

## HUNGER IN CORVALLIS

Forum draws residents and community leaders to examine causes and search for solutions  
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## THE ABCs of DVDs

Popularity forces general public to embrace the new leader in home entertainment  
▶ Pg. 6-7

# The Commuter

a weekly student publication



www.linnbenton.edu/commuter

Wednesday, January 14, 2004

Linn-Benton Community College, Albany, Oregon

Volume 35 No. 9

## Fire Guts WEB Building



The Workforce Education Building was heavily damaged by a fire on Dec. 3 that Albany police and fire officials called an act of arson. The fire forced scores of students who regularly use the building to move to various rooms around the main campus. The office staff and faculty relocated to the Fireside Room, which is traditionally used for conferences. Two former students who lived near the campus, Maurice Strickland and Winnville Galo, both 19, were charged with arson and reckless burning, as well as unrelated theft charges. Officials said the fire was started in the dumpster behind the building and spread to the attic, causing extensive heat and smoke damage. College officials hope to repair the structure and reopen it in the fall.



photos by Jeremy Hennig

## Snow storm causes crunch for students

Michelle Bertalot  
The Commuter

For the first time in history, LBCC was forced to close for three consecutive days at the beginning of the term due to snow.

The decision to close the school was made ultimately by President Rita Cavin, who contacts people from various departments before arriving at a decision, including security, vice presidents Mike Holland and Ed Watson, and the Albany school districts.

"There were a lot of us on the phone between 5 and 6 in the morning," she commented.

The procedure the school follows is being analyzed by Cavin and Holland.

"At our next meeting we're going to look at the procedure, and how we went about things this time, might not be exactly the same next time," said Cavin.

The changes would concern the "phone tree" procedure used to contact staff. The initiative to change the procedure originated last October, but has been rekindled after the snow storm.

Although students had three days off from classes, they returned to face a few challenges.

Most enrollment-related deadlines were not extended. Tuition payments, book return deadlines, and class add/drop deadlines remain the same. Bruce Clemetsen, director of enrollment management, wanted to keep the continuity of the dead-

**"There were a lot of us on the phone between 5 and 6 in the morning."**

▶ Rita Cavin



lines by holding firm.

"We didn't want to make a change and have people feel like they were penalized because they met the old deadline," he commented.

He pointed out that if the school did change the deadlines, the computer work to do so would be extensive. "Rather than fixing the computers to accept new deadlines, we're going to work as hard as we can so students don't miss the deadlines," he explained.

"There is still a lot of time for students to take care of things," said Clemetsen.

The Financial Aid Office has

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See Photos on Page 12

## 'Voices of the World' events honor Martin Luther King, Jr.

Peggy Isaacs  
The Commuter

The Multicultural Center has lined up three days of activities to commemorate the life of civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr. Jan. 20 through 22.

"Voices of the World" is the theme for the activities organized by students in the center and on the Student Programming Board.

First, writer, educator poet and activist Ishle Yi Park will be on campus Tuesday Jan. 20 to lead a workshop on "Back to the Basics: Writing and Performing Poetry" from 1:30 to 2:20 p.m. in the Alsea-Calapooia Room. She will then give a poetry reading in the Courtyard Cafe from 7 to 8 p.m. Park worked as Arts-In-Education Director of the Asian

American Writers' Workshop and was a poetry editor for Gathering of the Tribes and The Asian Pacific American Journal. Her workshop and reading are cosponsored by the Valley Writers.

On Wednesday Jan. 21, the Multicultural Center is encouraging students and staff to dress according to the customs of their culture for International Dress Day and to stop by the center to get your picture taken to win a prize.

The center has also planned the third annual International Dinner, featuring student presenters and singer/songwriter Corrine May Ing Foo. Seating is limited to 200 people, so reservations are recommended—call the Multicultural Center before Jan. 15.

The MLK Week celebration continues  
▶ Turn to "MLK" on Page 4

## Delayed start blamed for lower winter enrollment

Erica Hennig  
The Commuter

Winter term enrollment was down 18 percent last Friday from the same day last year. The drop was influenced, in part, by the first three days of school being canceled.

On Jan. 9, there were 2,619 full-time, 2,812 part-time, and 1,776 non-credit students enrolled. According to Bruce Clemetsen, director of enrollment management, the first two days of the term usually see a boost in enrollment. Clemetsen believes some students may have decided not to enroll due to school cancellations and difficulty in travel.

Several employees worked overtime the weekend before school began to en-

ter applications in the system that were turned in Dec. 31, a day when registration and admissions were overwhelmed with student requests and paperwork. Employees also stayed late last Thursday to file applications and enter information in the system.

Registration dates have not changed, however, so students should make sure to add classes by Jan. 16 in person or by Jan. 18 on-line to avoid a fee.

Many offices have been strained by extra paperwork and appointments that have been rescheduled. The testing center, bookstore, financial aid and registration are just a few of the offices that were working extra hard to do the work that would have been done the first few days

▶ Turn to "Enrollment" on Page 4

### WEATHER THROUGH THE WEEKEND

SOURCE: WWW.WEATHER.COM

high 53 low 43  
WEDNESDAY

high 50 low 37  
THURSDAY

high 48 low 41  
FRIDAY

high 50 low 41  
SATURDAY

high 47 low 39  
SUNDAY

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The  
Commuter



**Opinion Editor:** Erica Hennig  
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# OPINION

**Send letters to The Commuter:**  
 Turn into Forum 222. Please sign them and  
 keep them at 250 words or less



## GUEST COLUMN

# Democrats reach out to new voters through class

**Dennis Dugan**  
 For The Commuter

By now, most everyone has heard of Howard Dean's misstatement on how "[he] still wants to be the candidate for guys with confederate flags in their pickup trucks." For this statement, Dean has been roundly criticized from both the left and the right, for a variety of reasons.

However poor his choice of words were, Dean was and is on the right track.

What Dean's statement (by the way, he has made several comments about guys with confederate flags in the back of their pickup trucks and this is the first time he's been attacked for it) means is this: The Democratic Party needs to reach out beyond their base and go after voters who are traditionally considered Bush shoe-ins along with enervating their base against Bush. In this case, Dean was advocating reaching out to a certain demographic: Southern white men.

Most political pundits and strategists from both sides are quick to conclude that Bush will take the south again in 2004 and that it's pointless for Democrats to campaign there.

History and logic say different.

In the past, the south was largely democratic due to Franklin's New Deal policies; in other words, people's economic concerns ruled the day.

The south today has been hit hard by Bush's tax cuts and "free-trade policies" and as a result, is getting even poorer. Both history and logic suggest that the south is far from secured for Bush.

Besides reaching out to new voters, the Democratic Party must enervate their base. There are several ways to do this, but one theme in particular could prove to be invaluable to the Democrats if they choose to pursue it.

That theme is class.

The reason class is so important is twofold: First, class concerns run across otherwise solid boundaries, reaching from inner-city blacks to rural, southern whites. What do those groups have in common? They both have high poverty levels, leading straight into the second reason class is so important: Bush is already waging a class war, a war against the poor and even middle classes.

If the Democrats are able to appeal to votes based on class concerns, they could unseat Bush and regain some of the power of the New Deal coalition. What remains to be figured out are the details and how to break down the myths around class and its importance, namely, to show people how Bush is not only indifferent to their economic concerns, but that many of people's economic problems are due to Bush's policies in the first place.

There is a larger and ultimately much more important issue at stake than even the 2004 election and unseating Bush, however.

In our highly corporatized and commercialized world, what counts is money, and class is often how money (or the lack of it) is demonstrated.

For those of us who are against continued domination by corporations and the subsequent increase in the gap between the rich and the poor, class is a lens through which we can begin to discover and realize problems with and alternatives to the corporate, profit-driven model of globalization offered to us, alternatives that are economically just and respectful of both human rights and the environment.

## EXPRESS YOURSELF

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues.

Both letters to the editor and guest columns are welcome. Letters should be limited to 250 words. Guest columns can be longer, but should first be discussed with the editor prior to submission.

Drop letters off at The Commuter office, Forum 222 or e-mail us at [commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu](mailto:commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### 'Separate but equal' doesn't work for gay marriages

**To the Editor:**

I was excited to see the opinion "Same-sex partners should have right to legal union" by Michelle Bertalot on Dec. 3. I nodded in agreement with Bertalot's acknowledgement of the discrimination faced by same-sex couples denied legal protection of their unions. I was impressed by the research she cited, thinking, "This woman has done her homework." Then I read how Bertalot stopped short of allowing same-sex couples to use the word marriage, and I crumbled. This too is discrimination.

I wonder if Ms. Bertalot is a feminist, or at least familiar with the origins of marriage and its purpose to treat women as property. I wonder if she is aware of the battles women have fought to change the meaning of the word over time to a more egalitarian recognition of mutual commitment.

I wonder, too, if she is familiar with the struggles of mixed-race couples who were in their time legally denied the protections of marriage. Many of the same arguments used against these families are recurring in the debate over same-sex

marriage. Yet, the definition of marriage was changed to be more inclusive.

Why can't the definition of marriage again be opened to include the relationships shared by queer couples? If you truly want to fight discrimination, this is the next logical step. However, if you want only to pay lip service to the PC police, a "separate but equal" doctrine of civil unions is the direction you will head. "Separate but equal" did not work for segregated schools and it will not work for queer marriage.

**Heather Ohana**

### Votes sold to highest bidder in Oregon legislation

**To the Editor:**

McCain-Feingold upheld by the Supremes. What a fabulous day for democracy!

Today, Oregon is one of six states that has no limits on the amount of money that can be contributed to a political campaign. The Supreme Court's ruling only applies to federal races — presidential, senate, congressional.

State-level races continue to be for sale to the highest bidder, so celebration is premature. Circulation started eight weeks ago on Initiative #53, a statewide ballot initiative that bans corporate contributions and caps individual donations at \$500.

