

The Commuter

Poetry Month

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Free Speech Week
April 18-22
Diversity Achievement Center

Monday

- "Freedom on My Mind" movie showing 1-3 pm•DAC
- Discussion and Lobby Day Recruiting 3-4 pm•DAC

Tuesday

- Presentation of Allen Ginsberg's "Howl" and open mic 3-5 pm•Hot Shot Café

Wednesday

- "Berkley in the '60's" movie 10-Noon•DAC
- Discussion and Lobby Day Recruiting 12-2 pm•DAC
- Movie Night in the DAC re-showing of "Berkley in the '60's" 5-7 pm•DAC

Thursday

- Discussion, responsibilities of free speech and student action 12:30-2:30 pm•DAC

Friday

- Lobby Day Recruiting and "Berkley in the '60's" 1-3 pm•DAC

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Dream Job May Await at LBCC Career Fair!

Justeen Elliott

Contributing Writer

You're hired!

That's what you could be hearing if you go to this year's career fair on Thursday, April 14.

The LBCC Career Fair starts at 10 a.m. and runs until 2 p.m. It is located in the Activities Center gym on the Albany campus, but before the door opens, the president of LBCC will welcome and thank all of the employers because without them there wouldn't be a career fair every year.

This year, there are 53 employers signed up and 46 recruiting along with eight LBCC departments providing information. The types of jobs that will be available are part-time, seasonal, internships, summer, and full-time graduate jobs and military. However, only the Marines have signed up. There is always the possibility a position you've always wanted could unexpectedly open.

"Both of my kids that went to the career fair were very successful in finding careers that they never even considered," said Karen Davis, part-time admissions worker.

The Forest Sciences Lab of Corvallis is, unfortunately, not offering any jobs this year, but like many other employers, are instead helping students find jobs and giving them information on how to succeed. Also during the career fair, there will be three free workshops offered twice throughout the event.

If students get lost, or are just really confused, they can

go to the Mid-Willamette Human Resources Association booth. Here they will answer questions and point you in the right direction.

"The Career Exploration and Research Fair is a really upbeat, fun, busy environment," said Michelle Slay, office coordinator. "I've been doing this for five years now and I just love to network with all of the students and the employers!"

Not just students are eligible for this event. It is open to the general public and anyone, even employers that don't have a booth, that just want to see if they want to do the event at a later year, are allowed to come. As soon as you walk through the door, you're instantly handed a list of sample questions to ask along with a map of where all the employers are located.

"It is very important that you go to our website, so you can see who will be there," said Carla Raymond, career fair coordinator. "So you have pertinent questions to ask them beforehand. It is also important to bring resumes with you and to dress professionally."

Some of the employers that will be attending are the Benton County Sheriff's Office, Farmers Insurance, LBCC Non-Traditional Career Program, Oregon Secretary of State, Miller Timber Services Inc., ATI Wah Chang, and WorkSource Oregon.

For a more information visit the career fair website at:
cf.linnbenton.edu/careerfair

TNT Club Aids Students on Non-Traditional Career Paths

Ben Davis

Contributing Writer

TNT Club? Are they explosives junkies? An AC/DC tribute band?

Not exactly, but shaking the earth just the same.

Since January of 2010 the TNT Club (Think Non-Traditional) has been helping break gender barriers in male- and female-dominated professions. Headquartered in the Diversity Achievement Center, the club offers social support and scholarship information to bold students who challenge tradition by choosing career fields in which their gender occupies a minority of 25 percent or less.

"Don't be led by tradition, just do whatever you want to do," says David Ward, who worked nearly 20 years in sheet metal and other trades before leaving the daily grind to pursue a degree in elementary education.

Elementary school teachers generally require a bachelor's degree and teaching certificate, which varies by state, and can expect a median salary of around \$48,000 in Oregon, just below the national average of \$51,467, according to Salary.com.

But it's not all about dollars and cents. "Money was never an issue, I just want something more fulfilling. I want to help people," explains Ward.

Currently, 18 percent of elementary and middle school teachers are males, compared to 43 percent of secondary schoolteachers, according to website Menteach.org. Male nurses

currently account for 8 percent of industry positions, up from 6.6 percent in years prior.

As male students such as Ward prepare to change the dynamics of elementary education, female students such as Amy Payne in the Welding Technology program train for jobs in male-dominated professions.

"You learn something new every day, which makes it interesting, and you end up getting paid well," Payne commented for LBCC's TNT student profile page. Welders earn an average hourly wage of \$20.39 in Oregon.

"Women face the harder stigma, while men generally receive praise," admits Ward. "It's tougher to crack into fields like welding and mechanics as a woman than nursing or pre-adolescent teaching as a man."

Women have accounted for 17 of the 20 members of the TNT Club since its inception last winter.

Valerie Ziegler, outreach and retention specialist for non-traditional careers at LBCC and founder of the TNT Club, concurs with Ward.

"It is probably a little easier for a man to take a non-traditional career path, but they still have to prove themselves," Ziegler says, noting that women often encounter barriers such as discrimination and harassment in the workplace.

She further explained that societal stereotypes are mostly to blame and that "careers have no gender" - a popular catchphrase the TNT Club embraces.

Ziegler and Ward agree that the primary motivation in choosing a non-traditional career is and should be passion for the work. However, benefits for men in female-dominated fields may include improved working conditions, less physical stress, and increased job stability; advantages for women in male-dominated fields may include increased salary, improved benefits, and more opportunity for advancement, according to the TNT Club's promotional pamphlet.

The club is gaining momentum and planning community outreach events at local middle and high schools, but faces challenges in raising awareness and retaining membership.

Ziegler extended an open invitation for non-traditional students to become involved or seek assistance from the TNT Club.

"The more connected you feel to your program and your school, the higher your chances of following through with your goals," Ziegler says.

For students interested in exploring non-traditional careers, the TNT Club can be a valuable resource to assist in their journey. They can contact Outreach and Retention Specialist Valerie Ziegler or Advisor Tiffany Castillo, or drop by the Diversity Achievement Center, which is open weekdays until 3 p.m.

Also look for a TNT booth at the 33rd annual LBCC Career Fair on Thursday, April 14, in the Activities Center.

LBCC Teams Up with OSU to Offer Study Abroad

Kyle Holland

Contributing Writer

Study Abroad suspended!
Or is it?

Yes, the Study Abroad Club is another victim of the recent budget cuts at LBCC and will be temporarily suspended starting fall term 2011. There is another option, however, for students looking for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to spend a term studying in Fiji, Brazil, Australia, maybe England, or any one of the 70 countries that Oregon State University's Study Abroad programs have to offer.

Kim Sullivan has been running the Study Abroad Club since 2008 and was upset to hear about the suspension of the program. She has helped many students in the past few years through the study-abroad process and wanted a way to continue to do so. One of the many benefits of being a student at LB is the ability to be dual-enrolled at OSU in the degree partnership program.

Using these resources, Sullivan will still be able to help students do a study abroad trip in one of the 200 programs that OSU offers. Once students have successfully completed the degree partnership application, they can then take advantage of this amazing experience and begin a life-changing journey.

Ann Helms, a former student at LB who is now studying at OSU, liked her experience enough during her study abroad in London last spring that she is already signed up to go on another study abroad in the fall through OSU. When asked about her experience in London, Ann said she "couldn't have asked for more out of it."

The financial aspect of study abroad is one that can throw a lot of students off. There is hope, however. If you follow Sullivan's advice of planning ahead and staying on top of the deadlines, you can get assistance. There are scholarships out there for students that are Pell eligible and your financial aid advisers can work with you to get the most out of your

Study Abroad Info

Contact: Kim Sullivan
Where: Admissions Office
Takena Hall
Phone: 541-917-4847
Email: sullivk@linnbenton.edu

financial aid. The Gilman scholarship alone can award up to \$5,000 to a student.

Katie Landgren, a history major at LB who also spent a term abroad in London last spring, was awarded \$3,500 from the Gilman and \$2,000 from other scholarships to help pay for her experience.

Sullivan also had nothing but good things to say about her time in England. While studying the History of the British Empire, Drama Writing, Travel Writing and World History, she was also able to see the famous Stonehenge and travel to Scotland on a four-

day excursion.

For several students, the college process and lengthy time it takes to complete can be a drag and seem repetitive at times. The study abroad program gives students a jolt of energy and breath of fresh air into their college experience. There is no better way to get a well-rounded and culturally balanced education than a term away from home in a foreign country. There are many options available with some lasting only three weeks and others that are a full term.

It's hard to say whether LB will ever officially bring back the Study Abroad Club to allow all of our students to enjoy this experience, but you shouldn't be afraid to get involved and ask questions on how you can do a term away from home.

If you would like to follow a current student on her study abroad in London, check out Emily Rose's blog at emilyroseinlondon.blogspot.com as she updates her adventures and experiences over the next 10 weeks.



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Choir Goes Cabaret for Reno

Sarah McClanahan

Editorial Assistant

The first annual Cabaret was held on Thursday, April 7, in the choir room on LBCC's campus. The event was a fundraiser for the choir's trip in May to compete in the International Choral Festival in Reno.

The show featured everything from musical theater to rock and roll and a little something for everyone in between. Tickets were \$5 at the door, and there were some refreshments for sale as well to help the fundraising get underway.

The room was decorated with paper stars and fun music garland, which was a nice festive touch to the Cabaret theme of the night.

The seats were full and everyone was in the mood for some great entertainment. College friends and staff from other departments on campus were among the many guests.

The show started with the title song from the musical "Cabaret." The group of 20 performers sang and danced their way into the audience's heart before taking to the floor in solos, trios and duets.

The emcees of the evening, Cameron Graham and Katherine Lee, even had some fun skits set up to entertain between sets, in which they gave fun facts out about their castmates. James Reddan, director of choral activities, and Diane Hancock, pianist, were on hand to assist the students as needed with accompaniment and props.

Each performer gave it all they had when it was their turn to shine. Some crowd favorites included Whitney Rowton, Miranda Borden, Jordan Uhlman, and Cameron Graham.

Rowton sang a catty little number titled "The Life of the Party," in which she threw some fun theatrics into the song. Borden gave her all with her jazzy vocals on "My Sweet Song" that wowed the crowd. Uhlman's song, "It's a Privilege to Pee," made audience members laugh with delight at the absurdity of the song, and Cameron Graham's powerful performance of "If I Didn't Believe in You," from the off-Broadway one-act musical "The Last Five Years" by Jason Robert Brown, kept the audience spellbound.

"It took me two months to put together and work on. You have to draw on your own experiences and make it come from the heart, so that's what I do," said Graham.

Graham will be going to Reno with the choir and said that he is excited to be going.

