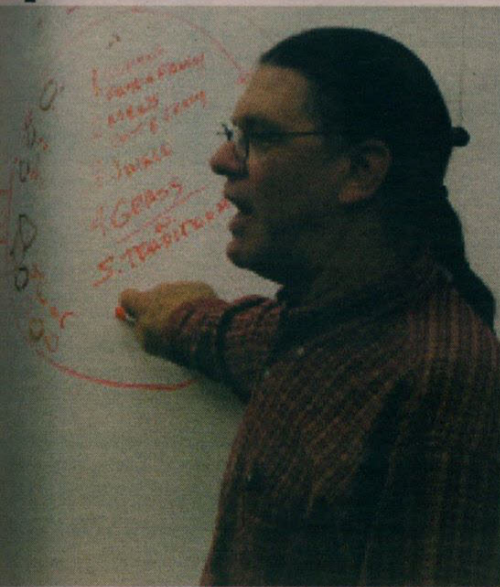


photo by Marilyn Quintero

Nick Sixkiller is an education specialist who works with the Siletz Indian tribe.

Monique Cohen
The Commuter

Next April the sounds of American Indian drumming and dancing will fill the LBCC campus.

In preparation for that event, Nick Sixkiller, an education specialist, was guest speaker at Powwow 101 on Nov. 7 and gave a talk about the history and meaning of powwows.

Sixkiller is a Cherokee Indian and works with children and youth of the Siletz Tribe. He also works with students at Lane Community College, University of Oregon, LBCC and adult vocational schools.

Powwows are a time for American Indians to gather and celebrate elders, ancestors, meet new people, and renew old friendships. It is also a time to wear

regalia, dance and sing.

Sixkiller said powwows have been around since the mid-1800s. In the early days, the tribes came together in ceremony for giveaways of blankets or beadwork. A giveaway honors a special person or family.

The modern-day powwows have fewer giveaways and more singing, dancing and drumming.

Powwows are generally free, and open to everyone in the community to watch and participate. Powwows can be either social or competitive. A social powwow can be for a celebration, and does not involve contest money for the dancers. The competitive powwow has many sessions of dancing and usually lasts about two and one-half days.

Sixkiller explained why the powwows are arranged in a circle.

"Our life is a circle. We are born, live and pass on our wisdom to the next generation."

The area surrounding the arena floor is arranged with drummers, and then behind them are the vendors. There are about six to 10 singers on each drum. The arena director is in complete control of the arena.

The powwow has a master of ceremonies who explains what is happening and introduces the drummers and dancers.

There are numerous categories of dances for men, women and children. The round dance or friendship dance is open to all spectators.

The Native American Student Union sponsored Sixkiller's presentation and will hold a powwow at LBCC on April 26.



'Runners ready for volleyball playoffs. See page 5.

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Opinion Editor: Walt Hughes
 Editor-In-Chief: Elizabeth Uriarte
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

OPINION

Send letters to The Commuter
 commuter@linnbenton.edu (F-2)
 Please sign and keep to 300 words or less

Cigarette smokin' travesty!

Elizabeth Uriarte
 The Commuter

I'm sure you're all aware by now that Oregon's recent election had great news for cigarette smokers, and pretty crappy news for children with no health care.

In a statement by William V. Corr, executive director of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, he said, "By telling \$12 million worth of lies, the Philip Morris and R.J. Reynolds tobacco companies have again protected their profits at the expense of children by defeating a ballot initiative to increase Oregon's cigarette tax and fund health care for children. The tobacco companies will profit by selling more cigarettes, while Oregonians will pay a terrible price with more kids addicted to tobacco, more lives lost and more kids without health care."

By quite a large percentage, voters decided that keeping the price of cigarettes down was worth the cost of screwing children out of health care. Many argue that the election was bought by the tobacco companies, but a corporation can only buy advertising; it's up to people to interpret those campaign ads and slogans, and finally, THINK FOR THEMSELVES.



ELIZABETH URIARTE

"...a corporation can only buy advertising; it's up to people to interpret those campaign ads and slogans, and finally, THINK FOR THEMSELVES."

Obviously, people are either really stupid and easily persuaded, or they're just selfish and think that it's "unfair" to smokers to raise the cost of a pack of cigarettes for the benefit of our country's future.

Well, that said...the federal government is attempting a similar cigarette tax increase, raising the federal tax from 39 cents a pack to a whole dollar to help pay for child healthcare, according to AOL News. Though this has passed through Congress, Bush is expected to veto it (Why? Because he can). In an article by Fox News, they make it seem like it's the Democrats being hypocrites and attacking the poor, who of course are the main source of smokers.

"Low-income people smoke more heavily than do wealthier people in the United States, making cigarette taxes a regressive form of revenue," says Fox News.

They ignore the fact that the children of these low-income individuals are the ones hit hardest by second-hand tobacco smoke, and are the ones who would benefit by one: having access to health care; and two: less second-hand smoke!

Yes, people should be free to smoke if they desire; let the stupid people kill themselves, that's fine with me. But to fight against innocent children, whom adults have a duty to protect, in the name of that freedom, is completely wrong.

Through the looking glass...

Mike Pingree
 (MCT)

BUT OFFICER, THEY VIOLATED MY RIGHTS

A man and his wife returned to their Montgomery, Ala., home to discover that a burglar had broken and vandalized the place, emptying drawers, knocking over cabinets, smashing things and throwing their belongings all over the place. While they were agonizing over this, the burglar walked back into the house wearing the man's hat. The homeowner pulled a gun and forced the man to clean the place up. The burglar later complained to police that the man had put him on clean-up duty. The officer laughed at him and said he was lucky the guy didn't shoot him.

NO, SHE DOESN'T KNOW ME, BUT I FEEL I KNOW HER

In an effort to break up her ex-boyfriend's marriage, a Connecticut woman posted a phony profile of the man's wife on an adult Web site. She told police she did it "to be vindictive, knowing that the profile would create marital problems." Her former beau became aware of the scam when strange men began calling the house, asking for his wife.