The amount of money pouring into political campaigns here at the local level has increased twelve fold in the last six years, going from \$4.2 million in 1996 to \$49 million in 2002.

We need legislators that represent the interests of their constituents, not the deep pockets that put them into office.

Oregon desperately needs Campaign Finance Reform. Initiative #53 is an all volunteer effort. Get involved, sign the petition, better yet help gather signatures.

**Liz Trojan**

[www.fairelections.net](http://www.fairelections.net)

## The Commuter

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VISIT THE COMMUTER ONLINE  
[www.linnbenton.edu/commuter](http://www.linnbenton.edu/commuter)

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# CAMPUS NEWS

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

## Winter graduation deadline approaching

**Erica Hennig**  
 The Commuter

The deadline to apply for graduation after winter term is next Friday, Jan. 16.

Students who wish to apply for graduation must complete two forms: a graduation worksheet and graduation application, which are both available online or at the Admissions Office.

Lynn Groshong, transcript

and degree evaluator, encourages students to meet with their advisors one full term prior to their expected graduation to see if there are any courses missing from their transcripts.

A counselor or advisor's signature on the graduation worksheet is required for all students applying for graduation, she said. The signature may be obtained during the student/advisor meeting. Groshong also encouraged students to apply

for spring graduation now.

The deadline for spring applications is April 9.

Because most graduates do not attend the June ceremony, diplomas will be sent four to six weeks after the end of the term.

For those who wish to attend, there will be a company on campus at the end of April to sell caps and gowns. Student Life & Leadership pays half the cost. Last year the cost to students for caps and gowns was \$11.40.

Graduation is Thursday, June 10 at 7 p.m. and will be held in the Activities Center.

The college president and Board of Education chairperson normally speak at the ceremony, as well as a student leader. Processional and recessional music is usually played by bagpipers.

Nine hundred to 1,000 students graduate each year; however, only 250 to 350 generally attend the graduation ceremonies.

## Annual minimum wage hike linked to cost of living

**Laurent L.N. Bonczijk**  
 The Commuter

Minimum wage in Oregon went up by 15 cents to \$7.05 on Jan. 1.

It may seem like a lot, but if you consider the average work month to be 160 paid hours, the increase is only \$24 pre-tax.

Federal minimum wage dates back from 1938 when the Fair Labor Standards Act was passed, guaranteeing workers \$0.25 an hour.

Today federal minimum wage is \$5.15, but states are allowed to set their own minimum wage in which case the higher of the two has to be paid to workers.

Two theories exist about the increase in minimum wages.

Opponents say that by increasing costs of entry-level positions for the employers it forces them to cut some of those positions or to reduce work hours. A second argument is that it drives up the cost of living by forcing companies to raise the prices of their goods and services to pay for the increase.

Proponents of the minimum wage argue that it helps lift poor families above the poverty level and helps the working poor to keep up with inflation.

It is generally agreed that market forces drive prices, while minimum wage is the result of political forces. Those policies give the workers a "bargaining power" they otherwise wouldn't have.

Opponents cite studies showing that most minimum wage workers are teenagers living at home, spouses of workers making a living wage, and single and married people with no children and that other policies such as the Earned Income Tax Credit are much better policies to reach out to the single parents with children.

Supporters cite studies showing no job losses in periods directly following minimum wage increases and a decrease in numbers of poverty-stricken households while the wages of former welfare recipients are increased.

Although effects of the minimum wage policy are disputed, there is no argument that it will rise with inflation next January.



photo by Scott McClure

Work study students Joyea Warren (left) and Arsh Kamali (rear) help staffer Travis Kopacek (right) at the LBCC Bookstore. Work study students received their minimum wage hike early when the college raised wages last term.

## COMMONS

Put it on your plate!  
 Jan. 14th - 20th

### Wednesday

- Beef Stew
- Chicken Cordon Bleu
- Kolokopita
- Baked Pesto Pasta
- Seasonal Peas & Mushrooms
- Moroccan Lentil

### Thursday

- Turkey Club w/ Pasta Salad
- Chili Verde w/ Flour Tortilla
- Eggplant Parmesan
- Roasted Red Potatoes
- Stuffed Zucchini
- Turkey Veggie/Split Pea Soups

### Friday

*Chef's Choice!*

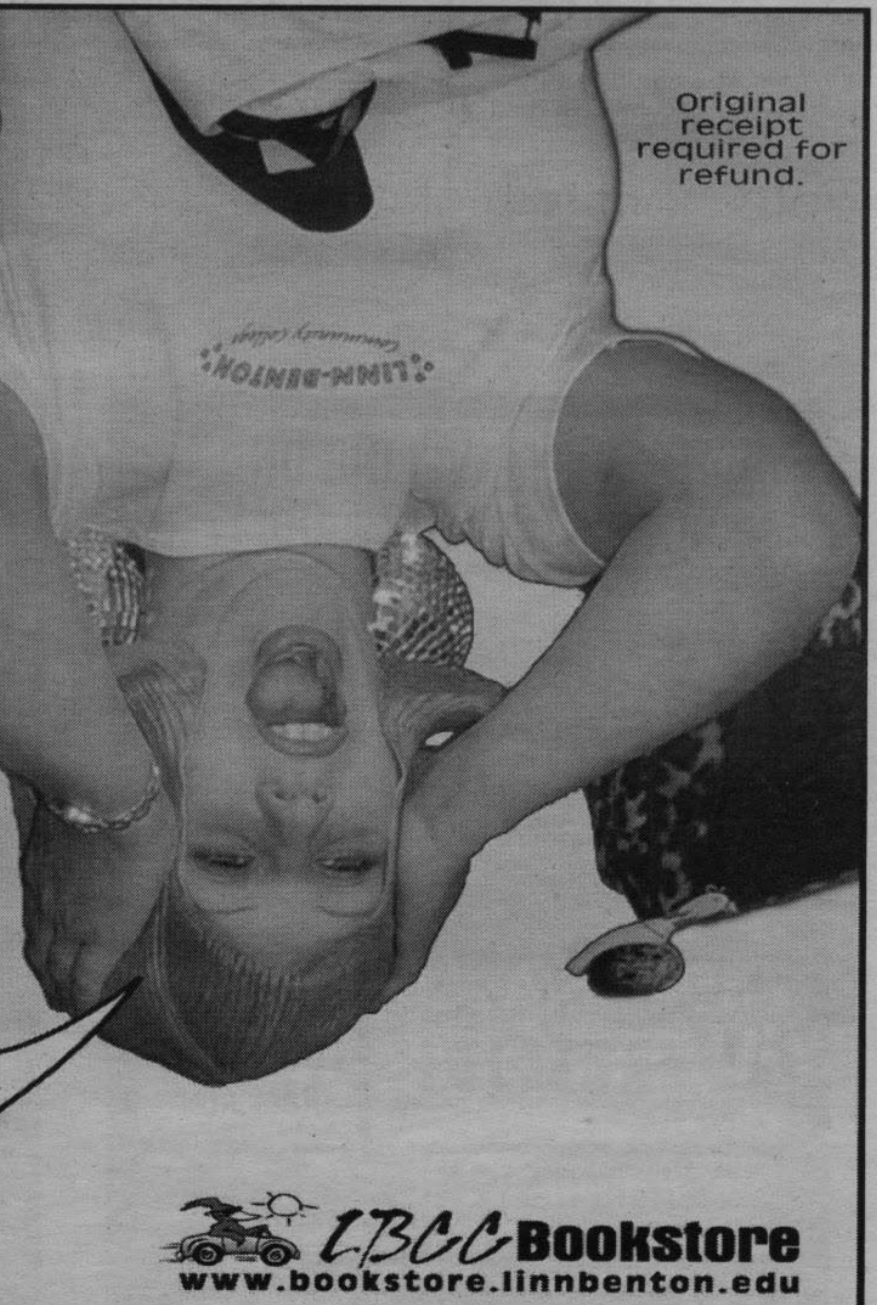


Monday  
 NO SCHOOL

### Tuesday

- Beef Stroganoff
- Sweet & Sour Pork w/ Rice
- Stuffed Portabella Sandwich
- Rice Pilaf Spaetzal
- Roasted Root Veggies
- Mulligatawny
- Vegetarian Vegetable

**Last Day to  
 Return Your Books  
 for a Full Refund is  
 Tuesday  
 January 20th**



Original receipt required for refund.

**LBCC Bookstore**  
 www.bookstore.linnbenton.edu



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# CAMPUS NEWS

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

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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### SCHOLARSHIPS

A representative will be here from OSAC to instruct students on the **BEST** ways to complete the OSAC application. Jan. 27 at 1 p.m. in the FORUM auditorium. (Applications due Feb. 28) To look at the scholarships offered and the application prior to the workshop go to: [www.getcollegefunds.org](http://www.getcollegefunds.org)

Have you filed your FAFSA for the academic year 2004-2005 yet? If not, forms are available outside the Financial Aid office or go on-line at: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) LBCC's school code is: **006938**. The new financial aid year begins with Summer Term. Funds are awarded based on financial need and on a first-come first-served basis. Don't Delay!

Jan. 30 at 5 p.m. is the deadline for the LBCC Foundation Scholarship awards applications. Twenty different scholarships for currently enrolled students are available this term. Awards vary from \$200 all the way up to \$2,000! Check the kiosk next to the Financial Aid office or go to the website at: [www.linnbenton.edu](http://www.linnbenton.edu)

### Nobel chemist to speak at LB Friday

Roald Hoffmann, a Nobel prize-winning chemist, will speak on campus this Friday at 9 a.m. Dr. Hoffmann is known for his contributions to making science accessible to the public through his books and PBS programs.

The talk is open to the public at no charge.

### HELP WANTED

**Student Trainee** (#2184, Oregon) Great summer work experience program with the government. They want students in soil science, soil conservation, agronomy, natural resources, hydrology, wildlife, fisheries or GIS minor and who are either a freshman or a sophomore. See Student Employment in T10 for more details.