Kayla Nissen is another student who will be going to Reno. She performed the song "In the Ghetto" by Elvis Presley and dedicated it to her mother.

"Besides her being a huge fan of Elvis, it was also her favorite song. She used to sing it all the time when I was a kid. So in turn, I sang it for her. She's always been super supportive of me no matter what, so I wanted to give her something in return," said Nissen.

When asked what she is looking forward to



Bryana Bittner

The cast of LBCC's First Annual Cabaret strike a pose to close the show last Thursday.

on the Reno trip, she said, "I'm just really looking forward to performing and showing off the hard work we all put in and what James has done as a director."

The show ended with another group showcase – this time the song "One" from the musical "A Chorus Line," which was really amazing.

The entire Cabaret was student-organized and student-lead. Each person was a part of a

team and no one stood out on their own. The students were the ones who brought it to the table and Reddan helped to put it together, along with each particular student's gifts. It was also Graham who choreographed the group numbers. Reddan just picked the group songs.

The entire show was all about the Reno trip and those who will be a part of it when May rolls around.

"Lobby Day" April 25th

Students Unite to Increase LBCC funding.

Find out more at the
Informational Booths:

Wednesday April 12th 9-11am Free Coffee and Donuts

Monday April 18th 9-11am Free Coffee and Donuts

Tuesday April 19th 12:30-2pm Free Pizza

Wednesday April 20th 9-11am Free Coffee and Donuts

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Get Informed for Child Abuse Awareness

The Linn County Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse put up exhibits to raise awareness about child abuse and find families for children in foster care this week. The Heart Gallery Display is at Takena Hall. There is also a child abuse prevention display in the Commons.



Photos by Bryana Bittner



Oregon Chefs Show-Off at LB

Dineen Charest
Staff Writer

The crowd of 350 people waited in anticipation. LBCC's quantity instructor chef Scottie Hurley blew the horn, time was up ... Who would win this year's Chefs' Show-Off?

The Chefs' Show-Off is the brain child of Hurley, Chris Peterson and MaryAnn Nusrala. Their vision is to have yearly cook-offs using only local growers' products to raise money for the non-profit Food Literacy Program.

This year the competition was stiff; the four chefs who were chosen had 90 minutes to create an entree with excellent taste, texture and presentation to please all five judges.

Every chef had an LBCC culinary student as their assistant. They were required to cook from scratch and choose from the banquet table of fresh ingredients donated by local businesses. Single ingredient items such as sugar, oil and salt were allowed but no frozen or compound ingredients.

It was then up to each competitor to use their imagination and tap into their culinary skills.

The judges were seated in a separate room. The entrees were placed strategically in front of each one along with pens and pamphlets for critiquing. One by one, each chef stepped in front of the judges and introduced themselves, explaining their masterpieces. Their speech was awkward and shy. One could tell that speaking in front of people was not their best attribute.

A wall of large glass windows behind the judges supported the faces of a crowd of bystanders patiently awaiting the judges' decision.

In the main hall, 33 vendors and organizations gave out food and wine samples. There were raffles and an auction. The crowd whistled and got excited when Hurley was auctioned off. The lucky bidder won five hours of his cooking services for \$300. Pediatrician Jim Nusrala of Corvallis was the winner of the judgeship auction and received a spot at the judges' table.

Meanwhile, the chefs mingled with the waiting crowd. A sense of nervousness showed on each of their faces. They spoke of the difficulty of the last hour.

"The pressure wasn't bad. I own a restaurant and am used to being rushed. What was more difficult was the pressure of coming out from behind the kitchen and having to converse with



photos by Dineen Charest

Top: Chefs Michael Waliser, Jason Devroux and Chad Pope scope out their ingredient options.

Above: Judges Charlie Brandford, Scott Shufelt, Jim Nusrala, John Jarschke and Andrew Lawlow score dishes.

Left: Chef Nathan McClure prepares his meal.

the crowd," said chef Michael Waliser of the Saffron Salmon in Newport.

"I decided to make raviolis, which is more difficult of a dish; the flour made it take longer," said chef Jason Devroux of Clemenza's in Albany.

Chef Nathan McClure from OSU Catering was having a difficult time with the stinging nettles. Stinging nettle has a flavor similar to spinach when cooked. "I have never worked with the herb so I didn't realize that the needles could cause a burning sensation and when I picked it up, I was like ... what the heck?"

McClure experienced a few pricks to his fingers before his assistant Ben Landreth warned him to use latex gloves when handling the herb.

Chef Chad Pope of Cappies Brewhouse in Albany said, "I had my base, but finding the other ingredients was my toughest time. I am not familiar with the LBCC kitchen."

Before Pope said anything else, emcee James Cassidy of OSU's Soil Science Department stepped on stage and handed the microphone to Hurley.

"The judges have made a decision. The winner of this year Chefs' Show-Off is Michael Waliser of the Saffron Salmon. Michael will also receive a \$100 to go toward his favorite charity," said Hurley.

Whistles and cheers came from the crowd. Waliser smiled and stepped up to the stage. His entree of braised lamb chops with beet microgreen salad had delighted the palates of the judges.

"I would like to say thank you for this opportunity it was a great experience. I would also like to give my money to one of my favorite charities, the Humane Society, for those who do not have a voice," said Waliser.

See more photos online at: commuter.linnbenton.edu



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Wednesday

Dishes: Roasted Chicken, Pork Vindalho and Gnocchi Bar
Soup: Navy Bean and Won Ton

Thursday

Dishes: French Dip, Chicken Ballontine and Sweet & Sour Tempeh
Soup: Dill Potato Chowder and Garlic Tomato

Friday

Chef's Choice

Monday

Dishes: Grilled Pork Chops w/ Sauce Robert, Rogan Josh and Portabella Sandwich
Soups: Shrimp Bisque and Cream of Broccoli

Tuesday

Dishes: Reuben Sandwich, Chicken Gumbo and 3 Cheese Stuffed Shells
Soups: Creamy Chicken Mushroom and Tomato & Rice

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Adapt or Die



Adam LaMascus
Opinion Editor

It is a fact of nature that adaptation is the best way to deal with continually changing circumstances. It is well known that history is full of the bones and memories of countless species, people, groups, businesses, ideas and empires that failed to adapt, stagnated and perished. The very fact that the word "stagnation" has such negative connotations is indicative of how geared we are towards adapting. Why, then, are American politics so rigid and incapable of adaptation?

Our nation is built on taking other people's ideas and modifying them. Our republic is adapted from the Romans. Our banking system is adapted from the British and Dutch. Much of our military strategy and design is adapted from the Germans. Our most common language is adapted from the English, French, and Germans. Our very species survived because it was able to superbly adapt to multiple environments. Our ability to modify ideas to suit us is what makes us great.

However, should a politician mention that the Finnish have arguably the best school system in the world or comment that the French healthcare system has been rated the best globally for many years and maybe we could learn from it ... uh-oh. They will instantly be branded as a defeatist or a socialist, and their idea will be ignored. Why?

The U.S. government is so busy bickering that the government threatened to shut down. Also, the rhetoric and antics between our two main parties are so bitter and caustic that a Russian newspaper declared (and was echoed by other non-American groups) that the Sarah

Palin and many of her GOP backers were committing treason. Let's think about this. Our government is threatening to shut down because people can't agree on anything, and the country that for over half a century was our arch-nemesis and in many cases still prefers to see us stumble is saying we need to calm down, be nicer to each other and get along.

The fact of the matter is the numbers are telling. The U.S. is ranked 46th in terms of infant mortality. Greece, Hungary, Slovenia, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Singapore and Cuba all have fewer children dying than we do. We rank 50th in life expectancy. Singapore, Bosnia and Herzegovina (part of the former Yugoslavia) all score better than we do. Our school systems slip lower on the charts every year. Our infrastructure is ranked 23rd globally. We are the only industrialized nation lacking some sort of universal healthcare. Our debt is increasing while a number of European countries are seeing gains. Our wealth distribution is preposterous, with the top one percent holding 33.8 percent of the wealth and the top 20 percent owning 81.3 percent of the wealth. That leaves for 80 percent of

Americans (that's anybody sitting at LBCC, folks) only having 18.7 percent of our nation's wealth.

Just about the only areas we still rank number one in are not good ones. We are first in obesity, 18th in diabetes, first in amount of crime in rich countries, and of course, first in the amount of debt. Regardless of these numbers, the U.S. is a great country, there is no doubt about that. That being said, clearly other people are doing something right that we are not. If you doubt my numbers, check the CIA World Factbook, Time Magazine, and some studies done by UC Santa Cruz.

The fantastic writer Fareed Zakaria, who became an American "not by accident, but by choice," argues that our success has gotten us into this downward spiral. We are so used to being the world's superpower that we haven't noticed the world catching up around us. He points out that Germany, China and Japan, all three of whom were ravaged during WWII, used the aftermath to rebuild, rethink and redesign, and are now all coming out ahead globally. Clearly we can't start from scratch like they did, but that doesn't mean we have to just sit here, bicker and ignore everyone else.

The moral is this: Believe it or not, people who aren't Americans actually can have good ideas. So, the next time someone makes a suggestion that seems a little bizarre, don't just blindly react. Do some research; it isn't hard. Develop your own opinion, and make a decision from there. Just remember that the bedrock of tyrannies and failed states is fear and blind devotion, and none of us want that.

Sex AND THE Campus

What's Wrong With a Sex Column?

Jeb Oliver

Staff Writer

Instead of dealing with issues pertaining to those of you who have real concerns or questions about sex and relationships, I have to defend my new column in The Commuter.

Look people, I don't know your personal issues. You don't like sex, you don't like the idea of premarital sex, you have some homophobic issues or sex just makes you uncomfortable. That's all fine, I suppose. I personally don't care what your issue is with having a sex column. It's obviously not for you. I'm not here to convince you of doing anything you don't want to. I'm just trying to give advice to those of us who want to go out and find love in our world.

If you don't want to have sex, don't. If you don't want to have premarital sex, well, don't. If you don't want to have sex with someone of the same sex, don't! It's your choice folks, and that choice goes on to what you read as well. Also, why wouldn't a sex column be appropriate in the open, free-speech world of a college campus? Do you not think that a college would be the right place to discuss something that affects us all? I believe we are absolutely in the right place to talk about love, dating, and inevitability, sex.



Jeb Oliver
Staff Writer

I'm not the anti-Christ. I'm not some sex expert or a pervert. I'm a normal man who just has some open ideas about sexuality and our world. I want to help my fellow students who don't get their questions answered in class or in books.

