



LBCC DEGREE DEBACLE

After a 15 months wait, the last student left behind after the ASS Graphic Design degree termination of 2015 will finally complete degree in visual communications



PHOTO BY: EMILY GOODYKOONTZ | DOUG HIBBERT AT WORK IN THE GRAPHIC DESIGN LAB.

A Debacle in Retrospect:

Events of spring 2015 left LBCC's graphic design students wondering if the school had their best interests at heart.

On April 15, the 22 students enrolled in the program were informed that the degree they'd worked towards for two years did not actually exist.

Yet in essence, it did exist. Courses were offered, students attended classes taught by graphic design instructors, and worked in a large building dedicated to the program. Their degree was listed in the 2014-15 catalog.

But the AAS in Graphic Design was supposed to be in a "teach out" period, only educating students who had entered the program before its suspension in 2013 after a round of heavy budget cuts. According to administration, the degree should not have been listed in the catalog and no new students should have entered the program after spring 2013.

"It's really a product of failure of internal communications," said Greg Hamann, president of LBCC. "So we had different parts of the institution thinking and doing different things in regards to the program."

The news shocked staff and students. Students wondered for most of spring quarter whether they'd receive the degree to which they'd been dedicating their lives.

"I felt like my time, my money, was being completely wasted," said design student Doug Hibbert.

Initially, design students nearing graduation were offered an alternative: an Associate of General Studies, accompanied by a letter from the school assuring their education was primarily in graphic design.

"I felt like my time, my money, was being completely wasted."

"It matters that we get the degree we signed up for. Not only the degree, but the education," said Hibbert.

Students were angry; they felt betrayed.

"I have a screenshot of Webrunner that shows my degree type as Graphic Design," said Hibbert. "Four days later, all of a sudden Webrunner says I'm in General Studies; I have a screenshot of that as well. Now, I didn't change that, so to me, it's fraud."

Hibbert was one of the three students told they could not receive the AAS of Graphic Design because they enrolled in 2014, after the 2013 teach out cutoff.

After delving into the matter, the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities allowed LBCC to offer an AAS of Visual Communications/Graphic Design for all of the students enrolled.

"This thing hasn't ended for us," said Dave Becker, dean of applied business and technology. "It'll never really end until we take care of every student that was in that program."

Hibbert will be the last student of his class to complete the visual communication degree this fall, after more than a year waiting.

Doug Hibbert's Degree Nightmare:

Hibbert is a photographer who worked for Pepsi as a local manager. A family man, he lived only four miles from Chemeketa Community College in Salem and

was making a decent living wage when he decided to take a plunge and go back to school. Hibbert wanted to add graphic design to his repertoire, expecting the education to propel him deeper into the photography and design business.

Kam McCallister, another Salem photographer, Pepsi employee, and a friend of Hibbert's decided to attend college at the same time for the same program: Graphic Design.

McCallister chose Chemeketa Community College because it was close to home, but Hibbert decided to make the drive to Albany every day for two years because LBCC's program was supposedly superior.

"I left Pepsi at the same time that Doug did. We went to school the same amount of time for the same degree. I struggled, I was broke, it was one of the hardest things I've done, and to go through that and not get a degree... I can't imagine what I'd do," said McCallister.

McCallister warned Hibbert in March of 2014 that LBCC's graphic design program had been shut down after learning this from a Chemeketa faculty member, according to McCallister.

"I talked to Lewis [Franklin] four or five times about it, and in February [2015] I asked him again because I was unhappy about how the classes were going," said Hibbert.

According to Hibbert, Lewis Franklin, the head instructor for the program reassured him there were no problems.

Franklin and other faculty had been making improvements to the program and were unaware of its total termination.

Story Continued on Page 3



What's On Your Oregon Ballot?

Seven measures are going up to bat on November 8th.

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THE LINN-BENTON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COMMUTER

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 students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters, and cartoons reflect the opinions of the authors.

Letters Welcome

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. The Commuter attempts to print all submissions received, but reserves the right to edit for grammar, length, libel, privacy concerns and taste. Opinions expressed by letter submitters do not represent the views of the Commuter staff or the College. Deliver letters to:

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PREVIEW: THE PLAETHN-HINO BLUES BAND

Benton Center hosts their fall Acoustic Showcase

Dave Plaehn, Jeff Hino, and The Plaehn-Hino Blues Band are no strangers to the Corvallis folk music scene.

Described as a combination of acoustic, electric blues, and folk, The Plaehn-Hino Blues Band has performed at local venues and fundraisers like "A Reading to Fight Hunger" at the Magic Barrel, and the "Non-President's Ball" benefit for the Linn-Benton Food Share.

At noon on Friday, Oct. 21, the band will appear at the Benton Center Acoustic Showcase for an hour long showcase.

Growing up in Iowa, Plaehn was influenced by the sounds of Sarah Vaughn, Dvorak, and Ricky Nelson. After playing in a high school rock band his interest in the blues sound grew, inspiring him to join a jug band.

"One of my early favorite records from college was Johnny Winter's first Columbia release. At this point, I'd say my

main vocal influences were the Beatles, Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin and Joni Mitchell. Harmonica influences included Sonny Terry and Paul Butterfield," said Plaehn in an interview with Under The Gun Review.

In 1984, Plaehn moved to Oregon, where he eventually graduated from OSU with a Ph.D. in math, and met The Plaehn-Hino Blues Band's co-founder Hino.

Hino attended college in Arizona, graduating with a master's degree in educational media. He moved to Corvallis in 1990 to work for OSU's College of Forestry as a hands-on media specialist, but was attracted to Corvallis for its folk music scene.

Known for playing instruments like the national steel guitar, dobro, acoustic guitar, lap steel, and 5-string banjo, Hino has been featured around the Mid-Willamette Valley in conjunction

At-a-Glance:

When: Friday, Oct. 21

Where: Benton Center lounge

Time: Noon- 1 p.m.