**Internships** (Corvallis) We have 2 wonderful places (Benton Co. Fairgrounds & OSU) that are hiring student interns. The jobs pay wages and are flexible with your schedule. Can't beat that!! See Carla in Student Employment (T101) for more information.

**2 Vet Tech positions** (one in Eugene & one in Lebanon) If you have the skills to be a vet tech or are graduating this month, sign up with Student Employment in T101 for info on how to apply!

**Computer Aided Notetaker** (#2196, LBCC) This part-time job assists disabled students in the classroom by taking accurate & comprehensive notes on a laptop computer. Work on LBCC campus and get paid \$8.17/hr. See Carla in LBCC's Student Employment (T101) for a referral.

### Snow: Minor damage to LB

▲ From page 1

also fallen victim to the storm with financial aid employees working overtime and coming in on weekends to keep up on the work. "It's too early to calculate what kind of delay there might be. Students can help the process by being patient and registering early," he explained.

Deadlines are Jan. 16 to add or drop classes and receive a full refund (Jan. 18 through the Student Information System(SIS), Jan. 20 to return books and receive a full refund and Feb. 27 to pay for winter term tuition.

Damage on campus was limited, with few branches breaking and pipes freezing. "This last snow storm caught the whole valley by surprise, but the school stays up on things in anticipation for these things," said Kevin Nicholson, director of facilities. "The pine trees in the courtyard have broken and a faucet outside of the Courtyard Cafe froze, but damage all around was very minimal."

### MLK: Dragon to dance Jan. 22

▲ From page 1

on Thursday, Jan. 22, with the Lunar New Year Dragon Dance through the main campus at noon, then wraps up with "Comedy Night" in the Commons from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., featuring


Portland comedian Dax Jordon and headliner Troy Thirdgill, a comedian who got his start in Portland in the 1980s and has since hit it big in Los Angeles with appearances on Comedy Central and In Living Color.

### Enrollment: Bookstore lines lengthen due to late start

▲ From page 1

of the term. In the testing center, employees rescheduled appointments to try to fit all students in that needed to take tests. At the bookstore, lines extended to the other side of the courtyard and students waited in line for almost

an hour during the morning and afternoon last Thursday. Extended hours made it possible to purchase books without a wait during the evening. Student orientations were rescheduled for those students who couldn't make it in during the snowy weather.



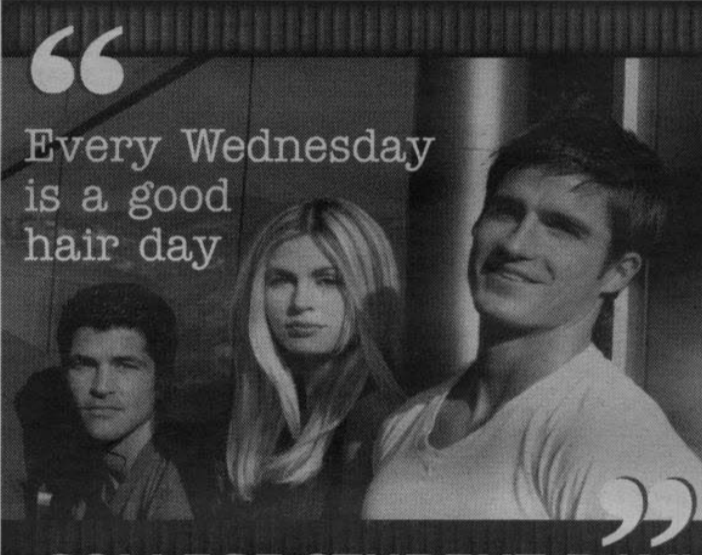
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### Meet Your Local Army Recruiter

Where: LCC Registration Office  
When: January 16 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Who: Sgt. Todd Warner




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# LOCAL NEWS

News on happenings around the county including Albany, Corvallis, Lebanon, Philomath, Sweet Home and Tangent

## 'Fishbowl' forum explores hunger in Corvallis

**Peggy Isaacs**  
 The Commuter

**A**re you hungry? Is there hunger in your community?

Paul Cienfuegos, community organizer, was invited to Corvallis on Sunday afternoon to facilitate a "fishbowl" discussion with concerned citizens on the topic of hunger in our communities.

Cienfuegos became a grassroots organizer in 1977 and has worked on issues that are "symptoms of corporate rule," such as, logging, disarmament, nuclear war and economics. He said that the problem is that the corporations are making the decisions for us. Corvallis was the fifth stop on his six city tour.

The discussion was sponsored by the Barnum Lodge No. 7, International Order of Odd Fellows, Oregon PeaceWorks, and the Benton County Bill of Rights Defense Committee.

Cienfuegos first discussed how the "fishbowl" was to operate. He differentiated between a town talk forum and a fishbowl. The main difference is that people are in a circle facing each other instead of in a line speaking to each other. The talk is kept to the discussion in the circle, not redirecting someone who has left the circle. The new person may address the issue, but not the person who first approached the subject, if that person has left the circle.

A five-member circle was started by representatives of the community who offered varying points of view on hunger.

Darlene Osburn, director of the Circle of Hope, said she felt the homeless "deserve our energy and they deserve what we have." She then asked about getting a food bank started for her clients.

Sharon Thornberry, Community Foods Programs Advocate for Oregon Food Bank, says "No one should be hungry."

Information provided showed the hunger problem in Oregon. The 2002 statistics for Or-

regon showed that an estimated 780,000 people ate meals from local emergency food boxes at least once last year; of that 312,000 were children under 18.

USDA's 1999-2001 figures collected by the Census Bureau, ranked Oregon with 13.7 percent of the households were food insecure (uncertain availability). 5.8 percent of Oregon households were food insecure with hunger (lack of food). Nationally these figures are 10.4 percent and 3.7 percent respectively. Why is Oregon's hunger rate so high?

Some reasons stated were that housing costs have soared. People have to choose food over medicine cuts in the Oregon Health Plan (OHP). Michael Papadopoulos, another organizer of the event, added that war spending is part of the problem.

The quality of food was also discussed, which brought about the most passion in the forum.

One pregnant woman was absolutely disgusted at the food lunch programs in the schools. She called it "crap" and that the schools are "feeding the kids poison. I can buy organic," she said, "but what about the kids?"

A representative from the elementary school district explained that the food is a business in itself and the budget has

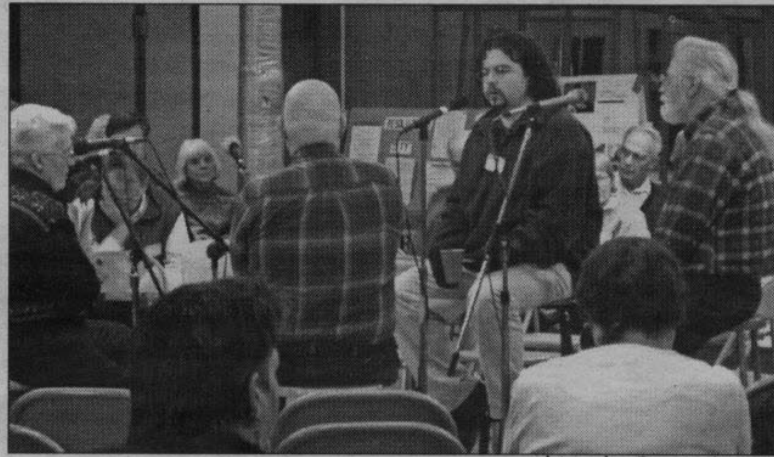


photo by Peggy Isaacs

**Several community members and political leaders discuss the causes and possible cures to hunger in the Benton County area.**

to be met. She added that "School lunches have come a long way. Fresh fruit and a salad bar is what we can supply. The children have choices."

The direction then went forward on teaching the children about good food choices. At this point, one of the community members, as if on cue, lavished the few children there with food that was provided by area merchants.

Cliff Trow, former state legislator, reminded everyone to vote intelligently on Measure 30.

Measure 30, if passed, will provide certainty and stability to schools, seniors and local communities, according to supporters, and will keep health care costs down and it is reasonable and fair. Trow encouraged those interested to read the voter's pamphlet and vote on Feb. 3.

To bring this issue closer to

home in Linn and Benton counties is not any better. The numbers continue to increase. Food banks distribute a large portion of the food to low-income families. Six percent of the homeless are using food banks. Twenty-nine percent of the families with food shortages have one member who is disabled.

The percentage of households that need food assistance who have at least one member working is 42 percent. Nearly 10 percent are over 55, and 40 percent of those getting food assistance are children. With over 14 percent of the population in Benton County living below the poverty level, there are less receiving food stamps.

An idea given was to organize dinner programs like the Boys & Girls Club does for kids. It costs \$200 to have a restaurant license for one day. Each county

has the discretion to enforce this or not. Papadopoulos said that this is something to work on at the local level.

Kelley Wirth, rushing back from the State Legislature to talk to the forum about what the state will cut if Measure 30 doesn't pass, said they were told "don't talk about it." Wirth said that she was "through behaving, this was a serious issue and people need to know."

Some of the things the state will do if the measure fails will be to discontinue emergency assistance and daycare to students, putting an extra burden on college costs. In the second stage some of the cuts will stop acute care to adults and substance abuse programs, and the Diabetic Juvenile Data System.

The Oregon Health Plan will be dismantled all together and 1,000 food stamp clients will be affected, she said.

Before Cienfuegos left, he was asked, as a grassroots organizer, what would he like people to know? He said, "A real functioning democracy requires everyone to act like a citizen, not simply a consumer. Get active. Take leadership. Consider running for local office."

Thornberry said she was amazed at how people came together for four hours to discuss hunger, but disappointed that no Corvallis City Council member was there, although Philomath City Council member Eric Karbowski, did attend.