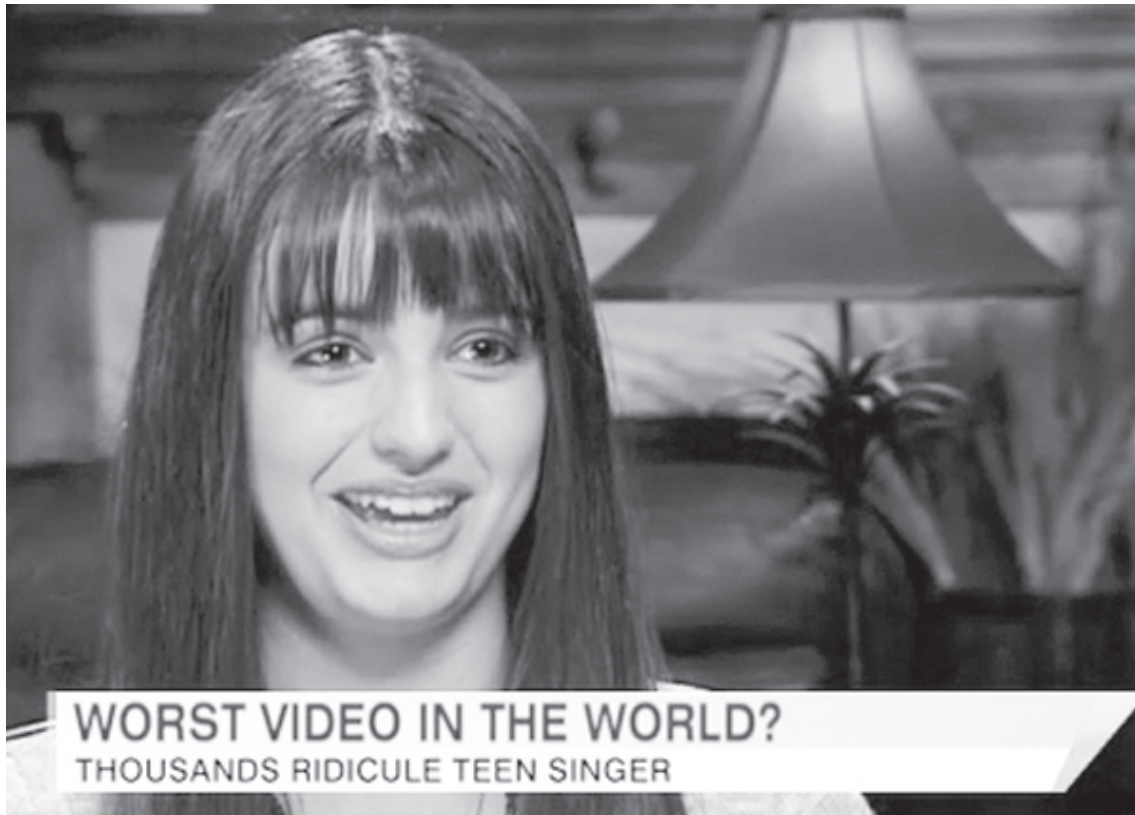
If you read my last article, I didn't say go out and have sex ASAP. I said own your sexuality, and your own sexual decisions regardless of what they are. I never said to go out and have crazy sex with as many people as you can. I would never say that.

This column is simply for those who want to talk, think, and have their questions answered by a fellow human who has gone and is going through the same search for love and fun that most of us are wanting. Some people don't understand as much about sex and love as they should or want to.

That's what I'm hoping to do. I'm trying to have a clean and open forum for the discussion of people's sexuality, so if that doesn't seem to be something that interests you or something that you can't stomach, then please don't read this. It will never be graphic - that's not me. But if you want to have this real conversation with real people, then please read and send in your questions. I hope to hear from you all very soon.

What do you think?

Tell us whether or not a sex column is right for The Commuter and why online at:
commuter.linnbenton.edu
Your vote will make a difference!



Poor Rebecca Black

When I was a teen, I was insane. All teen-aged girls are. They can't help it. It's the hormones. I'm not sure if boys go through a similar phase – feel free to opine on the website – but I know that during puberty, women lose their minds. It's a time of preparation, to get us used to the fact that we're going to be dealing with nonsensical mood swings on a monthly cycle for the rest of our lives.



Marci Sischo
Webmaster

I did typical teen-aged girl crap. I kept a diary, and filled it with stuff so horrifyingly embarrassing and naive that if it were to be found today, I'd probably have no choice but to commit seppuku in atonement for inflicting those things on an innocent page. I was a total drama queen. I was such an idiot. Wow, am I glad I grew out of that.

The nice thing is, that diary is long since gone, destroyed, never to be seen or read again. I never need fear the ridiculous thing rearing its ugly head to embarrass me again. (Probably, Mom, if you ever find it, burn it.) That's because I grew up before there was an Internet. Blogs had not yet been invented. I was lucky.

Today's teenagers are growing up with full access to blogs, Facebooks, Twitters, Tumblrs, and whatever else the kids are doing these days. Instead of pouring their insanity and foolishness into an incredibly impermanent dollar-store diary, kids are taking to the Internet. And the Internet is forever.

Which brings me to Rebecca Black. I feel bad for this kid. According to Wikipedia, she's studied dance and music for most of her short life, so it seems safe to say she probably does have some musical talent. Not that you could tell from the gawdawful video ARK Music Factory kicked out for her. That video is going to live on in infamy for all eternity, and some day, Rebecca Black is going to be thirty-something, watching that thing, and crawling with embarrassment. Probably live on TV, in some future version of "Where Are They Now?"

Back in the day, her parents might still have had this video made, but it would only have been inflicted on some relatives, and maybe a friend or two. Then the VHS tape would have worn out, and no one would ever have to see it again. Rebecca would have been able to live it down. Thanks to the Internet, though, she's always going to be "that 'Friday' gal," and no one's ever going to take her seriously. All because she had a music video made while she was thirteen.

And seriously, can you imagine being this poor kid, a fragile 13-year-old whose self-esteem is already made of crepe paper (because that's what teen-aged girls' self-esteem is actually, scientifically made of), and having to read through the umpteen billion hateful comments at the bottom of her Youtube video, the Twitter comments (she was trending on Twitter for several days a couple of weeks ago, and trust me, nobody had anything nice to say), the blogs, the newspaper articles, the snarky Internet mag commentaries ... Good lord, if this kid reads all that (and you know she is) and manages to make it through her teen years without suck-starting a shotgun, it'll be nothing short of a miracle.

It's a shame, too, because "Friday" isn't that terrible a song, as pop songs go. (Honestly, have you heard pop music?) Its lyrics ain't all that bad. I mean, Exhibit A, people: "Tik-Tok." Ke\$ha didn't exactly write an epic poem there, did she? The only differences between Ke\$ha and Rebecca Black are production values and boobs, folks. (Also, Black looks like she showers occasionally.) You put some decent production values behind "Friday," and Rebecca Black would have been a solid gold phenomenon.

Instead, she got ARK Music Factory and went viral for all the wrong reasons.

Well, and she's up on iTunes, and has sold pretty well there. Apparently, the other 13-year-old teen girls like her, but we've already established that they're insane, so ... If she gets a professional recording studio behind her, she might yet bounce back from the horror show of "Friday." If she does, good for her. She's earned it.

Read more from Marci on her blog at:
marcisicho.com

BACK *in the* DAY

Adam LaMascus

Opinion Editor

This day in history ...

April 13, 1919: RIP ...

Brigadier-General Sir Reginald Dyer of the British Army orders his soldiers to open fire without warning on an unarmed crowd of men, women and children in Amritsar, India. He orders the men to fire until they run out of ammunition, which takes around 15 minutes. Official British reports put the casualty counts at 379 killed and 1,100 wounded. Local eyewitness and Indian reports put the casualties at about 1,000 killed and 1,500 wounded. The so-called Jallianwala Bagh Massacre helps stir up support for the Indian independence movement, and directly contributes to the British leaving India.

April 14, 1881: Wild Wild West ...

A five-second long gunfight in El Paso, Texas, leaves two criminals (one being the former town marshal), the county constable, and an innocent bystander dead. The criminals and the college student are both killed by town Marshal Dallas Stoudenmire, a famous gunman who dual-wielded .44 Colt revolvers. Three Texas Rangers are present but do not act, later saying the felt Marshal Stoudenmire had the situation well under control.

April 15, 1969: Giving all ...

Deep Sea 129, an EC-121 recon aircraft, is shot down by a North Korean MiG-17. All 31 crewmen are killed. The mission had been deemed "minimal risk" by the Navy and Air Force. President Nixon responds by staging a Navy combat exercise near North Korea, and by resuming recon flights.

April 16, 1521: Why theocracy is bad ...

Martin Luther is called before the Diet of Worms (a council held in the German city of Worms) on charges that his 95 Theses are heretical. The Diet, headed by Emperor Charles V of the Holy Roman Empire, declares Luther a criminal, orders his arrest, makes it legal to kill him, bans his books, and makes it a crime to aid him in any way. Occurrences like these are why the Founding Fathers wanted a separation of church and state.

April 17, 1964: Girl power!

Jerrie Mock becomes the first woman to fly solo around the world. The trip takes her 29 days in a Cessna 180 named "The Spirit of Columbus." Jerrie now lives in Florida, holds multiple aeronautic records, is a mother of three, and has a street named after her in Rickenbacker International Airport. Way to go Jerrie!

April 18, 1949: The United States Chair Force ...

The keel for the new "supercarrier" USS United States (CVA-58) is laid; however, it is cancelled a mere five days later by President Johnson. The President is following recommendations from the Air Force that all air elements of the Marine Corps and Navy be transferred to Air Force command. This is part of a new Air Force plan, which states that the Navy and Marines should be closed down because any war could be won by the Air Force alone through mass strategic bombing using nuclear weapons. Fortunately, many high ranking military officials and Congressmen realize how unbelievably moronic this plan is and get it cancelled.

April 19, 1971: Good riddance – wait ...

Charles Manson is sentenced to death for murder. However, California shortly afterward bans the death penalty, so Manson's sentence is commuted to life imprisonment. He is currently incarcerated at Corcoran State Prison in California.

Thought for the week:

"Human beings have a demonstrated talent for self-deception when their emotions are stirred."

-Carl Sagan

What do you think?

Both letters to the editor
and guest columns
are welcome.

Submit your thoughts to
commuter@linnbenton.edu



The Commuter attempts to print all letters received, although we reserve the right to edit for grammar and length. Letters that raise libel, poor taste or privacy concerns will not be printed.

RPM Club Revs Up Activities

Alison Jelden

Contributing Writer

The RPM Club knows what it feels like to hear a car engine roaring after fixing it. Seeing a checkered flag raised after a professional race is what you can experience with this club.