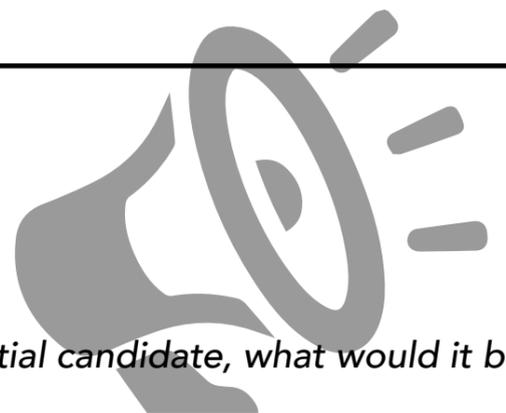
with the bands: Highwater String, Spontaneous Combustion, The Sophisticado Swing Band, Cow Patty & Pals, and Waterbound.

"Music is just this incredible shared experience for everyone," said Hino in an interview with the Barometer "It is a voice through which you can speak with anyone, and they can appreciate it. It is a wonderful feeling."



STORY BY
ALYSSA CAMPBELL
@ALYSSAFAYEC

CAMPUS VOICE



If you could ask any question to either presidential candidate, what would it be?



AMANDA DEWITT: "WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU THINKING?"



JACOB TRADER: "FOR TRUMP, I'D ASK WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS TO MAKE THIS COUNTRY GREAT AGAIN?" "FOR HILLARY, I WOULD ASK WHY'D YOU DELETE ALL YOUR EMAILS?"



MORGAN SMITH: "I'D ASK TRUMP WHAT'S THE POINT OF TAKING PEOPLE OUT OF AMERICA WHEN THEY ARE WORKING FAMILIES/WORKING IMMIGRANTS?"



SERINA CARRIER: "CAN YOU QUIT AND BRING BACK BERNIE?"



TABITHA GEIGER: "WHAT ARE MORALS THAT YOU THINK EVERY PRESIDENT SHOULD HAVE AND DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE THOSE MORALS?"



@LBCommuter

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
CARLIE SOMATIS

LBCC DEGREE DEBACLE

Story continued from page 1

Despite this assurance, Hibbert spoke with Chemeketa faculty about transferring to their program, but discovered that most of his credits would not transfer. He would need to start over from scratch, and chose to stick with LBCC's program.

Other students noticed something was amiss. "Once we were about done with the first year, we were told that the third-year program was not available, and we would be getting an AAS degree which was designed to make us 'job ready.' Then, the mess began," said Cheri Shones, one of the affected students.

Shones expected to earn an Advanced Certificate in Graphic Design on top of the two-year degree. Many changes had been made to the program, and the advanced certificate program was terminated in 2013 with the AAS.

It had been a bumpy ride, culminating in the disastrous news of program termination.

"It wasn't picked up until spring term that there was a problem," said Franklin. "They were just starting into their spring term and their last term here at school, and when they got that news it was like somebody dropped an atom bomb on us."

After administration sought resolution and were notified they could give Hibbert a visual communications degree, Hibbert walked with his class in the June 2015 graduation ceremony.

He still had 8 credits to finish in the fall, but when fall quarter arrived, his financial aid fell through.

"Two days before my first day of class I'm told by financial aid that they won't cover two of the three classes I was going to take because they weren't required by my degree," said Hibbert.

His degree may have still been listed as general studies, but these three classes were necessary for a

visual communications degree.

Hibbert immediately went to Becker's office, left notes and spoke with his secretary but received no communication. They were unable to resolve the issue in time for him to continue without paying out of pocket, and he dropped his classes.

This forced Hibbert to wait until fall 2016 to attend, because one of the classes is only offered during the fall quarter.

"I was not aware that he could not receive financial aid," said Becker.

Becker had been vocal with students about offering help navigating the mess the school had caused.

Somehow, Hibbert's call for help got lost in the chaos.

"Things do unfortunately sometimes fall through the cracks, but I know that we want to make it right for this student," said Hamann. "You know, it does feel like red tape, because so much of this relates to external entities and financial aid gets weird, but it's still our job to solve this."

The financial aid mess has been sorted, and Hibbert is receiving grants through LBCC.

"We always had a pathway forward," said Becker. "The talent grants were there to take care of whenever he wanted to complete his degree."

Deans are allotted three full terms worth of grants to award the appropriate students, based on need or excellence.

"Eight credits to go; I would never want to see a student not complete because there was no financial aid, and nobody at the college would want to see that," said Becker.

Aside from a loss in trust, Hibbert and the other students face a variety of consequences.

"It has put me in debt rather than help me build a better life for me and my children. They robbed me of success. It was a slap in the face. I don't want my children growing up thinking going to college is just a 'waste of time,'" said Shones.

Hibbert filed bankruptcy in January. He believes the year spent living on credit and grants and the past year without a job due to his lack of credentials caused most of the damage.

"None of the other students I've graduated with have been able to get even entry-level positions with the degree," said Hibbert.

He is now struggling to pay his student loans, but doesn't think he should have to. According to the Education Act of 1965, colleges are obligated to repay student financial aid when a program's misrepresentation of accreditation and federal funds are involved.

"Any student who had the graphic design major and received federal financial aid, they will have no obligation to pay that," said Dale Stowell, executive director of institutional advancement in an article

"It has put me in debt rather than help me build a better life for me and my children. They robbed me of success. It was a slap in the face. I don't want my children growing up thinking going to college is just a 'waste of time.'"



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Hibbert's loans have been deferred until February, but they're still gaining interest, and though he will receive a degree, it is not exactly the same as the one in which he enrolled.

