

Page 2

The Commuter Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner News Editor: Ryan Henson Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the Sweet Home, Lebanon, and Benton Centers.

The search for LBCC's next president



Retiring LBCC President Rita Cavin Courtesy of www.linnbenton.edu

Ryan Henson The Commuter

With current LBCC President Rita Cavin officially retiring next December, the hunt for our next college president has begun.

To help with the search, the school has brought in Al Fernandez and Michael Viera, consultants from Community College Search Services. They were on campus last week holding focus group sessions to identify characteristics and skills the next president should have in order to address the college's current challenges.

"We are not here to select [the next college president], but to facilitate," Viera said.

Different sessions were held for classified employees, faculty, staff, students, and the LBCC Board of Education.

According to a handout provided by Fernandez and Viera, they will help with brochure development, candidate recruitment, preliminary candidate evaluation and interviews, board interviews, comprehensive reference reports, a college forum for finalists, and the interview held with the board of education. According to Jim Huckestein, vice president of finance and operations, the bill for the consultants is \$26,000.

During one of the meetings, an open session for all staff and students, the budget was the number one concern for those in at-

tendance and, because there is not enough money coming from the state, one of the qualities of the new president should be the ability to "think outside of the box" in order to generate more funds for the school.

No students chose to attend the meeting. So, the Commuter has been asking students around campus what qualities and skills they think our next president should have.

Jamie Corwin, an LBCC student in the medical office specialist program, feels that our next president should have "a lot of people skills because this is a very diverse college."

Michelle Evans, a graphic design major and barista at Hot Shots, would like our next president to be someone "who knows how to listen and is open to new ideas."

Adam LaMascus, a history major, hopes the next president is "savvy with money, creative, sympathetic, and responsible." What do you think? Do you want your voice to be heard? Answer the questions below and bring them by the Commuter office or e-mail them to Commuter@linnbenton.edu We will send them off to the consultants.

What are the challenges, issues and opportunities the college will be facing in the next five to 10 years?

What are the skills needed by a president?

What are the personal characteristics a president should possess?



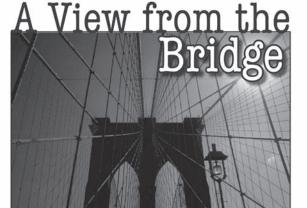
Who will LBCC's next president be?

Editor's Note: Stumper Bickers

Gregory Dewar The Commuter

Bumper stickers: the bane of any car's resale value, a comical outlet, a preachy way of forcing other drivers stuck in traffic to know what you believe in, free advertising, and the subject of an obscure urban legend that they are illegal. Indeed, a racecar driver received a "letter of adTheir thoughts, their dreams, their political affiliations, and sometimes, it's just a sticker that means nothing, but looks "cool." Considering that on average a single sticker can devalue your car, you have to have some sort of belief in the message of the sticker to be willing to put it on your vehicle. You can learn a lot about someone, just sitting in traffic and reading the back of their car, and after running out of stickers staring

The LBCC Performing Arts Department Presents:



by Arthur Miller Directed by Brian Newberg

May 22, 23, 28, & 30, 2009 • 7:30 p.m. May 24 & *31, 2009 • 3 p.m. Forum Bldg., Room 104 • LBCC Albany Campus

6500 Pacific Blvd. SW., Albany \$10 Adults, \$7 Seniors & Students

May 22 • Student Night, Tickets just \$3 with student ID. May 23 • Buy 2 tickets, get 1 free.

* ASL Interpreted performance and proceeds of this performance benefit the Performing Arts Foundation Scholarships.

www.linnbenton.edu/go/performing-arts 541-917-4531



For disability accommodations, call 917-4789. Submit requests four to six weeks before the event. To call any LBCC department by TDD, call through Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service 1-800-735-2900 and provide OTRS the number of the department you wish to reach at LBCC. LBCC is an equal opportunity institution.



A bumper sticker on a car residing in LBCC's parking lot.

monishment" for putting a campaign sticker on his racecar in a publicly televised circuit. Indeed, this seems to be the only case of any such action.

Thankfully so, a law like this would've spelt doom for myself and my old Volvo that, at the height of its life, had about 50 bumper stickers plastering it- none of them political. A quick google search brings up many blogs of people pulled over by police officers for their bumper stickers and looming threats of "letters of admonishment." However, nothing seems to be found about any law that says bumper stickers are "illegal" or any records of court cases about it. Urban legend: dissolved, and onto the matter at hand.

Bumper stickers are a window into the soul of a vehicle, they give them life, personality, and most importantly they tell you about the owner. at the back of their head and wondering who they are until you realize you're being creepy. It always feels a little lonely when a car doesn't have a sticker of some sort, like things are a little blander than they needed to be, is this person just boring? Do they believe in anything other than the Kelley Blue Book?

We decided to photograph bumper stickers around the LBCC parking lots, as a way of silently polling the LBCC community for it's political views, affiliations, and senses of humor. And boy did we get some good ones, along with quite a few questionable ones that just make you go "huh?" Keep in mind that the bumper stickers on our cover do not necessarily represent the views of The Commuter, its staff, or LBCC, or anyone else except the owner of the car that cared enough to put one on. The Commuter Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner News Editor: Ryan Henson Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the Sweet Home, Lebanon, and Benton Centers.

Give Peace (studies) a chance

Max Brown The Commuter

Every two years since 1988, Peace Studies has taken students from LBCC to an international symposium on education for peace, justice, and human rights. The next symposium will be held at Leeuwarden, Netherlands in September of 2010.

The aim of the symposiums are to bring together college students and teachers from around the world to "learn about intercultural and international conflict and to explore strategies for peaceful resolution of conflicts." According to Scott McAleer, students have never had to pay for the trips, thanks to the fund raising the group does.

Other than the symposium, the group does not have many constants. Each year they decide what issues or ideas they want to tackle, according to Doug Clark, director of the group. When the question "What is peace studies?" was asked, Clark responded, "Well what do we want it to be?" The focus of the group is to explore peaceful approaches to violence and war. They also try to understand why violence and war is taking place, and to look at the deeper meaning behind it.

Who: Peace Studies What: weekly meeting When: 12:40 p.m. Where: Gallery B Why: Peaceful resolutions to conflict.

Recently, the group has sponsored a speech given by Benji Lewis at LBCC. The group partnered with Veterans for Peace chapter 132 on this event. According to Clark, the Willamette Valley has a large number of groups that are working on peace studies. He says this gives the group a lot of opportunity to partner with them to sponsor presentations or a wide variety of other activities.

LBCC Peace Studies holds meetings every Thursday at 12:40 p.m. in Gallery B of SSH. Also they will be attending the Spring Fling Resource Fair on May 20, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Right now, the group is in the process of setting up a website, and other resources for discussion. To join the group or find more information about it, you can drop in during one of the meetings or visit the group at the resource fair. The group also has an e-mail address at Peace.Studies@linnbenton.edu.

Previous Symposiums:

1988---West Berlin 1990---Zanka, Hungary 1992---Poznan, Poland 1994---Vilnius, Lithuania 1996---Berlin, Germany 1998---Tonsberg, Norway 2000---Corvallis, Oregon 2002---York, United Kingdom 2004---Szczecin, Poland 2006---Opava, Czech Republic



ESOL student Amelia Romero makes Photo by MaryAnne Turner guacamole.

ESOL students show off skills

Blair Mcmackin The Commuter

On Wednesday, May 13, the English for Speakers of Other Languages program held a showcase at the Benton Center, featuring speakers and participants from all over the world. The showcase gave students the chance to show off their countries while publicly practicing speaking English.

The showcase was held to help spread awareness of ESOL and the impact it has on the community and world. "Many students don't realize what a large ESOL program we have,

plans on becoming a permanent citizen, so to him proper knowledge of the English language is a must.

The ESOL hosts this event every spring to wrap up the year, but the showcase can be expected to be seen for many years to come. When asked about budget cuts, ESOL instructor Kristi McMorran replied, "We're lucky that we get a lot of federal funding for our program so we're not just tuition-based, so I don't expect that we will have budget cuts within our program that will affect the students."

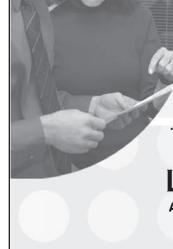
The ESOL department hosts

New skills can make you more competitive.

Enroll in Linfield College Adult Degree Program. Earn your bachelor's degree online and on your schedule. We offer degrees across a wide range of disciplines. Our tuition is comparable to the state universities, and summer classes are just around the corner, so don't wait • contact Linfield today.



- Nursing (Online RN to BSN)
- Social & Behavioral Sciences
- Business Information Systems
- Arts & Humanities•



International Business

Summer classes begin June 15th.