The RPM (Racing Performance Mechanics) Club is the oldest club on the LBCC campus and has been hosting events since 1971. They're accepting new members right now so during fall term the club can raise money to take a trip to Nevada or California. Trips are during spring break and you take industry tours, meet celebrities, and watch races.

A couple years ago, the club went to John Force Industries, which started drag racing in the 1920s and had some of first drag-racing cars. "The coolest thing about joining this club is the trips," said club adviser Bryan Schiedler. "You learn about the industry, take tours and meet celebrities."

Schiedler organizes the club with help of a president and vice president. Most members are automotive majors, but you don't have to be. Meetings are on Wednesdays at noon at LBCC in Industrial A building, room 114, and start today, April 13. During the meeting you learn about race cars and the industry.

New members should join now so you can raise money in the fall and participate in the spring event.

For more information, contact Schiedler at 541-917-4591, or bryan.schiedler@linnbenton.edu.



Alison Jelden

Student Andrew Cabaniss (left) and instructor RJ Ehlers train on aligning a vehicle's front wheels by using the newest technology in the automotive class at LBCC.

Why don't you



Follow The Commuter on Facebook & Twitter

Tell us what you're thinking and keep up-to-date on the latest news. Plus, check our website for more stories, pictures, videos, and blogs at commuter.linnbenton.edu.



Freshman Joseph Crowe eyes a pitch against Clackamas last week.

Alyssa Archer

LB Baseball Splits Doubleheaders on the Week

Scott Landgren

Sports Editor

The LBCC baseball team went 2-2 this past week and split both doubleheaders it played. On April 5, LB split at home against Clackamas Community College, and on Saturday LB split in Salem against Chemeketa Community College.

Game 1: Clackamas 7, Linn-Benton 1:

In game one of the doubleheader Clackamas scored three runs in the second inning and never looked back. On this day, Clackamas used 13 hits to score seven runs and held LB to only one run on five hits. LB's lone run came on a solo home run by sophomore Carl Buckert in the fifth inning. Sophomore pitcher Sam Paterson took the loss for LB and his record now sits at 2-3 overall.

Game 2: Linn-Benton 10, Clackamas 2:

In the second game the LBCC bats came alive as they scored 10 runs on 13 base hits. LB scored two runs in the first inning and four in the second inning and took off from there. Sophomore pitcher Travis Iverson from Newport got the win for LBCC and now has a record of 2-1 on the season. Freshman catcher Ken Norgaard had a team-high three RBI's in the win.

Game 1: Linn-Benton 5, Chemeketa 0:

The first game on Saturday was a great one for LBCC. Sophomore pitcher AJ Burke pitched the game of his life that day as he had a no-hitter going into the bottom of the

ninth inning. With one out in the ninth, Chemeketa got its only base hit of the day. Burke finished out the game strong with a complete game one hitter. Burke also had eight strikeouts. On the season Burke's record goes to 5-1 overall.

Game 2: Chemeketa 7, Linn-Benton 3:

LBCC went for the sweep of the doubleheader but fell short. Chemeketa scored five runs in the first inning and that was all they would need. LB tried to come back and scored three runs in the third but could get no closer. LB was held to only four hits on the day while Chemeketa had 14. Sophomore pitcher Marcus Cleary took the loss for LB.

With the split this past week LBCC's record overall is now 10-10, and they sit in third place in the Southern Division with a 4-4 record.

"In the first game against Clackamas, we started slow and went for the big inning instead of trying to put pressure on Clackamas. In the second game, we did a better job of putting the pressure on," said head coach Greg Hawk.

LBCC has a big week of baseball this week. On Tuesday, they were scheduled to host a doubleheader against second-place Lane Community College.

On Saturday, LBCC will host another doubleheader against the Southern Division leader Mt. Hood Community College again starting 1 p.m. with the second game around 4 p.m.

"I am excited about the challenge this week. It is a big week that will tell us where we stand in the division, and we will find out who we are," said coach Hawk.

MOTO MAN RIDES AGAIN

Beginning of the Riding Season Warning

Chris Brotherton

Staff Writer

With the good weather heading into the Willamette Valley, the number of motorcyclists will be increasing. Unfortunately, this will also increase the amount of motorcycle accidents.

These accidents have several contributing factors, including car drivers who aren't used to seeing bikes out on the road, riders who aren't used to being on their bikes, and of course the unpredictable weather.

As a rider, you can take certain steps to help keep yourself safe out on the road. One of the first things you can do is take a few short rides before heading out on the first long trek of the season.

Second, make sure that you dress appropriately. Just because it isn't

raining when you leave the house, doesn't mean it won't change once you get on the road. Comfort is the first key to safety on a bike. Cold hands and wet legs are a huge distraction.

Also, once you do head out on the road, keep an extra eye on the cars. Drivers are even less likely to notice bikes in inclement weather.

By using a little common sense, you can keep from becoming a member of the spring motorcycle fatality statistics.



Dance Club Inspires at Spring Show

On the evenings of April 8 and 9 the LBCC Dance Club put on their spring show, "Inspirations." It included an immensely wide selection of dance. There was everything from hip hop to Asian fan dancing, as well as hula, ballet, modern, and swing. The dancers were incredible, and each routine earned a roar of applause for the nearly full house.

Photos by Tony Brown

For more photos and video from the performance go online at: commuter.linnbenton.edu



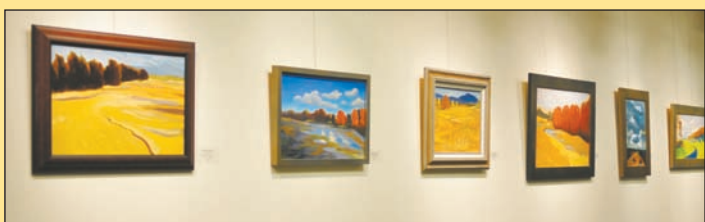
Art Galleries

Three local art gallery curators took a break from their day jobs to discuss their duties during a Q&A panel discussion on April 7. Their work is displayed in the North Santiam Hall Gallery in a show called "Curator's Holiday."

Also on display is a show entitled "Words and Pictures," which will have an opening reception on Wednesday, April 13 at noon in the SSH Gallery.



Photos by Alyssa Archer



See more photos online at: commuterlinnbenton.edu

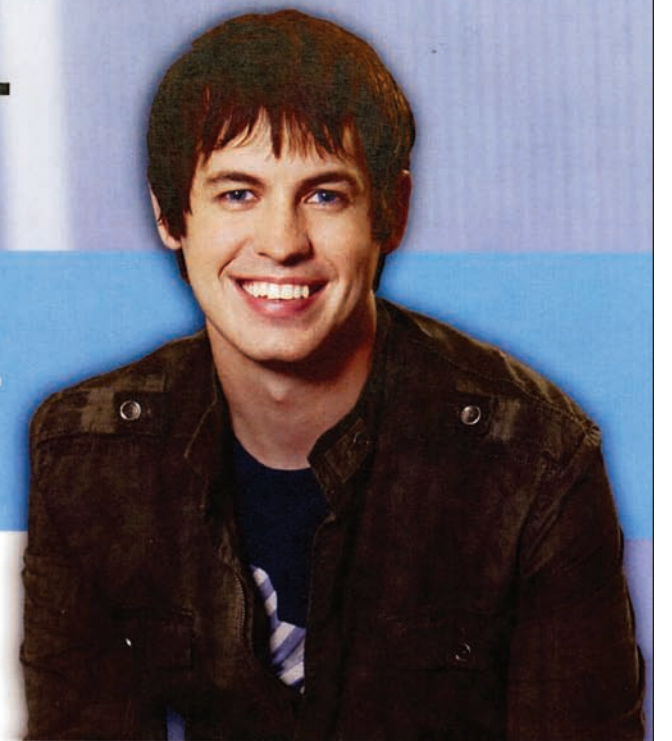
I give blood. Will you?

After my first donation, I was told that my blood could be used to treat serious illnesses. I realize how important it is to give.

— Tim, 21



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Linn Benton Community College

BLOOD DRIVE

Calapooia Center, Cascade View room
Sponsored by the Student Programming Board

Tuesday, April 26 and Wednesday, April 27
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

To schedule your appointment, or for more information, sign up in Tadena Hall or online at redcrossblood.org, sponsor code LBCC

Identification is required.

Oregon Poet Laureate Visits Campus

Audrey Gomez

Copy Editor

Oregon's Poet Laureate Paulann Petersen visited LBCC's Albany campus last Wednesday. The event was a collaborative effort of the Valley Writers Series, the LBCC Poetry Club and LBCC Library.

The library reading room was near full as Petersen motioned more people to the few vacant seats at the front.

Petersen spoke of her inspiration, how her poems were "occasioned," in a way as rhythmic as her poetry. These inspirations included her grandparents' fur shop, a "Nova" episode on cosmology, the moon, and the library.

"Bless you Benjamin Franklin for that invention of the public library!" Petersen said as she introduced her poem "Branch Library."

This poem was occasioned by a fantasy she had when she was younger about "hiding away someplace Friday afternoon and being locked inside the library for the entire weekend ... just the idea of being in there with all of those books and all that time ..."

Petersen followed with poems from her latest compilation, "The Voluptuary," which she dedicated to her parents and Walt Whitman, who shares her maiden name.

The middle section of the book is comprised of "poems spoken directly to Whitman," Petersen said. The rest of the book, she hopes, is "in keeping with his wonderfully ecstatic wide embrace"

"Bloodline," which Petersen has identified as the book's signature piece, was the last poem she read before opening up a discussion.

During the Q&A that followed, Petersen said that her writing habits have changed since becoming Oregon's Poet Laureate. She echoed former National Poet Laureate Kay Ryan, who visited LBCC last year: "When you're poet laureate, there's no time to write poetry."



Oregon Poet Laureate Paulann Petersen

Audrey Gomez

Petersen sees herself as an "ambassador of poetry." She expressed thanks to the many organizers who helped "create a little island of poetry," which included a reading, question-and-answer session, and workshop.

She said that the position of Poet Laureate would not be possible without the Oregon Cultural Trust. The Trust's mission is "to enhance the lives of Oregonians by implementing a sustainable public-private integrated cultural funding program that will support, stabilize, and protect Oregon culture."

More locally, The Valley Writers Series promotes writing and literacy at LBCC and the surrounding community.

A silent auction benefiting the Valley Writers Series is being held in South Santiam Hall Gallery B through April 29. Items range from tapestry to hand-crafted cards, books, and original artwork. Starting bids from \$3.