LET'S SEE, WHERE TO BEGIN

A man in Monticello, N.Y., was arrested for driving the wrong way down a divided highway, drunk, with an open container of beer in an uninsured, uninspected car, with license plates belonging to another vehicle, not wearing a seatbelt and with an unsecured 2-year-old child in the back seat.

GO AHEAD, LADIES, I DARE YOU

After the bars and strip joints in El Alto, Bolivia, were shut down, local prostitutes threatened to protest by marching naked in the streets.

HEY, ONE DRINK CAN'T HURT

An alcoholic, who hadn't had a drink

for 16 months, suddenly fell off the wagon at a Wal-Mart in Mukwonago, Wis., and swilled down seven bottles of spiked lemonade in the liquor aisle. He told police, "I just couldn't control myself."

YES, HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

Police, investigating drug trafficking being conducted in an apartment in Paceville, Malta, had their suspicions confirmed when a man answered the door wearing only a T-shirt and holding a bar of cannabis resin in his hand.

SHE'S KNOWN AS THE TOUGHEST WOMAN ALIVE

A barmaid at the Premier Hotel in Pinjarra, Australia, was arrested for baring her breasts and crushing beer cans between them.

LBCC MAIN CAMPUS

Commons

NOVEMBER 14TH - NOVEMBER 20TH

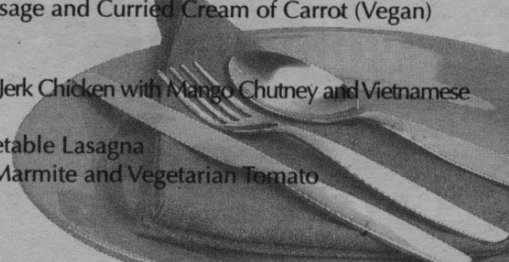
Wednesday:
 ENTREES: Baked Stuffed Snapper and Braised Lamb
 VEGETARIAN: Cheese and Fried Onion over Spaetzel
 SOUPS: Gazpacho and Cream of Broccoli

Thursday:
 ENTREES: Lemon Chicken with Steamed Rice and Pork Lyonnaise - Stuffed Pork Chop on a Bed of Caramelized Onions
 VEGETARIAN: Huevos Rancheros
 SOUPS: Grilled Vegetable Beef and Beer Cheese

Friday:
 CHEF'S CHOICE

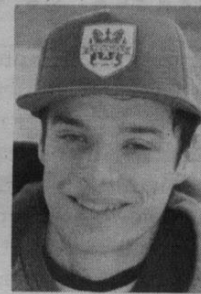
Monday:
 ENTREES: Turkey Saltimbocca and Pork Phad Thai
 VEGETARIAN: Portabella Mushrooms topped with Spinach, a Poached Egg & Bernaise Sauce with Rice
 SOUPS: Italian Sausage and Curried Cream of Carrot (Vegan)

Tuesday:
 ENTREES: Jamaican Jerk Chicken with Mango Chutney and Vietnamese Steak Wraps
 VEGETARIAN: Vegetable Lasagna
 SOUPS: Paysanne Marmite and Vegetarian Tomato



PERSPECTIVES

"Describe yourself in three words?"



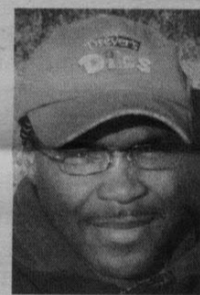
"Outgoing, Active, Funny"

• Arlen Proctor •
 communications

"Quirky, Loud, Confident"



• Colleen Schallig •
 pre-nursing



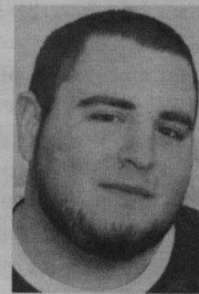
"Dedicated, Consecrated, Re-deemed"

• Bennie Garnett •
 psych-soc

"In A Hurry"



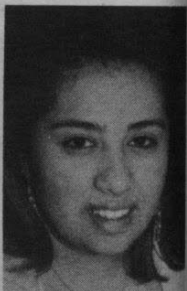
• Lori Baldwin-Garcia •
 accounting



"One Sexy Being"

• Chris Kelley •
 undecided

"Outgoing, Funny, Hard-worker"



• Veronica Lazama •
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

"Lions for Lambs" film is a battle of rhetoric

Aaron Broich
 The Commuter

"This is my honest effort to keep the press better informed, and to change the subject from the past to the future, acknowledge mistakes, and talk openly about ways to fix it, step by step," the republican Senator Jasper Irving (Tom Cruise) explains to his reporter friend Janine Roth (Meryl Streep) his new military plan of action in Afghanistan.

Although there's plenty of neo-con bashing in "Lions for Lambs," it does not so much echo the intensifying cacophony of liberal dissenters as it glimpses beyond the issues of the U.S.'s current foreign policy, to examine the ironic dichotomy between emboldened visionaries and the jaded fallout that settle comfortably for pop-culture mediocrity.

Cruise and Streep spar head-to-head like dueling fencers. Streep skillfully depicts Roth as sincere and edgy, a battle-worn, shrewd reporter, prepared to cut through the surrounding issues with pointed questions, and shows a glint of past defeats in her glossy eyes—perhaps somewhat bitter for having been used by politicians to deliver (what

she views as) quasi-propaganda to the American people.

Cruise aptly plays the confident Irving, who warms up to Roth, treating her like an old friend, and hoping that she will write a telling story about what's really happening on the battlefield of the War on Terror.

As all politicians must do, Irving makes projections about how the future must be shaped and bases his urgent plans for predatory aggression upon a framework of latent dangers brewing along the new axis of evil—the unstable fault line of militant Islam that runs through Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan. He's condemning the name of a new brand of terrorism and pitching the solution with zealous fervor.