Call Jim Garaventa, Advisor 541-917-4846 or email jgaraventa@linfield.edu

*4 weekend classes required.

LINFIELD

Adult Degree Program be. do. have. more.

Enroll now at linfield.edu/dce



dents from other coun-	e's so many stu-	both credited and	classes at three differ-
tries who study right here at the Benton	<i>"Many students don't realize what a large ESOL program we have "</i>		ent levels; beginning, intermedi- ate, and ad-
Center and in Albany,"		Mary Browning	vanced that are designed
said Mary Browning,			for foreign students to
a faculty member in the ESOL department. William Vargas, a student from El Salvador explained to me how ESOL classes have helped him in understanding the English Language. Vargas		sharpen their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writ- ing. The classes are offered both morning and evenings every term in both Albany and Corvallis.	

Page 4

The Commuter Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner News Editor: Ryan Henson Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the Sweet Home, Lebanon, and Benton Centers.

B seeks poet laureate The Commuter

Max Brown The Commuter

The position of poet laureate next year is open to applicants. The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. on June 1. Applications are available at the Albany campus library reference counter, or through email with Robin Havenick.

According to Havenick, who is an instructor at LBCC and poetry club adviser, the responsibility of the poet laureate is to promote poetry in the community. She said the position does not have a strict set of guidelines, but it's basically what you make of it.

Currently, the position is held by Kaedence Eaton. Havenick says Eaton was named outstanding student leader of the year just recently. Eaton said "It has been the most awesome opportunity ever." She noted it lets you create a ton of fun events, and it inspires people. Eaton said she is looking forward to talking with whoever gets the position. "It has forced me to learn awesome time management skills." She says it's important to think big, but to think realistically about your resources, including time management. Eaton said the position has also taught her lots of organizational skills, in a relativity painless way.

"It gave me an excuse to read poetry all day," Eaton said.

She said the position also allowed her to experience more forms of poetry. She not only reads her favorites but also tries to think about what the community of LBCC would like to hear.

At LBCC, the position was created in winter term of 2008. Havenick says that the current LBCC president, Rita Cavin, had the idea to create the position in fall term. Havenick said "I think poetry is vital in a community." She says anyone needing more informa-

> tion or applications is encouraged to contact her at Robin.Havenick@ linnbenton.edu.

Requirements to apply:

- The application form.
- Six examples of your own poetry.
- An essay (no more than three pages total) which expresses your passion for poetry and how you, as Poet Laureate for LBCC, would work to enhance the visibility of poetry at the college.
- One letter of recommendation from an LBCC faculty member.
- Enrollment at LBCC of at least 6 credit hours for fall, winter, and spring term of next year.
- The position comes with a \$250 award per term.



The Commuter salutes new editor-in-chief

Gregory Dewar The Commuter

After Ryan Henson's appointment as next year's editor-in-chief to The Commuter last Wednesday the 13th, I took the time to sit down with him and ask him a few questions about the year stretching out before him.

"I feel honored and humbled" says Henson with a smile, "by the responsibilities to the campus and the The Commuter's staff. I hope that I can do as good a job as my predecessors and I feel excited."

Henson plans to build upon the foundations that have been already laid out, keeping The Commuter as an alternative to traditional campus newspapers. "I plan to use my experience with the news to bring more quality news to the paper."

Henson also plans to expand The Commuter's website, barely a year old now, which won best in its division at the Oregon Newspaper Publisher's Association awards this year. "I plan to bring breaking news that internet news sources can provide. I plan on working closely with the staff to ensure the website gets updated more frequently, I also plan to add more audio and video."

Henson, 30, is a Journalism– AAOT student with plans to carry on in the newspaper industry after college. Henson would also like to give a shoutout to the LBCC community: "I call on students at LBCC to get involved with an award-winning student newspaper so they can get the crucial experience they need to be journalists, and if not to get the highly transferable skills they need later in life." The key ingredient is to be involved with the website and news-generation over the summer, according to Henson. "I'm just going to come here and learn this job over the summer" Henson adds enthusiastically.

"Rob Priewe and I have been talking about a seminar for those interested in The Commuter to learn about paper production and to give people at The Commuter a chance to know each other."

When asked how it felt to be a 'star' now in terms of being a public figure, Henson replied with a laugh: "humbling, it's definitely something I'm going to have to get used to. With great power comes great responsibility."

When asked if he was looking forward to being in charge, Henson replied: "Yeah and no, I like the idea of overseeing the paper and being able to have the final say on the finished product. But I also hope to be as collaborative as possible, because no idea's a good idea unless it's been bounced off other people."





Photo by Eve Bruntlett

The Commuter Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner News Editor: Ryan Henson Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the Sweet Home, Lebanon, and Benton Centers.

LBCC continues with budget reductions

Ryan Henson The Commuter

As a result of what state economist Tom Potiowsky calls "Oregon's deepest recession since the great depression," LBCC administrators continue to try and bridge the school's budget gap.

Vice President of Finance and Operations, Jim Huckstein said: "For the current fiscal year the college was originally allocated \$20,334,304 in state revenue to

support student enrollment. In January 2009 that number was reduced by \$444,714 by the Governor's across the board budget re-balance plan... the college had been planning for the 2009-2010 fiscal year using \$18,081,253 as the estimated

state revenue number. With the release of the co-chairs budget by the legislature on Monday, I now estimate the state revenue figure will be \$17,032,659. That is 16% less than we started with this year, and will force more budget adjustments."

> In a series of campus wide e-mails, Marlene Propst, director of college advancement, has listed proposed fee increases, reductions in activities, and reductions in personnel as

the college trys to account for the decreasing budget.

On Wednesday, May 20, at an LBCC board meeting, Rita Cavin will recommend a number of fee increases for the school to help reach a target revenue of \$164,490.

FEE INCREASES

- Late payment fee increase = \$30,500
- Payment plan fee increase = \$23,860
- Agency/third party fee increase = \$4,630
- Distance education fee = \$51,000
- Increased application fee
- from \$25-\$30 = 27,500 Increased ABE/GED/ESOL enrollment fees from 25-30 = 27,000

REDUCTIONS IN PERSONNEL

- Arlie Bell, computer lab specialist 1, will be taking early retirement on July 1
- Risk management clerical specialist three positions reduced to one half time position
- Office of Disability Services secretary two positions eliminated

Food and Conference services has been hit hard by the personnel reductions, an action necessary according to Propst, because they have operated at an annual loss between \$160,000 -\$200,000 a year.

- Food Service worker I position eliminated
- Retail assistant position eliminated
- Food Service worker 2 position eliminated
- Accounting specialist position eliminated through an early retirement (Irene Allen)

REDUCTION IN ACTIVITIES

To reduce part-time faculty costs, there are several activities that will be cut for next year for a savings of \$81,141.

- Cancellation of Math Awareness Week activitiesand math regional skills contest
- Reduction of clinical section in nursing
- Reduction of offerings in **Business and Employer** services
- Waiver of Science, Technology, and society AAS degree requirements for the 2009 - 2010 academic vear
- Reduction of two photography lab classes (previously reported)
- Reduction of two writing classes that produce the Ezine. (previously reported)
- Eliminate financial support for faculty to participate in innovative student recruitment efforts
- Reduce release time for faculty involved in educational quality projects such as assessment, a pre-reading project with developmental studies, and general education assessment

SUBMIT to the Commuter! commuter@linnbenton.edu 541-917-4451 Forum 222

Opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not express the views of the Commuter, It's staff, or Linn-Benton Community College

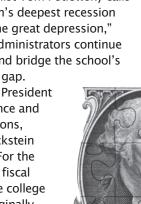
In conjunction with HIV/AIDS Awareness Week, **LBCC's Student Life & Leadership Presents:**

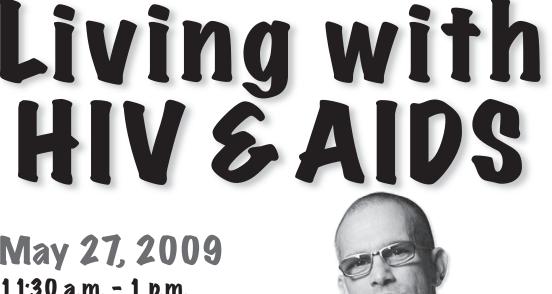
May 27, 2009

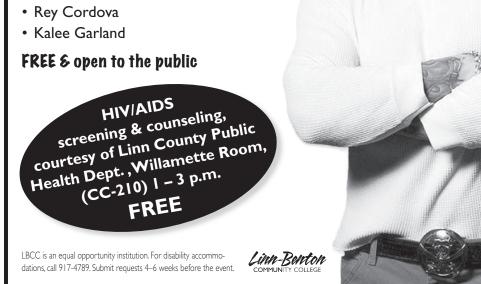
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. LBCC Forum Building, Room F-104

Four inspiring speakers:

- Bob Bowers, aka "Da Pirate"
- Rebekka Armstrong







The Commuter is the weekly student-run newspaper for LBCC, financed by student fees and advertising. Opinions expressed in The Commuter do not necessarily reflect those of the LBCC administration, faculty and Associated Students of LBCC. Editorials, columns, letters and cartoons reflect the opinions of the authors.