"I'll feel bad about this, regardless of even if it works out," said Becker. "There was a lot of anxiety over that time frame and anxiety for the students, and I really regret that. But at the end of the day words don't matter a whole lot; it's what we do from here, you know, the action taken."

Becker says his door is open to any student from the program who needs help finding job placement and opportunities.

Note: There will be a follow-up in next week's edition on what really went wrong and where the Graphic Design program goes from here.



STORY BY
EMILY GOODYKOONTZ
@SHARKASAURUSX

THE COMMONS

Cafeteria

... MENU ...

10/12-10/18

Wednesday: Fettucine w/Calms & Saffron Cream Sauce, Grilled Stead w/Bearnaise*, Tempeh Enchiladas*. Soups: Italian Sausage, Grilled Vegetable*. Salads: Northwest Turkey, Northwest Vegetarian.

Thursday: Kalua Pork w/Steamed Rice*, Pan Fried Chicken Cutlet, Grilled Polenta w/Arugula Pesto. Soups: Shrimp & Corn Chowder, African Sweet Potato. Salads: Mediterranean Platter w/Sliced Meats, Mediterranean Vegetable Platter.

Monday: Smoked Salmon Eggs Benedict, Grilled Chicken w/Apricot Chutney*, Pumpkin Lasagna. Soups: French Onion*, Cream of Broccoli. Salads: Spinach w/Seasonal Fruit and Nuts.

Tuesday: Mediterranean Fish en Papillote*, Prime Rib w/Jus, Falafel. Soups: Potato, Sausage & Kale*, Grilled Vegetable. Salads: Thai Beef, Thai Vegetable.

Menu is subject to change without notice.
Items denoted with a * are gluten-free

Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-1:15 p.m.

LBCC's Newest Culinary Arts Instructor

Introducing Sarah Booth

Sarah Booth is the new Pantry Instructional Assistant for LBCC's Culinary Arts program. She teaches first year students to produce food for The Commons Cafeteria upstairs in the Calapooia Center. Booth is a chef experienced in all aspects of the farm-to-table movement who went through the LBCC culinary program herself. She catered an event for the Obamas in Martha's Vineyard and can be found cooking for her business, The Naked Crepe, at farmers markets during the summers.

The Commuter: When did your interest in food begin?

Sarah Booth: I grew up in Utah. As a kid, I said 'I want to be a farmer when I grow up,' which is far from how I was raised. My dad was a doctor and my mom was a stay-at-home Mormon mom. I wasn't raised in a rural area; I didn't really know what it meant to be a farmer.

TC: What past experiences led you to getting this job?

SB: I graduated from Utah State in 2002 with a B.S. in horticulture. I spent my final year at Oregon State University because I wanted to get more exposure to organic growing, which wasn't really popular in Utah at the time. When I first went into horticulture, I thought I was going to go into landscaping, but I quickly started gravitating toward food production. The farmers that produced food interested me so much more, so after graduating I went to work at Springhill Farm in Albany. I then went on to the First Alternative Coop. Early in my coop career, I took a break and went to work at Frega Farms, which is a goat farm in Sweet Home. I milked the goats and produced cheese for the farmers market.

I worked at the First Alternative Coop in produce for 10 years, which gave me a lot of opportunity to work with local farms and organic produce and really get in touch with how to connect with the farms directly; which is a trend in the restaurant industry, rather than just ordering from big wholesale distributors. That's something that I'd like to bring to the program: making more connections with our local farmers and ordering directly from them. My interest stems from bringing fresh food from its source to the kitchen, and then to the customer.

In 2009, I started my own business, The Naked Crepe, at farmers markets. I had done that for a couple of years and started wondering where I was going to go with that, which led me to LBCC's culinary program, so I could learn more about the industry and get some of the tricks of the trade under my belt. I went through the program and then did an internship at Martha's vineyard. I was the pantry chef for a high-end catering company that specialized in farm-to-table salads, and we even got to cater a party for the Obamas when they visited the island around 2013. I then moved back to Oregon and continued my crepe booth at the Newport and Lincoln City farmers markets. After also working at the Pacific Sourdough Bakery in Waldport for a few years, I learned of the job opening at LBCC.

TC: Is there anything else that you'd like to bring to the culinary program?

SB: My experience as small business owner. I hope to teach my students that food carts are popular these days and it is a really good way to get your foot in the door and test the waters of restaurant ownership without the huge investment of owning a restaurant. I hope to be able to reach out to students interested in that kind of experience and share my experience with them and help guide them.

TC: How does the culinary program's first year work?

SB: The first-years are split into three groups. Ten of those students are in quantity section which produces the hot food for the cafeteria; ten are in the bakery, and the other group of 11 are split between me in the pantry kitchen and working as waiters and waitresses in the



Santiam Restaurant. They get half a term waiting tables in the restaurant...and then they switch places and come to pantry for the second half.

TC: Where does the culinary program get its recipes?

SB: It's a combination of things. I bring in recipes and ideas from my past experience, we look things up, and the students bring in recipes as we get further into the year and they are more experienced. I start relying more on them and helping them develop their abilities to know what a good recipe is.

“That’s something that I’d like to bring to the program: making more connections with our local farmers and ordering directly from them.”

TC: Does the culinary program collaborate with LBCC's horticulture program?

SB: We do collaborate with the horticulture program and the greenhouse. We get herbs from them pretty regularly. We have been talking about getting winter squash from them. Whatever they have that's abundant enough, they'll contact us and we happily buy from them.

TC: What advice do you have for your students?

SB: So many of the students come in with so little experience and they're so nervous; I want to encourage them to be O.K. with challenging themselves and making mistakes. I look back at my time and I remember being very nervous. It can be a very intimidating environment

“This culinary program can be really valuable; a place where you can learn a lot, but your success is dependent upon how much you are willing to put into it.”

because it is so new. You are afraid of failing but if you are willing to challenge yourself and strive to learn and try new things, you may trip along the way, but ultimately you'll really learn a lot. This culinary program can be really valuable; a place where you can learn a lot, but your success is dependent upon how much you are willing to put into it.