"Lions for Lambs" has been fortuitously released alongside the recent onset of martial law in Afghanistan's neighbor, Pakistan, a country overtaken by the big shot warlord, Perez Musharraf, who wields the banners of a guileful politician—nuclear warheads and U.S. support, and also keeps his big toe in the doorjamb of democracy, while waving his hands in the usual dictatorial fashion. He's allowing us to use Pakistan as a gateway to send

our troops into the fray; so, of course, many of our politicians say he's our man.

At least Washington is pressuring him to put an end to martial law, instead of keeping the foreign aid rolling in without questions.

While Irving is pitching his spiel about winning the hearts and minds of the people (apparently Americans), director Robert Redford plays Professor Stephen Malley, a somewhat optimistic teacher who calls a meeting with an apathetic student, to spark some inspiration.

Todd Hayes (Andrew Garfield) used to be engaged with class and showed much promise, but became jaded by his growing view of governmental hypocrisy. Feeling too powerless to affect true change, he's giving way to mental mediocrity while going for the above-average grade.

Professor Malley sees him heading down a self-absorbed path of complacency. The encounter is predictable in its set up, but intriguing in its details.

Malley recently had a couple of other students he also viewed as having great potential, who, although didn't agree with

reasons for the war, decided to enlist to affect change from the inside out, and clear themselves of debt to prepare for bigger things afterward.

They are part of the elite troops chosen to implement Senator Irving's new plan of attack—small groups of soldiers sent to seize the high ground and secure positions. Irving emphasizes the need for us to have a good win, to revitalize public support.

"Lions for Lambs" effectively ties these three simultaneous plots together, contrasting what is happening in the hearts and minds of people as the world moves forward. Although the movie is a bit didactic, it leaves some breathing room for imaginative resonance. It has the same scriptwriter as "The Kingdom,"

Matthew Michael Carnahan, who has moved away from the pithy blockbuster lines, and somewhat glorified violence scenes, into the realm of bookish, dialogue driven drama.

"Lions for Lambs" delves into the standard clash between politicians versus the media as well as aggressive versus peaceful approaches to festering overseas opposition, but also offers more. Irving may be glossing over the

lack of evidence for assessing growing dangers in the Middle East, but Roth must also cite intuition as her evidence. Irving is just delivering a calculated performance to help his prospects for presidential candidacy.

Both liberal and conservative sides must play this speculative game of "what if?" when they're discussing what history has taught us and how it should prepare for the future.

The movie keeps the visual scenes simple to emphasize the dialog and the face-to-face standoffs.

For many viewers, this may be too much; in fact, "Lions for Lambs" could even be made into a stage production—the comic scenes are not that expansive and even a bit hokey. Much of the intrigue takes place in a battle of rhetoric.

The movie is stifled by its one-sidedness, but ultimately, we're left with the question, "Are you going to stand for something?" Roth's heart visibly sinks when reading a quote from

Theodore Roosevelt on Irving, "If I must choose between righteousness and peace, I choose righteousness."

Ex-Phish member's new album is full of funky instrumental bass

Aaron Broich
 The Commuter

Trey Anastasio, once the guitar player extraordinaire of the jam-band Phish, kicks out another instrumental funk album, infused with jazzy chops and heal-flying dance grooves.

"The Horseshoe Curve" sounds like Herbie Hancock's jazz funk fusion and jams like the funky bass and guitar of Sly and the Family Stone. The album opens with the descending guitar sweeps of "Sidewalks of San Francisco."

The bass lays down a solid groove foundation for the keys and percussion to weave around, while the horns blare like the sideswiping traffic of the big city, and the mirror bass before breaking into solos and flange counter melodies.

The nine-piece band produces a full sound, but not too cluttered.

"Olivia" also banks off the bass fountain, opening with a '70s funk guitar riff before elevating into a big-band-esque extravaganza and then it breaks

down, with keyboardist Ray Paczkowski having a go at a lounge solo. Bass player Tony Markellis leads the song into its posts climactic jam with a salsa bass line.

The album soars with the fast paced rock-bebop of "The 5th Round" (Russ Lawton fills a feverish prescription with ample cowbell) and also scores big with the blimblimblim funky "Burlap Sack & Pumps"; one can only wonder how these song names were derived.

In the album's only vocal portion, the whole band suddenly yells, "burlap sack and pumps"—a bit of nonsense, or a key phrase to some memorable incident?

Overall, the album is solid, but there are a few too many horns blaring, which would likely get your blood pressure going in a traffic jam.

The flow is organic, but perhaps too much so, and while the music has few chord changes, it rather relies on the subtle changes in the bass riff and the plethora of instrumental excursions that carry the music along colorfully.

The nine-piece band produces a full sound, but not too cluttered.