Editor-in-Chief: Gregory Dewar

Lvdia Elliott

Eve Bruntlett

Becca Martino

Opinion Editor: Rick Casillas

A & E Editor James Scales

Features Editor:

Max Brown

Photo by Max W

Photo Assistants:

News Editor Rvan Henson

Online Editor

Ion Neuneke

Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner

oto Editor

Digital Page Designer: Kristin Ho

Adviser: Rob Priewe

Copy Editors:

Blair McMackin, Melody Opel

Letters Welcome:

The Commuter encourages readers to use its "Opinion" pages to express their views on campus, community, regional and national issues. Letters should be limited to 300 words or less. The Commuter attempts to print all letters received, but reserves the right to edit for grammar, length, libel, priva-cy concerns and taste. Opinions expressed by letter writers do not represent the views of The Commuter Staff or the College. Deliver letters to The Commuter Office, Forum 222 or at commuter@ml.linnbenton.edu

Web Address: http://commuter.linnbenton.edu Phone: (541) 917-4451, 4452 or 4453 Fax: (541) 917-4454 Address: 6500 SW Pacific Blvd Albany, OR 97321

Distribution Manager

Travis Adams

Advertising Manager

Emily Barton, Erik Bender, Gary Britsan, Amy Dewar, Haley Florin, Lillian Love, Brian Lucas,

The Commuter Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner News Editor: Ryan Henson Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

CAMPUS NEWS

News about Linn-Benton Community College, including the Sweet Home, Lebanon, and Benton Centers.



LBCC's Concert Choir and Re-Choired Element will perform "If Music Be the Food of Love, Sing On" on Thursday, June 4 at 7: 30 p.m. at the First Assembly of God Church, 2817 Santiam Hwy SE, Albany.

Join LBCC's Culinary Arts program for a day of dessert at the beach! It's the spring term bakery display project. Come down and see the hard work the students have put in and get some dessert on May 20 at 11:15 a.m.

Visit the Benton Center to see the student art display of Gwenn Marchese's "Beginning Watercolor" class. The display of talent will be there through mid-July.

The fall schedule is now available on Roadmap. The noncredit schedule will not appear, because it has not been finalized. Fall Priority registration begins June 1. Fall open registration begins September 8.

The English department will host short-fiction author and writing instructor Alison Ruch on Thursday, May 21, at 2 p.m. in NSH 208. Ruch will introduce her fiction collection project, talk about themes she likes to explore, and reveal where she finds inspiration.

The Student Ambassadors need your help and are asking for umbrella donations for their campus tours. Drop them by Admissions anytime.

The LBCC annual juried student art exhibition is on display in the NSH gallery through June 5. The exhibit showcases more than 60 student pieces in the mediums of painting, mixed media, sculpture, ceramics, and photography.

Wildland firefighting training will be offered through Business and Employer Services at LBCC June 22 - 27 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. The cost for this non-credit course is \$275

LBCC is offering a free pharmacy technician program orientation. The orientation will be Thursday, May 28 from 2 - 4 p.m. and again on Wednesday, June 17 from 9-11 a.m.

Learning to live with your preschooler

Chris Brotherton For The Commuter

One of the services of LBCC that many people may not know about is the Parenting Education Department. This department encourages parents to learn about the behavior of their child, and to interact with them to solve problems with behavior.

The Living and Learning classes offer a place

to learn more about being a parent, and the opportunity to network with other parents in your community. It is a chance for children to interact with other children in their age group. There are three different classes divided by age groups: one for parents of



A little boy reads a book

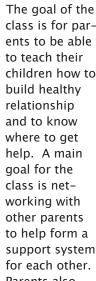
babies, one for parents of toddlers, and one for parents of preschoolers. The preschool class is for children aged three to five and is set up in a lab/lecture format.

The lecture part is set up for the evening; which night depends on where you live as there are schools in Scio, Halsey, Corvallis, Philomath and Albany. There are a total of 15 hours for the lecture part of the class, usually attended about every other week. The lab part has a flexible schedule during the day so that the

parents don't have to take time off work to participate. It is about two and a half hours each session for three times a week.

Each parent is in charge of planning and setting up one activity a term for children when they come in. There also is a snack, a story time and a circle time along with outdoor activities, and group activities. The parents are all assigned the part of the room that they are in charge of and work along with the classroom

teacher.



(MCT) Parents also can give back to the community, putting into

practice the skills that they have learned during the class. Every year LBCC has "Family Fun Day" where the public is invited to participate in activities that are set up for the kids, along with a food booth, garage sale, and a raffle. Each of the activities at

"Family Fun Day" are put on by the parents, and all of the proceeds go back into the Parenting Education Program, helpimg fund future classes.



Wouldn't it be great if the things you really needed in life were free?



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

Help Wanted

You can sign up at www.linnbenton.edu/go/StudentEmployment to look at student & graduate jobs. *For more info about the opportunities listed below, please see Carla in Student Employment in the Career Center (Takena 101).



Seasonal Truck Drivers_ (#7277) & Harvester Operator (#7276) Are you looking for summer work? This Albany company is taking applications starting June 8 for full-time seasonal work!!

Services

Pregnant? Free pregnancy test. Information on options. Nonpressured. Confidential. **Options Pregnancy Resource** Center. Corvallis 757–9645. Albany 924-0166. www.possiblypregnant



If you were to become unexpectedly pregnant today, finding the right help shouldn't come with a price tag.

- Talk with someone who genuinely cares
- Get a confirmation pregnancy test
- Learn more about all available options

At Options Pregnancy Resource Centers we offer personalized care and resources that are absolutely free, confidential and available at just the right time-whenever you need them.

Since 1986, we're here for you.



possibly pregnant.org

Corvallis Albany 409 1st Avenue W 867 NW 23rd St. 757.9645 924.0166

of 10 cents per word, payable when the ad is accepted.

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

Libel/Taste: The Commuter will not knowingly publish material that treats individuals or groups in an unfair manner. Any advertisement judged libelous or in poor taste by the newspaper editorial staff will be rejected.

CNAs/Caregivers (#7267, Albany) If you like working with the elderly, these positions offer full-time, part-time and various shifts.

Laundry Aide (#7270, Albany) Part-time, weekends and oncall opportunities exist for this posting which would provide extra money for a student.

Maintenance 3-HVAC Technician (#7273, Corvallis) If you can provide journey level maintenance services for the school district, this job is for you. They are looking to hire ASAP!

For Sale

Custom, affordable jewelry and accesories. Semi-precious stones, hemp and accessory bags. Customize it yourself, or choose something in stock. Call MaryAnne at Gypsy Jayne Jewelry & Accessories at (541) 908–3658 or rosebinx@aol.com. ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events, and the cure for weekend boredom.

The Weekly Burger: the Scotch egg

James Scales The Commuter

The Scotch egg is one of those "British-style" foods. It was traditionally served cold and in a salad or something of that nature on a picnic. For those of you blessed (or cursed) enough not to know the true glory that is a Scotch egg, it is a hard cooked egg, wrapped in sausage, coated in breadcrumbs, then deep fried. You can make them pan fried to get them a little healthier but that just isn't in the mission statement for The Weekly Burger. In a neverending attempt to make good food better by turning it into a burger, you will find the Scotch Egg Burger.

Scotch Egg Burger

Makes three burgers.

Equipment:

The usual for deep-frying: a fryer or a wok filled with your fry liquid

of choice. Some extra bowls for the breading of the burgers. A standing mixer of some sort, OR a rubber spatula, a chilled bowl, and some

Ingredients:

- 6 hard-cooked eggs, shells removed, cooled significantly
- 1 pound of ground breakfast sausage OR ground pork

• If using ground pork:

- 1 teaspoon sage 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2-1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 1/2 teaspoons brown sugar 1/8 teaspoon ground red pepper 1 dash of ground clove
- 3 buns
- 3 slices of cheddar cheese •
- Hot sauce
- Flour and Japanese-style breadcrumbs for breading
- Eggs for breading

muscle. Some cholesterol medication.