The reception and reading for "Words & Pictures" is Wednesday April 13, from noon - 1 p.m., in the South Santiam Hall Gallery.

Bloodline

(from Voluptuary)

by Paulann Petersen

The moon is wet nurse
to roses. She suckles
each soft-mouthed poppy.

Blame her for menses.
Rail at her for the craving
to binge and purge.

Please her when you choose
to delay the day for planting,
biding your time
until night has fattened
her silver torso. Praise her
when the fleck of seed
poked down into damp dark
takes hold and swells.

Any girl-child is always
her offspring.

Upbraid her for your daughter's
sass and door-slams,
that hot hurry to be what most
differs from you.

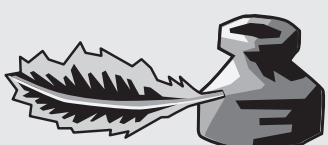
Long ago, the moon decided
on a pathway against the route
stars take. No one else
would dare to walk
the black sky backward.

from the Poetry Club

Pedigree

by Tav Knight

My forebears, they were tall.
So very tall were they all.
Picking fruit in the fall.
Yet rarely playing basketball.



You Could Be Next Year's Poet Laureate

Jeb Oliver

Staff Writer

The search is on for the new poet laureate! Could you be the one?

Current LBCC poet laureate Whitney Smith is very close to the end of her one-year term. The club will soon be on the search for a new club leader and will be taking submissions.

Anyone with a love and passion for poetry could be a perfect match.

The poetry club has been led by Smith, who according to the many members of the club, is "the beating heart of the poetry club."

Smith is the one who gives the club its many prompts to the poems that are read during the club meetings.

Last week's was "ancestry."

Many of the students had great poems about where they came from. The prompt inspired people to come up with ideas outside of the box. One person spoke of evolution in his poem, a woman talked about her experiences as her own personal ancestor and another talked about her father and her life through her poetry.

Club adviser Robin Havenick has a huge passion for poetry and writing. "About five years ago I went to a poetry club meeting at OSU," says Havenick. "Loving poetry and wanting it to be alive here, they inspired me to start this club with my students five years ago."

According to Havenick, things are

Poetry Club Meetings

When: Tuesdays from 3-4 p.m.

Where: Hotshot Cafe

More Info: insidetheheartwalls.blogspot.com

going very well for this exciting club. "It's been one of our strongest years."

Club member Teagan Lochaer, an English major at LBCC, says, "The club is a lot of fun. It's about bringing a lot of art and poetry to the school. It's a great outlet for expression of ideas."

"People think we are critical," says Havenick. "People get nervous about sharing their poetry, but we are very compassionate about people's poetry."

Gabriel Shields, one of the newest

members recruited from one of Havenick's classes, put it like this: "I feel poetry gives people an outlet they wouldn't usually have. They express because it gives them a way to do it when they usually wouldn't. It gives me a personal chance to meet other people and see their inner spirit."

The club is a great place for that lost poet in all of us. Meetings are in the Hot Shot Cafe every Tuesday at 3 p.m. Express your own inner spirit.

Campus Events

Ongoing

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

Wednesday 4/13

"Words and Pictures" Reception and Poetry Reading
 Noon - 1 p.m. • SSH Gallery
 Join the poets and photographers as they present the art featured in the gallery "Words and Pictures."

Wed. & Thu. 4/13-14

Scholarship Workshop
 Noon - 1 p.m.
 Learn how to apply for scholarships-free money to help with college expenses. Bring your own lunch, paper and pen. Take notes. Sponsor: Student Ambassadors and Financial Aid/Sharon Wall.

Thursday 4/14

Annual LBCC Career Fair
 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. • AC Gym
 Linn-Benton Community College has coordinated this annual career fair for students and members of the community since 1978. The career fair continues to be a cooperative effort between LBCC and local employers. If you are looking for a place to network with employers and set the stage for a rewarding career in the future, then this is the event for you! For job seeker tips and employer names, go to www.linnbenton.edu/go/careerfair.

Friday 4/15

National Day of Silence
 Join the GSA in observing the National Day of Silence, a day to protest the discrimination, harassment and abuse - in effect, the silencing of members of the LGBT community. Sponsor: The Gay Straight Alliance.

Saturday 4/16

Home Baseball Game
 1 - 3 p.m.
 Opponent: Mt. Hood CC. Two games.

Sunday 4/17

Travel at the Tripp
 2 p.m. • Russell Tripp Performance Center
 Join filmmaker Marlin Darrah as he presents the last film in the LBCC Travel at the Tripp film series "The Silk Road: A Journey Through Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Turkey." Ticket prices are \$8 for each show, \$6.50 for students/seniors. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Russell Tripp Performance Center box office at 541-917-4531.

Monday 4/18

OSU Transfer Center at LBCC
 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. • Career and Counseling Center
 A Transfer Student Admissions Advisor from OSU will be staffed at LBCC. She will be providing one-on-one counseling on admissions information and application requirements, unofficial course credit evaluation and general information on academic programs, financial aid and scholarships. Sign up here for an appointment: <http://oregonstate.edu/admissions/appointments>. Online registration is required.

Tuesday 4/19

Home Baseball Game
 1 - 3 p.m.
 Opponent: SWOCC. Two Games.

Wednesday 4/20

Smoker's Forum
 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. • Forum Auditorium
 This will be an open forum for smokers to discuss the issues surrounding campus smoking and what LBCC smokers can do to help keep their smoking privileges. This will be an open discussion between LBCC smokers and non-smokers. Inquire at the Hot Shot Coffee House or the Student Life and Leadership office. Contact Person: Student Ambassador Mike Hassing.

If you have a Campus Short, please e-mail them to commuter@linnbenton.edu.

Classifieds

Deadline: Ads accepted by 5 p.m. Friday will appear in the following Wednesday issue. Ads will appear only once per submission. If you wish a particular ad to appear in successive issues, you must resubmit it.
Cost: Ads that do not solicit for a private business are free to students, staff and faculty. All others are charged at a rate of 10 cents per word, payable when the ad is accepted.

Help Wanted

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

What has 53 employers and 46 recruiting? It's the 2011 Career Exploration & Community Resource Fair on Thursday, April 14th 10am-2pm in the AC Gym! Tell your friends and family that it's free, open to the public. See www.linnbenton.edu/careerfair for job seeker tips and participating employers.

Graphic Designer/Customer Service/Production (#8825, Tangent)

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.

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

Libel/Taste: The Commuter won't knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in an unfairly. Any ad judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.

Know Photoshop, Illustrator and CMYK process? This part-time job is close to LBCC and can be full-time this summer for 3 months. Great way to get experience and maybe CWE credit!

Pharmacy Technician (#8836, Albany) Do you have a certified Oregon Pharmacy Technician License? This is part-time on Saturdays, but maybe be something more in the future?

Communications Interns for Summer 2011 (#8840, Salem) If you are a sophomore by June, this could be great experience working with the Community Action Partnership of Oregon. Non-paid Internships.

CHALK TALK

So for the second month in a row, the pay for the military and Veterans' benefits has been more than lacking. Pay has been greatly cut and stopped because of the government's shutdown.

What does this mean for our men and women forward deployed overseas? Is it not enough to worry day to day if you will be coming home? Is my family doing well without me? When is the next time I am going to sleep? Our fighting men and women now have to face whether they will be paid or not. The shutdown/no pay is supposed to be up on April 8.

This has put a stop to transfers in duty stations, Basic Allowance for Housing, as well as cut in pay for the Veterans claiming well-deserved benefits. It has halted the improvement to 50-year-old barracks that our service members are

living in.

Armytimes.com reported that "a senior Obama administration official said Wednesday in a conference call with reporters ... that service members will not get paid and a number of DoD civilian employees will be furloughed."

So this would mean the April 15 pay check may not be hitting the bank for active service members. Those of us who are collecting Veterans' benefits may be seeing another under payment in ours at the start of the month of May. I know that I received a cut in pay at the start of this month.

I will be looking more into this and getting more information to pass along. If you have any information, please feel free to e-mail me at Vets.Club.at.LB@gmail.com.

David Mayotte

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www.linnbenton.edu/go/webrunner

Better Notes = Better Grades			
Wednesday	April 13	Lebanon Center LC-202	1:30 - 2:20 p.m.
Wednesday	April 13	Albany Campus WH-225	3:00 - 3:50 p.m.
Prepare for Tests			
Tuesday	April 19	Benton Center BC-232	5:00 - 5:50 p.m.
Wednesday	April 20	Lebanon Center LC-202	1:30 - 2:20 p.m.
Wednesday	April 20	Albany Campus WH-225	3:00 - 3:50 p.m.
Time Management & Organizing for Success			
Tuesday	April 26	Benton Center BC-232	5:00 - 5:50 p.m.
Wednesday	April 27	Lebanon Center LC-202	1:30 - 2:20 p.m.
Wednesday	April 27	Albany Campus WH-225	3:00 - 3:50 p.m.
Improve Your Memory by Learning Actively			
Tuesday	May 3	Benton Center BC-232	5:00 - 5:50 p.m.
Wednesday	May 4	Lebanon Center LC-202	1:30 - 2:20 p.m.
Wednesday	May 4	Albany Campus WH-225	3:00 - 3:50 p.m.
Tips to Overcome Procrastination			
Tuesday	May 10	Benton Center BC-232	5:00 - 5:50 p.m.
Wednesday	May 11	Lebanon Center LC-202	1:30 - 2:20 p.m.
Wednesday	May 11	Albany Campus WH-225	3:00 - 3:50 p.m.

Academic Success Seminars are organized by the Learning Center.
For more information, visit WebRunner under "Study Skills" or call 541-917-4684.
 LBCC is an equal opportunity educator and employer. Persons having questions about or requests for special needs and accommodations should contact the Disability Coordinator at Linn-Benton Community College, RCH-105, 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, Albany, OR 97321, phone 541-917-4690 or via Oregon Telecommunications Relay TDD at 1-800-735-2900 or 1-800-735-1232. Contact should be made 72 hours or more in advance of the event.

Linn-Benton COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Best of TV: What You Should Be Watching

Jordan Tunstill

A&E Editor

If you are a nerd, know a nerd, make fun of a nerd, have dated a nerd, or you have in anyway encountered a nerd, then you will appreciate this show.

"The Big Bang Theory" is CBS's comedy masterpiece, and it is going strong through its fourth season.

The show centers around two roommates with their doctorates, Sheldon Cooper (Jim Parsons) and Leonard Hofstadter (Johnny Galecki). Sheldon is a theoretical physicist and Leonard is an experimental physicist.

Sheldon is a prodigy who knows everything except how to act socially, where he is completely inept. Leonard acts as a mediator between Sheldon and most people, as he knows Sheldon's quirks better than anyone else.