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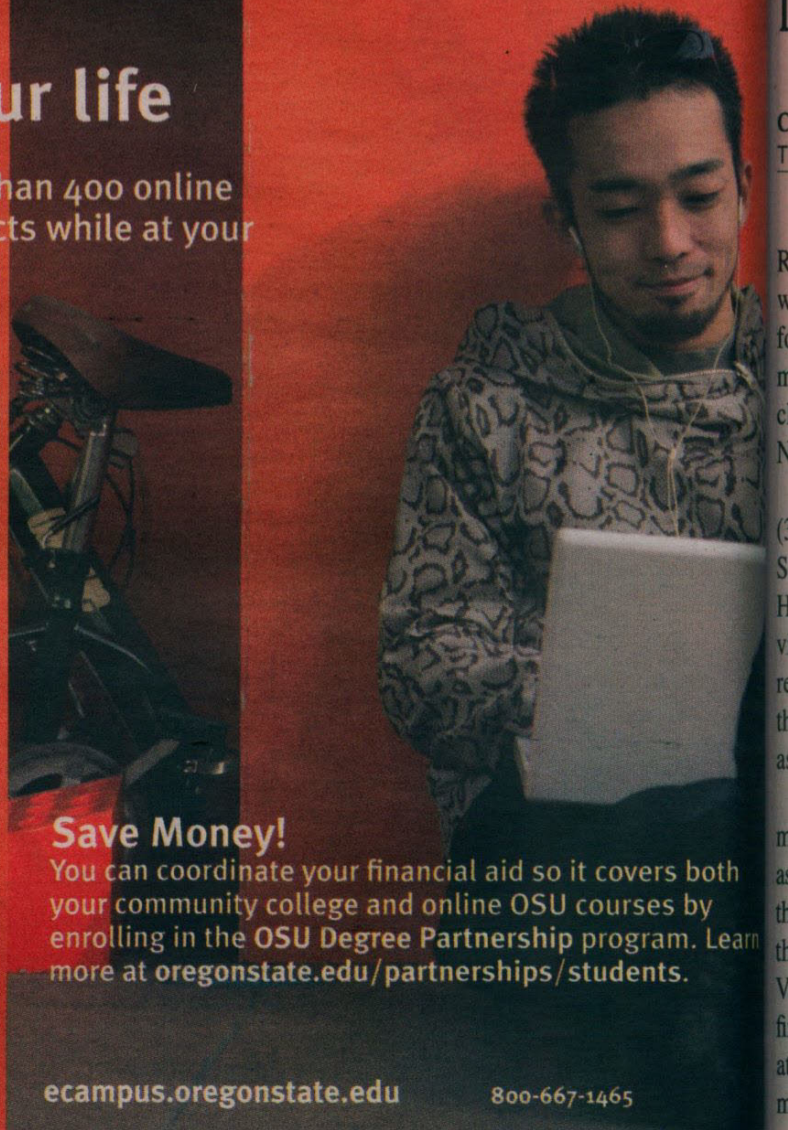
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SPORTS

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FACE OFF

With an open #1 spot in college football, who should claim it?



Will Parker
The Commuter

The corruption of the Bowl Championship Series or BCS as it's better known starts at the beginning of a given college football season. In this case, whoever decided that some teams should be ranked whatever they were ranked had some really poor judgment. The presidents of the BCS like to talk about the 'purity of the sport.' But with a system this convoluted, who can know who the real winner is?

#10 - Texas: According to the BCS, these guys should be ranked 13th with the recent Ohio State loss. I don't really see why they should be ranked behind teams with a lower win percentage, as chances are they will finish the season 10-2. The last team they play, the Texas A&M Aggies are 6-5 and will more than likely clinch a mediocre bowl with their soon to be loss to Texas.

#9 - Arizona State: When it comes to the Sun Devils, if it wasn't for Hawaii's utter lack of presence in the top 10, I would have ranked the Sun Devils at eight. They are currently 9-1 and I see them going 11-1 when the dust settles, but this is the year for upsets.

#8 - Oregon: Their only loss was to Cal, but the Beavers beat Cal. Cal started the season with

an over-inflated ranking, which helped mitigate the Ducks' loss to such a mediocre team. The Ducks really haven't beaten anyone who is highly ranked, except the Sun Devils. And if the Ducks lose to the Beavers at the Civil War, I'm going Duck hunting.

#7 - West Virginia: Here's another team like the Sun Devils that are ranked lower on my list than the BCS due to Hawaii. They are currently 8-1, but their relatively weak schedule for the rest of the season has them looking like a future 11-1 team this year.

#6 - Missouri: The Tigers have had a great year with just a single loss to Oklahoma. The real test of what they are made of will come when they play Kansas at the end of the regular season. Of course, I expect Kansas to win.

#5 - Oklahoma: The Sooners have kicked ass this year with some shockingly impressive, almost abusive wins over some teams (The season opener against N. Texas comes to mind. 79 - 10. Ouch.) And suffered a loss to unranked Colorado, who to their credit is in a tough ass conference.

#4 - Ohio State: The Buckeyes were hit hard in the polls with their recent loss to Illinois. But Why? The Ducks lost to Cal, who is a worse team than Illinois, and the BCS presidents would have

us believe the Ducks are No. 2. The Buckeyes should be No. 4, not No. 7.

#3 - LSU: The Tigers have had a banner year. Hell, they beat the No. 17 ranked team two weeks in a row. After losing to the team the previous week. What? Well, the Tiger's loss was to Kentucky who was ranked No. 17. Then they won against Auburn and Alabama when they were both ranked No. 17 respectively. And the next game is on the 17th. They've had an almost perfect year-

#2 - Hawaii: The Warriors have had a perfect year. 9-0, they have handed the teams they've played their asses on platters. But boohoo, no one wants to play Hawaii. Even if they win every game they play they don't have a shot at the No. 2 or No. 1 spot. Right now they are ranked 16th behind a bunch of teams with a loss or two except for...

#1 - Kansas: The Jayhawks are lucky; unlike Hawaii they have a real shot at the top. Right now, BCS has them ranked No. 3. Two more wins would put them ahead of at least the Ducks, but I'd have to bust out a divining rod to figure out if their perfect season would beat LSU's near-perfect season. In either case, it's a safe bet that we'll see them in the BCS championship.

Oh yeah- And the Ducks.

Chris Kelley
The Commuter

In one of the most incredible years of college football-with the slogan "Upset Saturday" being officially stamped to the college atmosphere-the BCS is still around like a bad case of athlete's foot. The burning and uneasy search for a way to get past the irritation; yes, the hunt for the BCS championship is like foot fungus.

Whether a computer should decide the top teams has been and should still be under scrutiny until a playoff system is in place. This is how the top 10 in the screwy BCS should be now.