Procedure:

Hard-boil your eggs, the best way to do that is arguable. My favorite way is to place the eggs in a saucepan big enough to hold all the eggs. Cover the eggs by about an inch with COLD water. Heat on high just to the point of boiling, immediately remove the eggs from the heat and cover. Let that pan stand in the hot water for 15-20 minutes. Usually it only takes 18 minutes to be fully cooked. Drain and cover in cold water, then refrigerate.

Heat your oil up to about 350 degrees now so it will be close to ready when you are done with the shaping of the patties.

Once the eggs are cooled, peel them and then squeeze them so they aren't so thick. if you do this without too much pressure, the eggs will stay mostly intact. Get out your pork product. Either shape six patties

if you have pre-made sausage, or add the spices and mix thoroughly with a paddle attachment in a mixer (you can use a rubber spatula but it takes some skill to make it work well). Make the six patties of equal size, and add two eggs onto three of the patties. Top with the remaining three patties and seal. Season some flour with salt and pepper, beat three eggs, and get out a bowl or pan of breadcrumbs. Put the patties in through the flour, then the eggs, then the breadcrumbs.

Once the oil is hot enough, send them through to fry. It should take a little bit of time, about eight to ten minutes depending on how thick your final patties ended up. Double-check that the sausage is cooked through and then pull them out onto a paper-towel-lined plate. Top with the cheese and then throw a bit of mayonnaise and hot sauce on your bun. Eat and enjoy, then take your heartburn and cholesterol medication!

down. My reasons for the

distaste are much the same for

much. Reminiscing on the hate

actually taints my thoughts on

the sole reason for putting out

music is to corrupt our middle-

Now, if you disagree with

album, this one will most likely

Total rating is, it's listen-

able, but only in a playlist of

me on the quality of the last

blow your mind. I enjoyed

about a third of the tracks,

the entire album; it feels like

schoolers' minds.

which isn't bad.

more music.

why I hated the last album so

THE COMMONS FARE 5/20-5/26

Wednesday

Dishes: Pork Schnitzel, Beggar's Chicken with Steamed Rice* and Carey Pocket. Soup: Beef Consomme* and Corn Chowder.

Thursday

Dishes: Coconut Braised Short Ribs, Cassoulet* (French bean stew with sausage and chicken) and Tempura Vegetables Soup: Spanish Chicken* and Split Pea*

Friday

Chef's Choice

Monday

Dishes: Pesto Meatloaf, Chicken Massaman Curry, Tempeh Tacos and Mexican Rice Pilaf. Soup: Creamy Chicken and Mushroom Soup and **Tomato Garlic Soup**

Tuesday

Dishes: Fettuccine Bolognese, Vodka Pepper Chicken and Bibimpap Soups: Pozole and Cheddar Cauliflower

*Gluten-free

Green Day, go back to the 20th Century

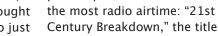
James Scales The Commuter

Green Day is one of those bands. You know the type. They are the kind of band that everyone likes their old stuff, and then there are mixed feelings about the new stuff. I will admit that Green Day was in the unlistenable category for their last album "American Idiot" from all the way back in 2004. I had written them off, and after the absence I thought maybe they had decided to just do some touring for the next 15 years. Make a reunion CD, and then fail like the numerous other bands that have followed that path. Unfortunately, my hatred will have to wait for the next Guns 'n Roses album to be released. I am certainly not in love with the entire play list, but I won't be deleting the 18 tracks (17 songs) from my

Flowers of The Killers.

The progression of the album is interesting in that it is built into three acts, the first being Heroes and Cons, followed by Charlatans and Saints, and finally Horseshoes and Hand Grenades. The music is reminiscent of the "older" Green Day. Specifically my favorite track number 12, "¿Viva la Gloria? [Little Girl]." My least favorite track is, unfortunately, probably the one that will see track. My hatred for this song almost takes the entire album

Green Day: 21st Century Breakdown Courtesy of Reprise Records



ANYONE CAN SHOP THE CO-OP!



computer and throwing out the disc.

For those of you who don't know Green Day's history, it's pretty basic. Small band has lots of good local fans, small band gets discovered, small band signs big deal, small band becomes big band and all the local fans and their friends turn on them for making money for what they like to do, and the controversy hasn't stopped. Many bands share distaste for Green Day, like John Lydon (Johnny Rotten) of the Sex Pistols and Brandon



The Commuter Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner Features Editor: Max Brown Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

SPECIAL FEATURE

Annual art show amazes all

Max Brown The Commuter

The 2009 Student Art Show awards ceremony was held at noon on May 13 in the North Santiam Hall lobby. Over \$3000 in awards were given out this year to students. The event attracted well over 50 students and the NSH lobby was

packed.

The show had over 200 pieces submitted, and 60 pieces are displayed. Doug Russell, gallery director at OSU, juried the show. This year, the Corvallis Fall Festival committee selected a piece to represent LBCC at the annual Fall Festival. The awards were announced and then the audience was encouraged to look around at the pieces and vote for the People's Choice Award. All awards are posted next to the pieces that won.

Jeremy Covert, the gallery coordinator, said not only do students get awards from the show but also their

pieces sell or they get commissioned for more work. He said one student already sold a set of glassware and two more students have been commissioned. During the ceremony, Covert said submitting artwork takes a lot of courage and he thanked the students for all their hard work.

According to Analee Fuentes, an art instructor at LBCC, the show happens every year around this time. Deadlines to submit to the show are usually right after spring break, and she says information about the show comes out during March.

Fuentes feels the show is important because it gives students an opportunity to learn about juried shows. She says it teaches students about competing and improving the presentation of their artwork. She feels it's good for them to learn about shows because it will

be part of their careers. "It's been an honor working with these students. They are really a talented bunch," Fuentes said.

Gabrielle Snider, an art student who won the Fall Festival award, said the event was pretty exciting. She said her favorite thing about her piece that won was that "it's just absurd. It doesn't take itself seriously."

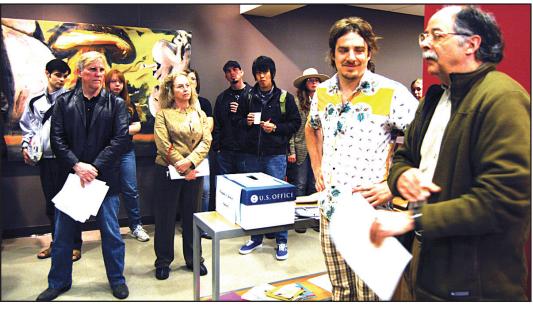


Photo by Becca Martino

Gary Westford, Dori Litzer, Jeremy Covert, and Doug Russel announcing awards the ceremony

Gary Westford, an LBCC instructor, said this was "one of the strongest shows I can remember." Westford said he has been at LBCC for eight years and the show has been going on for at least that long. He feels that the show validates the students' hard work.

Westford said that in these difficult economic times it is important that we do not lose sight of the arts. He felt that "works of art and literature edify us at our best," and "it is at our peril to have these programs go away."

Dori Litzer, another art teacher at LBCC, said she always thinks the show is good. She felt the department did a great job getting awards for the students. Litzer wishes they had more space to display all the pieces, or another gallery to display the works that were not accepted.

Graphic design art show

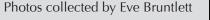
May 11 was the opening for the Graphic Design Art Show. The event had an attendance of over 150 guests, many of which were alumni. The show will be running until May 29.



A corporate identity created by Cody Gillman displayed in the graphic design art show



da Vinci Days poster created by Anthony Vaughan





One corner of the Graphic Design art show

Art Show Awards

People's Choice Award: John Brim - \$75 ("Exclamation of Misery")

Carol Schaafsma Art Merit Award: Gabrielle Snider - \$100 ("The League of Extraordinary Pants") Rich Lorraine - \$50 ("Mother and Child")

Art Dept. Store: John Brim - \$100 ("Portrait-Exclamation of Misery")

LBCC Art Department Awards: Pattrick Bettag - \$100 ("All Those Petty Human Flaws") Christian Hahn - \$75 (Untitled) Janey Bevill - \$50 (Untitled)

> Creative Craft gift certificate: Vanessa Latin ("Rudy")

Cyclotepia / Creative Crafts Gift certificate: Kelly Cornell ("Rebel")

U of O Bookstore Certificate: Will Donaldson - \$30 ("Tribute to Ben Gibbard") Elizabeth Rank - \$30

Art Center Cash Award: Rick Lorraine - Membership and \$25 ("David at 70")

> Art Media /Division Award (Jurors Award - Doug Russell): Dylan Bloom - \$200 ("Sowing Seeds")

Daniel Smith Award-Certificate: Kimberley Perry - \$100 ("White Shadow")

LBCC Photography Awards: Jace Hattig - \$100 ("Petra") Brittany Donnell - \$50 ("Morning at the Pier") Kimberly Perry - \$50 ("Mandolin")

Santiam Restaurant Award (lunch for 2): Christina Young ("Hygenia's Umbrella")

LBCC Art Materials Award: Angela Ritt - \$40 value ("Fairy Tale Bliss")

Jay Widmer Ceramics Merit Award: Laura Peters - \$100

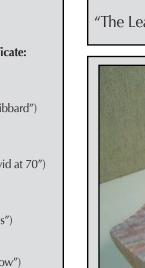
Art Department Ceramics Merit Award: Lynda Farmer - \$50

Fall Festival Award: Gabrielle Snider ("The League of Extraordinary Pants")

> **Gregory Dewar** The Commuter

of June Michele Wilson's anthropology class investigates the "Culture of Human Beauty" with an exhibit downstairs in LBCC's library-located in Willamette Hall.

that is, depending on the culture..." says Wilson of her students work. Work was submitted from 30 students in Wilson's MWF 12-12:50 Introduction to Anthropology class from winter term of 2009.