**"(Schools are) feeding the kids poison. I can buy organic, but what about the kids?"**

▶ Corvallis mother



Redford DeVito Cattrall Haysbert Stickney Sciorra Rudd Brody

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INFO

# The ABCs of DVDs



## Hollywood at Home

The DVD Video format is steadily securing its place in homes across America. With another major retail season under wraps, newcomers are cautiously confronting DVDs. In hopes of making the transition from tape to disc as pleasant and rewarding as possible, make use of this introductory article to become familiar with the new format. Feel free to skip ahead for more information about DVD players, DVD collecting, aspect ratios and frequently asked questions about the format.

DVDs emerged during the mid-90s as a luxury item. High price tags kept the market small, but the passing of time has made "DVD" a household phrase. Over the past few years DVD sales have rocketed. You can expect this trend to continue, as support grows and stores replace VHS markets with the disc-based format.

## Features of the Future

What about DVD Video caused it to dethrone the magnetic tape after decades as Entertainment Media King? DVDs are everything Joe Consumer wants: Fast, smart and sexy. Now they are even affordable. DVDs are doing to VHS what CDs did to audiotapes. The clunky plastic boxes are going the way of the dodo, replaced with a slick new format more in tune with today's society.

Movie viewing is a vastly different experience when watching digital recordings. No more threading spools to get to a certain point. Like audio CDs, most DVD movies have **chapter stops**. You can reach a specific scene by cycling through chapters or entering a number on the remote. You can also search through the disc using a more conventional "scan" feature. This allows navigating your movies to be simple and time-saving. Most units offer two-, four- and eight-speed forward and reverse, as well as half- and quarter-speed slow-motion options.

Though DVD players can't save your physical spot on a disc, a "resume" feature allows you to pick up where you left off. Some entry-level models remember up to the last five discs you watched and if you stopped during playback, they can continue at the very frame.

A popular benefit of being a digital source can be found in the "zoom" option. More fun than functionality, enlarging an area of movies can reveal hidden details. The image quality is reduced because you are essentially stretching a small portion of the image to fill the space of the entire film. Yet still, it's fun to get a microscopic view of your favorite fight scenes, or catch misplaced microphones and production errors. Keen eyed viewers can catch hidden jokes in the latest "Star Wars" films on DVD, such as a guest appearance by the alien from "E.T." in a scene during "The Phantom Menace."

A less used, but more useful feature is the "angle" button. This function is dependent more on the disc than the playback device. An on-screen icon appears when alternate footage is available. Animated storyboards, alternate camera angles, or behind-the-scenes information can be presented.

In a similar vein, the "audio" button allows viewers to cycle through a variety of tracks on a disc. For cinema aficionados perhaps the most treasured DVD-exclusive feature is the **commentary** track.

While not included on every disc, major films receive a recorded viewing session with key figures in the film or its production. Directors share insight on what they wanted in a scene and actors dive into stories about creating the sequence you are watching. On occasion the tracks are comic gold, like the famous "in-character" commentary on the cult classic "This Is Spinal Tap"

For those interested in sound quality, DVDs provide an unbelievable home theater experience. **Digital surround sound** is offered on virtually all releases of current movies. They include **Dolby Digital** and **DTS** (Digital Theater System). Even so, all DVDs feature a mandated standard Dolby Digital track for mono or stereo sound. This means you don't need a digital surround system to hear the audio, but the technology is there when you are ready.

Don't be surprised at finding Spanish and French on many North American titles. Studios often release multiple **language** tracks on DVD movies. While VHS tapes had to be manufactured with each language on a separate tape, now one disc can accommodate a larger multilingual audience.

A minute number of DVDs go so far to provide "Descriptive Audio" for the vision impaired. "Basic Instinct" has the option, but the awkward voice presentation comes across more comical than helpful; a monotonous voice describing illicit sex scenes and tense violence doesn't convey the same atmosphere as seeing the film.

Following along with audio language options are **subtitles**. DVDs encoded with multiple subtitle tracks offer English for the hearing impaired and everything from Russian to Thai for foreign audiences. Subtitles also allow English-speaking viewers to enjoy foreign films in their native tongue without losing crucial story elements.

It may seem overwhelming to be exposed to all these new features, however DVD players have more than one frustration-saving trick up their hypothetical sleeves: The OSD (**on-screen display**). A menu shows all relevant information (i.e. Title, chapter, frame, audio track) with the press of the "info" button at any time during playback.

The functions of the format make DVDs easy to use and take the home movie experience beyond the magnetic tapes of the past.

## Finding the 'Right' Player

When shopping for a player, the most important rule is to find a unit that suits your needs. While the extra bells and whistles may be attractive, having an idea of what you want out your new machine can save you time and money. A growing number of DVD players are hitting local stores' shelves. Evaluate your options by features, price and quality.

A stand-alone shelf model is the weapon of choice for most casual viewers and DVD advocates alike. Its simple and straightforward design makes a stand-alone DVD player a comfortable first choice for beginners. Commonly called component DVD players, they appeal to more experienced audiences because they can be easily integrated into home theater systems. While the post-Thanksgiving shopping season saw prices down to \$29.99, you would benefit from investing in a better quality player.

A SHELF MODEL PROVIDES THE BEST OPTION FOR EXPERTS AND NOVICE ALIKE.



## Size Doesn't Matter; Shape Does

The hot topic in DVD debates is the issue of aspect ratios. The infamous "black bars" that annoy unknowing viewers are the pride and joy of cinema fanatics. Widescreen DVDs are created to ensure the film is seen on home television in the same format as its original theatrical exhibition. In contrast, fullscreen transfers of wide-angle movies are cropped, cutting over 50 percent in some cases. The 1.33:1 ratio is called fullscreen, because it will fill a traditional TV's display area.

Widescreen ratios come in a variety, but the 1.85:1 format is the most commonly used. When studios release titles with this ratio on DVD Video, almost 30 percent of the screen is left empty. This misleads people to believe they are missing part of the film. Ironically, the opposite is true, leading to

When DVDs were marketed to film buffs, virtually all releases were in OAR (Original Aspect Ratio). As the format has grown, studios have to meet the wants of the average consumer.

VHS movies were commonly released in the fullscreen format. This practice is called "pan and scan," describing the cropping, zooming, and artificial camera movements involved in editing a widescreen film to fit television.

This tradition of editing films has made a difference in the way we watch movies.

THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLE SHOWS A FULLSCREEN (1.33:1) VERSUS WIDESCREEN (1.85:1) RATIO PRESERVED (RIGHT), CREATING EMPTY SPACE AT THE TOP AND BOTTOM.





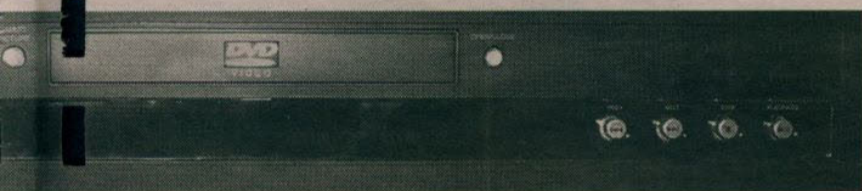
# FOCUS

Expanded feature on selected topics, relating to student life and local issues.

## Player Provides Best Value

nic, Philips, and Sony all offer models near the \$100. The extra not only buys a better-built but also a more reliable unit. Paper brands often have issues playback, and the OSDs of these can be the source of many a ne. One key reason people have hesitant to adopt a new format from their current collection. Standing consumers have d hundreds of dollars into their catalog, manufacturers have dual-deck units, which can th disc and tapes. These are a choice for people still interested dding television and watching HS movies. Keep in mind when you are combining ents you run the risk of dou- our troubles. Additionally, a deck VCR/DVD unit costs more age than buying separate

playback devices. Home theater "in-a-box" systems are the ultimate in space-saving options. DVD players are built-in with a digital decoder and home theater system. Packaged with satellite speakers and a subwoofer, all your needs are met with one easy purchase. This route can save hundreds of dollars. FYE, a music and electronics store in Albany, was selling a home theater system with built-in DVD player for \$99.99 over the last week. Unfortunately these offers often have hidden problems. When companies shove the cheapest parts into a price-slashed package, consumers see the difference. The Koby model at FYE didn't feature auxiliary audio inputs, making connectivity to external sources impossible. When you are spending money on a home theater setup, be sure you are getting a value, not just a low price.



## Shape a Priority to Cinema Fans

switch to DVDs where OAR is much more prevalent than in the past. Film junkies have started grassroots movements to educate the public—www.widescreenadvocate.org has many illustrations and articles aimed at informing. Once the different ratios can be understood, viewers can make educated choices to support films in their natural state.

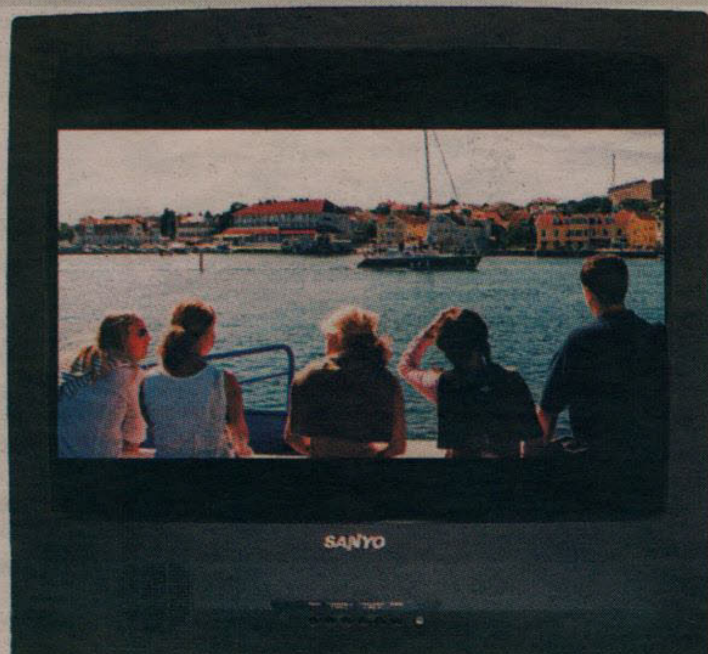
Original aspect ratio means you'll see the entire film's image as it was shown in theaters.