#10- Appalachian State: Beat No. 5 Michigan, who is now No. 23, on the road. Despite two conference losses, they still might make the NCAA-Sub-Bowl-Division playoffs and should very well be invited to a bowl game in respect for sparking this crazy year we have witnessed.

#9- Florida: All three losses, except Auburn, were to now top 10 teams. Even Auburn spent weeks since the loss in AP and BCS rankings. Strength of schedule is on the Gators side and big wins over Tennessee, Kentucky and South Carolina have kept them in the hunt for a late holiday bowl game.

#8- Ohio State: I predicted the Illinois loss earlier in the year, and the only reason Ohio St. was in the top position is that they didn't lose yet. Highly overrated all year and will beat another highly overrated team, Arizona St., or down and out Oregon in the Rose Bowl.

#7- Georgia: Even with two losses, Georgia is peaking at the end of the season and even though I don't see them being SEC champions, they will still make a tough opponent in a top bowl.

#6- Kansas: Being undefeated, they whine and complain about not getting enough respect. They have only played one ranked team all season. The only reason I am mentioning the Jay Hawks in my top 10 is there is an outside chance they finish undefeated and in the championship game.

#5- West Virginia: Out to prove they are more than the Slaten and White show, WV is in the ashes of a South Florida flame. UConn is still left on the schedule and that game will decide the Big East champion. Look for Mountaineers to put on a show in a post-New Years game.

#4- Missouri: When they beat Kansas, the nation will finally understand the Tigers are in the BCS championship controversy. A rematch against Oklahoma will be one for the ages.

#3- Oklahoma: I see Oklahoma jumping into the No 2. spot if they win out and are Big-12 champions. Just like Florida did to an idle Michigan last year, playing one more game at the end of the season against a ranked Kansas or Missouri will put them ahead in every poll.

#2- Oregon: Just for right now though...Oregon is in the destiny of Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma, and how they finish in the Big-12. Even with big wins over Arizona St. and USC, runner-up is as close as the Ducks will make it to the BCS championship game this year.

#1- LSU: One stumble against Kentucky kept them from being numero uno all year long. Now that they are back in the top spot, it has sprung the East coast vs. West coast debate again. The SEC is by far the toughest conference for the last 20 years. No team in the SEC could ever go 49 straight games undefeated like USC did, simply because the competition every week is far greater in the east.

Ladies await Skagit Valley in first round

Chris Kelley
The Commuter

Last Wednesday, the Lady Roadrunners felt no pressure when they went to Clackamas for their last regular season match-up as they had already clinched a second seed in the NWAACC tournament.

They swept the Cougars (30-28, 31-29, 30-21) with Shauna Robinson and Chelsea Hartman being keys to the victory with 19 and 18 kills respectively. Ali Krebs was the set up player, having 47 assists, a season high.

The final regular season match ended on a high note as LBCC, 25-9 (8-2), prepared this week for third seed in the North division, Skagit Valley, 15-15 (8-4), in their first-round match up Thursday at 2:00pm at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham.

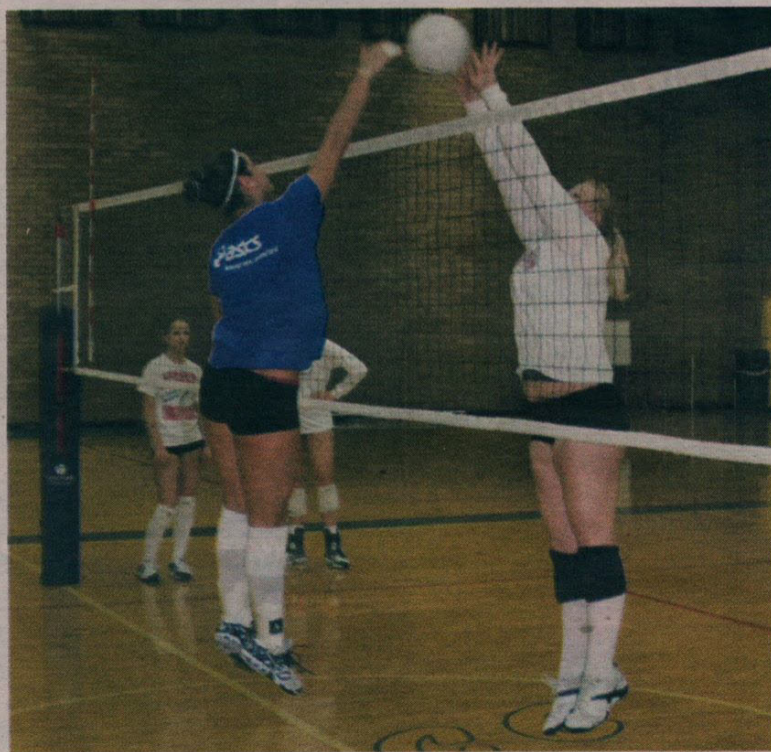


photo by Will Parker

Shauna Robinson (left) and Erica Miller battle in practice in preparation for the weekend NWAACC tournament

Other South division match-ups on Thursday include Mt. Hood vs. Edmonds, Bellevue vs. Chemeketa, and Whatcom vs. Clackamas.

The NWAACC tournament

directors remind students to bring a valid student ID to get the student rate.

Check their Web site for times and results for further round match-ups.

ANYONE CAN SHOP ✿ ANYONE CAN JOIN!