SPECIAL FEATURE

At LBCC, there are currently showcases for the student artshow, graphic design artshow, and an anthropology exhibit.



"The League of Extraordinary Pants" by Gabrielle Snider



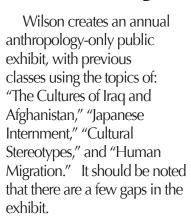
"Mother and Child" by Rick Lorraine

Here is a random sampling of the student art show. For the full show head over to NSH. Photos collected by Max Brown and Eve Bruntlett

Anthropology exhibit now at LBCC Library

Now through the first week

"Beauty is culturally relative;



Wilson always tries to find a tie-in between hot topics and anthropological methods and theories and feels that charging students with "...the responsibility of being part of a community project seems to



"Sky" by Brittany Donnell



"Untitled" by Christina Hahn



"Red Robot" by Parker Zabel

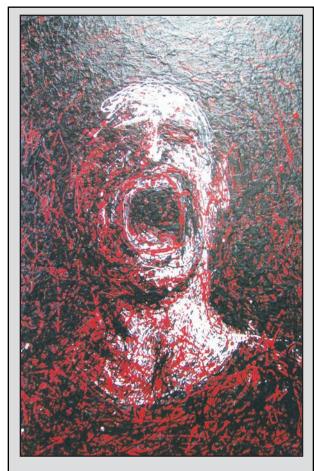


"Rudy" by Vanessa Lattin



light the proverbial fire in just the right spot in their underside."

"I can't say enough good things about this year's exhibit. The students pulled together some very telling data that are illustrative of the



"Exclamation of Misery" by John Brim



Examples of projects up in the anthropology exhibit. Photos collected by Eve Bruntlett

complexities and burdens of this thing we call beauty. For example, the audience may be shocked by some of the imagery of what is considered beautiful in other cultures. At the same time though, learning more

about the constructs of beauty in our culture, in Western culture, is just as off-putting for many" says Wilson when queried about her personal feelings on the way the project turned out.

The Commuter Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner A&E Editor: James Scales Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews, upcoming events, and the cure for weekend boredom.

The min storyline quest. As you kill ever, I've hardly seen anyone instances, new ranks of traits, half of The Commuter to log or

Gregory Dewar The Commuter

Giving The Lord of the Rings Online (LotRO) a second chance wasn't easy. I'd been clean and free of MMOs since January and my grades had bumped up because of it. No more World of Warcraft clogging my veins and filling my mind with the duress of trying to keep up in gear and status with other players. Because after all, that's what MMOs are all about: showing off in the capital city.

But then the folks at Turbine, who developed and continue to develop LotRO, gave us a free week of play for players who had old accounts. And it was magic. I got a couple of my friends to play and they got hooked. Then I decided to get re-hooked because I got them hooked.

And then I bought the expansion pack "The Mines of Moria," and my mind was blown. I don't know what happened at Turbine, or who got put in charge of this expansion, but it is absolutely amazing in terms of storytelling and playability. Moria is awesome and truly magnificent to explore and quest in. The new legendary weapon system is a joy in and of itself.

Essentially, you start out with a third-age weapon from the

monsters and do certain quests, your weapon gains experience (because it's just that awesome of a weapon). When it gains a level, you can allocate legacy points into beefing it up in various ways, which range from increased DPS (damage per second) to enhancing abilities. You can give it a title which can change its damage type or give it more damage against certain types of monsters. You can add gems, settings, and runes to your weapon to add stat bonuses and various other things. And every 10 levels you can re-forge it, take everything out and start over. Eventually you'll find a better weapon. from the second or first age. At this point you can liquidate your current weapon and take a portion of its experience to spur along your new weapon. You can choose which weapons gain experience. You can equip up to seven weapons into your

legacy slots. Fantastic. The game, however, restarts out a little awkwardly. You mosey into the Eregion zone and it seems to be for about level 50. It's only at the very far end of it that you discover Vol. II of the epic storyline. This is where it takes off. For all intents and purposes, Eregion seems to only exist to give people a level or two before they hit Moria. However, I've hardly seen anyone taking the time to do that. I see level 45s prancing through Vol. II and speeding off into Moria after their legendary weapons. Vol. II starts you out opening the gates to Moria by running a lot of your usual quests, albeit they seem to be easier and smaller; for instance, "kill three wolves" instead of the usual "kill 15 wolves." It all comes together with you having to get a legendary weapon to be able to even hurt The Watcher that guards the Black Pool outside of Durin's Door. It makes the weapons seem important and you get an amazing Watcher cut-scene before you fight him (it makes two more appearances later in the game).

It's invigoration and new life that's been breathed into the game, which was pretty good before, but was never terribly compelling. I don't think people really got into or enjoyed the Angmar thing. But everyone knows what Moria is and wants to get inside it. The weapon system is fantastic in addition to the game being about 25 percent easier to level through. They also added class trait bonuses if you slot certain numbers of certain types (two of the Bowmaster type in Hunter class traits nets you five percent more critical damage).

New deeds, new loot, new

instances, new ranks of traits, new legendary class traits... I'm literally giddy with anticipation of all I'll accomplish while I'm logging on. I also got roughly half of The Commuter to log on to my server and play with me. As far as expansions go, it gets five crusty old Grand Marshals out of five. GG.

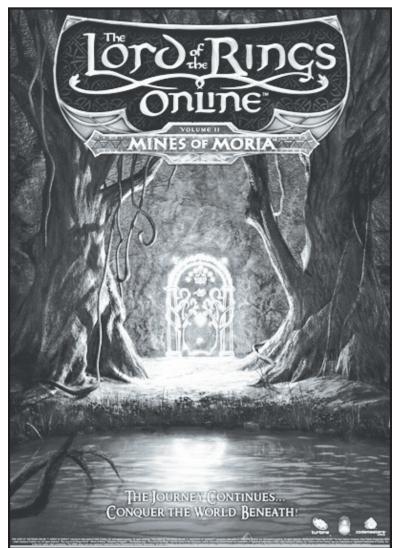
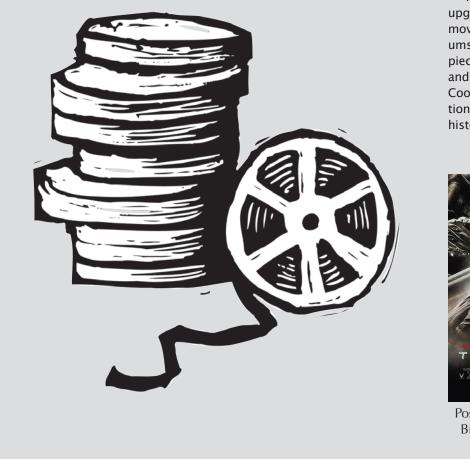


Photo courtesy of Turbine Entertainment

Movies this Friday



Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian The Museum of Natural History is closed for

upgrades and renovations, and the works have been moved into federal storage at the Washington Museums. Larry Daley (Ben Stiller) is back in action as the pieces spring into life. He is off to rescue Jedidiah and Octavius (played by Owen Wilson and Steve Coogan), who have been shipped to the wrong location. What hijinks can some of the greatest pieces of history cause when night falls? Rated PG.





Poster courtesy of Warner Bros. Entertainment, Inc.



Poster couresty of Fox

Terminator Salvation (early release Wednesday, everywhere Thursday)

The fourth movie in the Terminator series sees John Connor (Christian Bale) as the leader of mankind's war on machines. The old battle between the computers of Skynet and the humans who wish to be free rages again. With the machines turning out androids that you could only tell weren't human by ripping them open. Let the battle for humanity rage on. Rated PG-13. Wednesday, May 20, 2009

The Commuter Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner **Opinion Editor:** Rick Casillas Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 **E-mail:** commuter@linnbenton.edu

http://commuter.linnbenton.edu **Jpinion**

Submissions to The Commuter: E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu Drop-in: Forum 222 Please sign and keep to 300 words or less.