TC: Why crepes?

SB: I've always been in love with crepes as a food. I always thought crepes were really wonderful and I saw that they were a great way to take advantage of what was available seasonally because you can do some many things with them. You can change the menu and you can change the fillings.

At-a-Glance:

The Commons Cafeteria and Courtyard Cafe

Calapooia Center, second floor

Monday - Friday

10 a.m. Pastry and coffee

10:30 a.m. Brick oven pizza station and salad bar

11:15 -1:15 Hot food

Price: \$5-\$8 for lunch. Most prices under \$6

Menu changes daily. Check The Commuter or Facebook

TC: Will you still do your crepe business now that you are at LBCC?

SB: I really hope to. This job at LBCC is the perfect opportunity to have my summers available to run my crepe business. I'm not sure which market I'll be at, but between Albany and Corvallis, I'll do a couple of markets a week in the summer.

TC: What is your favorite dish to cook?

SB: I'm not one to have a favorite food or dish. My favorite way to cook and what I really excel at is throwing together fresh produce to make raw salads, sauces; more impromptu style than to use recipes or anything that I could reproduce again and again.



STORY AND PHOTO BY
DANIELLE JARKOWSKY
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THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE ROOM

Writer Eileen Pollack will visit OSU to discuss "Why Science Is Still a Boys' Club"

WHAT ARE YOU VOTING FOR?

Seven measures are going up to bat on November 8th.

Feeling discouraged in a male-dominated field, writer Eileen Pollack contemplated leaving physics and dropping out of Yale University during her freshman year.

After graduating at the top of her class with a bachelor's of science degree, Pollack had a change of heart that ultimately led to a decision in pursuing her interest to become a writer instead of going to graduate school for physics. Pollack attended the University of Iowa where she earned an MFA, and is now a creative writing professor at the University of Michigan.

"At the end of four years, I was exhausted by all the lonely hours I spent catching up to my classmates, hiding my insecurities, struggling to do my problem sets while the boys worked in teams to finish theirs," wrote Pollack in her article "Why Are There Still So Few Women in Science?" featured in the New York Times Magazine. "Mostly, though, I didn't go on in physics because not a single professor — not even the adviser who supervised my senior thesis — encouraged me to go to graduate school."

In her latest book "The Only Woman in the Room: Why Science is Still a Boys' Club," Pollack reflects on the obstacles she faced while studying physics, and discusses how gender stereotypes and sexism keep women and minority students from aspiring to careers in the STEM field.

"The author writes with tremendous creative skill, and opens our eyes to the beauty of mathematics," wrote Christine Arasaratnam, in a book review for The

Scientista Foundation. "The combination of the fields of physics, mathematics and creative writing truly does provide a glimpse into a world of wonder, and reveals why many scientists, men and women, have fallen in love with the field and yearned to know more."

On Friday, Oct. 21, Pollack will visit Oregon State University as a speaker for their Creative Writing Program's 2016-17 "Visiting Writer Series," and as one of the SPARK event's for OSU's yearlong celebration of what can be achieved when art and science collaborate.

She'll give a two part lecture on: "The Facts Behind the Fiction: Research and Creative" and "The Only Woman in the Room: Why Science Is Still a Boys' Club" followed by a Q and A and book signing.

"Scientists—especially female scientists—rarely get portrayed in fiction. And yet, scientists lead fascinating lives," wrote Pollack in the article "Why Fiction Needs More Women Scientists" for Literary Hub.

"Scientists—especially female scientists—rarely get portrayed in fiction. And yet, scientists lead fascinating lives."

"Their quests to bring to light new physical laws, or new answers to humanity's major quandaries, can provide a natural narrative spine for a work of fiction."



STORY BY
ALYSSA CAMPBELL
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At-a-Glance:

When: Friday, Oct. 21

The Facts Behind the Fiction:
Research and Creative Writing

4:00 pm Memorial Union Journey
Room

The Only Woman in the Room:
Why Science Is Still a Boys' Club

7:30 pm Valley Library Rotunda

**Future OSU Visiting
writers series events:**

Ross Gay

Friday, March 10: Poetry

7:30 pm in the Valley Library
Rotunda

Ellen Bass

Friday, April 7: Poetry

7:30 pm in the Valley Library
Rotunda

Karen Russell

Friday, May 19: Fiction

7:30 pm in the Valley Library
Rotunda

Measure 94 would get rid of the mandatory judicial retirement age, which is 75 years old. A vote 'yes' would support older judges remaining in office, while a 'no' would out a vote towards keeping judges only under the age of 75.

Measure 95 would allow public state universities to invest in equities. Currently the state cannot invest in stock, but this measure going through would make an exception for universities in Oregon. The public would not be able to see what exactly universities invest in if the universities are able to hire on a private entity to manage the investments. This development does add to the controversy surrounding this measure.

Measure 96 would give 1.5 percent of state lottery net proceeds toward veterans' services. This 1.5 percent would come from the undedicated pool, which is typically used for economic development. The undedicated pool is nearly 70 percent of funds, so 1.5 isn't too much skin off its nose.

Measure 97 would raise corporate taxes on businesses with annual sales that exceed \$25 million. If instated, after the first six months, this measure would earn the state an extra \$3 billion per year. This means budget cuts causing large tuition spikes in state-funded colleges could be easier to fight in the future, but businesses on the edge of that \$25 million line fear staying above water.

Measure 98 would use state funding for dropout prevention and college readiness programs in Oregon schools. The average U.S. state spent over one thousand dollars more per student than Oregon in 2012 and 2013. Oregon's graduation rate is the third lowest in the country, so this is definitely an issue. This bill aims to change that using state funds.