In addition to these amazing two lead characters, "The Big Bang Theory" has a hilarious female lead named Penny, portrayed by Kaley Cuoco.

She lives across the hall from Leonard and Sheldon, and her bubbly personality and lack of intelligence are a sharp contrast to their nerdy personalities.

The interactions between these



characters and Leonard and Sheldon's friends make up the bulk of the show, and pop culture references abound.

One of the most enjoyable things about "The Big Bang Theory" is the large number of guest stars.

Oftentimes, guest stars are introduced as their actual selves, and the characters find some way to aggravate or annoy them. (Sheldon has restraining orders from Leonard Nimoy and Stan Lee.)

I highly recommend this show for major laughs and a good way to spend an evening. Don't expect a dramatic show such as "Lost," but more of a crack-up that you can watch over and over again.

"The Big Bang Theory" airs Thursdays at 8 p.m. on CBS

Jordan Tunstill

A&E Editor

"The Walking Dead" is AMC's latest thrill ride of a show. It is currently on hiatus after its premiere season, which was wildly popular with viewers. It is slated to release season two this fall with a much larger budget and viewer base to work with.

As far as a storyline goes, "The Walking Dead" is pretty incredible.

In the show, a zombie virus has inexplicably broken out (you never learn how it starts). The stage is set in the South, and the lead character is a police officer. He has no idea what is going on initially, which makes for some very tense moments.

The supporting cast is very talented, as well. There are no big-time actors or actresses in the cast, which I like, because it makes it easier to focus on the story instead of being amazed that Tom Cruise and Megan Fox are slaying undead zombies together.

Now, I know what you are thinking: "Another zombie show? Really?"

Let me assure you, "The Walking Dead" is not your typical zombie show. Throughout the season, there is this immense sense of realism. There are no huge stockpiles of weapons, most places



are looted, and the world has pretty much gone to seed.

Also, the characters follow my number-one zombie rule, "Don't shoot a gun unless absolutely necessary." Most zombie flicks star just the opposite: blazing guns, intense explosions, and general destruction on a massive scale.

"The Walking Dead" survivors are wary of making loud noises to avoid attracting "Walkers." One man uses a crossbow, and the rest carry various hand-to-hand weapons.

As a whole, "The Walking Dead" rises above the norm for post-apocalyptic media, with an engaging storyline, convincing characters, and a realistic environment. This is a show for true-blue zombie theorists, and the survivalist inside us all. Just remember, double tap saves lives.

"The Walking Dead" airs Sundays at 10 p.m. on AMC

Spring into Summer

OSU Summer Session 2011

Registration is now open for summer term.

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Heartfelt Little "Hop"

Ashley Christie

Page Designer

"Hop" may be the greatest Easter movie ever!

Wait, "Hop" may be the only Easter movie ever - I guess it wins by default.

E.B. (voiced by Russell Brand) lives on Easter Island (naturally) and comes from a long line of Easter bunnies. His father (voiced by Hugh Laurie) is about to pass down the torch to his young heir, but E.B. has other aspirations. He wants to be a famous drummer, so he packs his bags and hightails it for Hollywood.

In Hollywood, E.B. quickly runs into Fred O'Hare (Hare, get it?), or actually Fred (Jason Marsden) runs into him, and the two form a reluctant friendship. E.B.'s big break is just around the corner as he auditions for David Hasselhoff. But there's trouble back home as a power-hungry chick (voiced by Hank Azaria) stages a coup and Fred gets himself kidnapped by the super-adorable Pink Berets. However will it end?

Okay, I would love to be all cynical and sarcastic about the weak story and the sugary aftertaste the ending left in my mouth, but I can't. This could be due to the fact that I watched it with my eight- and eleven-year-old cousins because honestly, now that I think about it, a rabbit that poops jelly beans doesn't sound half as funny as it seemed in the theater.

"Hop" does have some good laughs. The majority of those are provided by Brand, whose E.B. walks a fine line between heartwarming and annoying. Marsden's Fred is a sweet, yet directionless schlub whose only job is to react to the CGI bunny, which he does quite well. Although I just kept thinking that Cyclops would not put up with that crap.

There are also a few laughs for those in the audience who don't use a booster seat, such as Hugh Hefner turning away E.B. for being the "wrong kind of bunny" or E.B. faking his own death in a pot of boiling water a la "Fatal Attraction."

The story may need a little work, because let's be honest, Easter will never be as big as Christmas, even though they try really, really hard to make it seem that way. (For some reason the Easter Bunny drives a sleigh pulled by chicks. I'm just saying.)

Overall, I had a good time and enjoyed the top-notch animation. "Hop" is sweet, if totally lacking in substance - not unlike a marshmallow Peep. And I love Peeps.

Read more reviews on Ashley's blog at: imamovienerd.wordpress.com



The Commuter

Fashionista

Ballet Flats

Maya Sharuma

Staff Writer

Have you ever heard of a saying, "Shoes are where the fashion starts from?" Well, it could be true.

My interpretation of this phrase is this: Shoes are like transformers; they change the look. Whatever clothes you put on, shoes often determine if the look is good or not so good. Depending on the kind of footwear you choose, you can make yourself look either casual, classy or boring. Shoes can make your outfit instantly stylish! They are an element in a successful look. Dressy shoes, such as pumps and heels, are common items among women, as are flat shoes.

Though they are not suitable for walking miles, flat shoes are best suited to formal occasions like going to church or work in the office. The right pair can even be suitable for going to a wedding. If you care enough about fashion, I recommend adding a pair of flat shoes to your shoe collection.

Unlike boots, flat shoes don't have heels. They may not help you with your height, but they surely help you become a stylist! My personal preferred color is always chocolate-brown because this color doesn't appear gaudy. Besides, when the color of shoes is darker than an outfit, it allows an outfit to be the main character.

As I mentioned earlier, if you choose the right color shoe, you don't need to spend as much time coordinating an outfit. If you prefer brighter color and aren't trying to avoid getting people's attention, try red. As long as an outfit is not loud, red flat shoes are an awesome composer of the vogue. So go for it!

In regard to the price, flat shoes can be purchased between \$20 and \$30. Target is selling black flat shoes with a black ribbon on the front for \$24.99. Some excellent choices are affordably priced at \$12.99. Different colors of flat shoes are offered at Payless ShoeSource, and they are



Tony Brown

Fashionista Maya Sharuma shows off her flats.

sold on average at \$22.99.

Sometimes shoes are a little bit pricey, but if you want to upgrade your look, shop at Nine West; most of them are available around \$79. There are various colors and designs. My long-time favorite clothing store, Forever21, is selling flat shoes with a variety of patterns. There are leopard printed, rhinestones with beads and floral printed ones, which are all available to view at their websites. (Even if you don't consider getting them, it's fun to surf through the world of flat shoes!)

Many Hollywood actresses wear flat shoes both on and off the set. Take Dorothy in the "Wizard of Oz" for example. Although her shoes are not quite flats, most people who have seen the movie remember her sparkly red shoes. Those shoes might be too flashy to wear in reality, but to tweak her phrase, "There are no goodies like (flat) shoes!"

Read more from our Fashionista on her blog at:
mayasharuma1124.blogspot.com



Theresa Griffith

At Applebee's in Corvallis, Parish Gap performs their set.

Parish Gap: Local and Incredible

Theresa Griffith

Contributing Writer

The Bio reads: "Parish Gap offers a broad variety of pop-rock musical sounds, tastefully and artfully presented with excellent vocals and superb musicianship. Their seamless sound creates what they describe as 'Art Rock' - music that paints pictures in the minds of the listeners. We pour out quality songs that mesmerize with mood and grace that you can feel in the air. Discerning audiences will appreciate the flawless professionalism our seasoned group brings to the stage coming from experience and tight collaboration."

Flawless professionalism? You always have to wonder about self-made descriptions of local bands like this. Maybe even doubt that they could measure up to such statements, but having been the eyes and ears of The Commuter last night, I must say it was more than accurate.

I was not prepared for such an enjoyable evening. I was planning to leave after tasting an hour of the show, but couldn't. That flawless professionalism they were selling kept me wanting more! I kept expecting to find a "weak link" in the group, but never found it; what I found instead was a group of musicians who are so strong individually, they could all stand alone as solo artists. Put all those individuals back into one cohesive unit and you have an one amazing mix.

They were so tight, they flowed as one unit with multiple working parts. When I say "tight," I mean it in every sense of the word; not only musically, but relationally. Part of the pleasure of their concert was to feel their rare camaraderie on and off stage. You could see that they totally adore and celebrate each other, which only added to their stage presence and unity during the performance.

This band plays everything from classic rock to easy listening, jazz to folk and blues to country -- covering popular tunes from artists like Fleetwood Mac, The Doors, Aerosmith, Carrie Underwood, Daughtry and Lady Gaga, to name just a few, but much of their repertoire consists of original compositions composed over a 30 year career that has taken them over most of the USA and Canada.

I especially liked the first-rate, original song of Catherine Wright, "Respect," which she sang with the same excellence she wrote it with. This young lady has some powerful pipes and amazing versatility.

Catherine and newcomer Janelle Berger team up to be a dynamite duo because their voices are so compatible and mature. Mature, not only for their age (23 and 16), but mature period. They are able to match the seasoned experience of the guys in the band who have been successfully honing their craft for some 30 years.

This is not to say that the guys are deficient in any way. As I listened, I kept feeling like I was in Chicago or NYC, because of the amazing skill and proficiency they displayed. I say this as a musician myself, who has traveled all over the world, and fairly hard to impress.

Tom Wright's guitar licks and screamin' harmonica were awesome and Bob Rauses' keyboard's/organ and vocals were exceptional. Bob was a highlight of the night for me with his ever-changing vocal style; sounding at times like Sting, and other times like Louis Armstrong. Drummer, Stephen Down, kept all this virtuosity in sync with his adrenalized, impeccable rhythm work.

At the end of the night I only had one complaint. Where was the dang dance floor?! Not to worry, they'll be rockin' Lebanon this Saturday, April 16 at 9 p.m. at Game Time Sports Bar, 3130 South Santiam Highway in Lebanon. Take my advice, go early, it's going to be packed!

For more information on the band, go to www.myspace.com/parishgap



provided by Tom Wright

redbox review

Never Let Me Go (Rated: R•Runtime: 103 min.)

Carli Gibson

Staff Writer

Everyone hits that point in life when they have to make the decision: To be or not to be an organ donor.

Some are proud to donate, knowing they're saving lives, but if you were forced to donate your organs until you couldn't donate anymore, would you still be proud?

In "Never Let Me Go" children are raised specifically to donate organs.