All abort!

Gregory Dewar The Commuter

Sometimes I wish a large amount of people would "abort" themselves, especially after reading the news of President Obama's visit to Notre Dame-Indiana. Couple that with shocking Gallup polls conducted May 7-10 that state that 51% of Americans are pro-life and 42% are pro-choice: we've got a cocktail of epic idiocy.

Obama: Went to Notre Dame. Obama: Got an honorary degree. Zealots: Decided to make the entire graduation procession about abortion. It's certainly not about higher education in my book. I can't count the number of times I've gone to high school or college graduations and just started screaming my religious beliefs at the top of my lungs. That's practically a weekly event in my life and clearly the best forum for it.

Especially because I've never actually attended a graduation I wasn't graduating in and I have no religious beliefs.

I also find it shameful that people are poo-pooing the University of Notre Dame for inviting Obama. What kind of zealot-filled world do we live in where it's a maniacal thing to invite the leader of your country to a school?

A plane circled overhead with an anti-abortion banner waving behind it and people held signs saying such poppy catch-phrases as "Shame on Notre Dame." Yes, Notre Dame, shame on you. Shame on you for inviting the leader of your country to a graduation procession, shame on you for having a graduation procession, and shame on you for existing within driving distance of whacko nutjobs that seem wholeheartedly confused about where they are and what they're doing: they're just happy as long as someone else knows they don't like killing babies.

Well, let's talk about killing babies. Let's talk about sending generations of our young people to war repeatedly. Korea, Vietnam, the first and second Gulf Wars. Let's talk about carpet

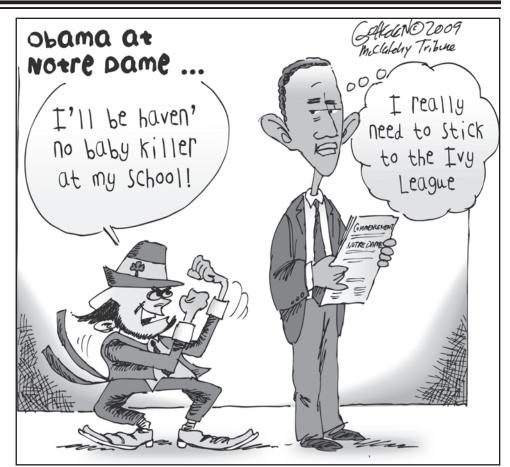
bombing, let's talk about the drug war. Why is it so much more wrong to kill an unborn baby, then to go to another country and kill their born babies? Are our babies innately superior? How is it any worse? Isn't there a larger societal issue at hand? Isn't all the killing wrong?

Why is an 18-year-old's life worth less than a baby? Why is a 36-year-old police officer who gets gunned down by a drug lord attempting to stop a shipment of cocaine worth less than a baby? How come you zealots don't care about that? Why is it only babies? Why is killing as many adults as possible a noncontroversial topic to you people?

Everyday men and women fight in Irag, and sometimes they die horribly. How come the zealots turn a blind eye to that? What happens when we blow the crap out of an entire city filled with all age groups? What if a bomb drops on an abortion clinic as a baby is being aborted: then is it wrong? You want to know real strife, death, and tragedy? Carry a rifle in the desert. I think it adds up to a lack of life experience from sheltered people. Why is the line in the sand drawn right here?

War is awful, brutal, despicable, and unspeakably horrible. It makes an abortion clinic look like a goldfish farm filled with kittens and pure sunshine.

How trite, how jaded, how narrowminded of you to be so petty and introverted that you don't care about anything that isn't in your backyard and that doesn't disagree with your beliefs. And let's clarify for a second what I mean by "zealot." I'm not talking about the normal people that believe in what they believe in and go to church. I have no quarrel with them. I'm talking about the people that have nothing better to do than tell other people how to live. And don't mistake this article for me telling anyone how to live, all I'm trying to do is broaden zealous horizons and point them to the fact that turning a microscope on this one issue when there are so many bigger things to worry about is ludicrous.



Instead of worrying about wars of attrition and starvation in other countries, it's a woman's right to choose: women haven't been oppressed enough as-is! I read that this Roe v. Wade woman is there, now, on the other side of the fence, anti-abortion all the way and she's trying to get her old case overturned. How many drugs have you done, lady? Do you realize ... I mean ... do you really realize everything what's happened because of you? There's no buyer's remorse in this life, lady!

Honestly, if you forced everyone to have a baby, regardless, the world would be full of screwed-up people and overpopulated. Because those people don't want to be parents, don't want to care, and sometimes can't even handle it. How many crack-babies and kids with fetal alcohol syndrome do we need running around? Who's going to take care of all these abandoned kids? The state and your tax dollars, of course. Are these kids going to grow up to be well-rounded individuals that lead meaningful productive lives? Oh, sure, I mean, why not? It seems logical. Empirical research definitely supports it. /sarcasm

What's your counter-argument, zealots? Stop having sex? Why don't you just stop breathing? Then this entire issue would disappear.

At the exponential rate our population's growing, we can't really afford all of this excess societal clutter. Where are we going to find the food to feed everyone in 20 years or in 40 years? Where are they going to live? Do you think science is magically going to save you? That thing that all you zealots loathe? I say let the people who don't want to or can't properly raise children have abortions, otherwise the kids will live screwed up lives, turn 18 and go die in some obscure country for no reason anyway in a war religion's okay with.

Let's skip the mess and skip the war by cutting to the chase. Clearly, that's the better alternative, and a better use of our limited resources. Jonathan Swift had the right idea: if the pro-lifers finally win and we can't abort them, then throw another baby on the barbie!

wake-up call to cyclists

Max Brown The Commuter obeying the laws while cycling, too sporadic. The worst I see and it bothers me when people is cyclists merging or turning

I wish automobiles would be

the laws. No matter how much traffic signs, signals, and laws. It's also important to wear

This is a response to Vernon Huffman's letter to the editor that was published last week. I am a bicyclist and I agree with him, but there are also a large number of cyclists that need to be more aware and less dangerous while out and about.

I know how bad drivers can be when paying attention to cyclists- I have been in two accidents with automobiles. Both times I was following the rules of the road while they messed up and were not paying attention.

I pay very close attention to

put cyclists down for being

without any kind of signaling

"The most important idea to me, whether you are bicycling or driving a car, is to operate defensively."

Max Brown

"crazy." I know a huge number of cyclists who are very responsible and follow the rules. But I also understand where the crazies come from. All too often, I see cyclists disobeying rules of the road, and being

or without looking, sometimes right in front of cars which happen to have drivers paying enough attention and stop in time.

It's so important that we, as cyclists, try our best to obey

more aware around cyclists, I know there will always be those people who are not paying attention. Anything you can do to make yourself safer is important.

The most important idea to me, whether you are bicycling or driving a car, is to operate defensively. Always check before you make a turn, also make sure you signal when doing so. Make sure you are on the correct side of the road; cars are even less likely to be paying attention if you are coming from the wrong direction. Make sure you obey

the correct gear. Make sure you have lights and reflectors so cars can actually see you during the nighttime. Wear a helmet when riding, because as I said earlier, I don't think cars will ever pay enough attention and you must do everything you can to protect yourself.

I agree with Huffman that cars should be way more aware around bicyclists, but I think it is very important that we do everything we can to protect ourselves.



Page 12

The Commuter Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner Opinion Editor: Rick Casillas Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

Submissions to The Commuter: E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu Drop-in: Forum 222 Please sign and keep to 300 words or less.

PC gaming makes you egocentric

Gregory Dewar The Commuter

PC gaming conjures up a weird image: that of the loner-geek, sitting in his mom's basement playing World of Warcraft for hours on endwell, that used to be me. Except it was a shed. A really nice shed. But it was still my mom's shed. Or maybe it was just a dragon. Er... nevermind.

The point is, as suggested in the friendly neighborhood headline above this, that PC gaming makes you egocentric. I've learned this from first-hand experience and my empirical evidence is only what I've witnessed first-hand. Which I guess makes it not empirical. Or evidence really.

Digressions aside, when you play a PC game, the viewpoint is always all about you. You have your own screen all to yourself and you control it and look wherever you want and go whereve you want. Case in point is World of Warcraft, where you pan the camera however you wish, all game feedback is restricted to only your character, and all messages are sent to you. So eventually, you get to thinking: "Hey, maybe it is all about me."