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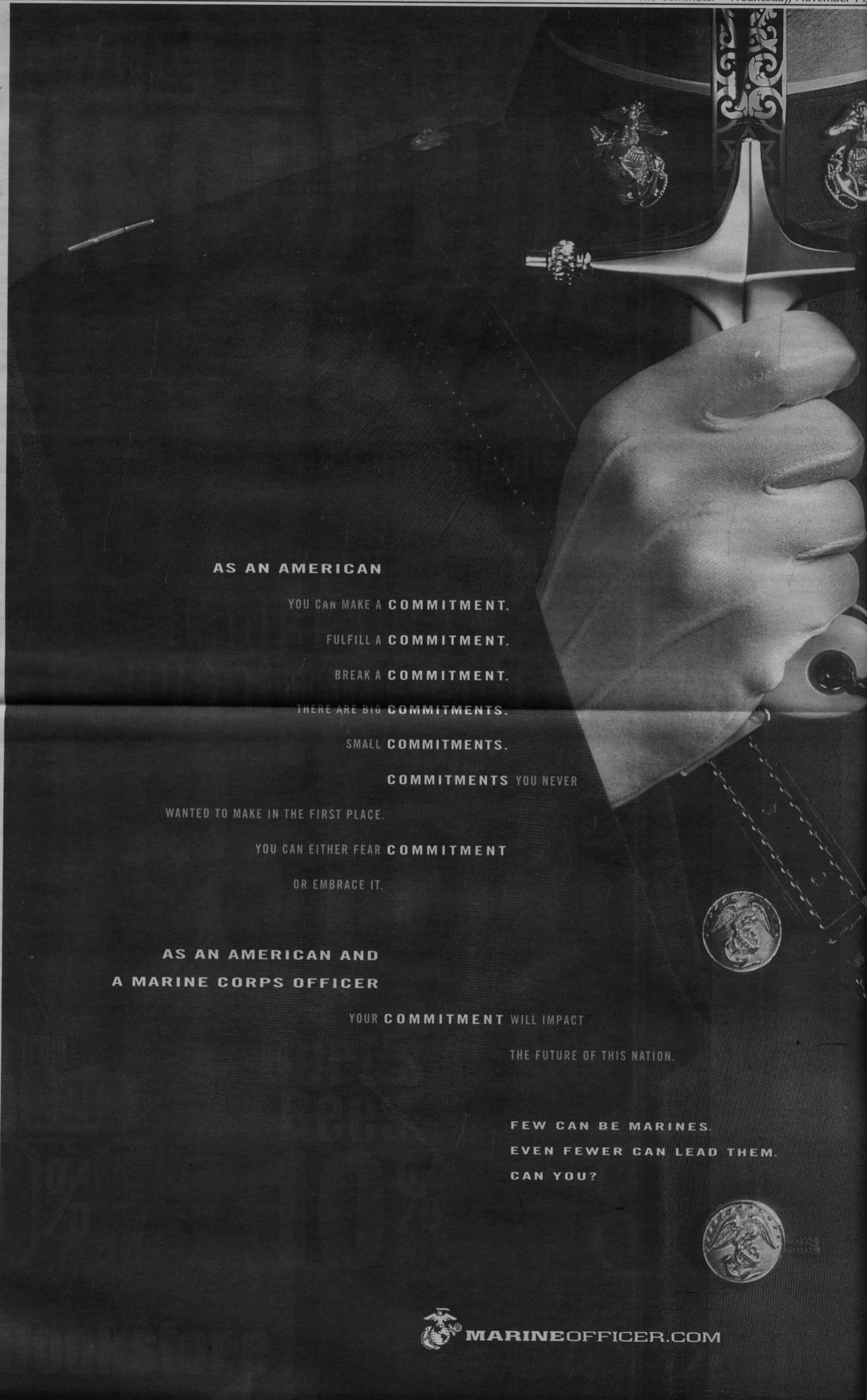
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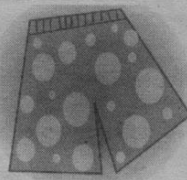
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Managing Editor: Jamie Wilson
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

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

Campus Shorts



Benton Center Acoustic Showcase

LBCC's Benton Center Acoustic Showcase hosts musician James Wilson on Friday, Nov. 16, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Benton Center Student Lounge, 757 Polk Ave. Corvallis.

Wilson recently migrated to the valley from southern California. He plays a variety of instruments including acoustic, classical and electric guitars, mandolin, flute, bodhran, penny whistle, bousouki, didgeridoo, electronic bagpipe, melodeon and piano. He is a former member of the Orange Coast Guitar Ensemble, and is a faculty member and the department chair of the English for Speakers of a Second Language department at LBCC.

Wilson will perform on guitar with some Irish flute in classical, Celtic and original instrumental compositions.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact LBCC's Benton Center at (541) 757-8944.

LBCC Poetry Club

The next LBCC Poetry Club meeting will be held in the Choir

Room, SSH 213, at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 20.

All persons with interest in poetry and live music are welcome to join. Both readers and listeners are welcome and appreciated. There will be a piano and a microphone to use.

This meeting will feature a short (19 minute) presentation of the Luis Buñuel and Salvador Dali film "Un Chien Andalou," with a brief but extensive surrealist-inspired "Glorious Lecture Upon the Meanings and Reasons of the Poetics of Film, with Regard especially to the Surrealist Early Attempts by Buñuel and Dali" by the Poetry Club's Minister of Propaganda, Harrison A. White, Esq.

Phi Theta Kappa Social

Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of the Two-Year College, is hosting an informational meeting and social Friday, Nov. 16 at 3 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

The session is a chance for students to learn about all of the benefits of being a member of PTK, how to apply, and the application requirements.

PTK is an academic honors

society for students who have maintained a GPA of 3.5.

The purpose of PTK is to promote achievement and leadership on campus and in the community, and there are millions of dollars in scholarships available specifically for PTK members.

These scholarships can help students transfer to numerous Oregon schools like Linfield, University of Portland, Willamette University, and Warner Pacific College, or even to a school on the other side of the nation.

There is no required time commitment as a member, all one has to do is turn in the paperwork and one-time fee.

The honor society can also be useful on a resume.

This Friday's events include a Wii Tournament, Texas Hold 'Em Tournament, and board games, as well as free food and prizes for game winners, and more information about what it means to be a part of PTK.

For more information, please contact the society through the PTK link on the LBCC Web site or call (503) 559-8865.