Measure 99 would direct 4 percent of state lottery funds to support and create outdoor school programs. Outdoor School has largely been shortened or eliminated throughout the state due to budget concerns. Originally, it was about a week of learning about nature for public school students.

Measure 100 would prohibit the sale of parts and products made from 12 species of endangered animals. Everything from rhinos to leopards is covered in the measure, and the intent behind it is protecting vulnerable animals.

Want to know more? All the info in this article plus more can be found at: https://ballotpedia.org/Oregon_2016_ballot_measures



STORY BY
MORIAH HOSKINS
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PHOTO BY : LETA HOWELL | LBCC STUDENT KASEY MOSS.



PHOTO BY : LETA HOWELL | STUDENTS TEAGAN WHALEY AND JON HOLEMAN EXAMINE THE COLLECTED CORES.



PHOTO BY : LETA HOWELL | LBCC OCEANOGRAPHY STUDENT LARISSA BASS EXAMINES SLIDE SAMPLES AT THE OSU MARINE AND GEOLOGY REPOSITORY.

OCEANOGRAPHY CLASS FIELD TRIP

The LBCC Oceanography class, led by faculty member, Hollie Oakes-Miller, took a field trip to the OSU Marine and Geology Repository on Friday, Oct. 14. Cara Fritz, Assistant Curator of the repository, led the educational tour where students learned that the OSU Marine and Geology Repository is the largest of its kind on the west coast.

The repository holds 6,200 sediment cores totaling 16,290 meters of core and rock samples. Collected cores are carefully labeled by scientists as they are brought up from the marine environments and then ultimately stored at the repository

The facility is supported by funds from the U.S. National Science Foundation and serves to archive and distribute geologic samples for scientific research and education. The first samples were collected in the 1960's and continue to be collected to this day and stored at the facility. The field trip allowed oceanography students the ability to see firsthand what they had been studying in class during fall term.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LETA HOWELL

“I had an amazing time learning about the different forms of sediments. I also enjoyed looking through the microscope at the shells they are so so small, but in perfect condition complete shells. It’s like everything was shrunk down to miniature size.”

- Kasey Moss



INSIDE LBCC's CERAMICS STUDIO

PHOTO BY : LETA HOWELL | STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO WORK TOGETHER AND SHARE TECHNIQUES IN A MUCH MORE LAID BACK ENVIRONMENT DURING OPEN STUDIO HOURS AT THE CERAMICS STUDIO AT LBCC BENTON CENTER. STUDENTS, NATHAN MCLACHLIN AND CAITLIN BLEUINF, WORK ON CLASS PROJECTS DURING THIS TIME.



PHOTO BY : CARLIE SOMATIS | RUNNERS TAKE OFF FROM STARTING LINE.

RUNAWAY PUMPKIN HALF MARATHON AND 8K 2016

Runners get pumped up for the Runaway Pumpkin Run

The 6th annual Runaway Pumpkin half marathon took place Saturday, Oct. 15 in Lebanon, Ore. Despite the rain, 668 runners were able to make it this year to participate in the event. This is also the first year that they added an 8K in the race.

The course for this year's race started on Weirich Drive near Cheadle Lake. From there, the race followed the river along Berlin Road, heading toward Mallard Creek Golf course to Waterloo and across the bridge, returning via River Road. The half marathon started at 9:00 a.m., followed by the 8K at 9:55 a.m.

All of the proceeds from runners and volunteers go to the ABC House (The Child Abuse Intervention Center) that serves Benton and Linn counties. The ABC House provides child abuse assessment services to over 700 children annually, and includes on-site evaluation to 300 children and emergency consultations for an additional 400 children. The ABC House's offices are located in Albany, but children are referred from all over

the Benton and Linn County areas.

The first place runner of the half marathon was Mike Mazzotta, running a pace of 5:46 per mile, beating the 427 other half-marathon runners to the finish line. Alexander Nydahl finished first place in the 8K with a time of 7:06 per mile, ahead of the 239 other runners.

There were over 100 volunteers that helped make the race happen. The race was professionally timed by Rogue Multi-Sport, an independent race timing specialist.



PHOTO BY : CARLIE SOMATIS | SISTERS, KARIN WIMER (RIGHT) AND EMILY KEADY (LEFT) PARTICIPATE IN THEIR FIRST YEAR RUNNING THE RACE.



STORY AND PHOTOS BY
CARLIE SOMATIS
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PHOTO BY : LETA HOWELL | CERAMICS STUDENT CAITLIN BLEUINF THROWS CLAY ON A POTTERY WHEEL DURING OPEN STUDIO HOURS AT THE LBCC BENTON CENTER.



PHOTO BY : LETA HOWELL | ADDING FINE DETAIL TO HER CLAY, REBECCA SUING, TAKES FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE OPEN STUDIO HOURS AT THE LBCC BENTON CENTER CERAMICS STUDIO.

REVIEW:

MAFIA III

PHOTO COURTESY : 2K GAMES.

Does the idea of blasting away racist mobsters as a 6'4" African-American Vietnam vet in the bayous of Louisiana against a backdrop of Jimi Hendrix, The Rolling Stones, and Creedence Clearwater Revival sound fun to you? Well, you're in luck, because Hangar 13's *Mafia III* delivers all of this with a satisfying and rich story and gameplay reminiscent of *Assassin's Creed* and *Grand Theft Auto*.

Published by 2K Games, *Mafia III* takes place in a fictionalized New Orleans, known as New Bordeaux, in 1968, and follows Lincoln Clay, who has just arrived home after serving as a Special Forces operative in Vietnam and Laos for four years. As Lincoln reunites with his friends and family, most of whom are part of an African-American gang known as the "black mob", Mafia boss Sal Marcano makes them an offer they can't refuse, and things only go downhill from there.