Most studios put both options on one disc or two separate versions entirely. Disney made a bold move and released "Pirates of the Caribbean" in widescreen only. The problem with putting both transfers on one disc is that it takes away from the space that could be used for a higher quality OAR video transfer. Separate releases, practiced by Warner Bros., cause confusion at stores. Rental stores may only purchase one version and in attempts to appeal to the majority, pan and scan titles.

Even the most extreme DVD collector will tell you not all films should be in widescreen. Many older films were originally filmed in a 1.33:1 ratio and the fullscreen images are also their OAR. Television programs released on DVD vary depending upon how they were originally filmed.

Always check the backside of a DVD case before you make your purchase or rental. OAR means you'll see the entire film's image as it was shown in theaters. You wouldn't pay \$7.50 to watch half of a movie would you?

VERSION OF AN IMAGE (LEFT) AND THE ORIGINAL WIDESCREEN (1.85:1) ASPECT RATIO (RIGHT) FILLING THE TOP AND BOTTOM OF THE SCREEN.



## Personal Taste Builds Variety in Collection

DVD movie collecting can be addicting. Casual viewers find their shelves quickly filling up with titles before they realize it.

Like choosing a playback unit, personal tastes dictate movie purchases. Casual viewers may not care about extra features or the best signal quality. They are more likely to be concerned with getting their favorite movies and saving money.

Owners of high definition TVs should get versions of films that will take fullest advantage of their equipment. Sony's Superbit line features high quality video and audio. "Das Boot" and "The Fifth Element" are two of the more critically acclaimed films in the line that also includes "Anaconda" and "Charlie's Angels."

If you are interested in the "behind-the-scenes" aspects of film making, DVDs heavy with extra features give you more bang for your buck. Documentaries, audio commentary tracks, and art galleries are selling points to collectors.

Regardless of what you are looking for, you can always save money by making smart choices. When two versions of a film are available buy the one that fits your needs. Maybe a "making-of" featurette sounds like a cool way to learn more about an interesting film, but is it worth an extra \$10? Will you actually watch the documentary or could you use that money for another movie?

Tuesday is the weekly release day for almost all movies. Hitting local stores on time can secure sale prices and on some big releases is the only way to be sure you'll get a copy without having to wait.

Buying previously viewed DVDs is an excellent option for people who don't mind waiting. Both Hollywood Video and Blockbuster sell off their used movies. You can pick up two used movies for \$20 at Hollywood Video during their recurring sales. New releases such as "Finding Nemo," "X2: X-Men United," and "Whale Rider" are all available in used condition while supplies last.

Internet savvy shoppers look to save cash on new and used movies. Use www.dvdpricesearch.com's engine to easily compare prices of movies. The Internet is also ideal for finding rare and foreign titles not offered in local stores.

## Peoples' Top Three

**Princess Mononoke:** This Japanese animated movie is leaps beyond anything Disney has released in years. A deeper story and amazing animation tells the story of an exiled warrior. Our hero sets out to find a cure to save the dying forest and himself. The film deals with a "man vs. machine" theme and the villains are not the typical two-dimensional characters that plague American animation.



**Seven Samurai:** Akira Kurosawa's samurai classic masterpiece retains its glory after decades. Remade as "The Magnificent Seven," the original was released in 1967. The Criterion Collection published the film with restored image and sound quality. It's amazing to see a black and white film look so good. Kurosawa's direction combined with Criterion's careful restoration process makes "Seven Samurai" hold up to any effects laden, computer generated epic war film of today.



**The Lord of the Rings - The Two Towers - Extended Edition:** Last year's film record breaking film hit DVD in a big way. A four-disc version contains hours of bonus material. Everything from Gollum to on-sight location scouting is covered in the supplemental features. The first film in the series was released with a similar set, and one is planned for "The Return of the King" come Winter.



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is a DVD?

A digital versatile disc is similar to a compact disc, only with enhanced storage capabilities. While a CD averages 650 Megabytes capacity, a DVD ranges from 4.7 Gigabytes (4,700 MB) up to 17 GB (over 26 times that of a standard CD): This extra space allows for extremely higher quality video and audio tracks, as well as supplemental content. DVDs can store data, audio and video files. They utilize a standard picture compression technology and Dolby Digital sound.

### Can I record on a DVD?

DVD recording units are available, but aren't very accessible to the average consumer. Nearing the \$400 mark, you'll find shelf models with recording abilities. However, proceed with care, as no universally agreed format has been chosen, meaning you may be able to record your home videos to DVD, but your Aunt Jane may not be able to watch them in her player. By the 2004 holiday shopping season, expect more affordable choices and better disc compatibility.

### Will the DVD players play other types of discs?

Almost all shelf models will play DVD Video, VCDs (Video CDs) and audio CDs. Consult your manual to find a complete listing. Most brands also support a form of DVD recordable discs (i.e. DVD-R, DVD+R, DVD-R/W). More recent units will play recordable CDs (i.e. CD-R, CD-R/W). Playback of all home-recorded discs will also vary according to recording conditions. Some players even allow image files to be displayed on your TV.

### What is "Progressive Scan?"

This is the most misunderstood feature in the realm of DVD Video. Retailers and manufacturers push the option that the majority of viewers can't even make use of. The standard American TV set refreshes its image 60 times per second. In standard mode (called interlaced), only every other line is refreshed per cycle. On some Digital TVs and High Definition TVs, every single line is refreshed in each cycle. The resulting image is a sharper and more vivid picture. Remember though, only owners of TVs that support this feature will see the benefits. Using Progressive Scan on a non-supporting TV set will cause the screen to flicker and appear defective.

### Will DVDs be around long enough to be worth putting money into?

Technology is growing faster and faster. There is always a newer version of today's products coming down the pipeline. A successor to DVD is in development, but it will be years before it appears on shelves. True "high definition" titles are on the agenda, but studios also want to create stronger anti-piracy protection.

Written by Adam Peoples



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 commutersports@linnbenton.edu

# SPORTS

Coverage of competitive and recreational activities at LBCC, as well as from around the state and nation

## Professor helps break down streetball diction

**Jacob Espinoza and Grayson Boucher**  
 The Commuter

For the first of a three-part series on understanding basketball lingo, The Commuter obtained help from Oregon's own And 1 streetball legend, The Professor (a.k.a. Grayson Boucher), for help understanding lingo from the world of streetball.

**"And 1"**— To get fouled and make a basket, hence "and 1" free throw. Also a basketball apparel line endorsed by the best streetballers in the world.

**"Balla"**— A talented basketball player. Can also refer to a person of extreme wealth.

**"Bammed on"**— To get dunked on.

**"Bam out"**— Able to perform various and impressive slam dunks. Synonyms include dunk out.

**"Boosties"**— A player's leaping ability. Synonyms include rise, springs and hops.

**"Breaking ankles"**— An expression used to describe a ball handler who makes a defender fall, as if his ankles were broken.

**"Break down"**— The use of a combo of moves to score on or clown a defender.

**"Broke"**— An untalented basketball player, can also be used to describe certain aspects of a player's game that needs improvement, such as in "his jump shot is broke." Synonymous words include garbage and terrible.

**"Clown"**— To make a defender look foolish.

**"Crazy"**— Describes a superior ability, as in "Crazy Handles" or "Crazy Hops." Synonyms include insane, ridiculous, retarded and nutty.

**"Cross"**— Also known as a cross-over dribble. Performed by rapidly switching the ball from one hand to the other, often causing a defender to become off balance.

**"Dropping dimes"**— Creating direct scoring opportunities for teammates, often with both style and charisma.

**"Gear"**— Clothing

**"Handles"**— A player's ability to dribble the basketball.

**"Hittin"**— An expression used to describe a player who has hit multiple shots consecutively. Synonyms include on-fire and blazin.

**"Kicks"**— Footwear

**"Kill"**— To defeat an opponent until they are lifeless. Synonyms include mur-

der and destroy.

**"Lock up"**— To guard a defender so tightly that he is unable to move, as if he were in hand cuffs. Synonyms include shut-down and lock-down.

**"Oop"**— A pass caught by a player in mid flight and finished with a dunk.

**"Posterized"**— When a player gets dunked on with gusto, causing an appearance worthy of being on a bedroom poster.

**"Pretty"**— A smooth and graceful play

**"Promotion"**— Dribble moves performed before the ball handler attacks the defender.

**"Rim checked"**— A player falling short on an attempted dunk, causing the ball to be blocked by the rim.

**"Stroke"**— A player's shooting touch, usually used in complementing the shot of a good shooter, as in "He can stroke it."

**"Unconscious"**— The feeling of a player who can do no wrong, and moving as if he was unaware of his surroundings.

**"Ugly"**— A physical, but effective play. Also called nasty.

**"Yoyo"**— A dribbling move which causes the ball to bounce back and forth beside a player.

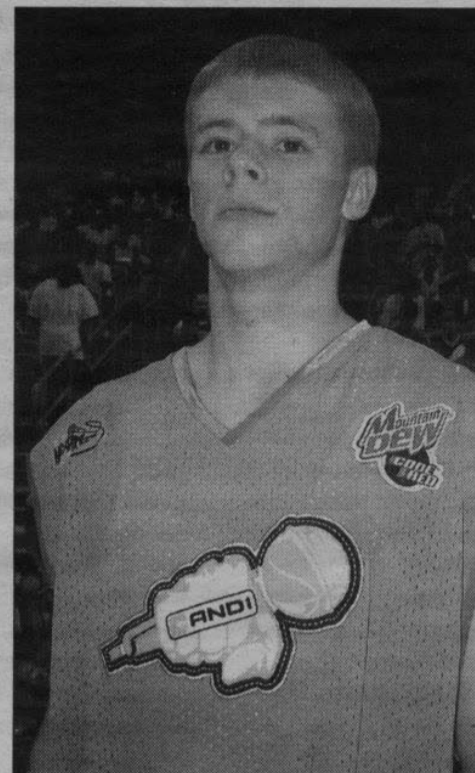


Photo courtesy of And 1

The Professor became a nationally known streetballer after winning an And 1 contract last summer for his play on And 1's national streetball tour, broadcast on ESPN's 'Streetball.'