Second case is an FPS (first-person shooter) where the camera is stationed where your head would be and you look out through that character model's eyes. Everywhere you turn, you're already pointing your gun, and you can only see what you're directly facing. Stuff goes on all around, bu you won't know unless you're actually looking at it. And egocentrically the game sort of takes you over, as you're only concerned with what you can percieve and kill. After a few hundred hours in this simulation you begin to not really notice or care what other people do, but you keep historic records of your own kills, deaths, and goals you've achieved, all through your eyes. It's almost like you're playing a single player game at that point, because the teamwork the game "revolves" around is essen-

tially moot.

The third case is an RTS (real-time strategy game), where you are in control of an entire army in addition to multiple bases. You look down on your units and command them all simultaneously through keystrokes, all of them willing to die for you at a moment's click. You can see everything through your mini-map and by panning the camera around. At points it feels deity-like because of the amount of control and absolute vision you have. You begin to forget that other players you're playing against have the same scope and ability to rage and ruin.

Now, into the fray: enter the lowly gaming console. Four controllers. One screen. Around 12 buttons per controller as opposed to standard U.S. 108-key keyboards. Seems a little pathetic doesn't it? That's because it is. Four players playing simultaneously on one screen, and four PC gamers trying to figure out which one is them. Our assumption: all of them belong to us. Just because the targeting reticles have different colors doesn't seem to help; periodically we get confused who is who and mistake one guy doing well for our guy shooting widly at a wall or crashing his axe maliciously into the wind. Clearly the player doing the best belongs to each of us. Clearly.

It's amazing to come from a world where everything on your screen belongs to you and you alone- save in WoW, where you can look at other players, but all the feedback is yours. In console games, we often mistake any feedback of damage or gain as belonging to us.

Because we're so used to being the star. It's hard to shift into this odd world of sharing and split-screening, and all of us sitting side-byside. I need the roar of my 5.1 surround system and the airplane-like hum of my 13-fan gaming rig. Where my screen is my own and everything happening on it belongs to me, is about me, or is me- and no one else.

RE5: never too late

Rick Casillas The Commuter

When I was a kid, I wandered into a computer store and played a first person shooter for the very first time, a little title called Wolfenstein 3D. And despite the elation I received from gunning down Nazis, something dampened the experience and I couldn't help but stop and rotate in circles every couple of minutes out of paranoia; I just had the feeling something was behind me and I didn't like it.

Eventually I grew out of it in stages, Goldeneye broke me of the FPS paranoia, but even today I cannot play Left 4 Dead by myself without freaking out every time I run across a witch. And I admit I'm a wuss when it comes to being frightened, I just startle easily. What's more, I've just never understood the desire to recreate the horrible sensation, like being terrified, that most people seem to have. As a result, I tend to avoid a lot of horror gems, and although I have no regrets about missing most cinema gore porn, it has put a burr in the boot of my gaming pleasure, deterring me from experiencing some of the more memorable moments from video game history. But out of all the Silent Hills and Alone in the Darks, the one series that has always nagged at my trousers for attention the most is Resident Evil.

In the past, I've given it bountiful opportunities to hook me; I played about six to eight hours of each of the first three before I just lost the luster to go on. Something about the clunky controls and limited inventory always grinded my gears and the sudden bouts of terrifying cinematics didn't help give it the sustainable lifespan for me to continue playing it solo. But as most gamers know, co-op tends to elevate a mediocre game to a good one, and when I heard that Resident Evil 5 had such a well-developed feature I couldn't help but give the game another try.

Set about a decade after the original game, Resident Evil 5 stars two huge arms that are attached to a body that looks something like Chris Redfield. The game takes place in Africa where Chris, along with vaguely English–South–African sidekick Sheva Alomar, set out to stop a bio–terrorist named Ricardo Irving who has released a viral strand on the locals turning them into voracious zombie–like mon– strosities that try to club you to death on sight. During the course of the game, segments of Chris' history between the first title and this one are explained, including details about his original partner Jill Valentine and old antagonist Albert Wesker... **read the excit– ing conclusion online at http://commuter.linnben– ton.edu.**

In regards to the Student Government hiring practices:

I would like to comment on the recent appointing of a new vice-president of the Associated Student Government. I threw my hat in the ring, hoping to fill a need that I see for more representation of the students 30+ years old. That was before I was aware of what a fiasco the whole process would be. I didn't mind filling out the application or answering questions about my reasons for applying, but I did take umbrage with having to supply a picture of myself with my application packet. Is this a beauty pageant? The position isn't one for which beauty or youth is mandatory. Still, I decided to go ahead with my attempt to fill

quickly squeezed-in minutes an interview. Unbelievably, all the interviews were scheduled to take place between 3 and 4 o'clock, with them making the decision right at the end of the hour, so the new V.P. could be sworn in along with all the other new officers at their 4 o'clock to one-half to one minute, due to time constraints. I must applaud one of my co-applicants who, when called in for his five minute session, informed them he was no longer interested in the position, because he was not impressed with their handling of the interview process.

Though I am sure the person they chose for the position C is very capable, I was extremely

disappointed that yet again, the older student body will not be represented. It left me curious to know how they could ascertain the right person for the position based on five minutes and a photograph.

Liz Baker-Prosa

a need I saw. Then came the day of the interview, if you can call five meeting. We had about five minutes before the panel, and were told to keep our answers Admin. Professional, Office Management



The Commuter Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner **Opinion Editor:** Rick Casillas Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu



Letters to the Editor, submitted by students and staff.

Instructor thanks all for award

Each year that I've gone to the Student Government recognition ceremony, I've watched with humility the faculty who received the "Instructor of the Year" award. I always thought they had big shoes to fill, and

to imagine how surprised and

deeply touched I was to return

from the Teaching and Learning

Conference to find the "Instruc-

I'm so sorry that I couldn't

work with this year, or to watch the swearing in of the new stu-

dent government (the only rea-

ceremony this year was because

son I didn't plan to attend the

tor of the Year" plaque in my

come salute all the outgoing

student leaders who I got to

wondered what it might take to be so honored by students. You can-

not begin

mailbox.

I was an officer on the conference planning committee!). I will forever treasure your

consideration of me for this award. I don't know who to thank, or what led to the decision, but please know that I will always,

always

remember

this honor,

and always

honor your

hope to

"...you cannot begin to imagine how surprised and deeply touched I was..."

Chareane Wimbley-Gouveia

decision by continually striving to fill the big shoes that this award represents.

Sincerely yours,

Chareane Wimbley-Gouveia Faculty/Learning Center Coordinator

wimblec@linnbenton.edu, 541-917-4691

Securing Firefox:

Giving a complete stranger my bank account PIN # is at the very end of my checklist for today... wait... ah yes, so far down there that I forgot to write it on the page. Not only would this almost "finders keepers" character be disappointed with my near-empty account, but I wouldn't be so happy with the overdraft fees that would ensue.

I check my e-mail at least three or so times a day, which means I have to give Gmail my pass-

ing it the perfect gift of Firefox. Thankfully every

Apparently the latest version of Firefox comes

checked, so that annoying petition in a float-down

member this password?" I am not the enlightened

machine here at LBCC has already been freed of

IE's evil grip. Not without a twist though.

with the "remember password" feature pre-

bar keeps asking, "Do you want Firefox to re-

Albany Campus:

Wednesday, May 27

12:00 – 12:50 p.m.

(WH-225)

word every time. I am a

die-hard Mozilla Firefox

across a machine that is

enslaved to Microsoft's

trademark web browser

great joy in liberating its

Internet Explorer (IE) I take

brainwashed mind and giv-

junkie. When coming

"…I take great joy in liberating its brainwashed mind and giving it the perfect gift of Firefox."

Gordon Wilke

dure fixes the problem forever. While in Firefox, click on "Tools," then on "Options..." you will then see five icons in a popup menu, the one with the Padlock is the one you want to go to next, "Security." Once you arrive there, in the "Passwords" area you will be able to uncheck the default "Remember passwords for sites." This will

now tell Firefox to never again ask for your most important component of your online security (your passwords), and may live thereafter in peace and happiness. Remember that once this is completed on one computer, it is only fixed on that individual machine. But with your help, one by one we free them all.

Jim Carey, so there is no "Yes Man" for me. It's

it's such a great idea for the hundreds of other

computer users to be able to check my e-mail

and see my grades on Blackboard. So, in order

to circumvent this annoying attack to yours and

my privacy/online security, a 10-second proce-

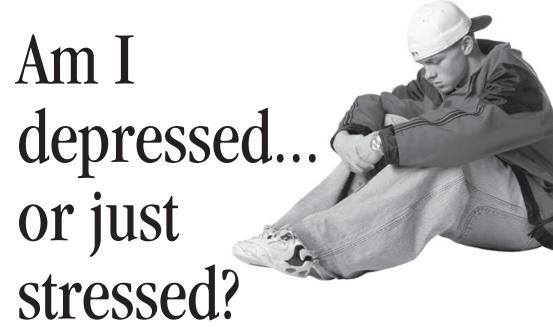
NO actually... absolutely not. I actually don't think

- Gordon Wilke

Editor's Note: Because of the Deep Freeze system on all of the campuses' public computers, changing this setting will only last until the next Deep Freeze cycle. In order for these settings to be permanently changed, they'd have to be made by administrators in the **Deep Freeze images themselves.**

Come to one seminar, or come to them all!