Mafia III could have been a cheesy, two-dimensional revenge story, but top-notch voice acting and excellent storytelling make *Mafia III* something really fleshed-out and worth paying attention to. One thing particularly impressive was how the game handled the issue of race. Rather than tip-toe around the elephant in the room, Hangar 13 tackles it head-on in a way that will leave you stunned. Lincoln will be called names, refused entry to shops, and police presence and response will vary depending on the neighborhood,

with rich, white neighborhoods being the higher priority, and poor, black neighborhoods being the lower.

When it comes to gameplay, *Mafia III* acts like your average stealth game. You lure enemies to secluded spots, quickly dispatch them, and move on to the next guy. Obviously, if things get loud, you have a wide array of weapons for blazing a path through all who stand in your way. Enemy AI aren't too intelligent, which is a shame, because the gunplay feels smooth and fun, and fights would last longer with smarter AI.

As you progress through the game, you will meet associates who will provide you with favors like guns, cars, and backup whenever you want them. This comes in handy, allowing you to prepare for a mission without having to trek around the city looking for supplies. The biggest part of gameplay is taking over districts of the city piece by piece, with different tasks that amount to roughly the same thing. This could get boring to some players, but the exciting, story-driven missions in-between make up for it.

As is common with open-world games, *Mafia III* is plagued by small, silly bugs and glitches scattered about. Nothing that will break your game, but things like characters and objects popping-in out of nowhere or a character animation going wrong will certainly hurt immersion.

Despite these, *Mafia III* is still a memorable experience, and one that should not be passed over.

Review Info:

Developer: Hangar 13

Publisher: 2K Games

Released: Oct. 7, 2016

Rated: M for Mature

My Rating: ★★★★★☆

Life Tip:



When in doubt,
DANCE IT OUT!



REVIEW BY
TRUMAN TEMPLETON



POKEMON SUPER MYSTERY DUNGEON

Of the many spinoffs that the "Pokémon" series has produced, one of the most popular is a side series known as the "Mystery Dungeon" series. The newest such title, "Pokémon Super Mystery Dungeon" is the best title of the series so far and is an ideal way to start playing them even if one wasn't impressed by previous games in the series.

The game, much like others in the series, is in the "roguelike" subgenre of role-playing games (RPGs). Each time you play, the layout of the dungeons you travel through is different. While this concept may seem intimidating and has an admitted learning curve for those familiar with the mainline "Pokémon" games, it also provides a unique

experience that has boundless potential for replay value and new scenarios every time you start the game.

After taking a brief personality test, you can choose a Pokémon to play as, as well as another to become your friend and partner through your journey. That's right: rather than merely training your Pokémon, you become one as you venture through environments such as dark caves and perilous mountains. Even though not every Pokémon is a playable character, it is still possible to bond with many of the monsters that were introduced up to "Pokémon X and Y."

The graphics are also high-quality for the series' pedigree. The towns you travel through are filled with great attention to detail; the Pokémon are rendered



PHOTO COURTESY : CARTOON NETWORK STUDIOS.

REVIEW: POWERPUFF GIRLS (2016)

This past April, “The Powerpuff Girls” saw a revival after being absent from the airwaves since 2005 and as a TV special for the 15th anniversary in 2014. While the new series may not be in the same league as the original version, it still manages to be a fun take on the premise of “saving the world before bedtime.”

Even though there are some changes such as a redesigned art style and a new voice cast as the titular heroines, the overall concept and character types are familiar to those who saw the original version of the show. The characterization has also been expanded among the girls, though their original personalities remain intact. Blossom, commander and the leader is a dedicated student and a bit of a control freak. Bubbles, joy and the laughter still adores cute things such as her favorite toy Octi, but also now has an affinity for internet memes. Buttercup, the toughest fighter is every bit as abrasive as her counterpart from the 1990s, but still cares very deeply for her sisters underneath her rough-and-tumble persona.

The new show also blends its action-comedy premise with large amounts

of pop culture references of this time period. The first episode involves Blossom and Buttercup vying to attend a pop concert with Bubbles amid fighting giant monsters, while another episode is a G-rated parody of “The Hangover” movies. The girls’ hotline is now a smartphone app and the girls have phone cases that are color coded for your convenience.

Some admitted flaws include the fact that the original voice cast are largely absent from the series, to the point of some of the original actresses voicing their displeasure on Twitter. Also, while many of the classic villains such as Mojo Jojo and the Amoeba Boys make reappearances, the new villains are a mixed bag at best. For each creative new villain like Silico, a cybernetic entity bent on the girls’ destruction, there are ones like Pack Rat, a rodent of unusual size that lives in the Townsville Dump. Still, both old favorites and new faces alike are great for a dose of colorful action and silly jokes, and the voice acting itself is at least serviceable.

While not on the same order of magnitude as its namesake, or even other

recent Cartoon Network series such as “Adventure Time” and “Regular Show,” the new version of “The Powerpuff Girls” is still a decent take on an old favorite. Even with all the online ruckus about the reboot, it’s still worth checking out.

REVIEW BY
STEVEN PRYOR

Review Info:

Starring the voices of:
Tom Kenny, Tom Kane,
Amanda Leighton,
Kristen Lee, and Natalie
Palamides

Developed by: Nick
Jennings and Bob Boyle
(Based on characters
created by Craig
McCracken)

Network: Cartoon
Network (check your
local cable or satellite
listings)

Rating: TV-Y7-FV

My Rating: ★★★★★☆

in a colorful fashion that remains faithful to Ken Sugimori’s original designs.