### PLAYER'S DIARY

## Runner's World: Slow beginnings

**Ryan Schmidt**  
 For the Commuter



What's up everyone? Well, it's been a while since my last entry and a lot has happened with our team since then. We have already finished our non-league games with three tournaments and a couple other games in between. We started off slowly, losing our first game and a couple other games that we should have won. Although we didn't start off that great, it was still fun because I felt like we were improving everyday and that we would be a good team going into the start of league play.

In between all our games over the break, we did get a week off and were able to go home. It was nice to be able to go home and hang out with my family, even though it was only for a week. When we got back from the break, we had our last non-league tournament at Clackamas Community College. That tournament was a huge step for us as a team. We lost the first game of the tournament to the winning team, but won our second and third games.

The third game against Blue Mountain was probably the most exciting game I've played while at Linn-Benton. We played them earlier in the year and they blew us out by about 30 points, but this time around we got some revenge and won by 11. After that game I think we all realized how capable we are of competing for a playoff spot in this league. With the winter term started up now, we begin league play. We

have to finish in the top four of our division in order to make the NWAACC tournament at the end of the season.

We started off league play on Saturday against Chemeketa, who right now is the best team in not only our division, but the whole conference. We ended up losing by 15, but came to the conclusion that if we play like we are capable of for a whole game then we could beat a team as good as Chemeketa.

On Wednesday we play Lane Community College and that game will be really exciting for me. One of my best friends from high school plays for them, so it will be a lot of fun to go out and compete against each other for the first time since middle school. It will also be exciting because it will give the sophomores on our team a chance to get revenge on Lane for last year.

I can't believe how fast the season is going already and now that league play has begun it will go a lot faster. Before I know it basketball season will have come and gone and I want to make sure I do everything I can to help our team make it to the NWAAC tournament for the first time in a long time.

As far as recruiting goes for me right now, I'm still not sure where I'm going to school next year, but I'm not too worried about it. I've been talking with a lot of different schools, but right now I'm focused on making the playoffs and the rest will take care of itself.

Well, that's it for now. I hope everyone enjoyed their break and if you get a chance come check out one of our games.

See you next month!

## Long road to this year's playoffs for Men's Basketball team

**Jacob Espinoza**  
 The Commuter

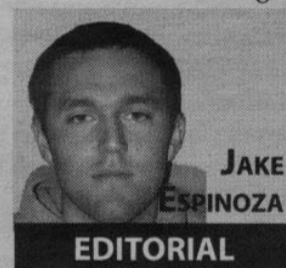
NWAACC league basketball is finally underway and this year's Men's Basketball Southern Region could see an interesting battle for its four N W A A C C Tournament positions.

Linn-Benton enters league play with a 5-6 record but managed to build momentum entering the season behind back-to-back wins closing the preseason.

Chemeketa, led by 7'0" sophomore post Chris Botez, lost only twice during the regular season and is the clear favorite to win the Southern Region.

Clackamas Community College finished their preseason with a 9-3 record, the second

best in the league, but was upset at home by Southwestern Oregon Community College. Southwestern may be one of the shortest teams in the league, but managed a 5-6 preseason record.



JAKE ESPINOZA  
 EDITORIAL

Umpqua, Portland CC, and Mt. Hood also finished their preseason play within one game of .500.

Lane Community College has become well-known as a successful program, but has struggled this year under a new coaching staff.

They enter league play with the worst preseason record in the Southern Region.

With Chemeketa as a clear favorite to win league, the rest of the teams in the league will have to treat every game like a playoff game if they hope to reach the post season.

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# SPORTS

Coverage of competitive and recreational activities at LBCC, as well as from around the state and nation

## Men show promise

**Sheena Bishop**  
 The Commuter

With a preseason overall standing of 5-6, the Roadrunners kicked off the official league season with a 15 point loss to Chemeketa Storm.

The game was held on Saturday, Jan. 10 with a final score of 75-90. It was initially the second league game of the season, but due to the inclement weather, the game scheduled for Jan. 7 was rescheduled for Jan. 12 at Mount Hood.

While the game on Saturday was a statistical loss, Coach Randy Falk had several positive things to say about it.

When asked how the game reflected the team's ability to play, Falk responded, "They come together well, have an understanding of the system we are teaching, an understanding of each other and are playing off each other."

He also cited that the team plays with tremendous effort, making great things happen on defense. The only thing holding them back in that respect is inconsistency in that effort.

LBCC belongs to the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC.) At the end of the season, the association hosts a tournament with 16 teams from the four leagues it is composed of. Falk would like to see the

team make it to this tournament.

Recent preseason tournaments brought plenty of lessons in teamwork. The Pierce tournament was Dec. 13, where the Runners played against Peninsula, losing 71-102. They also lost to Blue Mountain with a score of 73-100.

Many players contributed notable, individual efforts. Michael Braziel had his name on a collected 28 points, Bobby Schindler scored 13, Ryan Schmidt scored 34 and Jacob Espinoza brought in 21 points.

The Clackamas Tournament on Dec. 28 went better for the team, coming back to beat Blue Mountain 95-84. They also rose victoriously against Linfield, with a final score of 97-62. The third game they played was a loss to Lower Columbia at 82-92.

Again, individual input was key. Schmidt and Braziel were the high rollers with 71 and 50 points respectively. Schindler came in close with 41, followed by Trevor Abell with 9, Danny Pepperling with 18 and Espinoza with 16 points.

Falk also said that at no time is there a star player. All of the players show their full potential at some point, he said, so there is never one specific player that is vital. Everyone is important if anything is to be accomplished. It is when they work together that they become a star team.



### Lady Runners Bounce Back

The Linn-Benton women's basketball team regroups during a tough loss against the Chemeketa Storm during their season opener at home last Saturday. Marissa Higgins had game highs of 18 points and 10 assists. Priscilla Hendrix led with 11 rebounds. Freshman Kendall Dionne, shown driving the lane at left, finished with 11 points and 7 rebounds of her own. On Monday the Runners were able to bounce back as they beat Mt. Hood by one point on a buzzer-beating game-winning shot by sophomore Sharon Van Eaton.

photos by Scott McClure

### MEET THE TEAM

**Name:** B.J. Nott  
**Nickname:** Beeg  
**High school:** Springfield  
**Major:** Criminal Justice  
**Year:** Freshman  
**Favorite CD:** System of a Down  
**Favorite movie:** "Old School"  
**Favorite restaurant:** Quizno's  
**General interests:** Basketball, girls, girls and more girls  
**Something people may not know about me:** I'm a great kisser and I can play ball like no other.



**Name:** Michael Braziel  
**Nickname:** Braz  
**High school:** Central  
**Major:** Engineering  
**Year:** Freshman  
**Favorite CD:** None  
**Favorite movie:** "Bloodsport"  
**Favorite restaurant:** Red Robin  
**General interests:** Basketball



**Name:** Jacob Espinoza  
**Nickname:** Jake the Snake, Espi  
**High school:** McNary  
**Major:** Journalism  
**Year:** Sophomore  
**Favorite CD:** Aesop Rock-Labor Days  
**Favorite movie:** "Donnie Darko"  
**Favorite restaurant:** Los Dos Amigos  
**General interests:** Music, movies, playing basketball  
**Something people may not know about me:** I got my picture taken with Reggie Miller when I was 10.



### BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Jan. 14	v. Lane in Eugene	Women 5:30 p.m. Men 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 17	v. Clackamas at home	Women 4 p.m. Men 6 p.m.
Jan. 21	v. Umpqua at home	Women 5:30 p.m. Men 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 24	v. PCC in Portland	Women 4 p.m. Men 6 p.m.
Jan. 28	v. SWOCC in Coos Bay	Women 5:30 p.m. Men 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 31	v. Mt. Hood at home	Women 4 p.m. Men 6 p.m.
Feb. 4	v. Lane at home	Women 5:30 p.m. Men 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 7	v. Chemeketa in Salem	Women 4 p.m. Men 6 p.m.
Feb. 11	v. Umpqua in Roseburg	Women 5:30 p.m. Men 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 14	v. CCC in Oregon City	Women 4 p.m. Men 6 p.m.
Feb. 18	v. SWOCC at home	Women 5:30 p.m. Men 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 21	v. Portland at home	Women 4 p.m. Men 6 p.m.

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**Employee Appreciation Night**  
**Jan. 21**

LBCC staff are invited to the men's and women's home basketball games, where prizes, games and other activities are planned during half-times to recognize staffers.