Oregon State to host Trans Awareness Week

Elizabeth Uriarte
 The Commuter

This week at OSU is Trans Awareness Week, a time to educate everyone in the community about transgender issues. This event is being held courtesy of ASOSU's Queer Affairs Task Force.

From Nov. 12 to Nov. 19, various events are happening around the OSU campus in Corvallis, according to an information pamphlet from OSU.

Today from 5 to 6 p.m. in Memorial Union Room 206 is "TransWomen of the World," a presentation by Dalena Spiritsong, a transwoman and liberal studies undergraduate student at OSU. Spiritsong will discuss issues of transwomen in different countries and cultures around the world.

After that is "Exploring Gender" from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Bloss Residence Hall Main Lounge. This is an open discussion of all aspects of gender, when/how gender is formed, etc.

Thursday, Nov. 15 from noon to 1 p.m. at the OSU Pride Center is "Trans Health Resources." Stacey Edwards, a health educator at Student Health Services and advisor of Peer Health Advocates, will discuss local LGBT-friendly health resources available to transgender students. Snacks will be provided by the Pride Center.

Later that evening, from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Pride Center is "Gender This! Access and Success in College for Trans-

gender/Gender Queer People," an information session discussing how students can make it through school successfully while openly expressing their gender identity. Guest speaker Chicora Martin, U of O's director of LGBT Education and Support Services will lead the discussion and provide information.

Friday from 8 p.m. to midnight is the "Transcending Gender Film Festival," featuring a series of five films about gender. This even is located in Bloss Residence Hall Main Lounge, and is co-sponsored by Late Night Activities, Women Studies Department.

Trans Awareness Week finishes Monday, Nov. 19 with a candle vigil to remember those transgender individuals who have been targets of violence because of their gender identity.

In addition to these events, all week long in the MU Quad is the "Wall of Remembering Lives," a wall designated to remember trans people who have lost their lives due to their gender identity/expression. "This wall honors the lives of those who have suffered from the violent discrimination that plagues our country," according to the information pamphlet.

For more information about Trans Awareness Week, contact Melissa Brazeale at queer.afairs@oregonstate.edu.

Speed dating comes to LBCC

Will Parker
 The Commuter

This Friday at 7 p.m. the Young Democrats Club will be hosting a limited seating speed-dating experience in the Alsea Room at the LBCC Albany Campus. While speed dating may be a new concept to the LBCC campus, it's not new everywhere.

The basic concept behind speed dating is that there's a segregated group of girls and guys and one group sits down and becomes the stationary group while the other group rotates around and spends four to five minutes getting to know each other.

At the end of the event participants submit to the organizers a list of whom they would like to provide their contact information to.

If there is a match, contact information is forwarded to both parties. Contact information cannot be traded during the initial meeting, in order to reduce pressure to accept or reject someone face to face.

The original concept came about in 1988 and has flourished ever since, especially in pop culture with treatments from such shows as "Sex in the City."

As an added incentive, there will be a raffle for participating people to win a dinner for two at a local restaurant.

To participate in the speed dating this Friday, submit your name, age and gender to Speed-

DatingAtLBCC@yahoo.com to reserve a seat.

The cost is \$5 at the door and goes to support the Young Democrats Club spring break trip to Washington D.C. Must be 18 years or older to participate.

Linn-Benton Community College presents
37th ANNUAL CHILDREN'S WINTER FESTIVAL

"An International Winter" Free Activities and Gifts for Children Ages 0-12
 Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007 • 1-4 p.m.

Linn-Benton Community College
 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, College Center Building

- Crafts
- Face Painting
- Cookie Decorating
- Kwanzaa Room
- Hanukkah Room
- Pictures with Santa Claus and Father Claus

Free. All children must be accompanied by an adult. A donation of two cans of food will be appreciated. Call (541) 917-4457 for more information.

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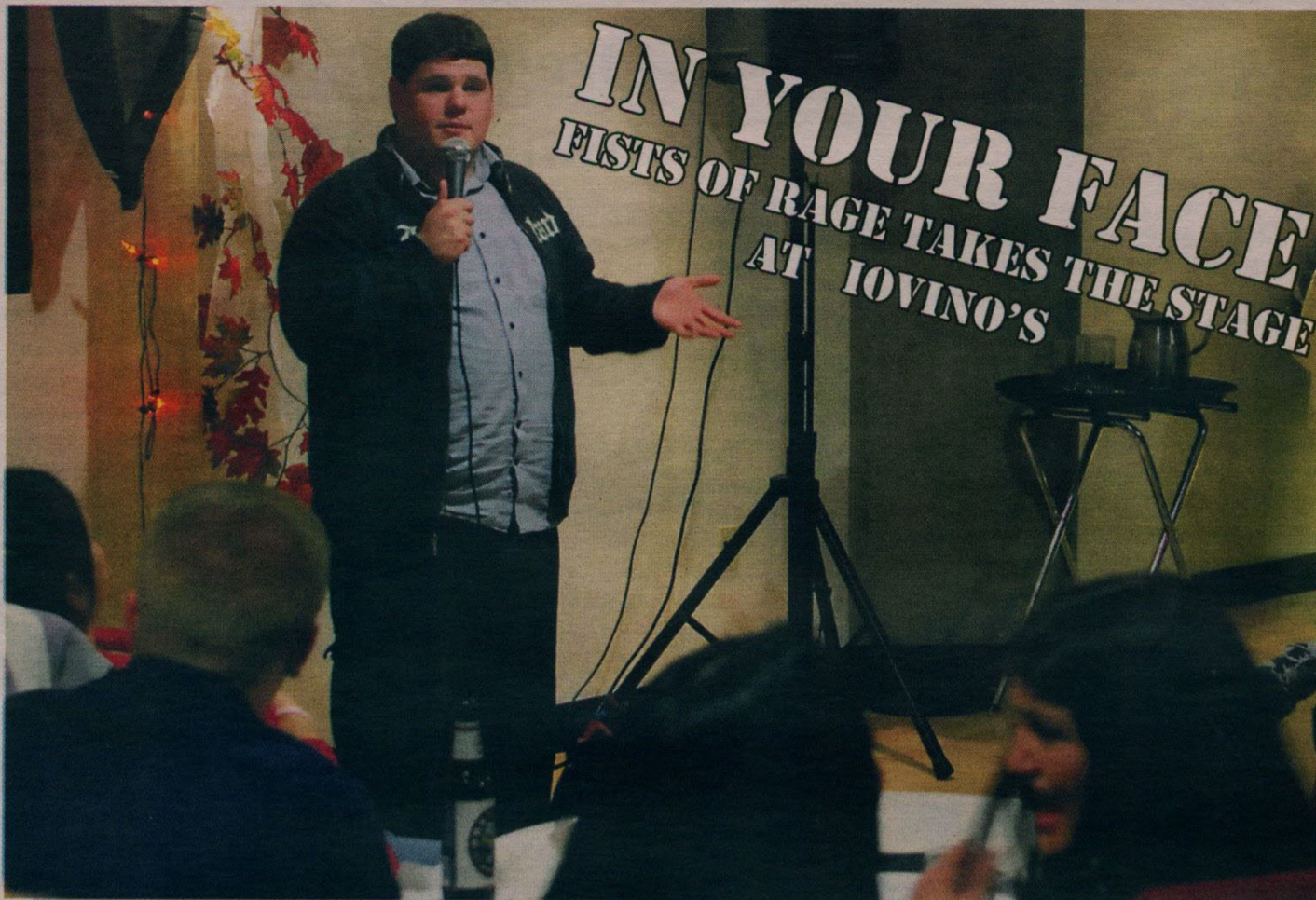
a matter of mind and spirit