The flaws are minor at best, since the game is definitely not for casual players. Much like its namesake, the game may be easy to pick up and play, but it’s far from a cakewalk. Many dungeons can be very daunting to even experienced players, not helped by the fact that you lose your items and money if you’re defeated. There’s also an occasional disconnect between the dialogue of the non-player characters (NPCs) and what’s shown in gameplay. Still, it’s one of the most unique titles to bear the “Pokémon” name outside the main series.

If you’re fan of the “Pokémon” series and RPGs that can’t wait for “Pokémon Sun and Moon,” then “Pokémon Super Mystery Dungeon” is highly recommended. Boasting a distinct gameplay style and endless possibilities for replay value, it’s easily the best “Mystery Dungeon” yet.

REVIEW BY
STEVEN PRYOR

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UNDER PRESSURE

A personal look into autism and anxiety



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY: NICK LAWRENCE

I'm sitting down in the middle of the first floor dorm hallway as I type this, listening to whatever Son Lux song YouTube throws at me starting with "Alternate World (Alternate Age)." There's chatter in the background of an open dorm and a bunch of Beaver freshmen engineer majors talking amongst themselves. I take a two-seconds-too-long glance to see what's going on. I find a spot somewhere in the hallway. There's laughter, a door is shut. Oops.

There's no real good place to sit down and think, really think, about how to address this. To figure out how to explain my thought process. To try and explain how I'm wired. So maybe I just start with a basic timeline of my life.

Last school year, "Life on the Spectrum" gave me so much positive feedback in ways that I couldn't imagine. People were sending the article to their friends and family who had autism, and the response letter I received for my opinion piece was extremely flattering.

I wasn't alone.

But more than that, I feel like there's another thing that needs to be brought up that's the other half of the coin, if you will. My autism doesn't exist without anxiety. But despite being prescribed a steady 40mg Prozac diet, this anxiety via autism is never going to go away.

Tony Attwood, an Asperger's expert, says that current research reveals that 65% of Autistic individuals have another disorder alongside their Autism (called "Comorbid Disorder"), which isn't surprising seeing how freaking complex and diverse Autism is. (Hence the longhand name of ASD or, "Autism SPECTRUM Disorder.")

Attwood said back in 2006 that "social phobia, or social anxiety disorder, would be expected to be relatively common for those with Asperger Syndrome, especially in the teenage and adult years when they are more acutely aware of their confusion in social situations, of making social mistakes, and possibly suffering ridicule."

And believe me, I've come to

the conclusion that my life is going to be spent as an eternal student of social orders, learning how to maneuver my way around life so as to try and minimize as much of my pariah as I can. Which, in reality, isn't me being a freak. To quote Bernadette from the Big Bang Theory, who beautifully summarized the way the brain processes information with ASD:

"Sheldon doesn't know when he's being mean because the part of his brain that should know is getting a wedgie from the rest of his brain."

As for anxiety, that's a whole different story.

Anxiety disorder is, by definition, "a state of apprehension and psychic tension occurring in some forms of mental disorder. The branch of Anxiety that I feel hits home the closest is General Anxiety Disorder, something defined by WebMD as, "excessive, unrealistic worry and tension, even if there's little or nothing to provoke the anxiety."

But the thing is, autism-caused anxiety still feels radically different than generalized anxiety.

It's not just random fears, or a sudden spike in my adrenaline that get me. It's literally life itself.

I am going to try and explain this in the best way possible, but it's not entirely possible to explain how my body operates when it's shutting down. Especially considering that it's all situational.

The fact is, life is naturally stressful, but for me it's especially stressful. I'm slowly -- tediously -- finding a middle ground that allows me to play the "Morgan" card while playing the fancy adult human who has her shit together card.

And more than anything, I need answers and solutions. My counselor at my latest

appointment told me to resort to writing. Maybe it's my pensieve -- a means of trying to getting my thoughts out there, and maybe getting a little bit of help in return.

I also am going to take my pill, regardless of what I think about it's legitimacy.

But more than anything, I need to talk. I need to make sure this stuff gets out there. For Autism being such a popular disorder with 1 out of 64 people being on the Spectrum, it needs to be talked about. I can't be kept silent, so why not use my big fat mouth for advocacy? (Believe me, there's way too many misconceptions

that can lead to plenty of fun misdiagnoses, and don't get me STARTED on the "vaccines cause autism" bullshit.)

I may have this stupid narrator subconsciously talking to me the background 24/7, but maybe she can be used for good for once.



STORY BY MORGAN CONNELLY @MADEINOREGON97

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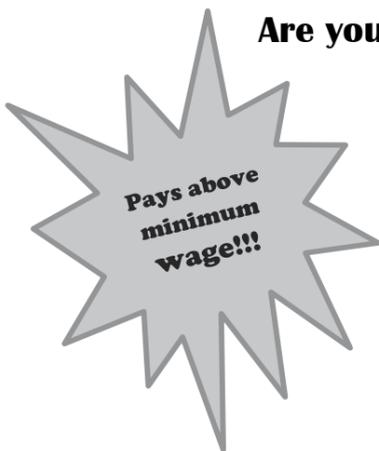
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McKenzie Hall – MKH 210



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The Horse Center is looking to hire multiple work study positions. We offer flexible hours, and in a fun, outdoor environment. Some previous livestock experience preferred.

Contact Jenny Strooband for more information: stroobj@linnbenton.edu

Walking Home From The Pride Parade

By Katelyn Boring

On the subway home	Anxious about being
last night from work	targeted on the walk home
A thousand rainbows	Or of the disapproval of
greeted me	one's own family
Beads, flags, badges,	The lights in everyone's
hats, and t-shirts	eyes quickly dimmed to
The festivities had	emptiness
ended, and people were	As pride and excitement
headed home	were replaced with fear and
Beads, hats, and badges	frustration
were pulled off
The t-shirts were hidden	Last night, on my way
away by jackets	home from work
Flags were turned	I watched the masses start
upside down in bags so	towards home
nobody would see	But though they had been
Couples stopped	ten-thousand strong
holding hands and	Each individual walked
sweet-talking	alone
People broke off in stiff,	
nervous factions	

Lust

By Morgan Connelly

Run away from your problems on the
amtrak train.
Destination: the other side of the world.
Travel partner: a girl you've known for
maybe four months.
You call her your fiancée.
I call her your potentially abusive
partner.