**Abercrombie  
 American Eagle  
 Old Navy  
 Roxy**

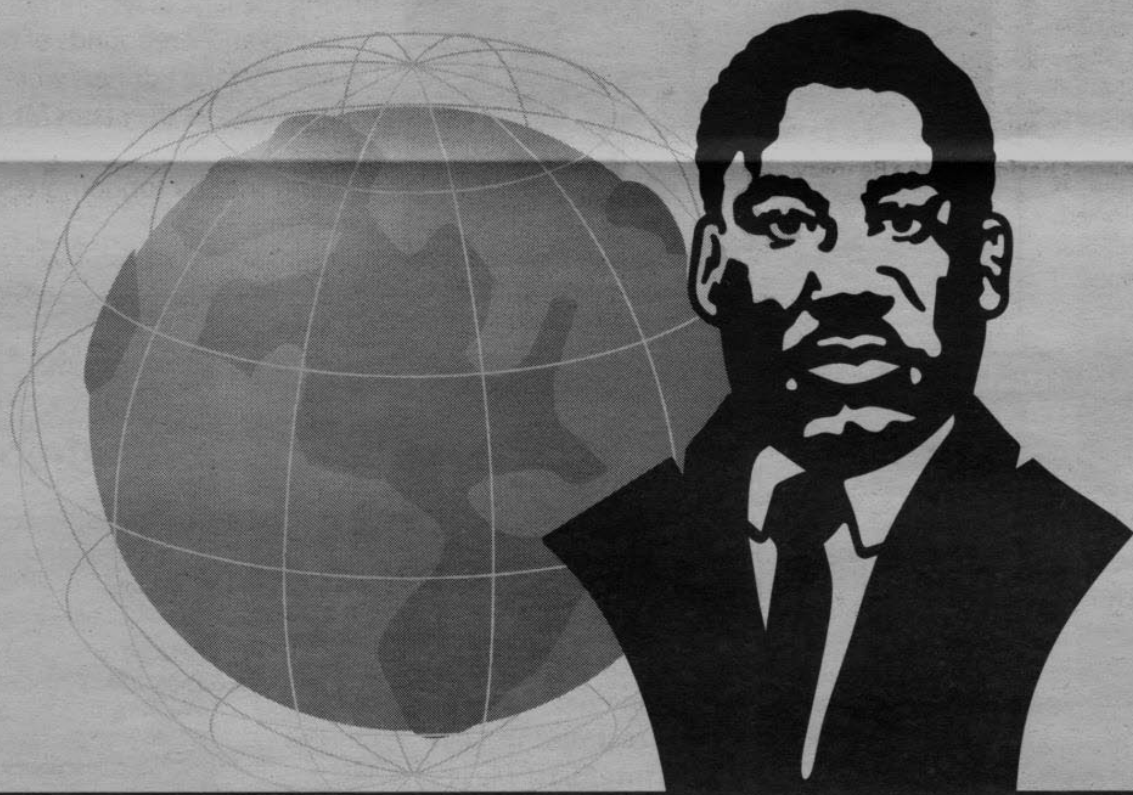
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# VOICES FROM THE WORLD



## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION

**JANUARY 20-22, 2004**

“Voices from the World” is the theme for our MLK campus celebration for the year 2004. This event celebrates the work and the message that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. spread to people all over the world. A variety of activities listed below give us all a chance to celebrate the life and death of Martin Luther King, Jr.

### **Poetry Workshop/Reading by Ishle Park**

January 20, Tuesday

Workshop: 1:30–2:20 p.m., Alsea/Calapooia Rm.

Reading: 7–8 p.m., Courtyard Café

Ishle Park is a writer, educator and activist who has performed at colleges in the United States, Cuba and Korea as both a solo artist and as part of a pan-Asian collective. She currently teaches creative writing and poetry to youth in high schools, colleges, prisons and community centers as part of Youthspeaks and WritersCorps.

### **International Dinner**

January 21, Wednesday

6–9 p.m., LBCC Commons

Come dine on flavors from around the world as LBCC students create a wonderful sampling of foods from some of their home countries. Participants will also be delighted by a performance from Corrine May Ying Foo, a singer/songwriter from the tiny tropical island of Singapore who considers it her mission to use her gift for music to move the world, to inspire, to heal and to nourish the soul. She will be performing from 7:30–8:30 p.m. during the International Dinner. Three International students from LBCC will be doing a presentation about their life and studies in the United States. Corrinne will also share her personal experience of her life with us. The event is free but tickets are required and limited to 150 people. Tickets available at the Student Life and Leadership Office and the Multicultural Center.

### **Traditional Dress Day**

January 21, Wednesday

We encourage our international students, and any other student, to wear their traditional dress to school and join the International Dinner.

### **Lunar New Year Dragon Dance**

January 22, Thursday

12–1 p.m., LBCC Main Campus

Thursday, Jan. 22, Campus Dragon Dance is coming again this year from 12 to 1 p.m. The dragon dance will go around the main campus, and into the community. Watch for the LBCC Dragon as volunteers dance throughout the main campus to greet the Lunar New Year of the Monkey.

### **Comedy Night**

January 22, Thursday

7:30–9 p.m., LBCC Commons

Justin McKinney is one of the hottest comedians working in the country. With numerous appearances on Comedy Central, Justin delivers a funny, original, high-energy performance. The evening's opening act

*Linn-Benton*  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Event sponsors: Associated Student Government, Gay-Straight Alliance, Multicultural Center, Multicultural Club, Student Ambassador Program, and Student Programming Board. If you need disability accommodations to attend any of the events, please call LBCC Student Life & Leadership at (541) 917-4457 prior to January 14. LBCC is an equal opportunity institution.



**A & E Editor:** Peggy Isaacs  
**Newsroom Desk:** 917-4453  
 commuter@linnbenton.edu

# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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

## Brad & Ethan brave storm for stirring Beanery performance

**Peggy Isaacs**  
 The Commuter

The last time Brad Knoke and Ethan Demarest played The Beanery, it was a very cold Halloween night.

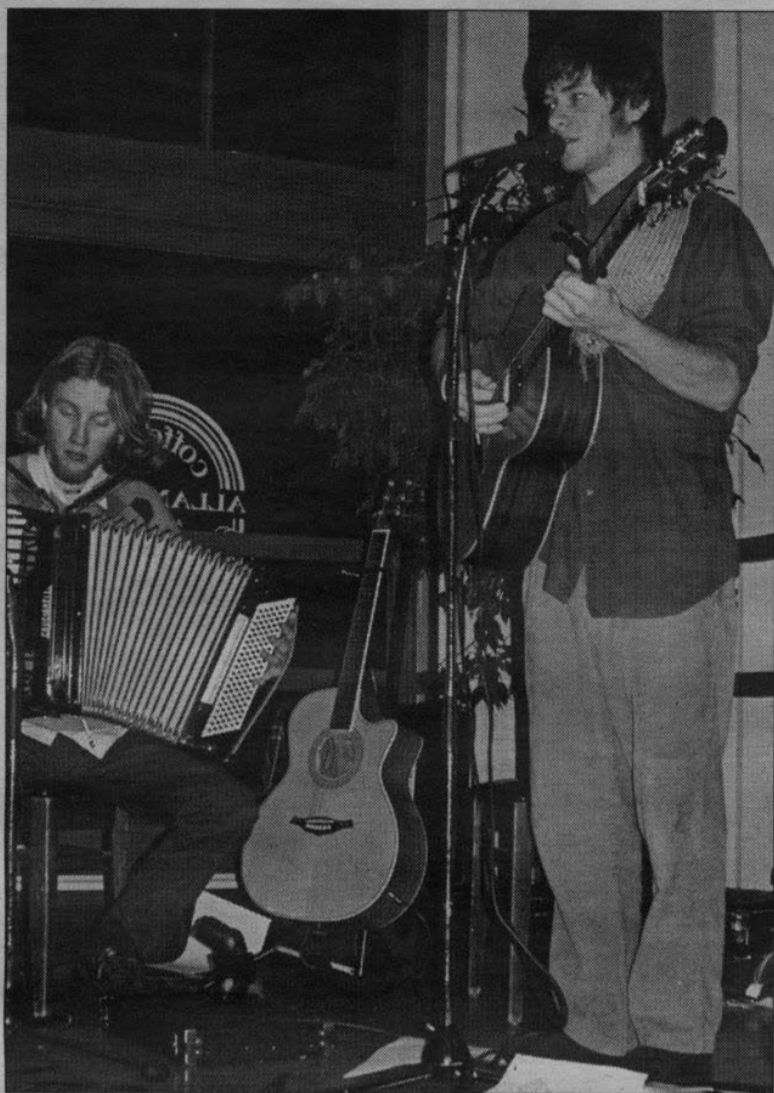
Last Wednesday, Jan. 7, was no different. On the third day of the storm, the freezing ice had caused an electrical problem in the afternoon and the Second Street Beanery wondered if they would be open at all. By 5 p.m. everything was worked out and the show went on at 8 p.m.

From the start of the first tune of the eclectic indie folk rock band, Brad and Ethan showed exactly why they have a loyal following already in their young music careers.

Both men are musically gifted and have been playing for over two years together. They take turns playing the guitar by sharing the pick, the other plays a variety of instruments.

Keyboards, accordion, harmonica and a musical saw played with a violin bow is a must to hear. The saw has an exotic, almost hypnotic melody that is sure to please everyone.

The harmonies the duo sings are angelic. The originals are, at times, great ear candy to the fans that packed the house. There were around 60 people in the crowd and it seemed as if half of them were fans. One fan was overheard saying, "They should go on tour." Three fans from Philomath braved the trip into



Brad Knoke and Ethan Demarest perform at the Beanery.

photo by Peggy Isaacs

town just to hear their "favorite group."

To describe their music, Knoke says he draws from a lot of sources and writes about things that are "on his mind."

They play The Beanery some

time in February, so watch the calendar for the dates. Two live recordings from the Fox & Firkin on June 28, 2003 can be heard at mp3.com. They are "In the Mountains" and "Worn Out on You."

## 'Light on the Water' exhibit features photos, poetry from LB instructors

For The Commuter

An exhibit of photography and poetry celebrating the Willamette Watershed will be on view at LBCC's AHSS Art Gallery Jan. 5-30.

"Light on the Water" has been organized by the Willamette Valley PhotoArts Guild as part of its biennial project to inspire the community with artistic interpretations of the region's visual heritage. LBCC is the second stop for the show, which opened in November 2003 at the Lasells Stewart Center's Guistina Gallery at OSU.