Linn-Benton Academic Success Seminars Free! Sign up on SIS or drop in.



Help is available for emotional struggle: a heartfelt letter

An open letter to our students:

The Counseling Center is seeing an increase of students in crisis this term. We're seeing stress, anxiety, depression, chemical abuse, cutting and suicidal ideation. These are not uncommon problems that face college students. College can be a time of adventure, and full of exciting and encouraging moments. But it can also be very frustrating, and there may be times when life seems overwhelming.

There are both healthy and unhealthy coping skills that we can turn to for coping with all the stressors of college and of

or a friend, may be at risk of serious depression or suicide. Depression is a treatable disorder, and you will be given resources to seek help.

I lost my son, Daniel, to suicide. He was 20 years old - a beautiful, intelligent, sensitive young man. On the outside he appeared to being doing well with school, work and life, but internally he struggled. He somehow lost hope for his future. He somehow couldn't see the love we all had for him... or how much his suicide would affect us... forever. Or that there was any chance of relieving his emotional pain, but there was

Page 13

Being a college student is not easy work. At times, it can feel overwhelming. Do you feel **ANXIOUS? STRESSED? DEPRESSED?** Come to this helpful seminar to learn about the warning signs and healthy coping strategies.

Survival Seminars are coordinated by the Learning Center. For more information, and to sign up, visit SIS under Study Skills.

LBCC is an equal opportunity institution. For disability accommodations, call 917-4789. Submit requests four to six weeks before the event. To call any LBCC department by TDD, call through Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service, 1-800-735-2900, and provide them with the number you wish to reach.

Ad donated by The Commuter's staff for students in need

life. Some stress and anxiety is a normal reaction to college, but depression isn't a normal response. How can you tell the difference?

The Counselors are offering a workshop on Wednesday May 27, at noon in WH 225 entitled, "Am I Depressed, or Just Stressed?" At the workshop you will see videos of real college students with real problems, and how they overcame them. Counselors will be available to discuss the videos, and to offer suggestions on healthy coping skills. They will also share the warning signs that indicate you,

help available. He just didn't ask for it.

I urge any of you struggling with these issues to contact any of us counselors, or a trusted friend, teacher, or loved one. Admit you need help. Remember this Crisis Line number: 1-800-SUICIDE Please join us on Wednesday, May 27, at noon in WH 225 Be kind to yourself. Where there is help there is hope. I thank you, and so does your mother!

Lynn Bain LBCC Counselor - Benton Center

http://commuter.linnbenton.edu

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

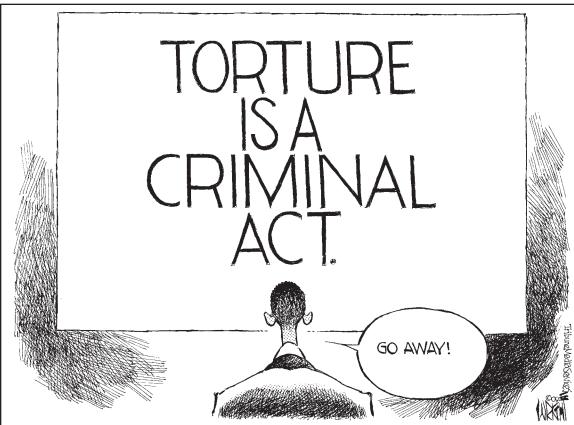
The Commuter Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

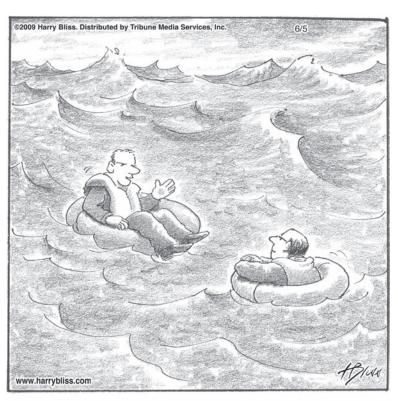
GURREAL LIVING

Crosswords, cartoons and some fun facts to brighten your day.



"I know this is only our first meeting, but when do I get to blame stuff on my mother?"



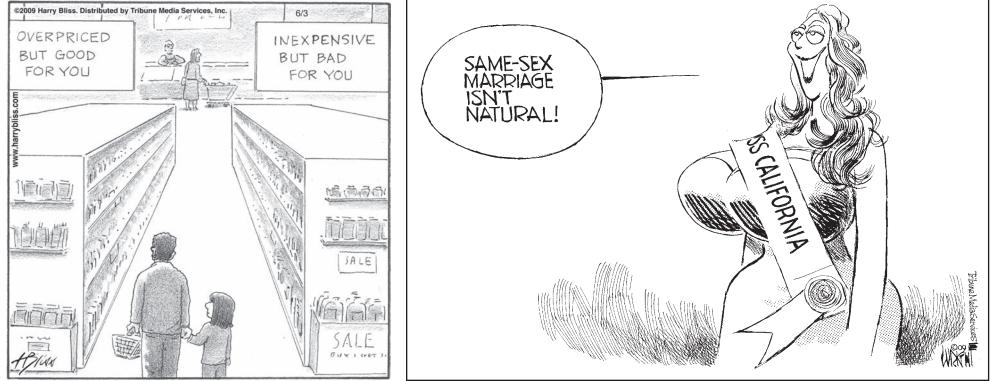


"Did you happen to catch the last season of 'Lost'?"









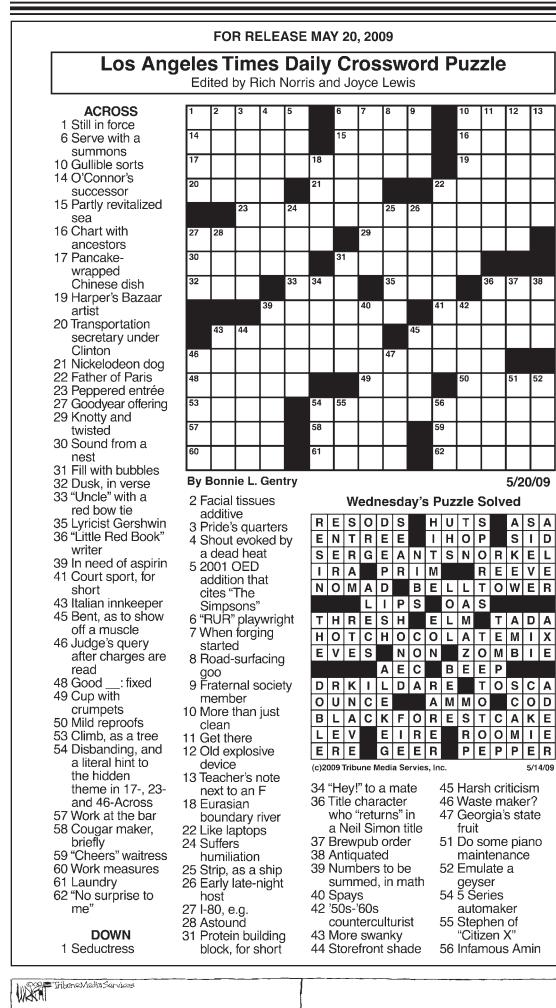
Wednesday, May 20, 2009

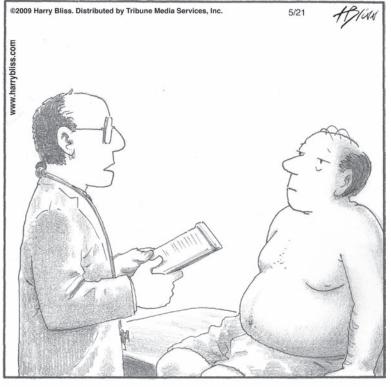
The Commuter

Editor-In-Chief: Gregory Dewar Managing Editor: MaryAnne Turner Newsroom Desk: 541-917-4451 E-mail: commuter@linnbenton.edu

GURREAL LIVING

Crosswords, cartoons and some fun facts to brighten your day.





"Well, yes, I suppose I could explain the test results in 'plain English' — but then you'd know how sick you are."



"Yeah, well, I was done petting you anyway!"

RACKAFracka Frestz