The setting is in England in the 1970s and spans over time through the 1990s. An onscreen caption explains in the beginning that in 1952 a medical breakthrough permitted the human lifespan to extend beyond 100 years.

After the caption, the movie opens with the main characters Kathy (Carey Mulligan), Tommy (Andrew Garfield) and Ruth (Keira Knightley) in a boarding school called Hailsham.

Hailsham is there to raise children who are created simply to become organ donors. They go through school like normal children, and when they become 18 they all move to different



places to live with other teenagers like them from different boarding schools.

Once the teenagers are needed, they go through the process of donating until they're, "complete," or in other words, dead.

In the words of Miss Lucy (Sally Hawkins), "Before you are old, before you are even middle aged, you will start to donate your vital organs. And sometime around your third or fourth donation, your short life will be completed."

When watching this movie you definitely want to pay attention from the beginning, many facts are tossed out and it's easy to miss them. In fact, if you pay close enough attention there's a slight mistake.

In one scene placed during 1994 when Tommy and Kathy go to meet an old teacher, a Volkswagen Passat B5.5 (a car made from 2001-2004) clearly drives by in the background.

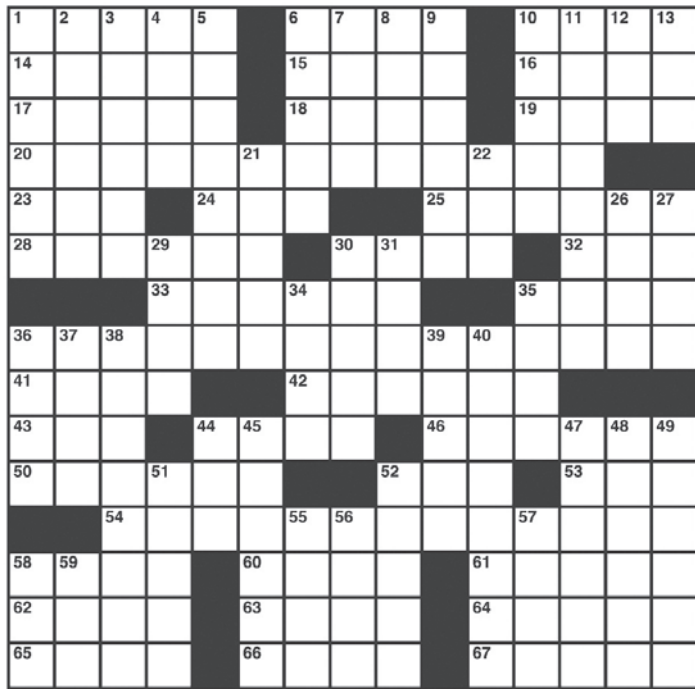
Despite the small oops, critics on IMDB have given it a thumbs up.

One critic (lauralmhs) said that even though she found the book, "deadly dull," she decided to give the movie a chance and is very glad she did. However, she insists that viewers read the book because it explains more and is easier to understand.

This movie is definitely one that makes you think. It makes you realize how important life is and that we get the choice to donate organs. We're not created to be harvested like these characters.

Kathy even explains, "It had never occurred to me that our lives, so closely interwoven, could unravel with such speed. If I'd known, maybe I'd have kept tighter hold of them."

- ACROSS**
- 1 Modify to fit
 - 6 Nile bird
 - 10 Early late-night host Jack
 - 14 ___Bismol
 - 15 It smells
 - 16 Golden Fleece ship
 - 17 Devoured every bit of
 - 18 Coke or Pepsi
 - 19 "Peter Pan" pirate
 - 20 Suffering writer's block
 - 23 Color gradation
 - 24 "Days of ___ Lives"
 - 25 One of the Musketeers
 - 28 Paintings by dadaist Max
 - 30 Really little
 - 32 Sport ___: family vehicle
 - 33 Is bratty
 - 35 "Do it, or ___!"
 - 36 Suffering writer's block
 - 41 Open fields
 - 42 Modeling session activity
 - 43 Frequently, to a poet
 - 44 Docking spot
 - 46 Black Sea resort
 - 50 Offers from a genie
 - 52 Small bill
 - 53 Favored student
 - 54 Suffering writer's block
 - 58 Pinza of "South Pacific"
 - 60 Space-saving abbr.
 - 61 Many sculptures
 - 62 Parking lot fillers
 - 63 Complexion problem
 - 64 Krupp Works city
 - 65 Decides
 - 66 Letters after pi
 - 67 Color-coded Monopoly cards
- DOWN**
- 1 Geronimo's tribe
 - 2 Route around the construction area
 - 3 Ancestors in Darwin's theory
 - 4 Spitter's sound
 - 5 Exceptional
 - 6 Acquire, as liabilities
 - 7 Cartoon flapper Betty
 - 8 Maui, for one
 - 9 Sailor
 - 10 Carbo-loader's choice
 - 11 Military mascot
 - 12 It goes before beauty, so they say
 - 13 ___ v. Wade: 1973 Supreme Court decision
 - 21 Enthusiasm
 - 22 Get too personal
 - 26 "___ sin to tell ..."
 - 27 Witnesses
 - 29 Get fresh with
 - 30 Henry Higgins, to Eliza
 - 31 NYSE debuts
 - 34 Apartment house manager, slangily
 - 35 Periphery
 - 36 Go with the ___
 - 37 Strategy for reducing loan payments, briefly
 - 38 Admits an embarrassing error
 - 39 "Shrek" ogress
 - 40 Obligated to repay a loan
 - 44 Split ___ soup
 - 45 "Cross my heart"
 - 47 Few and far between
 - 48 Became vaguely aware of
 - 49 Diet guru who wouldn't have recommended 10-Down
 - 51 Reform Party founder Perot
 - 52 Looks boldly at
 - 55 Rash symptom
 - 56 Prefix with second
 - 57 Get beaten
 - 58 Earth-friendly prefix
 - 59 Reheat, nowadays



By Bruce Venzke

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

C	A	M	S		S	O	L	E	S		G	I	L	D
O	N	I	T		T	W	I	X	T		A	L	A	W
D	O	N	O	T	E	N	T	E	R		S	L	U	E
A	N	I	M	A		M	U	S	I	R	E			
					P	I	C	K	U	P	H	E	T	A
J	I	G		S	A	I	N	T	O	P	E			
O	D	E	R		R	A	W		S	P	I	R	A	L
N	O	M	E	A	N	S	O	F	E	S	C	A	P	E
G	L	O	S	S	Y		V	A	N		S	T	E	N
					L	E	I		P	E	S	O	S	E
C	R	O	W	D		C	O	N	T	R	O	L		
H	A	G			E	A	R				B	O	N	U
O	D	I	N		S	T	I	C	K	S	H	I	F	T
M	I	S	T		C	A	S	T	E		A	L	O	E
P	I	T	H		A	L	L	A	Y		N	E	S	T

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: **1** 2 3 4

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

Last Week's Puzzle Solved

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

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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HAIKU HOROSCOPES

IN HONOR OF POETRY MONTH

ARIES

3/21-4/19
A brash pioneer
And the most passionate sign
Always inspire



TAURUS

4/20-5/20
So stalwart and true
Nothing and no one moves you
Until you choose to



GEMINI

5/21-6/21
You give a room life
Bringing excitement to all
For better or worse



CANCER

6/22-7/22
You'll never let go
And have grown rather attached
Guarding what you love



LEO

7/23-8/22
Oh, mirror's best friend
Keep your smile and swagger
The rest will follow



VIRGO

8/23-9/22
Be patient and kind
They look delightful on you
As much in life does



LIBRA

9/23-10/23
Keep justice in check
Disregard hesitation
Decision is yours



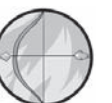
SCORPIO

10/24-11/21
With stinger and claw
Born to be a warrior
Remember your code



SAGITTARIUS

11/22-12/21
For family and home
Aiming for accuracy
You loose an arrow



CAPRICORN

12/22-1/19
Though work becomes you
Beware becoming your work
Make time for some rest



AQUARIUS

1/20-2/18
There's a lesson here
Pursue this with all your heart
Creativity



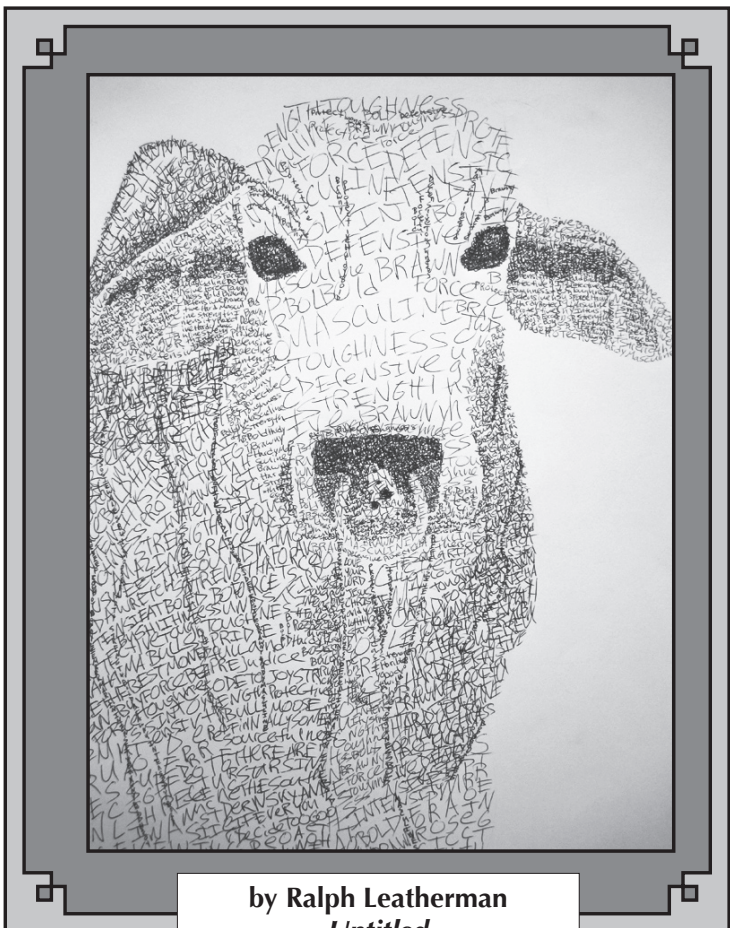
PISCES

2/19-3/20
Follow your calling
Even against the current
You will persevere



Student-Submitted Art

email your own artwork to commuter@linnbenton.edu



by Ralph Leatherman
Untitled
assignment: Text and Words
medium: Ink on Paper

Poetry Spotlight

Gone Astray, Be Back Soon

by Jennifer M. Hartsock

I'd like for you to see the better parts of me; not just remember them from once upon a time.