The exhibit features about 35 images by 15 photographers that explore water themes within the Willamette Basin, from black-and-white views of the November 1996 flood to hand-colored scenes in the Santiam Canyon. Interspersed among the images are poems by 10 Oregon writers who contributed to the show.

Among the exhibitors are five current and

former LBCC instructors—Bob Ross, Shelley Curtis, Kurt Norlin, Rich Bergeman and Charles Goodrich. A 4-foot-by-6-foot digital composite image by Ross, a retired biology instructor and nature photographer, reveals forms of life both above and below a stream. Curtis, who taught photography at LBCC in the 1980s and 90s, is showing an abstract digital color image of flowing water. Two triptychs of pinhole images by current photography instructor Norlin explore spiritual relationships between man and nature. Bergeman, who teaches journalism and photography, is showing a pair of platinum landscapes that interpret a frontiersman's journey through the Willamette Valley in 1845. Goodrich, a part-time English teacher, has contributed a poem from his recent book, "Insects of South Corvallis."

The LBCC Art Gallery is located in the AHSS Building and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Coffee  
**Boccherini's**  
 & Tea House

208 SW First Avenue Albany, OR 97321 541-926-6703

### ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

## ART HAPPENINGS

**ArtCentric**  
 700 SW Madison  
 Corvallis  
 754-1551

**Jan. 7 - 31 Member Exhibit**  
 Corrine Woodman Gallery  
 Tuesday through Saturday  
 Noon - 5 p.m.  
 Free

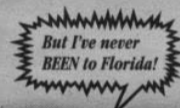
**The Book Bin**  
 215 SW 4th St.  
 Corvallis  
 752-0040

**Jan. 17-Winds of the Woods**  
 Woodwind Quintet plays well-loved classics  
 1 - 2 p.m. Free

**Cascade Middle School**  
 1525 Echo Hollow Rd.  
 Eugene  
 (541) 344-6118

**Jan. 17 - Eugene Singles Ministries**  
 Country Western Dance  
 7 p.m. - midnight  
 \$6 per person

### HE'S taking a vacation...YOU'RE paying for it!



Learn how to guard against identity theft.

**Jan. 28**

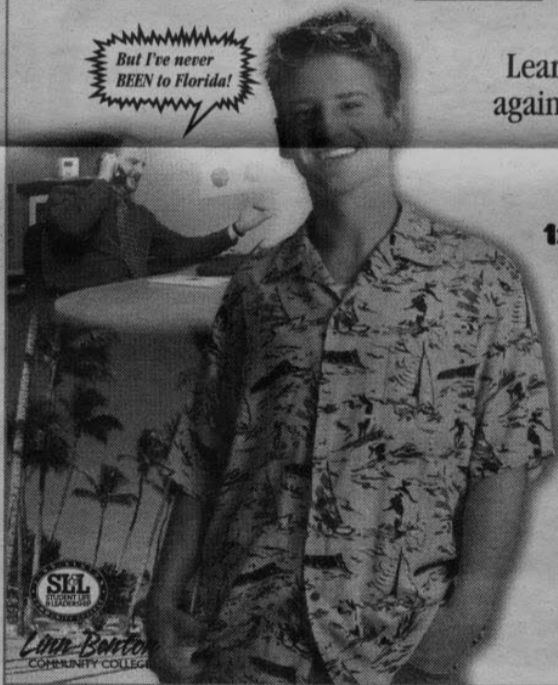
12:00-12:50 p.m.

Aloia/Calapooia Room

Presented by the OSU Federal Credit Union

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# PHOTO GALLERY

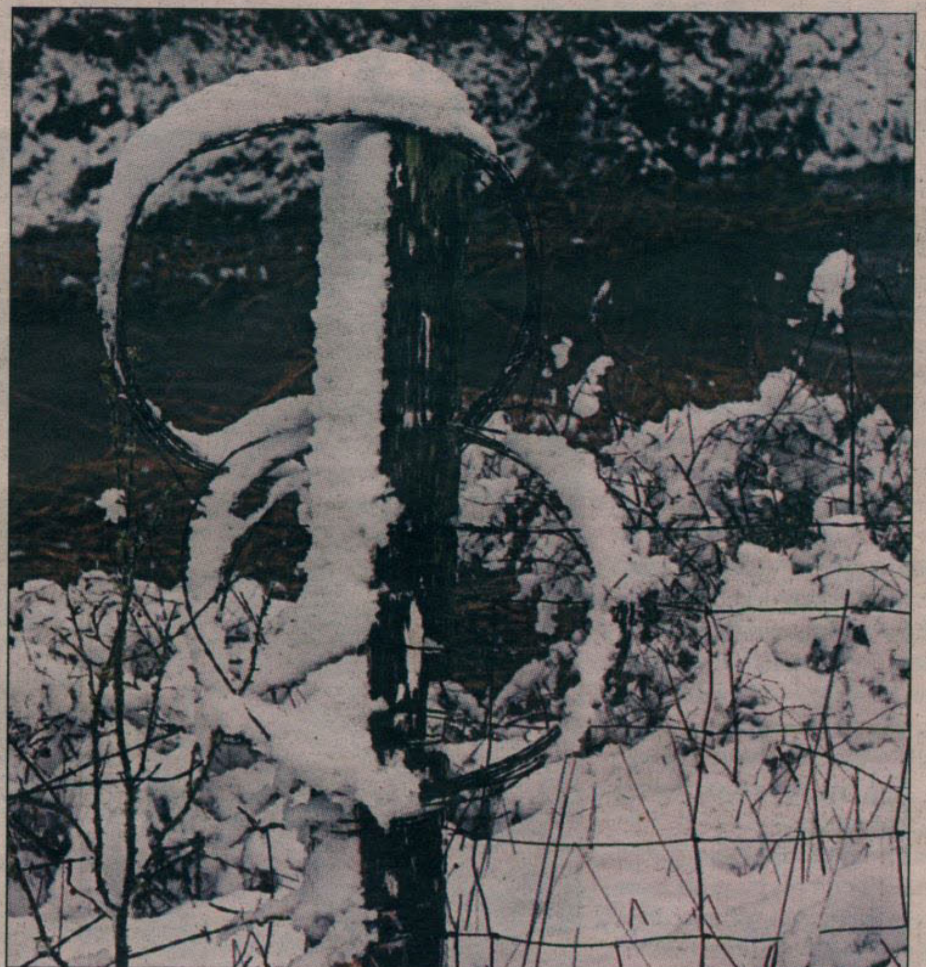
News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the administration, faculty and students on campus

## Ice and snow grant extended vacation to students

With three extra days off, students were able to enjoy the amazing sights created by the snow and ice that fell on the valley floor last week. While the weather downed trees and power lines, it did little damage on the campus.



Scott McClure



Jeremy Hennig



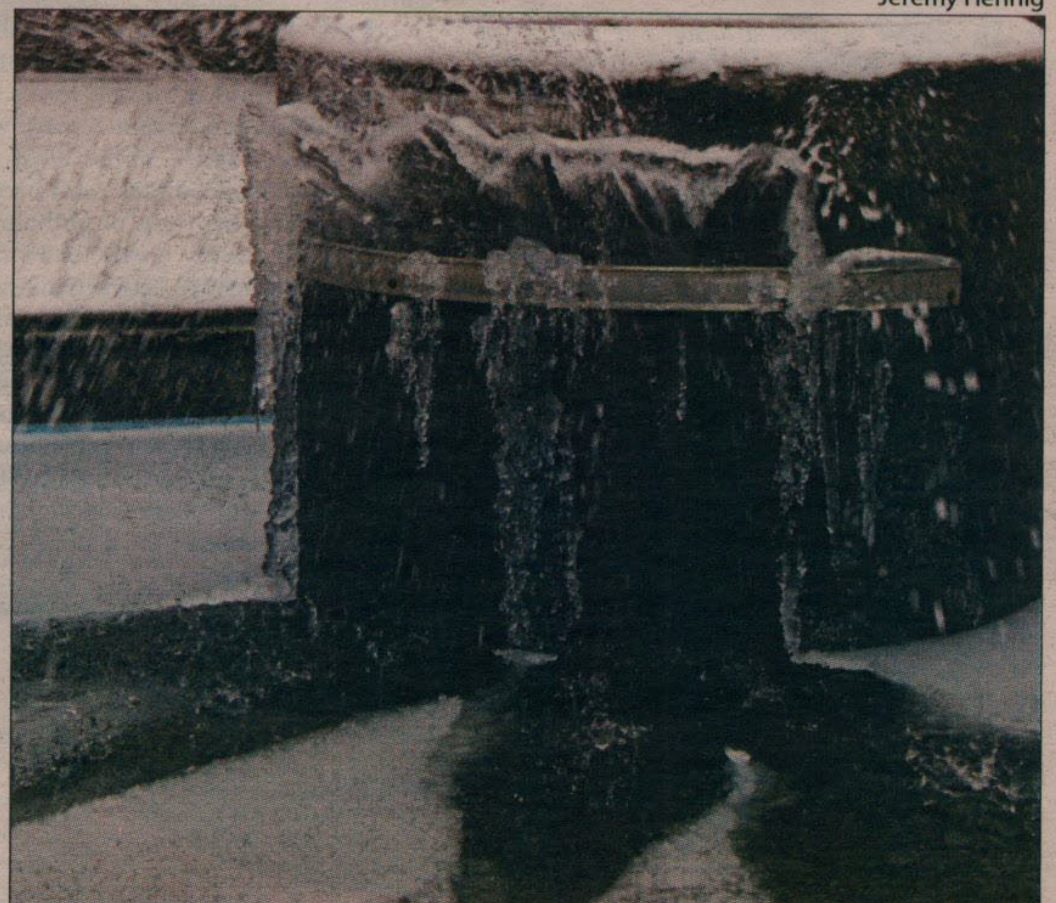
Jeremy Hennig



Jeremy Hennig



Jeremy Hennig



Jeremy Hennig