Oh but friend, you were once a revered
life fighting sanity,
but you let her take away your vanity,
and all that's left is a mental portrait of
who you were and stood for.

But you saw me at a pretty dark place,
blinded by the prospect of love turned
pain to scars.

And I know time got away,
and I know I could have reached out,
and maybe I should have.
Maybe I could have helped you save you
from yourself.
Because love isn't blind,
but holds it's eyes open, forgiving.

And this is lust.
How could I know?
Lust is what blinds us.
Lust is what made you throw your
caution into the wind,
Lust is what made you give your heart to
her.

"Don't speak to me"
you say to friends who know you best,
"You're wrong,
you don't know me."

And you're right: we don't anymore.

But in case you're still there: take care.
I'm still here in case it doesn't work.

THE GREAT OREGON SHAKEOUT 2016

Preparing for the "Big One"



PHOTO BY : LETA HOWELL | BERNITA ROSE, ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC SAFETY DUCKS AND COVERS DURING SHAKEOUT.



PHOTO BY : LETA HOWELL | JILL THOMAS "I FEEL PREPARED" AND KIERA BROWN "I WILL BE SECURE IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY."

Alarms sounded and students dove under desks. On Tuesday, Oct. 18, at 10:18 a.m., LBCC participated in The Great Oregon ShakeOut, aimed to prepare the state and reduce injuries in the event of an earthquake.

"Be prepared and know what to do in an emergency, it could save a life," said Bernita Rose, administrative secretary for public safety.

The predicted massive quake in

the Cascadia Subduction Zone would affect the entirety of the Pacific Northwest

"Federal, state, and local emergency management experts and other official preparedness organizations all agree that "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" is the appropriate action to reduce injury and death during earthquakes," states The Great Oregon ShakeOut's website.

More information and safety advice is available on ShakeOut.org.

STORY BY
COMMUTER STAFF

PHOTOS BY
LETA HOWELL

ROADRUNNERS CONTINUE HOT STREAK



LBCC Volleyball leading the season with 32-0 record

The Linn-Benton volleyball team (LBVB) continued their dominance in the Southern region of the Northwest Athletic Conference (NWAC) on Friday, Oct. 16. LBVB was set to compete in a tournament that took place at Bellevue Community College in Bellevue, Wa.

The Roadrunners played three total matches on Friday, picking up wins against Wenatchee Valley, Green River, and Edmonds. In the match against Wenatchee Valley, LBVB won both sets, at 25-13 and 25-18.

"Most volleyball matches are best three out of five sets, but at some tournaments they will be two of three for pool play," said Head Coach Jayme Frazier.

Against Green River, the Roadrunners also won both sets at 25-8 and 25-18, and then finished off Edmonds at 25-22 and 25-11. The team was set to play four more matches Saturday, but the rest of

the tournament was cancelled due to impending weather threats.

"Every team in the Southern region continues to get better, and I expect Clackamas will be improved as well," said Frazier.

The Roadrunners will defend their home court on Wednesday, Oct. 19 against Clackamas at 6:30 p.m. The last time these two teams met was on Sept. 24, in a game where the Roadrunners won all three sets.

"This game will be more tough, considering it is our second time playing them this season, and teams are improving each week," said Sophomore Lyvie Sams.

On top of the recent team success, Sophomore Chase Bohman was chosen as offensive player of the week for this last week and also Under Armour player of the week for the NWAC. The team is currently 7-0 in the conference and an amazing 32-0 overall. Clackamas is sitting in sixth place

of the Southern region of the NWAC with a record of three wins and four losses.

When asked about playing at home Sams said, "I wouldn't say we feel pressure or relief, but we are more comfortable playing on our home court because that is where we have played the most."

"This game will be more tough, considering it is our second time playing them this season, and teams are improving each week."



STORY BY
NICK FIELDS



UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 20: Grand Opening Event for the LBCC Innovation & Heavy Transportation Building

*RSVP by Oct. 14, 2016 by calling 541-917-4209 in Lebanon.

Star Trek and Social Justice

* 301 Milam Hall, Corvallis 4 to 5 p.m.

Oct. 21 to 22: 8th Annual Blocktoberfest, \$5, 21+ after 8 p.m.

* Jefferson Avenue, between Third and Fourth Street, Downtown Corvallis

The Rocky Horror Picture Show

* Majestic Theatre, 115 S.W. 2nd St., Corvallis, 6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.

Oct. 22: Boo Boogie Bash

* 7:20 p.m., For more information, call 541-895-5335.

VIP ghost hunt

* 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., Call 541-928-0911 for more information.

Oct. 23: Scio Historical Society "Birthday Cake & Tea"

* ZCJB Hall, Scio, 1:30 p.m.

It's Freedom of Expression (When I Agree With It)

* Vineyard Mountain Room (CC-213), Noon - 1:30 p.m.

Oct. 28 - 31: Millersburg Morningstar Grange haunted house

* 7 to 10 p.m. \$5 at the door or cans for the food drive.

Oct. 29: Sweet Home Zombie Zoup Run

* 880 18th Ave, Sweet Home 10:00 a.m.

Halloween Ball and Costume Party

* Corvallis Elks Lodge, Event is 21 and older Albany Trick-or-Treat

* Starting at 10 a.m. in Downtown Albany.

Halloween Nosh Tour

* 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., 21 and older, For more information call 541-928-0911