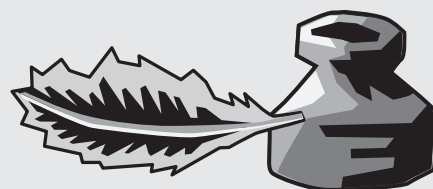
Beneath the litter of trialing and negligence, kindness and respect are still a part of me.

It's an extensive battle to fight temptation, to feel fulfilled as a good person in refusing to do certain things others may feel are of no negative consequence.

Nevertheless, honor and integrity have a home here, and even when threatened by suggestible substances, the person I am will overcome this cloak of weakening.

I can change this.

The future is a naked canvas for the world to douse in color. The brush of paint I offer will be of truth, love, and kindness.




Read more from Jennifer on her blog at:
jennifermhartsock.wordpress.com

By Maggie O'Reilly
An LBCC student-generated comic
Add/Drop




Where on Campus?

Do you know where this picture was taken?



Answers must be emailed to commuter@linnbenton.edu by 8 a.m. the following Monday. One winner will be drawn from correct entries each week and will win a prize provided by The Commuter.

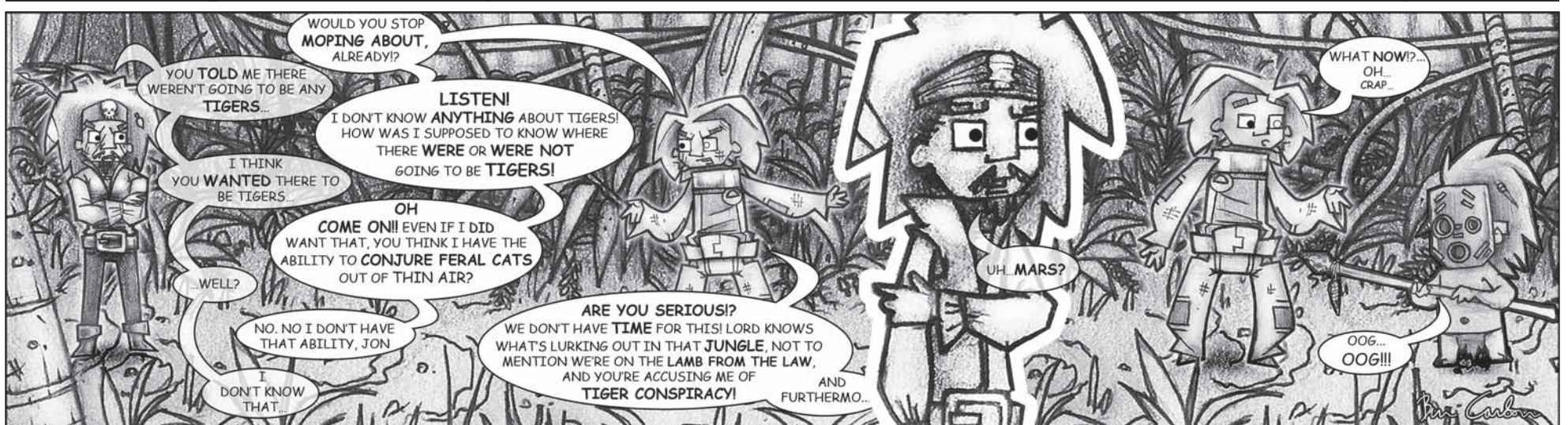
Tony Brown



Last Issue's Answer: The garden outside Madrone Hall.
Last Issue's Winner: Sorry, no winner last week.

MINUS GRAVITY

An LBCC student-generated comic



Peed Bananas

An LBCC student-generated comic



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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COMING ATTRACTIONS



Scream 4
Sidney, Dewey, Gale, Ghostface – they're all back for another installment in Wes Craven's "Scream" franchise. The only rule this time: There are no rules!

Rated: R
Runtime: 103 min.
Genre: Slasher Sequel

Rio
Blu is one of the last two blue macaws in the world. When he meets the other one, Jewel, the two set off on an adventure around Rio de Janeiro. With the voices of Jesse Eisenberg and Anne Hathaway

Rated: PG
Runtime: 96 min.
Genre: Animated





The Conspirator
Ever wondered what happened after Lincoln was shot? This historical drama directed by Robert Redford tells the true story of one of the conspirators, Mary Surratt (Robin Wright), and her lawyer Frederick Aiken (James McAvoy).

Rated: PG-13
Runtime: 123 min.
Genre: Courtroom Drama

Sources: IMDb, Yahoo! Movies, Fandango.com



Conspicuously Mediocre

Ashley Christie
Page Designer

You know everything about Abraham Lincoln's assassination, right? Well, do you know anything about Mary Surratt?

"The Conspirator," directed by Robert Redford, tells the true story of Surratt (Robin Wright), a woman accused of aiding John Wilkes Booth in assassinating the president.

The film begins with the part of the story everybody knows, Booth shooting Lincoln while he's on a date with his wife. Then, we meet Frederick Aiken (James McAvoy), a young attorney assigned to defend Surratt.

Aiken, a Union soldier, first thinks Surratt is guilty, as does the rest of the country. As the trial proceeds, Aiken realizes that this case isn't about the guilt or innocence of one woman, it's about the message the political powers-that-be want to send to the freshly-united South.

Will justice prevail? "The Conspirator" tries to be a lot of things. It wants to be a historically accurate period piece, a serious courtroom drama and an examination of corrupt politicians. It's about one woman's convictions, one man's

search for truth, the rebuilding of a nation, and ultimately good vs. evil. That's a lot to fit into two hours.

There is a good story in there ... somewhere. But it gets buried under everything else. Redford tries to include too many subplots and tries to make them all the focus of the film. If you want to make a courtroom drama, make the trial the focus. If you want to tell the story of Surratt and Aiken, make them the focus. If you want to tell about rebuilding the nation after the Civil War, concentrate on the politics and the politicians.

What kind of movie are you making? I would think this is the first thing you decide before starting a film. But, I'm not a filmmaker, so I could be wrong.

I really wanted to like this film. It's from Robert Redford, who's pretty much Hollywood royalty, and it has a strong supporting cast, including Evan Rachel Wood, Kevin Klein, Danny Huston, Tom Wilkinson, and Justin Long.

Yes, you read that right. It's that Justin Long, a.k.a. "I'm a Mac" Guy, in a serious period drama. So as long as we're talking about problems I had with this movie, let's go there.

I love Justin Long. He's cute, funny, and always chooses fun, different

roles. And it's not that I don't think he can be a dramatic actor. My problem was that here, he was clearly only cast for comedic effect and used almost as a sight gag.

We'd be watching a super-tense courtroom scene when the camera would cut to him and the audience instantly started laughing. But it wasn't the laugh the filmmakers wanted. It wasn't laughing at the character, it was laughing at Long, in a fake mustache, trying to be serious.

In a press conference following a screening of the film, when asked about the casting of Long, Redford admitted that he was cast as comedic relief, but he didn't want it to be over-the-top. Long knew exactly what his place was in this film and played into those expectations, but it was too much and distracted from the rest of the film.

The idea behind this film is great; taking a story that everyone knows and tackling it from a new, exciting angle. And the story of Surratt is interesting and deserves to be told. The execution of that idea wasn't the best.

"The Conspirator" is a decent film, but given the players involved, I expected a lot more.

"The Conspirator" opens this Friday

"Your Highness" Is Crude But Fun

David Mayotte
Staff Writer

"Your Highness" is a very raunchy comedy. It's like if "Pineapple Express" and "Robin Hood: Men in Tights" met up, got it on, and their baby was a little slow. The plot of the movie is to stop the evil wizard Leezar (Justin Theroux) from impregnating a beautiful virgin bride-to-be, Belladonna (Zoey Deschanel).

On the wedding day, Leezar crashes the ceremony and kidnaps the vestal virgin, so the quest starts for the prince

to find the Sword of the Unicorn to vanquish the evil wizard Leezar.

The great prince Fabious (James Franco), his father's pride and joy, is the eldest brother who is in line for the throne. Thadeous (Danny McBride), on the other hand, is the brother who rides the coattails of his royal heritage by doing nothing more than what he has to. Also, he sits around smoking herbs and lying with the chambermaids.

On the quest to save the virgin-princess Belladonna, both of the princes will face challenges they have



never faced before with foul-mouthed Old-English speech a-plenty.

This movie truly earned its "R" rating. I would advise against this as a first-date movie. It's a movie to go see if you are looking for a fun adult comedy.

There are a few slow segments in this film that are filled with momentary humor that will either make you laugh or cringe, leaving you wondering why it is not an NC-17 film.

I went into the film wondering if I had just wasted my seven dollars to see an abortion of a comedy. As the movie

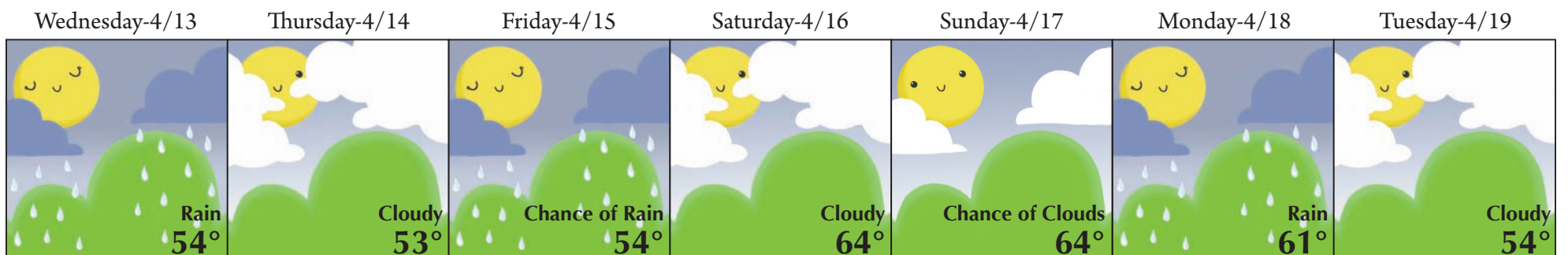
kept the one-liners coming, I found myself laughing more and more. The setups for the humor were perfect, and the delivery of the jokes couldn't have been better. I do enjoy the crude slapstick humor.

I would recommend this film to my friends and a few family members. I give "Your Highness" a 3 stars out of 5 rating.

Your Highness

Starring: James Franco, Danny McBride, Natalie Portman, Zoey Deschanel
Rated: R • Runtime: 102 min.

Weekly Weather Predictions



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