Look for crossword in next week's issue

Editor: Elizabeth Uriarte
 Newsroom Desk: 917-4451
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

THE BACK PAGE

Random pieces of entertaining news we see fit to take up a full color page because we care about you, the reader.



Will Parker
 The Commuter

They say, "Laughter is the best medicine." And by they, I mean a wide assortment of people from playwrights to clinical physicians advocating for more comedy in the workplace. On Friday, The Fists of Rage Comedy Tour took over the stage at Iovino's in Corvallis to dose out some of their particular brand of "Angry Comedy" to a crowd mostly comprised of people old enough to drink and young enough not to remember Reagan.

At first glance, Iovino's Italian Restaurant located in downtown Corvallis might not seem like the ideal candidate for Fists' target audience. Certainly the joint is classy and not exactly the sort of place you would expect to run into guys lamenting the woes of searching for "the little man in the boat." When I saw the room transform from simple dining area to a stage complete with sliding glass walls to insulate the normal dining area and open up the performance area into the lobby, I knew the tour had found a good home. More so, though, I knew that Iovino's was a truly classy joint when the incredible staff there put in



the tremendous effort they did that night to make the place ready for the comedy show after a packed dinner crowd.

The host of the night's festivities, Cody Cooper, an LBCC student and comedian himself, put together the comedy tour with one intention in mind: To make life easier for himself. "You know, I was driving two hours on the weekends for three minutes (of stage time)," he said. "That's just crazy."

Okay, so maybe Cooper had more than just his own gas bill in mind when he put together the tour. Friday night played to a packed audience at Iovino's, Monday saw them doing a show over at Lucky Larry's in Albany and for at least the near future, Corvallis has a monthly comedy show. More than that, Cooper has managed to bring some color into what is otherwise a pretty drab Corvallis and Albany nightlife.

What of the comedians? Truly the mark of a good comedy show must be the quality of the comedians. Overall, I thought the three guys who performed were pretty good. And of course, if one were to judge the show in a "for Corvallis"-type perspective, the show was phenomenal. But being great for Corvallis doesn't necessarily mean success in the long run.

The Good: Joe Fontenot, the headlining comedian. Don't get me wrong, Kevin Kimble was good, and Cooper is a great host, but Fontenot lit the place on fire. I mean, most of the comedians you see in small comedy shows like this are pretty good, have a good tempo and generally tell jokes that get laughs. Fontenot, though,

looked like he walked right off Comedy Central. His jokes were solid, and more than just rehearsed bits, he played with the audience in a very fluid fashion. From his back and forth with some of the ladies in the front to an almost roast level of ridicule aimed at a "Lance Bass looking douche in flip-flops," Fontenot was truly a professional.

The Bad: I really liked some of his jokes, including the first mention of the night of the little man in the boat, but Gabe Dinger couldn't make it on the comedic value of his name alone. Ultimately though, there was a bit too much time between his bits and he seemed a bit out of place, or at the very least, nervous. It really didn't help that his opening bit fell completely flat.

The Ugly: The transition between the first comedian, Kevin Kimble and the second comedian, Gabe Dinger, was almost painful to watch. Kimble's (who is black himself) last thing he did was to ask the audience for a question about black people that they wanted answered. I'm sure had the audience been a bit more warmed up and certainly if they had been a bit more liquored up it would have been great. But it fell flat. And lead into Dinger's bit about the current writer's strike. Dinger had picked up a paper and read it in the name of solidarity with his writer brothers. The room was absolutely electric with anticipation for something, anything. Instead, they got a clunky transition to the next bit with no real punch line. It was the only real let down of the night.

The next scheduled performance for the Fists of Rage Comedy Tour is 9 p.m. Dec. 13 at Iovino's in Corvallis. For more information about the tour or the comedians, check out Fists of Rage at MySpace.com/fistsofragecomedy.

Clockwise from top: Cody Cooper, Joe Fontenot, Gabe Dinger, Kevin Kimble

photos by Will Parker

